

Chairman:

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Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 24th January at GRFC commencing at 8.00pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Tracy Spillett, Duncan Brown, Bob Gaywood, David Holden

Present: Mike Cubitt, Keith Atkinson, Tim Edwins, Carolyn Edwins, Sheila King, Alan Cregeen, Ray Keemer-Richards, Daniel Rudden

2. **Minutes:**

The minutes of the previous meeting on Thursday 13th December were agreed as a correct record.

3. **Matters arising from the previous meeting:**

Bob has asked Duncan Brown and Andrew Dunstall to join the playing committee.

Ray has already been to visit The Bull at Sittingbourne, and the piste has been built.

Sheila has had 11 entries so far for the International Women's Day event.

4. **Treasurer's report:**

David unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments.

5. **Membership report:**

Ray announced there are currently 342 members so far. There have been a few issues with the new licence system but mainly OK. LoveAdmin will be releasing a mobile app soon.

*** Mike Cubitt moved to co-opt Daniel Rudden on to the Management Committee. All present unanimously agreed, and Daniel was welcomed to the committee. ***

6. **KPA Calendar 2019:**

Carolyn circulated draft 7 of the KPA calendar and said it has been exceptionally difficult to plan this year due to the increased number of Sundays taken up by Pétanque England. There was a discussion about having an event on Easter Sunday, and the committee agreed it would be best to avoid this

date if possible, as it would limit the turnout and therefore revenue to the KPA. Mike said he was struggling to be able to run the Mayor of Gravesham Triples this year, so would be happy to cancel that to let us have a regional qualifier on that day. Carolyn was very appreciative of his offer and happy to have a qualifier on that day. The rest of the calendar was agreed. Carolyn will update the calendar and circulate the final KPA calendar to the MC, and Alan can upload to the website.

7. Playing Committee Report:

Carolyn reported on the recent playing committee meeting with the following updates:

Juniors incentive – the junior team that qualifies to represent Kent will receive free kit and free accommodation.

Adults incentive – the playing committee suggested that the £500 bursary, currently used for the KPA Triples, could be removed and used for the final positions of the KPA qualifying series. This could be scaled so higher finishing positions would receive higher subsidy. It was noted that Kent would not be sending any Combined squad teams this year, and most Kent players have current kit, so expected costs are a lot less. Tim to ask David if he could come up with a pricing structure, possibly having the Challenge teams 9-12 with the same subsidy and teams 1-8 with scaled subsidy, as an incentive to finish as high as possible. Ray suggested that representing Kent is enough of an incentive, and that there may be some teams who do not enter the qualifiers at all if this system is implemented, which would cost the KPA lots of money. Tim said that if the higher-level teams are not interested then they may not enter at all, which would result in the same loss of money to the KPA and also be of detriment to the Kent squad. Carolyn explained that we must keep all levels of players interested and keen to play for Kent.

EuroCup – there was a suggestion of asking PE to consider having the EuroCup draw over 1 border, rather than being regionalised as it currently is. It would be better for Kent teams to play other regions teams for a bit of variety, rather than playing each other all the time.

Regional rule / other changes – Carolyn said the playing committee should look at the suggestions other than format changes, for the regional qualifiers, that were submitted last year. The playing committee are meeting again to discuss these in the next few months.

8. Date of next meeting – Thursday 14th March at Hartley Country Club

Confirmed.

9. Any other business:

Tim noted that Lee Jamieson's funeral is on Monday 28th January and it would be nice to send representation from the KPA and also a donation. Mike Cubitt announced he is planning to attend the funeral. The committee agreed that a donation of £50 would be made, which Mike will sort on the day.

Tim also said he had been contacted by a friend who works at St John's Junior School, who have a Sports Week on 24th – 28th June. Tim was asked if we could do anything pétanque related. It was suggested that we were keen to be involved. Tim will get the contact details and add to the next meeting as an agenda item.

Alan reported that there is a possibility of a new piste in a council communal area in Whitstable. Alan wondered who would be best to speak to regarding getting this started. Sheila said the local council sports development would be the first point of contact, and there could be money available through the county council too.

Mike said he would be looking for help around the national titles weekend again. He also said that the RFU are looking into developing the main GRFC pitch into a 3G pitch. If that is done it would be in the close season, which may affect access for Titles weekend, but there are no plans yet at this stage.

Meeting closed 21:09.