

Chairman:

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Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2026 via Zoom, commencing at 7:30pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Peter Shillinglaw

Present: Duncan Brown (Chair), Alex Spillett, Tim Edwins, Carolyn Edwins, Mark Toulson, Richard Wenban, David Baxter & Alan Cregeen.

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

Carolyn had suggested a date for the KPL Handicap Triples and is currently waiting to hear back from Hartley & Mick Nash. KPA Triples is now confirmed at Hartley. We need to find a date for the KPA Singles & Shooting Championships. Carolyn has also been approached about organising a ladies coaching day and is looking into it.

3. **Treasurer's report:**

David circulated the accounts earlier today; there were no questions.

4. **Kent Youth Development Officer:**

Dean has asked a few people but no interest so far, not much progress. It was agreed that a few members working beneath a leader to help spread the load is a good idea. We need to keep asking around, especially at Kent competitions. This needs to be a priority to get a new YDO in place.

5. **Qualifier Rules 2026:**

Carolyn and Tim had updated the Qualifier Rules document for 2026 and emailed to MC members ahead of the meeting. Tim said we may need to change the wording of point 14, so that we give preference to players who have played in the current qualifying series, before asking players from previous years. Richard presented an updated ranking points system, designed to keep all teams interested and not let anyone get so far ahead they wouldn't need to play all qualifiers. All present agreed the new rules and points. Carolyn will update the document and then print and photocopy to distribute to all team captains at Q1. Tim will also upload to the website.

6. Kent member licence assistance:

Duncan read out some correspondence from the member and from Pétanque England. All present agreed there is not much we can do to help the situation, and there may need to be lawyers or arbitrators involved. It was suggested to try and set up a meeting between the two parties. We also need clarity on whether the member is currently prohibited from holding a PE licence and therefore playing in KPA competitions. Duncan will respond to PE and then update the committee.

7. Date of next meeting:

Confirmed as Thursday 23rd April.

8. Any other business:

Alex said she is thinking of holding the Kent Big Weekend at Lordswood this year. Saturday could be a more relaxed type of melee competition, possibly splitting up elite players into different teams. This will allow the Sunday & Monday to be more serious competitions to help attract more entries. All happy and agreed.

David reported there have been a lot of spam emails going to Tim under the info@ email address. Alan will investigate and Tim will continue to monitor.

Mark asked why we do not allow any Kent kit to be worn at KPA competitions. Historically this was because Kent kit wasn't allowed to be worn at all outside of representing Kent, to help keep the shirts in good condition. It was suggested to change the rules to say any current Kent kit must not be worn, this will allow the old plain red polo shirts with Kent logo to be worn at Kent competitions. All agreed. Tim will update the rules documents wording.

Tim reported that The Earl Grey member Martin Pennell has now qualified as an umpire after passing the PE exam. Martin said he would be happy to umpire some Kent competitions in the future but first needs to be fully signed off by PE.

Duncan said there was a member that wanted to join the Kent Management Committee. Currently there are actually no committee member places vacant, the current vacancies are for YDO, Coaching Coordinator and Umpire.

Meeting closed 21:06.