



Minutes of KPA & KPL Joint Annual General Meeting 2017
Thursday 16th November 8pm, at Hartley Country 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 April, the call for nominations and resolutions went out to clubs and members on 28th October 2017 and the Agenda was issued on 11th November 2016.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

Received from Martin Eggleton, Annette Eggleton, Sue Wallis (Ightham PC) and Jack Milner. There were 96 members present from 18 clubs.

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

The previous minutes were accepted and approved unanimously, proposed by Ray Keemer-Richards and seconded by Bryan Yates.

4. **KPA Chairman's Report**

Bob Gaywood:

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Kent Pétanque Association which is being held in conjunction with the Kent Pétanque League.

I am delighted to be able to report again this year on Kent members achievements, not only regional, but both national and international levels.

Congratulations therefore go to:

International

Jean - Louis Guiot, Dave and Sue Turner for winning the 2017 EPA National Veterans competition and then going on to represent England in Denmark and finishing in the top 8. A fantastic achievement – well done guys!

Jason White and Alex Spillett, who as England Juniors, recently travelled all the way to China, together with top England Coach, Scott Ashby to win bronze in the Nations Cup after

narrowly losing out to Japan in the semi's. An enormous well done – we're very proud of you.

National Regional

Richard Wenban and Keith Atkinson, who as runners - up in the Kent Regional Over 50's Doubles, represented Kent and went on to win the EPA Champion of Champion's Over 50's Doubles Title.

Jason White as runner - up in the Junior shooting competition at Hayling Island this year.

Kent Pétanque Region

And now to Kent Regional matters and activities within the region:

I will be presenting the trophies for our Regional Competitions later this evening. I won't therefore run through the list of winners and runners - up at this stage but their names will be in my published report.

For the record:

2017 KPA Competitions

Singles

Winner - Rowland Jones

R/up - Dean Ashby

Doubles

Winners - Mat Horrigan and Rowland Jones

R's/up - Andy Dunstall and Mat Lomas

Mixed Doubles

Winners - Becky and Tim Edwins

R's/up - Tracy Spillett and Scott Ashby

Over 50's Doubles

Winners - Dave Turner and Dave Snook

R's/up - Richard Wenban and Keith Atkinson

Triples

Winners - Kevin Spillett, Rowland Jones, Scott Ashby

R's/up - Matt Horrigan, Dave Hurren and Richard Spillett

Shooting

Winner - Jason White

R/up - Scott Ashby

Regional Qualifiers

Support for the Regional Qualifiers this year average d 2 6 teams over the 5 days, which was up by 2 teams on the previous year. Unfortunately, it's still slightly down compared with recent years but I can tell you that the playing committee are working tirelessly on trying to find ways of making the qualifiers more attractive to more members.

I must thank Meadow, Hartley Country Club, Lordswood and Gravesend clubs for generously hosting the Qualifiers again this year.

Inter-Regional Championships

This year, Kent sent a total of 17 teams to the Inter Regional Championships at Hayling Island which, together with team Managers, amounted to some 70 members.

Again, the momentous challenge of organising and booking the accommodation for our members was undertaken by Ray Keemer - Richards and my grateful thanks goes to him for all his hard work.

My personal thanks and massive congratulations to the Kent Division 1 squad players for a truly spectacular performance when, having been virtually written off by the main contenders, demonstrated so well how a fully focussed and committed squad can play and went on to achieve the same amount of game wins as the eventual winners, only missing out on points. And of course, I must congratulate Kent Challenge team 4 of Jes, Barry, Sam and Richard for achieving the best Challenge team title by winning 10 out of 12 games. Although our Junior team didn't win any games, I know they enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to building on that for the future. So, a big WELL DONE to you all too! My sincere thanks to our 2017 managers Humphrey White, Andrew Dunstall and Mat Lomas for their hard work and dedication and of course to Annette and Martin Eggleton and the EPA team for organising a wonderful tournament.

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 finals. The qualification for entering is that the player must have played in at least one regional qualifier.

This year's competition was a resounding success and was held at Hartley with 36 or 37 players entered. The prize fund was £240 and there was a bottle of wine for every player.

