



**Minutes of KPA & KPL Joint Annual General Meeting 2020
Held on Thursday 4th February 2021, via Zoom**

1. Confirmation of the Date of Notice of the Meeting

The date and place of the AGM was published on 31st December 2020. The Agenda was issued on 25th January 2021.

2. Apologies for Absence

Received from Tracy Spillett, Dave Martin & Barbara Martin.

There were 33 members present.

3. Approval of the minutes of the previous KPA AGM

The previous minutes were accepted and approved unanimously, proposed by Monica Stanley and seconded by Carolyn Edwins.

4. KPA Chairman's Report

Bob Gaywood:

"Good evening and welcome to our first ever virtual Annual General Meeting of the Kent Pétanque Association which is as usual being held in conjunction with the Kent Pétanque League.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the trouble to login and join us this evening. We were of course hoping that by now it would be possible to have a normal AGM but unfortunately that was not to be. Before I continue with Kent and KPA matters, I wonder if we could just reflect for a few moments in silence on KPA members who have sadly passed away since our last AGM in 2019. I would particularly make mention of the tragic loss of the KPA and KPL Treasurer David Holden whose sudden death in December shocked us all.

Requiescat in pace

Clearly, since our last AGM in November 2019, there has been little official Pétanque play in Kent or indeed anywhere else for that matter. I will not waste your time talking about the reasons.

However, I'm proud to report that Kent did host five PE National Championship competitions at GRFC. Over a weekend in September were the Women's and Men's, Singles and Doubles Championships and in October, the Mixed Doubles Championships. In three of these competitions, one name stood out head and shoulders above the rest. My enormous congratulations go to star Kent player **Becky Edwins**.

Becky won the National Women's Singles, the National Women's Doubles, and the National Mixed Doubles. A brilliant performance indeed!

All notable performances featuring Kent players are:

Women's Singles Winner – **Becky Edwins**

Men's Singles Silver Winner – **Tim Edwins**

Women's Doubles Winner – **Becky Edwins** *playing with Sarah Huntley*

Men's Doubles Winner – **Jason White** *playing with Jeremy Huntley*

Men's Doubles Runner up – **Rowland Jones** *playing with Reece Gould*

Men's Doubles Silver Winner – **Greg Davenport** *playing with Phil Bradshaw*

Men's Doubles Silver Runner's up – **Scott Ashby and Dean Ashby**

Mixed Doubles Winner – **Becky Edwins**

Mixed Doubles Silver Winners – **Sophie Rowley and Rowland Jones**

My sincere congratulations to you all.

Kent also managed to hold one of its annual competitions, namely the KPA Doubles, in November, also at GRFC.

My congratulations go to: -

Winners – **Scott Ashby** and **Aston Monk**

Runners up – **Sophie Rowley** and **Neil Phillips**

The only remaining official Kent event was a Regional Qualifier hosted by Hartley in March. The winners of the day were **Alex Spillett, Jason White, Kris Smith, and Matt Shrimpton**. Well done all.

Moving on to KPA matters, I'm pleased to report that although play in Kent was severely restricted in 2020, the KPA Management Committee continued to hold regular meetings via Zoom. In fact, the MC have met virtually, at least a dozen times in the last twelve months. Amongst other things, it has enabled the team to examine important subjects in more detail than is normally possible due to time constraints. Examples are Safeguarding and Youth Development. My grateful thanks to Sheila King who has put in a great amount of effort in the development of our Safeguarding policy and to Jamie Finley who joined the MC last year to manage our junior squad and oversee Youth Development.

It is indeed timely to refer you to the minutes of the 2019 AGM and the contents of the Treasurer's Report regarding the Junior Fund. The fund obviously didn't have any outgoings in 2020 but up to then as was pointed out, was fully utilised for the provision and/or subsidy of kit, equipment, travel and safeguarding costs. I am happy to report that the fund is in good order and continues to be financed by voluntary contributions, together with KPL Winter League surplus funds.

All MC members have worked tirelessly and voluntarily for the common cause and I thank them all for their efforts.

The current Management Committee team are:

Mike Cubitt – Vice Chairman

Tim Edwins - Secretary

David Holden (obit)

Carolyn Edwins – Playing Committee Chair

Tracy Spillett – Committee member

Sheila King - Safeguarding

Duncan Brown – Membership Secretary

Alan Cregeen - Webmaster

Dan Rudden – Committee member

Jamie Finley – Youth Development and Junior Squad Manager

My grateful thanks also to Playing Committee members:

Carolyn Edwins, Keith Atkinson, Kevin Spillett, Sheila King & Duncan Brown.

This year and for the first time ever, the President of Pétanque England introduced a new award with the introduction of the President's Medal which recognises the achievements of Pétanque England members. I am absolutely delighted that the first recipient of this prestigious award is none other than our very own **Mike Cubitt** – 'In recognition of all the outstanding effort which was put in to organise and hold the PE National Championship events in 2020'.

Congratulations Mike. Richly deserved.

Last but by no means least, is the annual presentation of the Taylor Award. This is decided and awarded by the KPA Chairman each year to those who have made a significant contribution to the sport in the region.

The decision for 2020 was an absolute 'no brainer'. I have already described the achievements of the recipient. Ladies and Gentlemen, it gives me the greatest pleasure to announce that **Becky Edwins** is my choice for the Taylor Award for her outstanding 'triple' title win in the Pétanque England 2020 National Championships.

