



Minutes of KPA & KPL Joint Annual General Meeting 2021
Thursday 18th November 8pm, at Gravesend Rugby Club

1. **Confirmation of the Date of Notice of the Meeting**

The date and place of the AGM has been published on the website since March. The call for nominations and resolutions went out to clubs and members on 5th October 2021 and the Agenda was issued on 10th November 2021.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

Jamie Finley, Peter Clarke, Daniel Rudden & Ditton Pétanque Club.

3. **Approval of the minutes of the previous KPA AGM**

The previous minutes were accepted and approved unanimously, proposed by Carolyn Edwins and seconded by Tracy Spillett.

4. **KPA Chairman's Report**

Bob Gaywood:

"Good evening and welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Kent Pétanque Association which as usual is being held in conjunction with the Kent Pétanque League. I shall begin this evening by reporting on this year's notable achievements by Kent members at international and national levels.

International

Becky Edwins returned only last week from her first Ladies World Championship held this year in Santa Susanna, Spain. And I'm sure it won't be her last. We all took much enjoyment supporting Becky and her team and following her on Facebook. Well done Becky, we hope you enjoyed the fantastic experience.

National

I would now like to congratulate Kent players for the following results:

National Triples Winners - Dean Ashby, Scott Ashby & Jason White

National Mixed Doubles Winner - Sophie Rowley

National Mixed Doubles Runner up - Jason White

National Mixed Triples Winner - Sophie Rowley
National Shotgun Triples Winner - Sophie Rowley & Kris Smith

PE Women's Rankings Series Event Winner - Becky Edwins
PE Ladies World Championship Team - Becky Edwins

EuroCup Plate. Team Railway 2 – Ray Keemer-Richards, Peter Clark, Gary Clark, Fay & Steve Golder

Kent Region

Now moving on to Kent Regional matters and activities within the region:

I will be presenting the trophies for our Regional Competitions champions later this evening. For the record:

2021 KPA Competitions

Singles Winner - Jason White
Singles Runner up - Matthew Shinebourne
Doubles Winners - Tracy Spillett & Kevin Spillett
Doubles Runners up - Becky Edwins & Tim Edwins
Triples Winners - Scott Ashby, Tracy Spillett & Kevin Spillett
Triples Runners up - Keith Atkinson, Matthew Bignell & Sophie Rowley
Mixed Doubles Winners - Alex Spillett & Dean Ashby
Mixed Doubles Runners up - Becky Edwins & Scott Ashby
Over 55s Winners - Richard Smith & Vaso Toke
Over 55s Runners up - Keith Atkinson & Richard Wenban
Chairman's Cup Winners - Mick Weston, Eric Hatfield, Vaso Toke and Phillip Monk
Chairman's Cup Runners up - Barry Menzies, Carol Farmer and Pamela Plummer
Shooting Winner - Scott Ashby
Shooting Runner up - Luke Ashford

Andy Mills Junior Player of the Year

I have already announced the National results and those of you paying attention perhaps would have noticed a certain name that came up several times. National Mixed Doubles Winner, National Mixed Triples Winner and National Shotgun Triples Winner. Yes, of course it was Sophie Rowley.

It therefore gives me great pleasure to present her with the Andy Mills Junior Player of the Year Award 2021.

Regional Qualifiers

A total of 25 different teams entered the Qualifiers this year. A magnificent effort considering that we only came out of lockdown earlier in the year. A big thank you for the hosting clubs of Gravesend and Lordswood. The top qualifying team this year was David Hurren, Rowland Jones, Richard Spillett and Matthew Horrigan.

Inter-Regional Championships

This year saw a new venue at Melton Mowbray in Leicestershire. Kent again sent a total of 13 teams consisting of 8 for the Championship Division 1, 4 for the Challenge Division 1 and a junior team. Although there was no stand-alone Junior competition this year, the juniors played, very well I might add, in the Challenge Division 2.

My grateful thanks again go to Duncan Brown for his hard work in organising the accommodation so well. And with the assistance of a handful of members and their credit cards, managed to get the whole Kent Squad plus managers, parents, partners, children, and groupies into the same hotel, a mere 800 metres from the competition ground.

The results were as follows:

Kent Division 1 finished in 3rd place, with the Kent 8 team of Kevin Spillett, Tracy Spillett and Gary Atkinson winning 10 out of 10 games. My thanks to our Championship squad Manager Carolyn Edwins.

