

ALL ENGLAND BAR BILLIARD ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF AGM

HELD ON 4TH DECEMBER 2022 @ TOTTERIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

- 1. Attendees:** Peter Sainsbury, Jean Brackenridge, Gerry Fitzjohn, Mark Trafford, Pauline Withey, Kevin Tunstall, Nigel Senior, Dawn Jordan, Ernie Jordan, Cliff Slade, Matt Jones
- 2. Apologies:** Chris Saville, Tony Jenner, Dave Lillie
- 3. Voting:** Gerry Fitzjohn (Medway), Mark Trafford (Eynsham), Pauline Withey (Oxford), Kevin Tunstall (Worthing), Nigel Senior (Brighton), Dawn Jordan (High Wycombe), Jean Brackenridge (Lewes)
- 4. Minutes of AGM 2021:** Voted as true record Proposed: Dawn Jordan Seconded: Gerry Fitzjohn. Voted: Unanimous
- 5. Matters Arising:** None
- 6. Chairmans Report:** Firstly I would like to thank everyone for attending the AGM. It is essential that as many attend as possible. I am delighted to congratulate all of the winners, runners up and competitors in each of the AEBBA tournaments as well as the open competitions it is only with continued support that they can take place and it is encouraging that the young players continue to progress so well hopefully the future of the game is not all gloomy.
Thanks to Bryan Stevens and Brian Mason for dealing with the van MOT and also Matt Jones for his help with the van maintenance and setting up the tables for the AEBBA events.
An area of concern is the drop of numbers for some of the open competitions; this is a continuing trend that needs to be reversed where possible and let's hope the new open next year will be well supported.
Thanks to Nigel Senior providing statistics and ranking points. Nigel also continues to demonstrate the flexibility that the role demands by providing tournament schedules, often at extremely short notice, to enable the smooth running of our tournament calendar and to ensure that all players are accommodated as best as possible.
Thanks to all those who have supported the association.
Finally I would remind everyone that I wished to stand down from the chairman's role but if no candidate is presented I will be prepared to continue.
- 7. Treasurers Report/Accounts:** The Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022 has shown an increase in available funds of £2,996.70. The final balance of £13,320.53 increasing from £10,323.83 on 1st September 2021.
This is due to more AEBBA competitions being held and an increase in Table Hire relating to County competitions. The Off The Spot competition and Bournemouth were both contested twice during this financial year although there were some events missing such as the Over 60s and the Grand Prix.
The two Bournemouth competitions contributed £1,913.03 to the surplus and thanks go to Michelle and Jean for organising the Hotel bookings and raffle.
Jean also organised the purchase of all trophies for the All England events which remained within budget.
There were 9 Counties Affiliated for the Year to 31st August 2023 which were due and paid in August 2022.
As a lot of leagues around the Country are reducing in size I propose that there be no increase in the Affiliation Fees due in August 2023 for 2023/2024 year and remain at £30 per County.
Expenses were kept to those that were necessary and the bulk of these related to table repairs, table cloth and repairs to the van.
There was one debtor at the year end relating to table hire that was paid in early September.

All England Bar Billiard Association
Statement of Accounts
For the year the ended 31st August 2022

Income

Opening Balance	10,323.83
Bournemouth Surplus 2021	512.82
Bournemouth Surplus 2022	1,400.21
AEBBA Events	840.88
Affiliation Fees	270.00
Table Hire	3,450.00

Expenditure

J Brackenridge - Honorarium	300.00
N Senior - Tournament Director Expenses	300.00
lonis - Domain Name	11.99
Bournemouth Parking Fine	60.00
M Jones - Table repair	300.00
Diesel	30.00
Diesel £60 + Brake repair £20	80.00
Van parts and MOT	362.74
Van repairs	300.00
Diesel	50.01
Hainsworth Cloth	671.76
Van Insurance	579.12
lonois re AEBBA website	141.59
DVLA	290.00

Funds as at 31st August 2022

Available Funds as at 31-08-2022	13,320.53
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16,797.74

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16,797.74

Balance per Bank	13,220.53
Debtor re Table Hire (oxford)	100.00

-

13,320.53

All England Bar Billiard Association
Year Ended 31st August 2022
Affiliation Fees

County	Year	Debtor	Received	2022
Bucks	2020 / 2021	30.00	30.00	-
Kent	2021 / 2022		30.00	30.00
Sussex	2021 / 2022		30.00	30.00
Oxford	2021 / 2022		30.00	30.00
Northants	2021 / 2022		30.00	30.00
Suffolk	2021 / 2022		30.00	30.00
Bucks	2021 / 2022		30.00	30.00
Cambridge	2021 / 2022			-
Notts	2021 / 2022		30.00	30.00
Berkshire	2021 / 2022		30.00	30.00
Surrey	2021 / 2022		30.00	30.00
		30.00	300.00	270.00
			270.00	

Audit Report

All England Bar Billiards Association Accounts 2021 – 2022.

