

Sussex County Bar Billiards Association
2021 Annual General Meeting
Held at New Oak
20th July 2021

1. **Register Of Attendance** – Stuart Carruthers, Jean Brackenridge, Matthew Knight, Tony Jenner, Kevin Tunstall, Jim Millward, Colin Green, Ric Bithell, Jan Bithell, Alan Brackenridge, Ian Giffen, Graham Sparksman, Nigel Senior, Stuart Mepham, Dave Ingram.
2. **Apologies For Absence** – Ros Appleby, Martin Cole, Dave Hampton, Mark James
3. **Minutes Of AGM 2020** – Proposed: Tony Jenner, Seconded: Ric Bithell As a true record.
4. **Matters Arising** – The Home & Away Inter league decision was to finish the league and final tables as they stood.
5. **Correspondence** – None
6. **Treasurers Report and Accounts for Season 2019/20** (Jean Brackenridge)
Proposed: Stuart Mepham, Seconded: Colin Green As a true record
7. **Chairpersons Report** (Stuart Carruthers)
Thank you for everyone who has come along to attend tonight's meeting, and so good to see everyone again. Whilst we understand the continued need for caution given the current situation with Covid, we felt it was important to hold this meeting in person.

I would like to apologise for the late change in venue, this was unfortunately out of our control due to self-isolation of staff at Burgess Hill CC. I would like to thank Jean for her great work in securing a new venue at short notice.

Usually at this point I would look back on the year just gone and congratulate the winners of the various tournaments. However, with the continued presence of Covid and the restrictions this has brought no competitive bar billiards has been played for 16 months.

Instead I would join everybody here in the hope that we can resume playing soon and that next year my report will be able to celebrate the successes that people have had.

Obviously the change of venue for this AGM does highlight the potential issues we could face going forward in restarting leagues and events. Hopefully these can be discussed in this meeting and flexible solutions can be applied to help us get back playing in a safe way.

Finally I would like to thank the committee. Whilst no bar billiards has ended up being played at various points in the last year we have had to discuss what to do with already scheduled events and how to plan events going forward. Due to the uncertainty this has been far from easy, but all decisions have been made with the best interests of the players and the game at their heart.

GOING FORWARD

TABLE HIRE (Jean Brackenridge)

Tarratts. All leagues need to be aware that Tarratts do not have any tables. This will affect leagues finals night and alternative arrangements will have to be made.

AEBBA Tables: We use the All England tables for singles/doubles weekend, 2 weekends for the 1 day Inter League competitions, Sussex Open weekend and the Off The Spot weekend. The tables have

always been delivered and picked up and returned to Reading by Dave Alder. Dave Alder is now not doing this. This not only affects Sussex but all other Counties.

Although nothing set in stone All England are looking at keeping the van which has 8 tables on at Totteridge for 6 months for the northern competitions and 6 months in the South for Sussex, Surrey & Kent competitions. In the south this would be either Mid Feb (after Oxford) to mid July (before Bucks). There is a possibility that Oxford and Kent may swap in which case it would be Jan to end June although this may not happen next year as Kent have already booked dates.

This is all dependant on finding somewhere in either Sussex, Surrey or Kent to keep the van for the 6 months otherwise the van would need to be picked up and returned to Totteridge who have agreed the van can be kept there.

Sussex, Surrey & Kent will have to work closely together to sort their dates out within the timeframe and also work together with delivery and pickups from where the van is located. I also feel we would need more people to come forward and help with pickups and returns. Im sure a lot of people think the tables just magically appear.

After discussion Stuart C will see if the Roffey Club would be able to keep the van.

ONE DAY INTER-LEAGUE (Jean Brackenridge)

If the merger between Horsham & Billingshurst goes ahead the divisions for next year will be

Div 1 – Worthing, Redhill, Brighton, Horsham & Billingshurst & West Sussex

Div 2 – Tunbridge Wells, Littlehampton, Mid Sussex, & Lewes

If there's no merger Billingshurst would go in Div 2.

Now im probably going to be a bit controversial.

The B team 1 day was introduced as there were lots of B teams playing in the Home & Away. A few years ago there were 7 teams playing. Last year there were 4 teams one of which was Brighton C who personally I don't think will get a team next year (I could be wrong). Therefore there would be 3 teams.

The Ladies 1 Day has gone from 6 teams down to 4 teams this year. One team was short of a player and for at least the last 3 years I get asked if I can find any spare players to make up teams.

Knowing the problems there could be with the table situation, dates etc. I suggest that we no longer play the B teams or ladies competition.

Instead I would suggest that the 2 weekends we use in February we play the singles/doubles on the first weekend and Div 1 and Div 2 on the 2nd weekend. This would be one less weekend to hire the tables and free up dates.

After discussion it was decided to wait and see how many B teams and ladies teams there will be.

HOME & AWAY INTER-LEAGUE (Matthew Knight)

With most teams yet to confirm we will chase up after leagues have had their AGMs. It looks most likely there will be 2 divisions and start date would be end of September.