Kent Challenge Division 1 finished in a creditable 4th place and in Challenge 2, the **Juniors** finished in 5th position.

My thanks go to Mike Cubitt for managing the Challenge 1 squad and to Jamie Finley for managing and coaching the Juniors.

Chairman's Cup

The Chairman's Cup is in place for those teams who for whatever reason did not qualify to represent Kent in the Regional Championships. The current qualification for entering is that the player must have played in at least one regional qualifier. This year's competition was reasonably well attended and my thanks go to the hosting club of Lordswood who fielded the winning team of Mick Weston, Eric Hatfield, Vaso Toke and Phillip Monk. Congratulations to them and to the runners-up, Barry Menzies, Carol Farmer and Pamela Plummer.

Membership

I have received an extremely up-to-date membership report from the KPA Membership Officer, Duncan Brown and for your information I would like to read it to you.

'Bob - A check as of 17.00 today:

In 2020 439 Adult and 10 Junior PE members in Kent. Total members 449.

In 2021 dropped to 363 Adult members and 12 Junior PE members in Kent. Total members 375, a drop of 74.

2022 Returning and new members (taking advantage of the 2-month free Nov and Dec incentive) we have 12 members already. Those taking up this incentive have also seen that the 2022 licence runs to 31st March 2023. This has been changed by PE to fall in line with the financial Year.

So, 2022 licences will run for 15 months (17 months for those new players and returning players gaining from the 'early bird' Incentivisation.)

'Thank You's

My sincere thanks to the 2021 KPA Management Committee for their continued commitment and hard work. They are:

Mike Cubitt – Vice Chairman

Tim Edwins - Secretary

Sue Barnes - Treasurer

Carolyn Edwins – Playing Committee Chair

Tracy Spillett – Committee member

Sheila King – Safeguarding

Duncan Brown - Membership
Alan Cregeen - Website
Dan Rudden – Committee member
Jamie Finley – Youth Development

My grateful thanks also to Playing Committee members:
Carolyn Edwins, Keith Atkinson, Kevin Spillett, Sheila King & Duncan Brown

Taylor Award

Finally, we have reached the stage when I present the coveted Taylor Award. This is awarded by the KPA Chairman each year to those who have made a significant contribution to our sport in this region.

The recipient this year has over the last few years contributed to Kent Pétanque and beyond enormously, mainly in the background, but has shown true professionalism, commitment, selflessness and has been a true ambassador to the sport. Moreover, a sounding board to me.

It gives me great pleasure to announce to you the recipient of this year's Taylor Award is Carolyn Edwins.

Carolyn has chaired the KPA Playing Committee for a number of years and with her and their hard work, amongst other important tasks, manages to produce an annual playing calendar even when the National Governing Body appears to be reluctant or indeed unable to produce one in a timely manner."

5. KPA Treasurer's Report:

Sue Barnes:

"Good evening, everyone. Hopefully you have received and seen the accounts (they were sent to your Secretaries asking them to distribute them) as in this day and age I do not believe in printing unnecessarily.

We are in the black and considering the past 18-20 months I think we should be pleased and that is due to members paying their membership during these times and the fact that was very little activity during the past 18 months. Though our membership numbers were considerably down from 2019. I believe that without an increase in our precept we will be looking at a deficit shortly. Though we are hopeful that more people will re-join in 2022 I do not think that the membership will reach pre 2019 figures.

I also want to thank everyone who embraced the online payment for the competitions. It certainly made my job easier with money reconciliation.

Although we made a small loss over the Inter Regionals this was due in part to PE asking for contribution from each team competing late in the day. We managed to hold our County Competitions and had representatives at PE Champion of Champions competitions.

The junior fund received donation and the Juniors done some fund raising so the account now stands at £770."

6. Determination of KPA Membership Fees:

The KPA management committee proposed a £2 increase to the regional precept. This was seconded by Kevin Spillett. The proposal was carried, with 2 dissenters.

7. **Election of KPA Officers**

Bob Gaywood announced that no new nominations had been received, and all 3 officers remain in place.

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.

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 Tracy Spillett and seconded by Ray Keemer-Richards, and unanimously approved.

11. **KPL President's Report**

Mike Cubitt:

"Good evening, all, Bob has already done the welcomes and I reiterate those.