Congratulations go to the Chairman's Cup winning team, Bob Pittaway, Bridget Snow and Lois Adam and runners - up, Jean Olley, Diane and Peter Bryant.

Thank you to Ron Yates for running this year's competition.

As I mentioned in last year's report, the KPA MC are continually looking for ways to improve and further the enjoyment of the sport. To assist in doing just that, a member's survey was undertaken in May by Carolyn Edwins and as a result of that initiative there are several ideas currently under consideration by the Playing Committee such as perhaps trying a Saturday competition instead of a Sunday, an event perhaps only for division 4 players and below. It's also worth noting that the MC are more than happy to assist in finding a place in a Regional Qualifier team for a player who doesn't belong to one already.

I am delighted to report that this year has seen the qualification of no less than five new Club Coaches from the Kent Region. They are: - Ayjay Keemer - Richards, Peter Clarke, Mags Yates, Hilda Griffiths and Craig Poynter. My congratulations to you all. To arrange a coaching session at your club, please contact either Gordon Angell, the Coaching Coordinator or Tim Edwins, thank you.

My thanks also to the 2017 KPA Management Committee for the massive amount of work and their time commitment on our behalf.

They are:

Mike Cubitt, Tim Edwins, David Holden, Mike Capelin, Ray Keemer-Richards, Tracy Spillett, Sheila King, Bryan Yates, Carolyn Edwin, Duncan Brown & Alan Cregeen

Mike Capelin has for personal reasons decided to retire this year from the MC and I would take this opportunity of thanking him personally and on behalf of the Kent Region for his assistance, advice and sound judgement over the last couple of years.

My thanks also to Playing Committee members:

Keith Atkinson, Kevin Spillett & Scott Ashby

Thanks also to Ayjay Keemer-Richards for taking on the Regional roles of Youth Development Officer and Safeguarding Officer and to Gordon Angell as Coaching Co - coordinator.

And of course, most importantly to Annette Eggleton as our Regional Competition organiser.

Taylor Award

Finally, the Taylor Award, awarded by the Chairman each year to those who have made a significant contribution to the sport in the region. It has for me been an easy decision this year.

This year's recipient has been very involved in all regional activity but in particular, one massive project this year.

In recognition of the fantastic effort and brilliant organisation in setting up and overseeing the smooth running the KPA stand at this year's Kent County Show, it gives me great pleasure in naming Sheila King as the 2017 Taylor Award recipient.

Sheila worked tirelessly since the middle of last year in organising the ground, obtaining materials, twisting arms, getting sponsorships – to name but a few.

The show was a fantastic success and saw literally hundreds of people passing through, asking questions and trying their hand at the sport on the stand pistes. I could and indeed should talk for a lot longer about this but unfortunately there just isn't time at the moment.

Please join me in a big round of applause in appreciation of Sheila.

Thank you all for your attendance this evening.

5. KPA Treasurer's Report

David Holden:

Financially it has been a better year than last year with income remain broadly constant whilst expenses have dropped by around 20% despite playing grants almost doubling.

This is a result, mainly, of us sending fewer teams to Hayling in 2017 which saw a large reduction in accommodation and kit costs, and this was helped by an increase in the number of teams taking part in the regional qualifiers and tournaments. However, we want to see still more teams taking part next year and your committee is looking at ways to make these tournaments more attractive.

This year, for the first time, we had a stand at the Kent Show, and Bob has already told you what a great success that was and I would like to add my thanks to Sheila for her sterling work, not only in organising the whole event, but also for her skills in persuading various organisations to part with money to help fund it. It is a shame then that the EPA did not think that this was an idea worth supporting.

On a technical point, I will be proposing to the Committee that we abolish the Club Grants Reserve which serves no practical purpose and only serves to make the accounts slightly more obscure than they need to be.

Finally, the Junior Fund has been put to good use this year and although no juniors have asked for Grants for Boules, we have been able to assist with travel and kit. We are grateful to Seal PC for their donation to the fund this year and if any club would like to donate to the fund, please do not be backward in coming forward.

6. Determination of the KPA Membership Fees

Bob Gaywood announced that the KPA management committee propose that the membership fee remains the same, at £6. Seconded by Mick Weston and unanimously agreed.

