Chairman:

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Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 6th October 2022 via Zoom, commencing at 7:30pm.

1. Apologies for absence: Daniel Rudden, Duncan Brown

Present: Bob Gaywood, Tim Edwins, Averil Flack, Sue Barnes, Sheila King, Jamie Finley, Mike Cubitt, Carolyn Edwins, Alan Cregeen, Tracy Spillett

2. Matters arising from the previous meeting:

Bob emailed PE regarding the Combined squad situation. Istead Rise had contacted the KPA about the incident at The Villager. Tim replied to say we are aware and had discussed it, and clubs will need risk assessments in place to play competitive matches. Carolyn has amended the draft policy for competition organising, Tim will circulate to MC. Carolyn also spoke to Ray about the Paul Reilly Memorial Doubles donations. Sue confirmed that all refunds due to players from the KPA account for this competition have been done already and the umpires fee was paid by the KPA. The entry fee money paid to the KPA has been donated to the British Heart Foundation and the receipt sent to Lordswood. Carolyn will contact Ray again to chase up. The winners of the competition were John Boorman & Kevin Malley.

3. Treasurer's report:

"Unfortunately, due to IOW Tours & PE we are owed a considerable amount of money. We heard of cancellation of KPA supplying 2 combined teams on 31 August I refunded the players accommodation costs on 1 September and since then we have had no response from IOW Tours apart from a request that we wait until after the Regionals which although not over pleased agreed. I received an email from IOW Tours informing me: 'thank you for your email, I have forwarded Duncan's email to our accounts department, and we will be having a meeting regarding the refunds next week I will come back to Duncan as soon as I am able'.

I am sorry I do not think this is good enough from a Company that is quick enough to send out revised invoices quickly but must have a meeting to discuss our due refund.

Apart from IOW Tours I have sent out a sheet showing a breakdown of figures for this year's Regional Qualifiers & Inter Regionals plus Chairman's Cup.

Other expenditure this month included:

Player grants to Jason White & Sophie Rowley who are representing England at the European Espoirs & Juniors Championship which is taking place this coming weekend. We wish them well.

Bob on behalf of KPA presented engraved Kent Pétanque glasses as a thank you to Colin Senneck and his wife Anne all his support to Kent during the past years at an event held at Hartley Country Club."

Sue reported further emails from IOW Tours to say the person who deals with money is away from the business at present. Bob confirmed he has emailed IOW Tours and PE demanding immediate answers.

4. Membership report:

Duncan had messaged Tim to say that there is the usual early bonus for members renewing from October. Any renewals from now will be valid until March 2024.

5. Inter regionals debrief:

Tim circulated all 3 managers reports earlier. Bob thanked the managers for their work and reports. The new Kent kit went down very well with players. The weather at Pakefield was very cold and not everyone was prepared for it. Now we know how cold it can get, Tim will add another paragraph to the players letter for 2023. There was a discussion about a Kent member who was not part of any squad wearing a Kent shirt at the presentation evening and joining in one of the team photos.

Sue suggested initiating a payment plan at the start of the Kent qualifying series for those members who want to use it. This would be paying a set amount of money to the KPA every month towards the inter-regional invoice. If the person does not qualify to represent Kent, then they just get their money back. Agreed to add to agenda for January to discuss finer details further.

6. Playing matters:

The Kent doubles was won by Chris Watkins & Gary Atkinson, runners up Aston Monk & Jason White. Both teams are playing at the Champion of Champions event. The Chairman's Cup winners were Bob Gaywood, Trevor Glenn & Jean-Louis Guiot, runners up Reg Dobson, Janet Dobson & Christine Menzies. The Kent Over 55s Doubles winners were Mike Capelin & Deborah Capelin, runners up Ian Heathcote & Maria Hooper.

The Kent Mixed Doubles is being held at The Railway Inn on 23rd October. Tim will confirm the venue are still OK to host, but Tim is away so will also ask if Railway have anyone to run the competition.

GRFC Harlequins won the EuroCup Plate.

7. AGM Call:

Tim said the AGM notice call has been sent out. The AGM is on the 17th November and Lordswood have kindly agreed to host. Averil asked about a budget for the buffet food, £250 agreed.

8. Risk assessments:

Mike suggested to add to the constitution that all clubs require a risk assessment, updated yearly, to play or host competitive matches. This would need to be worded and proposed at the AGM to be voted on. Bob & Tim will liaise and confirm.

9. Chequers PC grant:

Bob had forwarded on an email from the Chequers PC who have asked about a grant towards the cost of their new lighting. Tim had followed up the email asking for more information regarding the costs, number of quotes, etc but has had no reply yet. Mike suggested they could look to local authorities too.

10. Date of next meeting:

Confirmed as Thursday 3rd November 2022 via Zoom.

11. Any other business:

Averil enquired about disabled access to pistes as not all clubs have access. Tim said we did email clubs regarding this about 3 years ago to get a list of which clubs do have disabled access. Averil will investigate it further.

Sheila reminded everyone it is imperative that all competition flyers mention safeguarding. We want to avoid clubs or regions being fined. Tim confirmed that safeguarding information is always on every KPA competition flyer. It was mentioned that any flyer without safeguarding we could refuse to publish and promote.

Jamie reported that all four Kent juniors passed their White Award at Pakefield and are now working towards their green award. There have been letters sent to the schools the juniors attend to thank them for the time off given and said the juniors all represented themselves and Kent very well. Jamie has secured funding for the junior training kit for the regional qualifiers next year.

Tim has been contacted by a member who is travelling to Australia and wondered if we had any Kent items he could take to exchange. Bob said he has some KPA coches, keyrings and coins. Bob will check stock and let Tim know. Tim also asked what has happened to our junior boules. Averil has checked the container at Lordswood but there are none there. Jamie did an audit a year ago, the last known clubs to have been lent junior boules were Duke of Wellington PC and Harrow PC. It was suggested that in future we take a deposit from clubs before we lend them junior boules, all agreed.

Bob said he had been asked by a member if the KPA would contribute towards a new set of junior boules they had purchased. Tracy said that previously the KPA had not paid towards boules but lent juniors boules. The KPA contribute towards travel costs. We need to locate the existing sets of junior boules.

Carolyn said she had been chatting to Sophie who is very keen to help with junior coaching and give something back to the KPA. Jamie is aware.

Tracy thanked Carolyn for being a good manager at Pakefield and doing a great job.

Meeting closed 22:14.