I have to report on yet another year that has seen our game curtailed to some extent from the hesitation or reluctance of players to engage with others after the government lockdown had been lifted.

The indecision of some led to the leagues having to be re-arranged several times as teams withdrew or asked to join.

Several teams were in the unfortunate position that their clubs had lost the venue, either closing or taking back the area that was used for playing. We hope to see these and the other teams reapply to join the KPL summer league in 2022.

Overall, with some adjustments to where teams played in the league, we managed to run four divisions, one of ten teams and three with eight teams.

The outcome of division one was apparent early on with Railway Rising getting their points in front and maintaining that throughout the season. Controversy surrounded the minor places in division two as when it looked to be a one/two for Lordswood, an inability to rearrange a fixture gave Seal sufficient points to leapfrog into second place.

Division three was another tight affair with the outcome going down to the last games of the season where GRFC Lions just held off the challenge from Lordswood Zephyr. New Ash Green were winners of division four while Sidney Lamb managed to squeeze ahead of Villagers Vikings for second spot.

We recognise that one or two teams may have felt out of their depth in the league they were allocated, but hopefully with more teams coming back next year things will even out a little more comfortably.

We expect to include a cup and plate competition next year providing there are no restrictions in our ability to fit this in.

Winter league petanque is under way with yet again a disappointing uptake but we all hope that those taking part enjoy the season.

Currently we are looking for ways to encourage more players to take up the game as a competitive social activity while also taking the need away for them to be members of PE, as is already happening in the East Kent Coastal League and across many of the regions across the country. To this end we are in discussion with other insurers.

Hopefully PE will come up with its own two-tier membership that will save us the unnecessary time and effort while also be more acceptable to those that have no interest in playing national competitions.

It just leaves me to thank you all for coming along tonight and playing during 2021 and look forward to the new summer season in 2022."

12. **KPL Treasurer's Report:**

Sue Barnes:

"Hi, it's me again back to report on the finances for the KPL.

Firstly, I want to thank Alan for his patience during the past months when teams joined, left and re-joined as he tried to sort leagues out for the Summer and lately the Winter Seasons.

We didn't run any Cup/Plate competitions this year as with the uncertainty around lockdowns etc it was decided to concentrate on playing leagues.

Going forward to the next season entry fees for the league will be by bank transfer much simpler for all concerned.

The balance is due to being a season of very little activity and apart from PE registration, trophies purchased and a grant to a club there were no other expenses.

I am hopeful of a much more normal year in 2022 and at the next AGM we will be able to take stock of our finances going forward."

13. **Election of KPL Officers:**

Mike Cubitt announced that no new nominations for officers had been received and declared existing officers remain in post.

14. **KPL Resolutions Notified in Advance:**

PROPOSAL 1: Constitution Change Proposed by Sidcup Pétanque Club

Current constitution:

"13.1.2 Each participating team present shall be entitled to one vote."

Change to:

"13.1.2 Each participating club present shall be entitled to one vote."

Not moved from the floor by Sidcup.

PROPOSAL 2: Constitution Change

Proposed by the Kent Pétanque League Officers

Current constitution:

"3.1.2 Generally membership shall be open to any club in Kent which has current affiliation to PE and which, in the opinion of the Officers, meets the physical playing criteria and whose inclusion will enhance the enjoyment of the sport for current members."

Change to:

"3.1.2 Generally membership shall be open to any club in Kent which has current affiliation to PE and which, in the opinion of the Officers, meets the physical playing criteria and whose inclusion will enhance the enjoyment of the sport for current members. **From 2022 inclusive, all new venues entered into the summer leagues will be required to meet the minimum requirements set by the league, that is a minimum of three pistes that are not less than 13 metres x 3 metres or close to this (12.5 x 2.9)."**

Not carried.

