

## 2024 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Venue: February 28th 2024 @ 7.30pm – The Anchor, Little Paxton, St Neots

### **1. Present and Apologies:**

- Anchor – Dave & Val Sellick, Graham Mulchinock & Brian Hyde.
- Crown – Paul Feneley, Brenda & Pete Bol.  
Apologies Alison & Neil Stubbs.
- Bell – Steve Milligan & Kevin Grice.
- Barley Mow – Phil Sargeant.
- North Anchor - Mark Underwood, Matt & Alex Warren.
- Hon. President, Steve Holton.

### **2. Election of Officers**

Dave Sellick agreed to stand for the position of Chairman again. Proposed by Graham Mulchinock, seconded by Brenda Bol and agreed by the meeting.

### **3. Minutes from the 2023 AGM**

Minutes of the 2023 AGM were approved by the meeting. The only item arising from the minutes related to a query raised by Simon Black regarding coaching. DS informed the meeting that he had looked into it and the only coaching he could find involved individuals (or club) joining Petanque England, something the league itself would be unwilling to do. DS apologised for not getting back to Simon regarding this issue.

### **4. Financial Report**

See Addendum 1 for a financial summary.

Cash in the bank at the beginning of the season stood at £215.73

Income from Competition fees was £178.00

Expenditure on engraving and medals for the League winners was £217.50

Renewal of website domain (every 2 years) was £28.78

Closing cash balance for the season is £147.45

### **5. Matters Arising**

League Rules – DS informed the meeting that a number of possible rule changes had been brought up during the past year. He also stated that he believed that the rules shouldn't be changed unless it was to the benefit of the players of our league rather than just following Petanque England rules:

- Too much time taken between playing shots. Petanque England rules states 1 min between shots with penalties for failing to do so. It was agreed that this shouldn't be introduced and that the matter can be resolved through discussions between the team captains.

- Marking of the jack (and rings). Mandatory in England rules but agreed here that it may be done only if the players considered it necessary for a particular end.
- Incorrectly thrown jack. Existing rules state player has 3 attempts then jack is handed to opponent for 3 attempts. England rules state that jack should be handed to opponent to place anywhere on the piste (within the normal boundaries) after one failed attempt. DS suggested that this should happen after 3 attempts. Meeting agreed to this rule change.
- England rules allow the person about to play to fill any one hole, our rules state that they can only fill the last hole that was created. Meeting agreed that there would be no change to the existing rule.

Insurance/Player Waiver - There is always concern that should a player or bystander get injured during a match/competition organised by the SN&DPL then someone will be deemed to be liable for compensation. DS's main worry is that it may be the Chairman who carries the can - however it could affect any player. Brenda told the meeting that she has arranged liability insurance for the Crown team and said she would pass the information onto DS. The subject of every player signing a waiver form was raised by DS and although Steve Milligan thought that these might have little or no standing in a court of law DS asked the meeting if he could go ahead with drawing up a waiver form. Each captain would then get their players to sign it. Meeting agreed. In addition, DS agreed to look into the whole subject of insurance. Petanque England provides insurance for its members but not everyone playing in the league will want to become a member.

## **6. League Teams**

Prior to the meeting John Bowskill had informed DS that he would be standing down as captain of the Bell team (which was news to the Bell people who were present at the meeting) – Kevin Grice confirmed that the Bell would put a team in regardless and would let us know who the new captain was as soon as one had been found. All the remaining teams that competed last year confirmed that they will be entering a team this season.

## **7. League Team Contributions and Competition Fees**

DS raised concern that he had gone into the reserves to pay for league winners (and runners up) medals and that the engraving of league cups came out of the competition entries. He proposed that teams should make a contribution (rather than subscription!) towards the league costs. The meeting agreed that each team should make a £10 contribution at the start of the season.

Competition fees to remain at £2 per player.

#### 8. League Start Date

DS stated that as we have the same number of teams as last year, the fixture list would be a carbon copy of the 2023 season. The League will start on 24<sup>th</sup> April with two pre-season open practice sessions on the 10<sup>th</sup> (at the Anchor) and the 17<sup>th</sup> (venue to be decided). It was agreed though that the last five games would not be held at neutral venues but on a randomly drawn home and away basis.

#### 9. AOB & Member Propositions

DS has been requested by the owners of The Crown to consider serving the food half way through the game rather than at the end. This may be beneficial to other venues as well. After much discussion it was agreed that food could be served at around 9pm which should be after the doubles have finished. It was agreed though that players should finish the game they are playing rather than break off to get food. DS to contact all venues to see if they are in agreement with this arrangement

## **ADDENDUM 1**

### **2023 Financial Summary**

<b>2022 Season</b>	<b>IN</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
Opening Balance			<b>£182.43</b>
League Fees	£0.00		
Competition Fees	£154.00		
Trophies & Medals		£120.70	
Other		£0.00	
<b>Closing Balance</b>			<b>£215.73</b>

<b>2023 Season</b>	<b>IN</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
Opening Balance			<b>£215.73</b>
League Fees	£0.00		
Competition Fees	£178.00		
Trophies & Medals		£217.50	
Other - Domain renewal		£28.78	
<b>Closing Balance</b>			<b>£147.45</b>