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# NorthernPetanque

A Region of the English Petanque Association



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Regional website - [www.northernpetanque.co.uk](http://www.northernpetanque.co.uk)

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Minutes of the Regional Committee Meeting held at Wigginton on Saturday 19/11/2011.

The president opened the meeting at 12.04 pm

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	David Wiseman (representative) , Helen Jarvis , Bill Vicker (observers)
Bridlington	Chris O'Rourke
Doncaster	Ray Gatenby (representative) Debbie Gatenby (observer)
Fox	Barbara Hardisty (representative) Mick Hardisty , Angela Fletcher (observer)
Leeds	Paul Simpkins
Wetherby	Jenny Stockton (representative) , Roger & Sue Nunns , Caroline Hoy (observers)
Wigginton	Chris Best (representative) , Pete Best, Ann Hields (observers)
York RI	Angie Gaughan

Apologies – as for the AGM

1) Minutes of the last meeting

Ted queried whether the subsidy for the juniors at the Inter Regional Championships was for one year or if it would continue.

The discussions of that point were lengthy and argumentative but Sue confirmed that the minutes were correct in stating that the subsidy is not limited to 1 year. There are no commitments either way.

There were no other matters arising.

The minutes were accepted unanimously. (proposed by Matt, seconded by Ray. )

2) Playing matters

a) 2012 Playing Calendar

The full calendar will not be set until the January meeting but since the EPA calendar is available earlier than usual the dates for the regional qualifiers were discussed.

By a vote of 12 to 3 it was agreed that the dates will be May 20<sup>th</sup>, June 10<sup>th</sup> and June 24<sup>th</sup>, the venues were not discussed.

It was also agreed that the Mixed Pairs and the Team event, which were held for the first time in 2011, were successful and should be repeated.

b) Juniors

Matt confirmed that his family would not be going to the Inter Regional Championships due to their being held on the South coast although Jamie would still like to play.

Finding suitable available Northern juniors will be a priority but we still have the option of asking other regions if they have spare juniors.

### 3) Membership

Bill reported that the region now has 12 clubs, 87 adult members and 5 junior members. The online system was not used extensively this year but Bill expects that to increase in 2012.

### 4) Development

The Leeds PC terrain is at a school, Paul reported that links with the school are improving and they hope to start an after school club for pupils.

Paul Simpkins also reported that the redevelopment of Firth Park in Heckmondwike has started and includes a terrain although he only discovered this by driving past the park. *Since the meeting Paul has discovered that there are 2 terrains each approx 12metres by 9 metres.*

Ted missed the last meeting since he was coaching at the new terrain in Copley (Halifax), he reported that there was a lot of interest and although there isn't a club currently there should be potential for next year.

The proposed terrain at Honley (Huddersfield) has received planning permission.

Although not large these 3 terrains within 10 miles of each other may help to develop the sport in that area.

Ted reported that a terrain is likely to be put in at Flamborough Bowls club and that one is being considered at a leisure centre at Levens near Brandesburton.

Alan has been contacted by a bowls club at Darlington. They have visited Wetherby and seem likely to put in a 3 piste terrain.

Alan and Ted have been in touch with a group in Wythenshawe , Greater Manchester who are hoping to use the old Woodstock terrain in Wythenshawe Park as part of a multi sports games to be organized for next year at the same time as the Olympics.

### 5) Coaching

Matt discussed the options available for further coaching sessions. The 2 hour novice courses of last year may still be suitable for some players but Matt has also written intermediate level courses for both shooting and pointing and has been asked by some players for a course on tactics.

The coaches need to know what the clubs require before arranging further courses. Clubs are requested to check the opinions of their members and to let Matt know by the end of the year. It is possible that some coaching dates can be included in the calendar at the meeting in January.

Alan commented that although we now have 3 coaches more would be preferable to spread the workload. Ted suggested that a cascade effect was needed where players who have been on any of the courses help the other players at their club.

### 6) Umpiring

An umpires course is being held on Nov 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> which Ray will attend.

### 7) Other Business

Alan commented that 1 of the changes to the EPA constitution was significant for clubs.

Mainly due to insurance requirements the constitution now says that "all the officers and committee shall be members of the association".

The full constitution is available on the EPA website.

Matt requested that the committee complain to the EPA about the geographical spread of national tournaments.

Angie commented that she frequently raised this at EPA management meetings but a large percentage of the EPA membership lives in the South.

Alan commented that our view regarding the unfortunate location of the Inter Regional Championships had been made clear but only 1 venue is available

Don suggested that more Northern representation at national meetings might help but this has been discussed before and there have been no volunteers.

Alan stated that there are only limited options for national events to be held in the North anyway since we don't have venues large enough for the larger competitions and that without being able to offer alternatives there was no benefit in making a formal complaint.

- 8) The next meeting was planned for Saturday 14/1/12. The major item of business will be the 2012 playing calendar. The meeting is expected to be at Wigginton but the venue and start time will be confirmed later.

The meeting was closed at 13.20 pm

Sue Swift.