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Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 8th November at Hartley, commencing at 8.00pm.

1. Apologies for absence: Tracy Spillett, Alan Cregeen, Mike Cubitt, Ayjay Keemer-Richards

Present: Bob Gaywood, Ray Keemer-Richards, Sheila King, David Holden, Mick Nash, Duncan Brown, Tim Edwins, Carolyn Edwins

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting on Thursday 27th September were agreed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising from the previous meeting:

Bob has written to IOW Tours regarding the issues at Mill Rythe but had no reply as yet.

4. Treasurer's report:

David announced he is finalising the end of year accounts for the upcoming AGM, but there will be an overall loss. There is also still around £1,000 outstanding from Hayling Island accommodation.

5. Membership report

Ray reported that the new software for memberships is up and running. Members will now print their own licences at home. Overall for this year there was around the same number of KPA members.

6. KPA & KPL Joint AGM November 15th

The agenda just needs to be updated with this year's date, resolutions added in and "no binding vote" to be added to KPL AOB. When Tim has edited the agenda then Mick will send it to club captains and Tim to club secretaries. David reminded everyone that the KPA prizes for winners and runners up are still to be paid at the AGM.

7. KPA membership fees (regional precept)

There was some discussion regarding the KPA losing money this year and it was noted that the regional precept has not been increased for at least 3 years. With this in mind Ray proposed a £2 increase to the precept. All present agreed and this will be put to the membership at the AGM.

8. Playing committee report

Carolyn reported a constructive playing committee meeting last Thursday and there were some items to bring to the management committee:

- Send request to PE that blocks of pistes awarded to a region at Inter Regionals are strictly adhered to – i.e. if Kent are playing on 100-108 then Kent 1 is 100, Kent 2 is 101 etc.
- Widen scope of PC to move teams to play in any of 12 qualifying positions.
- Each team competing in Regionals to nominate a captain with a mobile number and email address.
- Reconsider criteria for teams to qualify to play in Chairman's Cup to 3 Regionals.
- Consider financial reward for finishing in top 2 at a regional qualifier.
- Role of manager at Inter Regionals Carolyn had prepared a draft role and at the request of the PC has emailed Corinne Cooter as an experienced manager for suggestions.
- Playing format at Regional Qualifiers 2019 all agreed to Swiss system with BHN as discussed at EGM.
- Players' matching kit at KPA competitions.

These were all discussed by those present. Piste allocation is tricky as on the Sunday team 1 plays team 2 etc. Teams may be irked about being asked to drop down into the Challenge squad but the KPA could still ask as some teams may prefer it. Teams will nominate captains when they first play in a qualifier next year. It would be better to keep Chairman's Cup qualification at 1 regional to increase participation. Money prizes were discussed but everyone agreed that qualification and playing for Kent should be the reward itself. Carolyn circulated the draft managers role document, and all were happy with it. Those present were happy to adopt Swiss system with BHN at the regionals next year. This will be announced before the first regional starts. It was agreed that clarification was needed on what constitutes matching kit before the season starts next year.

9. Communication

Sheila raised how do we communicate with non-Facebook or computer using members. All agreed that people have to want to know information and be active in asking their club or team members to print things for them. Duncan suggested a monthly newsletter he could send out to people who registered for it, containing upcoming events, past results and international representation. Tim said he could help Duncan with the information in it. Ray said he has members email addresses, but David questioned the GDPR aspect and we may not be able to use these email addresses. Mick said he could send an email to club captains informing them to sign up by emailing Duncan themselves.

10. Espoirs grants

Various amounts were discussed, also with ceiling limits. Bob suggested we design a form that espoirs fill out when requesting a grant which states what other grants they have received. David said he can design a form and send it out.

11. Date of next meeting – Thursday 13th December at Hartley Confirmed

12. Any other business

Tim announced he had spoken to Frances Short from Lordswood last night and she mentioned that The Bull PH in Sittingbourne are still keen to build a piste and join the summer league. Tim forwarded contact details for the pub to Bob & Mike for them to give the manager a call and see what is required.

Meeting closed 22:44.