

Sussex County Bar Billiards Association
2019 Annual General Meeting
Held at Burgess Hill Club
13th August 2019

1. **Register of Attendance**

Dave Hampton, Stuart Carruthers, Matthew Knight, Jean Brackenridge, Tony Jenner, Nigel Senior, Michelle Baden, Rob Hall, Joe Oakley, Phil Oakley, Iain Giffen, Ros Appleby, Stuart Mephram, Kevin Tunstall, Colin Green, Alan Brackenridge, Martin Cole, Paul Jobbins, Chase Newman, Terry Molloy, Trevor Appleby.

2. **Apologies For Absence**

Ric Bithell, Jan Bithell, Sheena Wood, Graham Sparksman, Jim Greensted.

3. **Minutes of AGM 2018**

Minutes were agreed as a true record.

Proposed: Rob Hall, Seconded: Tony Jenner

4. **Matters Arising**

None

5. **Chairpersons Report** (Stuart Carruthers)

I would like to start by thanking everyone for attending tonight and to everybody who has supported the association over the past year.

Special thanks need to go to the committee for all their hard work during the season and to the individuals for organising and running the admin for the competitions and leagues that have been played.

Jean Brackenridge, Matthew Knight and Tony Jenner between them have gone above and beyond, as they normally do, in their respective roles and we all owe them enormous gratitude for the work they put in.

Thanks Nigel Senior for providing formats and to Stuart Mephram and Alan Brackenridge for the hard work they put in the build up to every event in preparing the tables; I'm sure we can all agree they have done a great job this year. I would like to thank everybody who has helped in assembling or dismantling the tables, this often forgotten part has been easier with so many people lending a hand.

Finally, and definitely not least, to the Roffey Club for hosting the Masters and the Open in June and to our hosts tonight the Burgess Hill Constitutional Club who have been brilliant hosts to us throughout the year and hopefully for a long time to come.

I would like to congratulate all the winners and runners-up from all events this year, with a particular note to Stuart Mephram who played fantastically to claim his first Sussex individual event with a win at the Off The Spot a couple of weeks ago.

It's been a good year for Sussex in National events with Kevin Tunstall and Nigel Senior dominating by winning three events each in 2019. I would also like to congratulate Phil Osborne on reaching the Final of the World Championships.

The highlight for me personally was the unexpected triumph of Sussex B at the County Championship last September. A great team performance lead to Sussex becoming the first B team to ever win this event and I would like to congratulate all seven players and to thank Tony Jenner for his role on the day as a non-playing captain.

Again the number of entries in competitions and leagues has been falling this year, and venues are becoming harder to find. As a committee we will be looking at ways to try and promote interest of our competitions and the game within Sussex and we would welcome any ideas or help in doing so.

Wishing everybody a good and successful season to come.

6. **Correspondence**

None

7. **Treasurers Report and Accounts for Season 2018/19** (Jean Brackenridge)

Managed to turn around last years loss. Mainly saving on trophies, less expense on County shirts and small saving on table hire costs. I would like to thank Ros for allowing us to use her table for some of the competitions.

We are in a good financial position however, I do feel as Stuart mentioned, that competition entries need to be looked at and discussed under Any Other Business. I know leagues and number of players are either decreasing or remaining roughly the same but the number of entries for a County with as many leagues as we have is poor. We have gone from £1400 income in 2016 to £900 in 2019. A difference of £500 which equates to 100 entries.

As I said we are in a good position financially at the moment so I'm not going to propose any increase in fees.

On to the Sussex Open

I feel £700 is a reasonable balance to try to maintain.

Most opens are struggling for numbers, some getting less than 64. Although ours seems to be thriving, 90 entrants this year, even without the Guernsey contingent it would have been 80 plus, It's nice to know the money is there to help out in future years if needed. Also we can't rely on sponsorship as you can see has reduced drastically this year. I would like to thank the sponsors we did have.