7. Election of KPA Officers

Bob Gaywood announced that no new nominations for officers had been received and declared existing officers 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.

9. Handover of the Chair for KPL Business

Mike Cubitt, KPL President, took the chair and welcome everyone

10. Approval of the minutes of the previous KPL AGM

There was a minor discrepancy pointed out by Tovil PC, in the wording of one of last year's rule changes. It had been updated in the rules correctly but minuted wrong. Tim Edwins will make the amendment and send to Alan Cregeen to publish on the website. The minutes were then proposed by Tracy Spillett and seconded by Bryan Yates and unanimously approved.

11. KPL President's Report

Mike Cubitt:

It is good to see so many teams represented here tonight, and unlike last year, just the one amendment to vote on tonight.

Another good season which saw many good results throughout the league programme, but there is also a disappointing trend for teams to postpone fixtures for various reasons. This can lead to claims for points as the opposition does not have to agree if a suitable date is

not available. I remind everyone that the league night is Wednesday and if your opposition does not agree to rearrange then they are entitled to claim a 5-0, 65-0 result in their favour.

Two teams topped the 1000 points for the season, Railway Rising from div 1, and Sherwood Oak from div 4, closely followed by Meadow Starlings div 6 with 996.

Two or three clubs applied for and were granted small grants to help with piste/facility improvements. Both the KPL and the KPA have a process that may support clubs in their work to improve the playing facilities depending what is requested.

I would like to congratulate all the league winners and runners-up, and thank all those that support the game of pétanque in the county. And wish to thank my fellow officers, Mick Nash and David Holden for their work throughout the season.

12. **KPL Secretary's Report**

Mick Nash:

Firstly, congratulations to the winners of the Leagues and the Cup and Plate this year.

Those winners and the runners up will be announced later during the presentations.

Whitstable Natives and Duke of Edinburgh were not able to complete their fixtures in 2016 and were unable to find the necessary new players for 2017 so were not able to re-join the league. Duke of Edinburgh incidentally lost their venue.

We also lost Seal Blues, Lamb Inn Pub and White House Tigers from the league.

Northwood lost their venue but found a new home at Manston. They are now Manston PC. Pilot are another team who lost their venue and they moved to White House where they became White House Pilot.

Ightham also moved because of the loss of venue to the George and Dragon in Ightham where they are known as Ightham PC 2017.

Railway Rogues became Railway Rising, Star Meadow 2 became Meadow Starlings, and Star Meadow 1 became Meadow Larks.

On a positive note, we welcomed a new team to Division 7, Ditton Doubles.

As a result of all these changes, in 2017 we had 5 divisions of 10 teams each, plus two divisions of 7 teams each. By the use of crossover games all these teams had a full fixture list.

Sadly, during the season Harrow Shires were unable to continue to raise teams regularly and reluctantly resigned from the league. The team is confident of being able to return to the league next year

The league cup and plate semi-finals and finals took place in June and July again this year. Some very close matches featured. We will hear the names of the winners and runners up shortly. Thanks to the Meadow and Hartley Country Club for providing the venues.

The league handicapped competition took place in October again, attracting 11 teams from 7 clubs, with 7 teams from 3 clubs picking up prizes amounting to £220 plus 27 bottles of wine. The prize cheques will be presented tonight. Many thanks to Gordon Angell and his son for running the BBQ.

We have one League proposal tonight from Tovil for your consideration. Remember there is one vote per team, plus individual votes for the league officers.

Finally, many thanks to my fellow committee members Mike Cubitt and David Holden and the web master Alan Cregeen for their support during the year.

13. **KPL Treasurer's Report**

David Holden:

Income and Expenses have remained basically the same, but this year the league was able to provide grants for clubs to improve lighting and terrains to the tune of almost £800 and although that this means that the accounts for the year show a small deficit, I for one think that this is money well spent.

If any other clubs would like to apply for assistance please e-mail Mick Nash and copy me in and we will see what we can do to help.

The accounts were proposed by Bryan Yates and seconded by Richard Spillett, and were unanimously accepted.

14. **Election of KPL Officers**

No new nominations for officers have been received. Existing officers are happy to continue in their roles.