It is my privilege and pleasure to have been asked to examine the accounts again this year.

It is not my responsibility to comment on the financial performance, merely the accuracy and intelligibility of the reports, but I must say it is pleasing to see AEBBA's income exceeding its expenditure after the disastrous covid years.

I would refer back to my comments last year and the year before for financial good practices that were not being followed in previous years. I am pleased to note that the accounts are once again under the control of the Treasurer with, where practicable, all transactions going directly through the account. The worrying third-party account for entries that caused problems previously has been discontinued. The impossible to audit petty cash mentality has been replaced with transactions going through the bank account where practicable. I have advised the Treasurer that the cash book needs to have a better split up of combined transactions so that the audit trail to the individual accounts is clearer for the independent examiner. I have also asked that all receipts are annotated to match the cash book.

The 2021/2022 accounts, as presented, represent a vast improvement in financial reporting on the earlier years that Paul Sainsbury and I had so much difficulty in examining.

I am happy to endorse these accounts as a true and accurate record of AEBBA finances.

Chris Saville B.Sc.
All England Bar Billiards Association Life Vice President.

The accounts were voted on as a true record Proposed Mark Trafford, Seconded: Pauline Withey, Vote: Unanimous

8. Tournament Directors Report AEBBA Pairs – Bournemouth

March at Suncliff Hotel. 49 pairs which is a good number. Generally positive feedback re hotel and format. Hotel very happy with us. Booking already taken for 2023.

Off the Spot Open

Held at Roffey Club in June, works for Sussex as have Sussex OTS day before. Group format with single legs, worked pretty well, lots of games for everyone. Doing same for 2023

Alternative Rules

Held in Oxon in July. 15 entries very disappointing. Good weekend to have it as day after Oxon Open, but only 9 local players supported it. Need more numbers to make worthwhile running it in future.

AEBBA Challenger Championships

Interesting weekend in York with Curt. Great enthusiasm up there for the game and they had around 30 of the 40 players who took part. Need to be encouraged to play events down south especially county champs as they have enough players.

County Champs

Only 9 teams took part – disappointing really as 5 teams provided by Sussex and Oxon. Shame Yorkshire and Notts couldn't get teams despite interest. Big disappointment no Northants present for first time since well at least 30 years? Surrey came back after not making last year which was positive.

Talk on probboards for reducing team sizes, however I don't think that is the answer. Especially not for Div 1, and if Div 2 reduces to 5 a side a) will it really create any more teams and b) what happens when a team gets promoted and has to find 7.

Team Champs/Mixed Pairs/ Special Ladies

Team Champs very messy to sort (ask Jean) re legality of teams. At one point only looked like we would have 4 teams represented, Bucks came in at the last minute to make 5, but still poor from 10 associated counties. Rule change to be discussed later to hopefully allow more counties to form teams able to play.

Mixed Pairs/ Special Ladies both went well with 12 entries

AE Singles/ AE Ladies/ AEBBA Over 50s/60s

6 for AE singles/ 5 AE Ladies. Great Ladies competition all 5 ladies won 2 matches. Over 50s and 60s proved very popular with 29 entries for Over 50s. Quite a hectic day with 4 competitions to run.

Grand Prix/Ladies Grand Prix/ AEBBA Under 30s

Good turnout for both Grand Prix didn't have to go very far down reserve list. Under 30s had 9 which is pretty good. Standard high all day, tables probably best they have been all year

Well done to all the winners. All in all it has been a positive year, we have run a full program of events for the first time since 2019. Good entries to most individual competitions, but perhaps counties struggling to get teams together for events.

Thankyous – the Totteridge Club who have been excellent with food and hosting. Massive thanks to Matt (and helpers) for table setting often on the morning and he has setup excellent standard of tables. Also thanks to Jean for doing some of the chasing for entries. Thanks to Mark T for help this year running events. And also thanks to Matt Knight who gets me here on time and doing admin and a lot of shouting....

Points to discuss

A couple of things I would like to here comments on from people here

- I have had comments on the length of days of events. What do people feel is an acceptable finish time? In the distant past some events used to go on till 9pm or later, but it seems now anything past 7pm and some people get anxious. I appreciate we all want to get home, and most have work the next day, but most travel back home is 2 hours or less? Starting much earlier is not much of an option especially if Matt has to setup tables on the day. Staggered starts such as open also not easy as opens just put locals on early, with AEBBA events with multiple events on the day staggered starts not practical.
- People playing more than one event per day. To win a tournament it generally takes 5 matches, so to win 2 takes 10. So if this is to be allowed we need to remember that a player could play all day without breaks (you can only really fit in 12 series in a day). Also they will have to play tables multiple times. Perhaps we need to think about premier events such as Grand Prix and AE Singles as ones you cant enter anything else that day. But over 50s/60s. Mixed Pairs/ Sp Ladies still play in both. Although not keen on taking opportunities away such as Joe doubling up last Sunday – should he be penalised for making the Grand Prix and the other under 30s haven't?

