

Sussex County Bar Billiards Association
2022 Annual General Meeting
Held at Burgess Hill
2nd August 2022

1. Register of Attendance

Stuart Carruthers, Jean Brackenridge, Matthew Knight, Dave Ingram, Stuart Mepham, Tony Jenner, Kevin Tunstall, Ros Appleby, Iain Giffen, Colin Green, Alan Brackenridge, Ric Bithell, Jan Bithell, Bob Hall, Steve Beach, Dave Hampton, Joe Oakley, Krystal Beck

2. Apologies For Absence

Martin Cole, Graham Sparksman, Jim Millward

3. Minutes of AGM 2021

Minutes were agreed as a true record.

Proposed: Tony Jenner **Seconded:** Stuart Mepham

4. Matters Arising

Regarding the aebba van storage and tables. The Roffey kindly agreed to store the van. Sussex, Surrey and Kent worked well together for picking up, returning the van. Thanks to Stuart Carruthers for sorting the storage and liaising with people for pickups and returns of the van. Also thanks to Stuart Mepham for doing a lot of the driving, unloading etc. Thanks to Dick Cable for lots of help.

5. Chairpersons Report (Stuart Carruthers)

Thank you to everyone who has come along to attend tonight's meeting; it is great to see so many people here to provide their views on Sussex Bar Billiards.

I would like to start by thanking the Burgess Hill Constitutional Club and their staff for both hosting us tonight and providing a venue for some of the events. I would also like to thank the Roffey Club for hosting tournaments and providing storage for the tables.

As always, I would like to offer my personal thanks to the other members of the committee for all their hard work during the past year.

I would also like to thank everyone who helped and assisted during the Sussex events over the past year; from setting-up the tables, running the administration desk to selling raffle tickets. Without these people arriving early or staying late these events wouldn't happen so we can only be thankful for them for giving their time and effort.

I make no apology for singling out Stuart Mepham who has done a brilliant job in getting the tables into the two venues we have used and setting these to allow a high standard of play.

It is great that following the cancellations from Covid-19 that we were able to play the majority of competitions over the past 12 months. Congratulations are offered to the winners and runners-up in all of these competitions. We have witnessed high level and closely fought leagues and tournaments and I'm sure some more details of these will follow in relevant the secretary's reports.

Despite these competitions taking place Covid still had some impact over last winter and I would like to thank everyone for their help and understanding in rearranging postponed matches and tournaments; while also having to make difficult decisions about how best to proceed to ensure fairness.

Sussex have had a good year in National competitions, again more details of which will come later in this meeting. The county has also provided some new individual winners of Opens this year which was very pleasing to see.

I would like to wish everyone a successful year ahead and hopeful we can enjoy an uninterrupted winter of bar billiards for the first time in a few years.

Stuart Carruthers

SCBBA Chariman

6. Correspondence None

7. **Treasurers Report and Accounts for Season 2021/22**(Jean Brackenridge)

I have shown 3 years accounts this year as its been a weird few years.

Couple of things to point out are:

There was no sponsorship for the Sussex Open this year as the 2020 amount of £120 wasn't used as the open was cancelled.

The amount for trophies doesn't include any individual trophies apart from singles, doubles, Sx Masters and off the spot as I had already bought trophies for 2020 and most things were cancelled or not completed. What I did was get new plates and engraving done on these and with the perpetual engraving the amount for this year was the cost of doing this. To get a true cost the amount for 2020 needs to be added to this year making approx. £1500.

I suggest the affiliation fee and inter league fees are kept the same next year. Im also going to make a suggestion about trophies but will do this under any other business for discussion.

On to the Sussex Open.

Again there is no sponsorship shown for this as 2020 was cancelled. Although we have a healthy balance this could quite quickly disappear. Entries are down in in all opens. In 2019 our entries were £900. Sponsorship cant be relied on.

I feel at the moment we are in a good position knowing we have enough to cover any losses for a few years but will be nice to try and maintain a the balance.

The accounts were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Dave Ingram **Seconded:** Ros Appleby

Dave Hampton asked why the account balance was high. There was discussion and it was decided the committee will look at it next year once we get a true record (after covid years) of the balance.

8. **Home & Away Inter-League Report** (Matt Knight)

Nice to see so many here in person at the end of a very challenging Inter-League season. A number of matches were called off with West Sussex only playing 2 matches before deciding to withdraw from Division 1 due to concerns over covid. They intend to re-enter next year, as I believe do all the other teams. I know there is an agenda item later in the AGM concerning formation of the Inter-League next season and there will be plenty of opinion on this matter for the committee to consider

Thank you to those teams who did manage to complete their fixtures especially Worthing B who also called a number of matches off but rearranged them and managed to get them played. Brighton B were also badly effected by their opponents calling off but with a great deal of hard work and flexibility got them arranged and played

I felt for Tunbridge Wells as both their matches against Redhill A (key matches in deciding the outcome of Division 1) were called off, the committee granted extra time for them to be arranged but it still meant both the matches were played without one of their regulars, through no fault of their own

It was challenging off the table but thrilling on the table with both divisions extremely close. In Division 1 Brighton A eventually prevailing. They had to sit and wait as they completed their matches but with results going the right way won by 2 points with 5 wins, very close for runner-up spot too with Brighton B, Redhill A and Tunbridge Wells all with 4 wins but the latter took second place due to a better leg difference

