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NorthernPetanque

A Region of the English Petanque Association



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Regional website - www.northernpetanque.co.uk

Minutes of the Regional Committee Meeting held at Wigginton on Saturday 14/1/2012.

Members Present

Executive Officers

President	Alan Swift (Wetherby)
Vice President	John Gaughan (York RI)
Secretary	Sue Swift (Wetherby)
Treasurer/Memb.Sec	Steve Jones (York RI)
Development (East)	Don Jackson (York RI)
Youth Development	Ted Beetham (Bridlington)
Coach	Matt Blyton (Unattached)

Clubs

Brandesburton	Bill Vicker
Doncaster	Ray Gatenby (representative) Debbie Gatenby (observer)
Fox	Barbara Hardisty (representative) Mick Hardisty, Angela Fletcher (observers)
Wigginton	Chris Best (representative) Ann Hields (observer)
York RI	Angie Gaughan
Non member observer	Chris Cann

The meeting was opened at 10.45 am

- 1) Apologies received from Stewart Ainley, Roger & Sue Nunns, Jackie Batstone, David Wiseman, Helen Jarvis, Liz Charters.
- 2) Minutes of the last meeting
Matt asked that the 3rd paragraph of other business be changed since he had requested a Northern committee to EPA committee communication rather than a formal complaint. Alan replied that he considered any committee to committee communication to be formal but since the request was turned down he was happy to remove the word formally from the minutes.
The minutes were then accepted unanimously.
- 3) Playing matters
 - a) 2012 Playing Calendar
Alan had compiled a list of national and proposed regional / club events and dates and agreed these with Luke.
The number of events again means a very full calendar extending to the end of October.

A few changes were suggested and agreed following which the calendar was approved unanimously.

The full calendar is available on the website.

The Period in which events qualify for ranking points is from March 25th to October 21st inclusive.

The new terrain at Heckmondwike will be used to run a Pairs event (max 12 pairs) to promote the terrain. The date is to be confirmed but it will probably be a Saturday to avoid clashes with other events.

- b) Inter regional championships
It has been confirmed that this will be at Hayling Island. Costs and booking details to be confirmed soon.
- c) Junior squad
The problem with the lack of juniors is well known.
As youth development officer Ted will liaise with clubs over possible juniors but we are mainly dependent on the clubs to find juniors.
Mick commented that the age eligibility rules for juniors would be better if a junior could play in any junior event up to their 18th birthday rather than not being allowed to play if their 18th birthday is within that calendar year. This rule is thought to originate with the FIPJP. It was pointed out that the rules for the over 50's and veteran's events do refer to the players age at the time of the event.
- d) Regional event prizes
It was agreed that the responsibility for prizes / trophies is with the playing officer but the following recommendations were agreed for Luke to consider.
In addition to the perpetual trophies there should be "nice" individual trophies for winners and runners up (not wine / chocolates). The winners should also receive embroidered regional shirts.
A perpetual trophy will be needed for the new Mixed Pairs event.
- 4) Membership
Bill has almost finished handing over to Steve. All membership and finance paperwork should now go to Steve.
Alan requested that in order to help Steve, where possible clubs should encourage their members to use the online membership system to renew membership.
If any clubs have members wanting to take out associate membership they should contact Steve for a membership form.
- 5) Finance
As with membership, Bill has finalised the accounts and is handing over to Steve.
- 6) Development
The new Heckmondwike terrain (6 pistes) is nearly finished. Initially Paul Simpkins is attempting to get a club started although he is remaining at Leeds.
Don and Alan have met with the organisers at Honley and work on the terrain (2 pistes) is expected to start soon.
Don has been in touch with a Bowls Club at Saltburn who are considering building a terrain.
The Flamborough Bowls Club are thought to be starting work on a terrain this week.
The proposed terrain (4 pistes) in the centre of Harrogate is awaiting planning permission.
Ted is still in touch with the organisers of the Wythenshaw games but it is not clear if this will lead to more than a one off event.
A school / sports academy at Kirkby Stephen in Cumbria are interested in building a terrain.
- 7) Coaching
At the last meeting clubs were asked to check their members coaching requirements and to let Matt know. This has not happened probably due to Christmas but clubs are reminded that before further coaching sessions are arranged the coaches need to know what players want.
Matt will attend an EPA coaching commission meeting to assess whether future attendance is worthwhile. It was confirmed that the region will pay travelling expenses for this.
Brian Stote, the chairman of the coaching commission has asked regional coaches for a report summarising coaching in their region. Matt circulated his proposed report which was approved.

8) Umpiring

Ray has recently passed the grade 3 umpires exam and was unanimously co-opted to the vacant regional umpire position. To be confirmed as an umpire Ray has to be the non playing umpire at 2 events within the region and has to produce reports for the chairman of the umpires' commission.

9) Other business

Regional kit

Chris has organised the regional kit for several years and would now like to stand down. A volunteer is needed to replace Chris.

It was proposed that the regional kit should be changed. The proposal received a 6 to 6 vote but was defeated by the presidents' casting vote.

This may need reviewing when a volunteer is found since they will almost certainly use a different supplier.

The EPA competition rules are available on the EPA website.

Alan highlighted 2 points,

- the new veterans' triples is for over 55's but this is unlikely to be popular with Northern players since the first round is in Brighton.

- National competitions cannot be entered on the day this year.

10) The next meeting will be held on Saturday 12/5/12 at Wetherby.

The meeting was closed at 12.08 pm

Sue Swift