

UP FOR DISCUSSION

The first Committee Meeting of the new season – let's see what happened!!

Committee Meeting 2nd September 2014

Attendees (committee): Gary Tipping, Lorin Clough, Alan Taylor, Stevie Anscombe, Tony Britten, Mary Leeming, Damian Coates, Michelle Kennedy, Simon Coleman, Jim Thomson,

Apologies: Iestyn Pocock, Stephen Coleman, Sue Thomson, Keith Thomson, Jason Dunkley

Non Attendees:

Meeting opened at 20:40



Chairperson's opening statement:

Following another successful and productive Annual General Meeting, it is great to see the committee still energised and eager to attend the meetings. Welcome to the two new members of the committee Mary Leeming and Stevie Anscombe.

Actions from last meeting

There were no outstanding actions from the last Committee Meeting however outcomes from the AGM are addressed below.

Committee Roles & Responsibilities – Lorin Clough

As stated in my report for the AGM I am pleased to say that the targets set for Year 1 which were centred around raising participation levels, innovating with new competitions and improving our communications were largely met. There are, as ever, improvements that can be made but nevertheless it should be considered a successful year. The important part moving forward is not to rest upon the successes of last year but push even harder for more.

In the forthcoming year I want to ensure that the committee focuses on areas which were not addressed last year namely:

Finance & Sponsorship, Northants League and our relationships with others, Playing standards and League growth.

As such this year we have assigned committee members to working parties that will develop a plan with targets and activities to address these areas. The working parties were as follows:

Finance & Sponsorship – Michelle Kennedy (**Leader**), Sue Thomson, Jim Thomson, Tony Britten

League Relationships – Lorin Clough (**Leader**), Stevie Anscombe, Stephen Coleman,

Playing Standards & Development – Simon Coleman (**Leader**), Mary Leeming, Jason Dunkley, Keith Thomson

League Growth – Damian Coates (**Leader**), Alan Taylor, Gary Tipping, Iestyn Pocock

Full details of the plans will be delivered to the committee in due course.

County Reports

Inter Area Main competition

Northants 'A' have been drawn against Reading 'A' in the semi final of the main competition. The first leg of Semi-Final (away) is scheduled for the 3rd September. This will be a very tough assignment as Reading boast title winners in the past. However the team to face them will be: Damian Coates (Capt), Simon Coleman, Andy Chambers, Stephen Coleman and Lorin Clough

The Home Leg will be arranged in due course.

C Team Shield

Northants 'C' Team are still to play against Reading D (away) and then the subsequent home leg (TBC but will be at the Crown & Anchor).

Both teams would very much appreciate your support and attendances at the home legs if you possibly can.

Social Secretary:

My email to ask whether the membership would prefer the Quiz Night on a Friday or Saturday evening was met with a very poor response. Therefore, given this ambivalence, we have opted for the Friday evening.

So the details are as follows:

- Confirmed Fri 21st November starting at 8pm. The venue is still to be confirmed but it is hoped that it will be at Cheyne Walk Club, Northampton.
- You are invited to enter teams up to a maximum of 5 players.

More details will follow very soon and keep an eye on the website for more!

The Grand Finals Day and Presentation Evening 2015 followed by the Jim Wilson Memorial Competition will once again be hosted by Cheyne Walk Club, Northampton. The club have confirmed our booking and the AEBBA has confirmed our booking of the competition tables. All details will be posted on the website.

Secretary:

AGM Follow Up

- **Honorary President(s)** – The committee is delighted that this proposal was passed at the AGM and a decision about the initial recipient of this honour was made. Full details and announcements will be made in due course.
- **Northants Masters II Format** – Lorin confirmed that all arrangements have now been made for the competition to accommodate five divisions of eight players. Qualifying positions will be posted on the website from October and fixtures will be released in January 2015.

- **Discretionary 'Pension'** – There was considerable discussion about how this proposal can be addressed with a range of options put to the committee by various members all of whom were cognisant of the constraints we are under. A full announcement will be made in due course.

Match vs Nottingham Bar Billiards – We have been contacted by the newly formed All Nottinghamshire Bar Billiards Association to play a friendly match as they continue on their journey of improvement. There was a good deal of support offered by the committee and Lorin will arrange the match(es) and notify via the website.

Treasurer:

Balance at the bank is now £2,114.55. This is thanks to receipt of £150 sponsorship from Abington Glass We continue to be extremely grateful for this important support. In addition, subs have been received from plus £60 subs from:

The Cock 'A' – paid in full

The Cock 'C' – paid in full

Could all remaining teams ensure that subs are paid by the end of September.

The Treasurer made a recommendation to the committee that £500 from the amount raised at the summer Fun Day be allocated to the 8 Counties Challenge fund raising activities. This was unanimously agreed by the committee.

Competition Secretary:

Team KO Draw

Prelim Rnd – 22nd September Cobblers vs Headlands to be played on Cock 'A' Table

Counties Challenge Report

A full report will be offered to the October Committee Meeting but in summary the current totals are:

Sponsorship: £860

Justgiving site: £365 plus 83.75 gift aid

Collection Bucket: £1,000

Competition forms - have now been issued to all captains. **Please note that all competitions are 8pm starts (not 8:30pm!!)**

Any Other Business

A warm welcome – a special welcome back to the Northants League to Martin Atwill. Martin, a former County 'A' player and League Secretary has rejoined his friends at The Headlands and will add considerably to the team. Martin – it is great that you are back and you are very welcome.

Best Newcomer – As part of our ongoing drive to increase the number of players in our league Mary Leeming has offered to sponsor a reinstated 'Best Newcomer Award'. Further details to follow but this may take the form of a new competition just for newcomers with a trophy and prize money.

Thank you Mary!

Disciplinary procedure – Following a lengthy discussion at the AGM a formal disciplinary procedure will be developed and posted on the website. It is highly unlikely that this should ever be used but it is important to have a set of procedures available.

Performances of the month – The '8 Counties Team' have completed their mammoth challenge to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. They did themselves and our league very proud.

Meeting closed at 21:55

The next meeting will be held at The Headlands on Tuesday 7th October at 20:30 sharp!