Mike Cubitt – President

Mick Nash – Secretary

David Holden – Treasurer

15. **KPL Resolutions notified in advance**

PROPOSAL 1:

Tovil Pétanque Club – Rule 2.1

CHANGE TO:

"Either team may request an earlier start, which would have to be agreed by the other team. Without agreement, the default start time would be 8pm. Only three players need to be present by an agreed earlier start time but all players will need to be available to play by 8pm as per rule 2.1 above."

Tovil wished to amend the proposal to be as below:

"Either team may request an earlier start, which would have to be agreed by the other team. Without agreement, the default start time would be 8pm. Only three players need to be present by an agreed earlier start time but all players *who are going to be taking part in the match will need to be available by 8pm subject to rules 2.1 and 2.2.*"

Overwhelmingly carried.

16. **Any other KPL business**

None

***** There was then a short interval for refreshments *****

17. Presentation of KPL Awards

The trophies were presented to the League and Cup competitions winners and runners up by President Mike Cubitt.

Division 7	Runners Up	Sidcup Rollers
	Winners	New Ash Green 2
Division 6	Runners Up	Meadow Larks
	Winners	Meadow Starlings
Division 5	Runners Up	Bat & Ball 2013
	Winners	Seal Whites
Division 4	Runners Up	Lamb Inn Village
	Winners	Sherwood Oak
Division 3	Runners Up	Istead Spitfires
	Winners	Lordswood Sirocco
Division 2	Runners Up	Walnut Tree
	Winners	New Ash Green 1
Division 1	Runners Up	Meadow 1
	Winners	Railway Rising
Knockout Plate	Runners Up	GRFC Barbarians
	Winners	Toviliers
Knockout Cup	Runners Up	Lordswood Sirocco
	Winners	Railway Rising

18. Presentation of KPA Awards

The trophies were presented to KPA Winners and Runners Up by Chairman Bob Gaywood.

Singles	Runner Up	Dean Ashby
	Winner	Rowland Jones
Shooting	Runner Up	Scott Ashby
	Winner	Jason White
Doubles	Runners Up	Andrew Dunstall & Mathew Lomas
	Winners	Matt Horrigan & Rowland Jones
Triples	Runners Up	Matt Horrigan, Dave Hurren & Richard Spillett
	Winners	Kevin Spillett, Rowland Jones & Scott Ashby
Mixed Doubles	Runners Up	Tracy Spillett & Scott Ashby
	Winners	Becky Edwins & Tim Edwins
Over 50's Doubles	Runners Up	Richard Wenban & Keith Atkinson
	Winners	David Turner & David Snook
Chairman's Cup	Winners	Bob Pittaway, Bridget Snow and Lois Adam
The Andy Mills Junior Player of the Year	Winner	Jason White

19. KPA Resolutions notified in advance

None

20. Appointment of auditors

Current auditor Glynis Johnston was proposed by Richard Spillett and seconded by Bryan Yates. Unanimously agreed.

21. Any other KPA business

Howard Sandom of Seal PC said that the juniors are the future of our sport and all clubs should do all they can to encourage more juniors to get involved. Ray Keemer-Richards announced he has organised a junior practice programme and needs some juniors to attend.

Kevin Spillett of Meadow PC asked the KPA committee how much influence we have in EPA matters. Bob Gaywood replied that up to recently we do not have much, however Bob attended the last EPA meeting and they have resolved to have 2 yearly meetings for regional presidents and EPA officials so the views and concerns of regions can be put forward and heard. Mike Cubitt also attended the recent meeting and confirmed that the EPA had recognised failures in communications with members and will rectify in the future.

Mike Capelin of Railway PC announced that those members not on Facebook do not have access to the newsletter. Bob confirmed that the newsletter will be added to the KPA website for all to see.

Mick Nash of Hartley PC announced that he will be stepping down as organiser of the Winter League after running it for 11 years since it was formed. He is looking for a volunteer to step up and take on the role.

Bob Gaywood of Hartley PC was pleased to announce that Gravesend Rugby Club has made a successful bid to host the EPA Titles weekend for the next 2 years. This is held on the late May bank holiday weekend and consists of Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles events over the 3 days. Bob encouraged support for the weekend and to see a big turnout of Kent players at the events.

Meeting closed 21:46