Points were discussed and views will be taken on board when arranging 2023 competitions.

9. Election Of Officers:

The following were voted en bloc

Chairman : Pete Sainsbury

Vice Chairman: Kevin Tunstall

Secretary: Jean Brackenridge

Treasurer: Gerry Fitzjohn

Tournament Director: Nigel Senior

Assistant Tournament Director: Mark Trafford

Proposed: Dawn Jordan, Seconded: Pauline Withey, Vote: Unanimous

Committee to co-opt 3 committee members. Suggestions were made and will be followed up.

10. Honoraria: The following honoraria was agreed

Secretary - £300

Tournament Director – £300

Assistant Tournament Director - £100

Matthew Knight - £100

Matt Jones - £100

Proposed: Gerry Fitzjohn Seconded Kevin Tunstall Vote – Unanimous

11. Rule Proposals:

1. Proposed: JEAN BRACKENRIDGE Seconded: NIGEL SENIOR

12) A quorum for Annual General Meetings shall be representation by at least 1/3rd of the Affiliated Counties.

The proposal was carried unanimously

2. Proposed: CHRIS SAVILLE Seconded: JOE FOXON

13) Voting will be one vote per County. Only those present at the AGM may vote and no voting by proxy or by post shall be allowed. The Chairman will have a casting vote if required.

The proposal was defeated – Votes For 1 Against 6

3. Proposed: JEAN BRACKENRIDGE Seconded: NIGEL SENIOR

13) Any member of an affiliated County who are present at the AGM will be entitled to a vote. No voting by proxy or by post shall be allowed. The Chairman will have a casting vote if required.

The proposal was carried unanimously

4. Proposed: NIGEL SENIOR Seconded: JEAN BRACKENRIDGE

55) Pub/Club Team Competition Rules:

- a) All counties to nominate a team to represent them in this competition. Each county is free to decide how they arrive at this nomination
- b) A team may enter a guest player PROVIDED he only plays for they team he is guesting for (and plays regularly for a Team within ANY league in the same county). A team may have two guests if they only play 3 a side. Players are not restricted to the one county rule (Rule 47) in this competition provided the fulfil the other criteria.
- c) Players must be registered for the host venue and the same league at the start of the calendar year. Players should play 50% of the league games for the team they are registered
- d) Teams from the same league within a host venue may amalgamate.
- e) Registration forms must be supplied (normally by the County Secretary) to the AEBBA Secretary by the end of August of that year's competition to allow scrutinizing. Failure to comply with this will result in automatic disqualification from the finals.

The proposal was carried unanimously

12. Any Other Business:

1. It was agreed Affiliation Fees would remain at £30 for the 2023/24 season.
Proposed: Gerry Fitzjohn Seconded: Dawn Jordan - Unanimous
2. The England teams for the International against Guernsey at the Roffey Club Horsham on 3rd June 2023 were announced. It is also hopeful that a Ladies international will also be played.
Mens: Curt Driver (Captain), Matt Jones, Mark Trafford, Nigel Senior, Martin Cole, Dave Ingram, Joe Oakley, Matthew Knight, Phil Osborne, Martin Smith, Simon Coleman, Alan Donovan
Reserves: Stuart Mephram, Gerry Fitzjohn, Stuart Carruthers, John Slee
Ladies: Pauline Withey (Captain), Jean Brackenridge, Denise Wills, Dawn Jordan, Michelle Baden, Jenny Florey
Reserves: Janet Burns, Anita Blackman, Jan Bithell, Tracy Guy
3. Sudbury had put in a request to hold the Challenger Championships in Sudbury next year. It has already been agreed to hold the competition in Yorks next year. AEBBA are happy to discuss any ideas from Sudbury if they wish to organise another one.
4. Nigel raised concerns about the WBBA competition being run in February next year. Our Chairman was surprised (along with others) that they knew nothing about this Competition. The concerns are whether this is just a one off Competition or are others planned?. The effect that this could have on County Opens and AEBBA Competitions is a concern as we know it has already affected Bournemouth entries.
Kevin T will be speaking to Lorin soon and will discuss our concerns and ask what the intentions are and will report back to the Committee.
5. Dawn asked who was responsible for returning the van to Totteridge after the Oxford Open. It was agreed that Oxford would return it.
6. Dawn reported the sad news that Eric Hill passed away. Eric did a lot of work for both Wycombe and AEBBA. Those present gave their condolences.

MEETING CLOSED 4.05 PM