Division 2 even closer with Littlehampton pipping Worthing B to the title having both won 5 matches but a single leg proved the difference between the two teams. Redhill B and Lewes both won 4 matches to prove how close it was

Slightly off topic but thank you to everyone for their co-operation regarding the Sussex Masters especially the reserves who came in, a number of them at the last minute

Finally, I want to thank Stuart Carruthers for his hard work on the Sussex website especially where the league tables and stats are concerned for the Home and Away Interleague. I know everyone who uses the site appreciates it and the promptness of the updates

9. One Day Inter-League Report (Nigel Senior)

B Teams 19/2

Shame to have only 3 teams for this event. Brighton B ran out comfortable winners, Redhill B were runners up. Joe Elleson from Redhill took a maximum 12 points. Big Al Brackenridge had the days highest average at 8,576

2nd Division 20/2

Favourites Tunbridge Wells gained promotion to Division 1, but only beat Littlehampton by 3 points. Lewes' Colin Southouse scored the maximum 12 points for his team. Paul Sainsbury had the days highest average at 10,996.

Ladies 26/2

4 teams took part, Redhill won all 3 matches to take the title, Runners up were Brighton. Denise topped the averages with 7,008 and took 9 points out of 12

1st Division 27/2

Brighton A romped to victory by 10 points for their first one day win since 2014. Captain Matt Knight masterminded the victory as first time captain. Worthing A were a distant second. Nigel Senior relieved of his captaincy scored a maximum 12 points, and was the only player to average over 10k with a 10,484 average.

Many thanks to Stu C, Matt K and Jeannie B who helped run the days. Stu Mepham also for the setting up of tables. Also the Burgess Hill CC who have provided a terrific venue for these days and have been so welcoming and accommodating.

11. Competitions Report (Tony Jenner)

Both days keenly contested with numbers slightly down on the previous years competitions.

Men's Singles

Winner - Jim Millward

Runner-Up - Nigel Senior

Semi-Finalists Mark James and Stuart Mepham

High Break - Joe Oakley 20350

Plate Winner - Dave Ingram

Runner-Up - Stuart Carruthers

Ladies Singles (Round Robin)

Winner - Jean Brackenridge

Runner-Up Jan Bithell

Open Doubles

Winners - Phil Osborne and Bob Hall

Runners-Up - Nigel Senior and Chris Tupper

Plate Winners - Mike Daw and James Whittle

Plate Runners-Up - Rick Cunningham and Tony Jenner

No Mixed Doubles, Captains or Over 50s due to lack of entries

2023 Doubles and Singles at Burgess Club on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd January. Hopefully to promote entries we will be able to hold the subsidiary competitions as a one-day format if time allowing at end of the day when other events are held.

12. County Team Report

Sussex County A (Kevin Tunstall)

Won with a 6 point winning margin. Kevin Tunstall and Nigel Senior both had 100% records. Hoping for hatrnick next year.

Sussex County B (Tony Jenner)

Sussex B County Champs Runner-Up to Sussex A with 34 points in Division 1 and good effort from the B team.

Ladies Sussex County A (Michelle Baden)

The Sussex Ladies played in Division 2. They first played Berkshire narrowly losing 8-6, Sussex debutee Denise Wills recording a 7k score in her 2-0 win. Next up were favourites Kent, the ladies played well to take 5 legs from them with captain Michelle winning her match 2-0. The Ladies then played first timers Notts and won 10-4. Finally, the ladies played Bucks B, a win here could see the ladies 2nd but they narrowly lost 8-6, which gave the team a 4th place finish overall although only 3 points behind Bucks B and Berkshire. Denise and Chelle won 6 games apiece. Jean won 5, Ros 4, Lorraine 3, Kay 2 and Jan 1.

13. Inter League Formation Discussion

Same teams as last year plus West Sussex. Points were taken on board and the Committee will decide on formation of leagues

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: Nigel Senior Asst. Stuart Carruthers

The above were voted for en bloc **Proposed:** Stuart Mephram, **Seconded:** Kevin Tunstall

Sussex County A Capt – Kevin Tunstall **Prop:** Tony Jenner **Sec:** Joe Oakley

Sussex County B Captain – To be decided

Ladies A Captain – Michelle Baden (**Prop:** Ros Appleby **Sec:** Kevin Tunstall)

15. Rules & Amendments

None

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(Jean Brackenridge) I have looked back to 2016 and the average cost of trophies and engraving is £1500. As with everything costs are rising. My suggestion is: There are no individual runners up trophies for Inter League home and away, 1 day inter leagues, and Watney Mann. This works out approx. 50 individual trophies a saving of about £300 - £400. This was discussed and it was decided there would also be no plate trophies purchased.

(Jean Brackenridge) The following dates have been booked for next year.

21st January Sussex Doubles

22nd January Sussex Singles

18th February B Teams

19th Feb Div 2

25th Feb Ladies

26th Feb Div 1

(Matt Knight) Lack of dates for inter league home and away so games will come thick and fast. Start date possibly 25th September

(Matt Knight) From a personal point didn't feel that we were looked after by the Roffey. Various incidents were discussed and taken on board by committee.

(Stuart Carruthers). Stuart wants to hold a ranking committee meeting soon as these have not been looked at for a while. Stuart also asked if anyone else would join the rankings committee but stayed the same.

MEETING CLOSED 9.27 pm