PROPOSAL 3: Playing Rule Change

Proposed by the Kent Pétanque League Officers

Current playing rule:

"3. REARRANGEMENT

1. Except in respect of exceptional circumstances accepted by the League Secretary as such, rearrangement will not be allowed if less than 48 hours notice is given to the club contact and League Officers ie 8pm on the preceding Monday evening. The non-arrival of a team will be treated as in Rules 2.1 above.
2. Any team failing to arrive for an arranged fixture without giving adequate notice (as per rule 3.1) to their opponents will be fined £5.00. Failure to pay the fine will result in it being added onto the offending club's registration fee for the following season. Should the team still fail to pay they will be expelled from the league. The money will be returned to the non-offenders as a contribution to their food or travel costs. Teams should make a note on the scorecard if they are not given sufficient notice.
3. Rearrangement of a fixture will be allowed by mutual agreement. All matches must be played on or before the last day of the season as advised in the fixture list. Notification must be given to the organisers as per rule
4. If rearrangement cannot take place the team who could not fulfil the original fixture will be penalised by having a 5-0 (65-0) awarded to their opposition. Should both teams decide to cancel the games shall be void with no penalties. Knockout Cup - Rearranged cup games must be played within 48 hours of the original fixture. There will be no rearrangement of semi-finals and finals.
5. Where a match is suspended incomplete, the completed games will stand, and any remaining games replayed. The suspension must be reported, by both teams, to the League Secretary together with reasons why the match was suspended within 48 hours of the suspension.
6. The Officers of the League shall have absolute discretion to determine any issue not covered by these rules."

Change to:

"3. REARRANGEMENT

- 1. There will be no rearrangement except in the circumstances as mentioned in clause 3**

below

2. Any team failing to arrive for an arranged fixture will be fined £10.00. Failure to pay the fine will result in it being added onto the offending club's registration fee for the following season. Should the team still fail to pay they will be expelled from the league. The money will be returned to the non-offenders as a contribution to their costs. Teams should make a note on the scorecard if the opposition fail to turn up.

3. Where a match is suspended incomplete, the completed games will stand, and any remaining games replayed. The suspension must be reported, by both teams, to the League Secretary together with reasons why the match was suspended within 48 hours of the suspension.

4. Any team that does not fulfil a fixture will be penalised by having a 5-0 (65-0) awarded to their opposition, and in addition to this, a -5 games won penalty will be carried forward to the following Summer League season. Should both teams decide to cancel, the games shall be void with no penalties. Knockout Cup - Teams failing to fulfil the original fixture will forfeit the fixture.

5. The Officers of the League shall have absolute discretion to determine any issue not covered by these rules."

Not carried.

15. Any Other KPL Business (upon which no binding vote is to be taken):

David Baxter queried whether there was too much personal information available on the KPL website and asked if it was possible to make it available to Kent members only. Mike said this was noted and will be looked at.

16. Presentation of KPL Awards:

The trophies were presented by KPL President Mike Cubitt.

Division 4	Runners Up	Sydney Lamb
	Winners	New Ash Green
Division 3	Runners Up	Lordswood Zephyr
	Winners	GRFC Lions
Division 2	Runners Up	Seal
	Winners	Lordswood Moldovians
Division 1	Runners Up	Railway Rogues
	Winners	Railway Rising

17. Presentation of KPA Awards:

The trophies were presented by KPA Chairman Bob Gaywood.

Singles	Runner Up	Matthew Shinebourne
	Winner	Jason White
Shooting	Runner Up	Luke Ashford
	Winner	Scott Ashby
Doubles	Runners Up	Becky Edwins & Tim Edwins
	Winners	Tracy Spillett & Kevin Spillett
Triples	Runners Up	Keith Atkinson, Matthew Bignell & Sophie Rowley
	Winners	Tracy Spillett, Kevin Spillett & Scott Ashby

Mixed Doubles	Runners Up	Becky Edwins & Scott Ashby
	Winners	Alex Spillett & Dean Ashby
Over 55s Doubles	Runners Up	Keith Atkinson & Richard Wenban
	Winners	Richard Smith & Vaso Toke
Chairman's Cup	Winners	Mick Weston, Eric Hatfield, Vaso Toke & Phillip Monk
The Andy Mills Junior Player of the Year	Winner	Sophie Rowley

18. KPA Resolutions Notified in Advance:

None.

19. Appointment of Auditors:

The current auditor Glynis Johnston was proposed by Bob Gaywood and seconded by Mike Cubitt and unanimously agreed.

20. Any Other KPA Business (upon which no binding vote is to be taken):

Alex Spillett questioned why there is no Champion of Champion Mixed Doubles event run by Pétanque England. Bob confirmed this had already been brought up at a recent management committee meeting, and the KPA will be seeking clarification from Pétanque England regarding it.

Meeting closed 22:03.