

Chairman:

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Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 22nd February 2024 via Zoom, commencing at 7:30pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** David Baxter

Present: Duncan Brown (Chair), Ray Keemer-Richards, Tim Edwins, Richard Wenban, Melissa Rowley, Alan Creegen, Peter Shillinglaw, Jamie Finley, Carolyn Edwins & Mark Toulson.

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

Duncan has contacted Jo from the Maidstone schools project, and they are meeting on 28th March.

Carolyn has made the discussed changes to the qualifier rules and circulated the new document. Further amendments suggested and approved.

Richard has been in contact with Colin Roper and started the process of becoming the Kent DBS Verifier.

3. **Treasurer's report:**

David had circulated the latest accounts before the meeting.

4. **Membership report:**

Ray said we had 516 total members last year, including 11 juniors, 6 life members, 166 ladies and 315 men. Not much movement so far this year.

5. **Playing matters:**

Alex is organising and running the Kent IWD Doubles qualifier at Hartley. This will be free entry to encourage participation, and all agreed to purchase bottles of wine for prizes. Qualifier 1 is on 24th March, Tim ok to run the event and will check with GRFC they are all ok to host. Alan will set up the Q1 pre-entry form on the website ready to go live. Tim wanted clarification and a group decision on the number of Swiss rounds played if there are 16 entries or less. All present agreed that if 16 teams

or less than 4 rounds will be played, as this avoids potential crossover rounds and is not needed to provide a clear ranking of teams on the day.

Carolyn circulated the latest calendar with a few more competitions and events in. Tim to update the PDF calendar and send to Alan for the website.

6. KPA Website:

Duncan said his potential contact is not available due to ill health. Carolyn said there had been a miscommunication between her and Richard Ruddick, and Richard's contact had not actually been asked yet. Agreed to carry item over to next meeting to give more time for quotes.

7. Playing Committee update:

Carolyn reported the PC met again in January and have agreed 2 taster sessions with Gravesham Explorers on 2 Mondays in March. GRFC are hosting and we are grateful. Dean Ashby is arranging coaches for the sessions and Carolyn is arranging for adult volunteers to help with running the event on the night.

Barry Menzies is happy to try and organise and match up teams or players looking to play in the Kent regional qualifiers. Alan has created a KPA email address that will forward to Barry's email. Tim asked if we could potentially get thumbnails for flyers on the website as people may not be aware that clicking the event shows the flyer. Alan will investigate and add a clear link to make people aware how to view event flyers.

8. Kent's Big Weekend:

Alex sent round a potential flyer for a big new weekend of pétanque in Kent, looking at 2 competitions over the late August bank holiday weekend. We would need volunteers to help run the event and lots of promoting and advertising to get lots of entries. All agreed this was a great initiative and very positive about it and helping. It was also suggested that we could seek sponsorship for the event too.

9. Date of next meeting:

Confirmed as Thursday 11th April.

10. Any other business:

Ray queried the change in rules regarding licences and the new club member licence. Ray will find out the breakdown of licence fees and how much goes to each organisation from licences.

Melissa said the KPA website is still open access to all and this is potential safeguarding issue. Would it be possible to have separate areas for members and non-members as there are people's names and contact details visible. It was agreed we could have a generic email address for any Kent enquiries

and that these emails would go to Duncan & Tim in the first instance. Alan to sort emails for the new MC members.

Carolyn asked about the recent Pétanque England AGM but no news yet.

Alex asked about getting access to the KPA News Facebook page. Tim will have a look and see if Alex can be added. Alex also asked about a potential database or mailing list for flyers and competitions. It could be possible, but people would need to consent and actively sign up to it.

Duncan said he is going to do another short post updating members with what the MC is doing and planning for the year ahead.

Alex is still chasing grants from various bodies.

Meeting closed 20:59.