Congratulations Becky on your fantastic achievement.

Finally, I would share with you the hope of myself and the KPA Committee, that this year sees a return to some sort of normality as soon as safely possible, when we can all get back to enjoying and playing the game we love.

Thank you all for joining us this evening. Stay safe."

5. **KPA Treasurer's Report**

Bob Gaywood sadly reported that the treasurer, David Holden, passed away in December. This threw the KPA into a bit of a turmoil and we did not have time to produce the accounts. Accounts will be made up to date and published to all club secretaries as soon as possible.

6. **Determination of the KPA membership fees**

The management committee have discussed the fees and given that Pétanque England have increased their fee, decided to propose no change to the current £8 Kent precept. This motion was unanimously carried.

7. **Election of KPA Officers**

Bob Gaywood announced that 1 nomination received for Treasurer – Sue Barnes. Bob

declared Sue Barnes elected KPA Treasurer. KPA Chairman Bob Gaywood & KPA Secretary Tim Edwins declared to remain in post.

8. Election of KPA Management Committee

Bob Gaywood announced that no new nominations for committee members had been received and declared existing members remain in post. Mike Cubitt reminded everybody that we still have a vacancy for Regional Umpire, if interested please contact Bob Gaywood.

9. Handover of the Chair for KPL Business

Mike Cubitt, KPL President, took the chair and welcomed everyone.

10. Approval of the minutes of the previous KPL AGM

The minutes were proposed by Monica Stanley and seconded by Carolyn Edwins and unanimously approved.

11. KPL President's Report

Mike Cubitt:

"The early couple of months of 2020 saw the winter leagues in full throw until suspension of play due to Covid19. Luckily the cup and plate competition had reached their final stages, but alas these had to be put off until well into the summer as restrictions started to be lifted.

WINTER LEAGUE 2019/20

Although most of the games were complete, the final positions were not finalised. Played at GRFC, Railway Raptors beat Bat & Ball in the Cup and the Plate went to GRFC Snowboules who overcame Ightham in a tight final played at the Railway.

SUMMER LEAGUE 2020

Unfortunately, there were too few teams to run any leagues, and the officers came to the decision that with just fourteen of the 68 teams willing to play, a cup/plate/consolage competition would be held to benefit those teams wanting to play. Giving all the teams six weeks of competition. Overall, this went well until at the last moment one club tried to impose a secondary rule regarding face coverings.

The cup final saw two Railway teams play with of course Railway coming away winners. The plate ended with Duke of Wellington Troopers coming out winners versus Seal and in the consolage Villager Vikings lost to GRFC Lions.

Thanks to all those that took part and for the host venues for the finals.

Not enough teams showed interest in a winter league therefore this didn't get off the ground.

For the coming season, if there is one, we have lost Staplehurst PC who have venue problems, and we are predicting that the social spacing is again going to continue and we continue to follow PE for advice and guidance.

The leagues have been drawn up from the last full season that was played, and we will be asking clubs if they are intending to take part.

If the teams remain the same, Staplehurst withdrawal will lead to Maypole returning to division 4 and division 5 and 6 having eight teams each.

One positive outcome is that all those teams that registered with the KPL, for 2020 leagues, will have the fees carried over for 2021.

Cup and Plate competitions are anticipated but this all depends on the overall entry to the leagues in 2021."

12. KPL Treasurer's Report

Mike Cubitt announced that due to the sad loss of David Holden there is no treasurer's report or accounts. As soon as the accounts are produced, they will be circulated to team captains.

13. Election of KPL Officers

Mike Cubitt announced that 1 nomination received for Treasurer – Sue Barnes. Mike declared Sue Barnes elected KPA Treasurer. KPL Chairman Mike Cubitt & KPL Secretary Alan Cregeen declared to remain in post.

14. KPL Resolutions notified in advance

None

15. Any other KPL business (upon which no binding vote is to be taken)

Mike Nash (Duke of Wellington) thanked the KPL for the cup/plate competition and asked if they are recognised as official competitions and if winners name would be engraved on the trophies. Mike Cubitt said every team was given opportunity to enter so yes, they are official competitions. The consolage is not a normal competition so there is no trophy for that, but the Cup and Plate winners will be engraved and recorded on the relevant trophies.

16. KPA Resolutions notified in advance

None.

17. Appointment of auditors

Current auditor Glynis Johnston was proposed by Bob Gaywood and seconded by Mike Cubitt, and unanimously agreed.

18. Any other KPA business (upon which no binding vote is to be taken)

Sheila King announced Istead Rise are still hoping to enter 3 teams in the summer league this season.

Mick Nash asked how many members of the KPA there are. Membership secretary Duncan Brown confirmed in 2020 there were 437 adults and 11 juniors, 448 members total. So far in 2021 there are 106 adults and 4 juniors, encouraging start considering the pandemic is still ongoing.

Ray Keemer-Richards announced that some members who didn't renew last year have had to have a stop on their accounts due to data protection. If people are having difficulty renewing, then contact Ray and he will be able to clear it. Duncan thanked Ray and will be in touch if/when needed.

Mike Cubitt announced some clubs may actually be struggling to meet to discuss pétanque matters due to the current national lockdown. Duncan queried whether we could share the

KPA Zoom account, but Tim said this is not possible, however Zoom is free for 40-minute meetings anyway.

Meeting closed 20:33.