

Minutes of AGM 2025

Present: Tony B, Mary L, Leanne T, John T, Martin A, Colin U. Alan Taylor, Ian Underwood, Jim T, Kevin A, Karl B, Ray C, Damian C

Apologies: Stuart G, Dunc H, Mick H, Gary T, Ruth T, Rob Burton, Keith T

Chair: Welcomed and thanked those present and apologised for difficulty of holding meeting in venue tonight. Minutes from last AGM were read and accepted unanimously.

Treasurer: Accounts attached. Balance £2,275.97 – better than this time last year. Account recently transferred to Metro Bank, who have just announced there will be a monthly charge on the account! Martin proposed acceptance of accounts, Seconded by Jim. Carried unanimously.

Committee elections:

Chair: as no nominations for this role have been received, Tony has agreed to continue in the role.

Vice Chair: Duncan H – proposed by Tony, seconded by Mary -carried unanimously. Martin had also been proposed for position but withdrew.

Treasurer: Tony B - proposed by Mary, seconded by Jim. Carried unanimously

Secretary: Kevin A – proposed by Mary, seconded by Martin. Carried unanimously.

Competition Sec: Martin A- proposed by Mary, seconded by Tony. (Martin was thanked for picking up the role mid- season and doing a great job to get competitions completed.)

Social Secretary: No nominations received. It was remarked that Michelle had done a great job in fulfilling this role for many years so many thanks to her.

As no one prepared to take on this position, Mary proposed that the committee, as a group, take on the organisation in the interim. However, the post will remain open for the time being.

Data Secretary: Post has been filled by Lorin. However, Tony has been liaising with him to bring back control of the website into Northants. This position was open. Colin U was happy to take on the website part of role, liaising with Tony and with Martin who will provide results and other relevant statistical

information. Colin proposed as Data sec by Ian U, seconded by Alan Taylor, carried unanimously.

County Captain: Position open as we are unsure about the state of Inter Area matches as no current information has been received. Committee will follow up and, if necessary, County Captain position will be posted for election at a later date.

General Committee: Stuart G, Darren W, Ian Underwood, Jim T

Block voted unanimously.

Proposals:

COMMITTEE ENDORSED PROPOSALS

1. League Format – the current format of 2 divisions, one of 4 teams and the other of 5 teams, leaves many of the teams with little to play for as they have no possibility of winning either of the divisions. A change to putting the teams into 3 sections with the top team being promoted and the bottom team relegated would solve this, and give those teams that make up the bottom of division 2 a real possibility of winning something. Every team would continue to play against every other team as happens at present. The sections would, using the current teams, be made up as follows :-

Gold Section – Rushden Cons, Cock A, Storm

Silver Section – Ted's Headlanders, Snooty Shushers, Britannia Club

Bronze Section – Cobblers, Cock C, Saints

With this format, trophies would only be awarded to section winners. There could be a small award to the highest away break and highest away score which could only be won by considering scores against teams in that person's own section or above, or in their achievements in the individuals or team KO competitions. If a new team was to enter the league, they would enter the Bronze section, unless that team includes several experienced players, in which case the League Committee would take a view on which section would be most appropriate for that new team, and their decision would be final.

After discussion and clarification by Martin this was voted on. For: 9, Against: 2. Abstentions: 1

2. If the above proposal is accepted, this would cause an issue concerning the 2nd Division Individuals and the eligibility for the Blind Pairs. It is therefore proposed that using the data compiled from the previous season, those players averaging less than 2500 would be eligible to play in the 2nd Division Individuals and would also be considered to be the 2nd division partner in the Blind Pairs. Newcomers to the league would be eligible for the 2nd Division individuals etc, but returning players would be considered on the basis of their historical playing record. The Committee decision in this respect would be final.

Amendment to above: That individual divisional positions for competition purposes would be determined by calculating median average annually. However, discretion can be used by

the committee to adjust a player's position if considered to be unusual due to adverse circumstances experienced by them in that playing season.

Proposed: Mary Seconded: Colin. For: 11, Against: 1 Carried

1. **Amendment to rule 49.** In the case of 2 or more teams ending the season on equal points, positions shall be decided firstly by the outcome of the head-to-head matches (legs won and if equal then aggregate scores). If teams remain equal, then away wins, followed by home wins and ultimately aggregate scores shall determine finishing positions. Should teams still remain level, then a neutral table play-off shall take place, with a coin toss to determine who breaks first in 1,3 & 5. All games shall be even break, with the final game featuring a timed break if the score is 2-2. The winner shall be declared league winner.

After discussion this was amended to read:

In the case of 2 or more teams ending the season on equal points, positions shall be decided firstly by the outcome of the head-to-head matches (legs won and, if equal, then aggregate scores over both legs of the head to head,). Should teams still remain level, then a neutral table play-off shall take place, with a coin toss to determine who breaks first in 1,3 & 5. All games shall be even break, with the final game featuring a timed break if the score is 2-2. The winner shall be declared league winner

Proposed : Martin A Seconded: Ian U. For: 11 Abstentions: 1.. Carried

2. **Amendment to rule 127.**(THIS PERTAINS TO MASTERS' MATCHES)

In the event if a tie, the following shall be the order of precedence a) Result of the head to head matches (legs won, and if equal then aggregate scores)

b) Number of matches won

c) Number of leg wins

d) Aggregate scores.

After discussion this was further amended to read:

In the event of a tie, the following shall be the order of precedence a) Result of the head to head matches. If, even at the end of the season, there are players with equal points, players will participate in a play off, format to be determined by the competition secretary, according to the number of players involved.

Proposed: Martin A, seconded: Ian U – Carried

3. **Amendment to rule 36.** Change words 'all league matches shall start by 8.30pm' to all team matches shall commence by 8.30pm'. Add the words 'all individual, pairs, blind pairs and masters matches shall commence by 8pm'. Delete the wording after 'THURSDAY evenings'.

Amended slightly to add after matches to commence at 8.30pm **unless otherwise agreed by both captains. Also removed** "Delete the wording after 'THURSDAY evenings'"

Proposed by Martin Atwill

Seconded by Ian Underwood. Carried unanimously.

Suggestion for inclusion

Eligibility for the Masters shall be determined by considering the player's average score against all opponents, and their win percentage. They must have played at least 30% of the total number of games in the season, and at least 2 games against opponents in their own section of the league. (This differs from the current method of considering average scores against players in their own division, together with just the number of games won.)

Proposed by Martin Atwill

Seconded by Tony B

After a lot of discussion, this proposal was amended to simply using **the average score against all players plus the individual win percentage. Additionally a minimum of 6 games must be played.**

For: 8 Against:1

Abstentions: 2 Carried by majority

A.O.B. Martin announced that the Fixtures list is ready. Winter league matches will commence @8.30 pm on 6th October

Suggestion by Martin for people to consider: Possible next Summer League format:

1 leg- 4 pin game

2 leg- Triangle game

3 leg- Off the Spot

Pairs: teams' choice/ standard 3 pin game

Other suggestions welcomed

Meeting closed by Chair at 9.25pm