8. Election Of Officers

Chairperson: Stuart Carruthers: proposed: Tony Jenner, Seconded Dave Ingram - unanimous
Vice Chairman: Martin Cole: proposed: Kevin Tunstall, Seconded: Stuart Mephram - unanimous
Treasurer: Jean Brackenridge: proposed: Colin Green, Seconded: Graham Sparksman - unanimous
Secretary: Jean Brackenridge: proposed: Matthew Knight, Seconded: Ian Giffen – unanimous
Competitions: Tony Jenner : proposed Kevin Tunstall, Seconded: Matthew Knight - unanimous
Inter League Secretary: Matt Knight : proposed: Tony Jenner, Seconded: Graham Sparksman - unanimous

1 Day Events(inc Sx open): Nigel Senior Assistant Stuart Carruthers (to co-opt helpers): proposed: Tony Jenner, Seconded: Jim Millward – unanimous

Sussex A Captain: Kevin Tunstall: proposed: Alan Brackenridge, Secnded: Jim Millward- unanimous

Sussex Ladies Captain: Michelle Baden: proposed: Jan Bithell, Seconded Graham Sparksman - unanimous

9. Rules & Amendments

CURRENT RULES

"MAIN" COMPETITION - HOME & AWAY BASIS

1. An Inter-League match will consist of 7 single games, the away team to have the breaks on games 2, 3, 5 & 6 and the home team to have the breaks on games 1, 4 and 7. In each of the 7 games the home Captain must nominate the home player at the start of the game. Where two or more players in a team have the same surname the full Christian name shall be entered on the result card and the identity of the first named player be established before the second player be named.
2. Teams awarded two points for each match won and if level on points at the end of the season, games for and against to decide the winners. If still level aggregate score will decide the winners.
3. After each match, both team captains will be responsible for sending the result to the Inter-League Secretary, within 48 hours of the match being played.
4. Matches to be played on a Sunday or Monday as indicated on the fixtures list. If the two League representatives fail to agree to play on either of these two nights, both captains must contact the Inter League Secretary no later than the scheduled date for the match. Failure to fulfil this obligation will result in penalties to the offending team(s)
5. Teams failing to fulfil an Inter-League fixture other than owing to extreme circumstances such as bad weather shall have the match awarded against them 7 games to nil.
6. When a player has played for an interleague team they may only transfer to another team in a higher division. Once they have played for the team in the higher division they are not eligible to represent their league in a lower division during that season.
7. All Away Team Captains should contact the Home Team Captain no less than fourteen days prior to the date of the fixture to ascertain the venue and whether it will be Sunday or Monday the match will be played.
8. No more than 2 teams shall play from the same table.
9. The first half of the fixtures must be completed by the first match of the second half of the season. All second half matches to be completed by the date of the of the last match.
10. No player may practice an "away" table on the day of the match on any table that their team are scheduled to play on. Any Player found in breach of this rule will not be permitted to play at the time of the match and if any player is found retrospectively to have breached this Rule that game will be awarded to their opponents and their game score will be counted as zero.

PROPOSED RULES

1. Inter-League matches will be played on a Sunday, as indicated on the fixture list, at the stated home venue of the hosts with a start time of 7.30pm.
2. If either team Captain wishes to make changes to the date, time or venue of a fixture they must contact the opposition Captain at the earliest available opportunity. If the two Captains fail to agree to a date, time or venue they must contact the Inter-League Secretary no later than the scheduled date for the match. Failure to fulfil this obligation will result in penalties to the offending team(s).
3. Teams failing to fulfil an Inter-League fixture, other than owing to extreme circumstances, such as bad weather or Government health restrictions, shall have the match awarded against them by a score of 7-0.
4. All fixtures must be completed by the date of the last round of matches as shown on that season's fixture list. Postponed fixtures should be played at the earlier available opportunity.
5. An Inter-League match will consist of 7 singles games, the home team having the break in games 1, 4 & 7 and the away team in 2, 3, 5 & 6. In each game the home Captain must nominate a player from their team to play first before the away Captain selects a player from their team.
6. To be voted on in a separate vote.
7. If passed will become rules 6, 7 and 8 within this section.
8. If rejected the remaining rules in this section to be moved up numbering.
9. Teams will be awarded two points for each match won and one point for a draw.

10. League positions will be decided by the team with the highest number of points. If two, or more, teams have scored the same number of points their position shall be determined by legs (individual match games) won during the season. If two, or more, teams are still level highest aggregate score during the season shall be used to decide the higher placed team.
11. After each match both team captains will be responsible for sending the result to the Inter League Secretary within 48 hours of the match being played.
12. When a player has played for an Inter-League team during the season they may only transfer to another team in a higher division. Once they have played for a team in the higher division they are not eligible to represent any other team in that or a lower division.
13. No more than two teams shall play form the same table.
14. No away team player may practise on the table on the day of the match. Any player found in breach of this rule will not be permitted to play in the match. If a player is found retrospectively to have breached this Rule that their game scored will be counted as zero and the game shall be awarded to their opponent.

Ammendment to rule 3 - match awarded

7-0 votes for 4,

6-1 vote for 0

5-2 votes for 1

5-0 votes for 8

ADDITIONAL RULES

6. If a team knowingly does not have, or believes they may not have, 7 players for a match they shall inform the opposition captain before the start of the first game or at the earlier opportunity thereafter. The team that is short will concede the number of break games corresponding with the number of players short, starting with their last break game and then proceeding back up the order. Failure to adhere to this rule will see the game(s) played incorrectly voided and awarded to the opposition.
7. If both teams are a player short the last game will be a draw. The preceding game will then be played as an equal break (not equal opportunity) game with the player having the first break decided as by rule 5.
8. If a team has less than 4 players for a match, other than owing to extreme circumstances, that match shall be declared void and awarded as a 7-0 win to the opposition.

Ammendment: Rule 6 (part)

The team that is short will concede the number of legs corresponding with the number of players short, starting with the last leg and then proceeding back up the order.

Ammendment Rule 8 Change to 5-0 as per previous amendment.

Vote - unanimous

10. Any Other Business

None

Meeting Closed : 21.50