The accounts were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Kevin Tunstall, Seconded: Stuart Mephram

8. Secretarys Report (Jean Brackenridge)

I think everything went ok this year.

Minutes and updated rules were sent to League Secretaries. They were also put on proboards and the Sussex Website so were widely available for anyone to read.

All Leagues have been sent the affiliation form for the 2019/20 season so hopefully will start receiving them back soon. I will then have details of all the secretaries that I can update and send any information to.

I have booked the following dates, venues and tables for next season.

Singles/Doubles 11th/12th January

One Day Inter-League

B Teams - 22nd February

Division 2 – 23rd February

Ladies – 29th February

Division 1 – 1st March

These will all be at Burgess Hill

Sussex Masters/Under 30's – 6th June

Sussex Open 7th June

These will be at Roffey Club

Not yet booked is the Off The Spot/British Ladies

If decided we will go ahead with this I am suggesting 25th/26th July at Burgess Hill

9. Inter-League Report (Matt Knight)

Congratulations to all winners and runner up this year.

There were two matches not played and 7-0 was awarded to the teams not at fault. There was also a problem with teams re-arranging games (particularly one team) which is not really acceptable. Teams must try to sort any games they are thinking of postponing as soon as possible as there are very few spare Sundays.

The probable start date for the first match is 29th September 2019.

10. One Day Inter-League Report (Jean Brackenridge)

All days went reasonably well and congratulations to all the winners.

Few moans on one of the days over trouble getting scorers for some games. I may look at the formats to try and add a bit more time in between rounds to overcome this.

I would like to second what Stuart said and thank everyone who helped over the weekends. Not going to mention everyone again but thanks to all of you.

11. Competitions Report (Tony Jenner)

Competitions all went smoothly although numbers were down. The mixed doubles (4 entries) went ahead and the Captains (8 entries) also went ahead. Congratulations to all winners. Thankyou to Stuart Carruthers on the admin for the singles/doubles weekend.

12. County Team Report

Sussex County A (Nigel Senior)

Sussex A underperformed this year but finished 2 points behind the winners. Congratulations to Sussex B.

Sussex County B (Tony Jenner)

Winners of Division 1. Good team spirit and all players did their bit. Thankyou to the Sussex A team for their support especially in the final match.

Ladies Sussex County A (Rob Hall on behalf of Lorraine Hall)

Finished second from bottom so improved on previous year. Another great day and everyone happy to be playing in division 2.

13. Inter-League Formation

There was discussion about various formats with 14 teams this season. Some ideas were 6-5-3, 5-5-4, Ric Bithell had put forward an idea for 6-4-4 formation all of which were discussed.

There was a show of hands for 5-5-4 which received 2 and 6-4-4 which received 16.

The Committee will decide on the format to be used. The Committee will also make a decision on which teams will unfortunately either miss out on promotion or if two teams from a division will be relegated.

14. Election of Officers

President: Dave Hampton

Chairperson: Stuart Carruthers

Vice Chairman: Martin Cole
Treasurer: Jean Brackenridge
Secretary: Jean Brackenridge
Competitions: Tony Jenner
Inter League Secretary: Matt Knight
1 Day Events: Jean Brackenridge to co-opt helpers

The above were voted en bloc. **(Proposed: Kevin Tunstall, Seconded: Ros Appleby)**

Sussex County A Capt – Kevin Tunstall
(Nigel Senior & Kevin Tunstall were put forward. A vote was taken. Nigel Senior – 7 Kevin Tunstall – 9)
Sussex County B Captain – Tony Jenner **(Proposed: Martin Cole, Seconded: Rob Hall)**
Ladies A Captain – Michelle Baden **(Proposed: Joe Oakley, Seconded: Ros Appleby)**

15. Rules & Amendments

None

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(Jean Brackenridge) We need to look at Competitions and find ways to improve the entries. Various thoughts and ideas were discussed. Jean to look into this.

MEETING CLOSED 21.40