

# ALL ENGLAND BAR BILLIARD ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF AGM

### HELD ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025 @ TOTTERIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

- 1. Attendees:** Peter Sainsbury, Jean Brackenridge, Gerry Fitzjohn, Mark Trafford, Pauline Withey, Nigel Senior, Dawn Jordan, Ernie Jordan, Cliff Slade, Matt Jones, Michael Wilson, Kevin Tunstall, Curt Driver, Alan Donovan, Gina, Nia
- 2. Apologies:** Tony Jenner, Stuart Carruthers
- 3. Minutes of AGM 2024:** Voted as true record Proposed: Dawn Jordan Seconded: Michael Wilson. Voted: Unanimous
- 4. Matters Arising:** Jean to chase up secretaries
- 5. Chairmans Report:** Firstly I would like to thank everyone for attending the AGM. It is important we see as many as possible at the AGM. My report this year is a little bit longer than usual as I wanted to highlight certain issues and achievements.

I wish to congratulate all of the winners, runners up and competitors in each of the AEBBA tournaments as well as the open competitions and especially Matt Jones on his third World Championship, Second All England Singles and Second Grand Prix titles a truly magnificent achievement. Well done also to Michael Wilson on winning his first opens, also to Nigel Senior winning 3 opens and Mark Trafford winning 2, including his own.

Sometimes we forget that not all outstanding achievement are winning and congratulations also to Damian Coates long time butt of jokes regarding his plate achievements reaching 4 quarter finals this year including Guernsey, Ray Hussey in reaching the Quarter Final of the Bucks Open, James Whittle on reaching the Quarter Final in Kent, Chris Cox on reaching 2 semi-finals, Michelle Baden and Chris Tupper on reaching the Guernsey Quarter Finals and Ian Champion and Paul le Gallez on reaching the World Championship semi finals

Sadly we lost a few people this year that will be remembered dearly in particular Stan Pratt Kent's first All England Champion, Tony Willis a great Oxford stalwart and Terry Cook, Bob Osbourne from Hastings, Ian Greensted, Nigel Tomset, Brian Martin, Jan Bithell and Brian Marten all from Sussex, Andy Godden from High Wycombe and although I never knew them Carl Robinson and Alan Mee who were very popular in the 4 pin game. Apologies to any one I have missed, they will all be greatly missed.

A big thanks to Jean for her sterling work as secretary which too many people seem to think is an easy task. Thanks to Gerry for keeping the finances in check.

Special thanks Matt Jones for his help with the van maintenance and Stuart Mepham for arranging the van MOT. As ever we are extremely grateful for the time and effort Matt and Cliff put in setting up the tables for the AEBBA events they have been superb.

Thanks to Nigel Senior providing statistics and ranking points which I know mean a great deal to a lot of players. Nigel also continues to demonstrate the flexibility that the role demands by providing tournament schedules, often at extremely short notice but is still been able to achieve the smooth running of our tournament calendar and to ensure that all players are accommodated as best as possible including dealing with late withdrawals. Many thanks to Matthew Knight for assisting Nigel with the running of the AEBBA competitions. A massive thanks to Michelle Baden and Sami Sheard for all their hard work organising the AEBBA pairs.

During the course of the year a few people have complained to me regarding what they perceive as issue with the way the AEBBA is run it must be remembered that all the officers of the association are volunteers and without their selfless efforts the association would cease to exist. I would also reiterate that if anyone has any problems they should approach me and I will either deal with the matter myself or delegate to someone who I think is better suited to deal with it.

Just to be clear I will not tolerate any abuse or rudeness towards any AEBBA officers or players at AEBBA tournaments and I would remind all bar billiard players that the association will not hesitate in taking any necessary action.

Finally congratulation to Michelle Baden on becoming the new England ladies Captain taking over from Pauline Withey who has stepped down from the role

Merry Christmas to all and a successful new year.

Peter Sainsbury  
December 2025

A presentation was then made to Pauline Withey on her retirement from England captain after 35 years

- 6. Treasurers Report/Accounts** The accounts showed a small surplus for the year of £351.14 with available funds of £17,696.37 increasing from £17,345.23 as shown in last year's accounts. In addition to this there is a further amount of £972.40 in reserve for the purchase of a replacement van. This being made up of cash collected at AEBBA tournaments and monies paid by the Suncliffe Hotel regarding issues at Bournemouth earlier this year.

Excluding these payments there was a surplus on the Bournemouth account of £1,160.62 which was after increased prize money of £1,510. My thanks go to Michelle Baden and Jean Brackenridge for organising the collection of monies and dealing with the Hotel accommodation.

The Affiliation fees amounted to £240 which related to 7 Counties at £30 each. Suffolk's payment for last year was not included in those accounts and is therefore accounted this year.

Table hire remained constant at £4,050 and the AEBBA events made a surplus of £375.78.

Expenses were higher this year due to the van being unavailable due to repairs and a Hire Van was used while the repairs were being undertaken. The cost of the van hire was £910.

We also incurred bank charges of £31.01 for the first time. This will be approximately £50 to £60 next year.

The van will need replacing in the near future and any contributions to the 'Truck Fund' will be greatly appreciated. Jean usually has a collection box available at the AEBBA events to receive any donations.

Finally, I would propose maintaining the Affiliation Fees at £30 per County.

<u>All England Bar Billiard Association</u>			
<u>Statement of Accounts</u>			
<u>For the year the ended 31st August 2025</u>			
<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Opening Balance	17,345.23	<u>Honorarium</u>	
		J Brackenridge - Honorarium	300.00
		N Senior - Tournament Director	300.00
		C Slade	100.00
		M Knight	100.00
		M Jones	100.00
			900.00
		<u>Table Maintenance</u>	
		M Jones - Table repair	490.00
Bournemouth Surplus 2025	1,160.62	Batteries - Table timers	6.00
AEBBA Events	375.78		496.00
Affiliation Fees	240.00	<u>International Expenses</u>	
Table Hire	4,050.00	England shirts	129.60
Truck Fund	972.40		129.60
		<u>Van Maintenance</u>	
		Diesel	
		Van Insurance	1,442.04
		Van repair	93.99
		Diesel	50.00
		Diesel	50.00
		Diesel	50.00
		Diesel	60.01
		Van MOT and service	897.13
		Van Road Fund Licence	345.00
		Van hire	910.00
			3,898.17
		Bank charges	31.01
			31.01
		Repair to Grand Prix trophy	20.48
			20.48
		<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>5,475.26</u>
		<u>Funds as at 31st August 2024</u>	
		Available Funds as at 31-08-2025	18,668.77
	<u>24,144.03</u>		<u>24,144.03</u>
		<u>Funds</u>	
		AEBBA funds	17,696.37
		Truck fund	972.40
		<u>Balance per Bank</u>	<u>18,668.77</u>

## **7. Tournament Directors Report**

AEBBA Pairs – Bournemouth

March at Suncliff Hotel. 52 pairs which is a good number (same as last year). Unfortunately, numerous problems with the hotel this year, mainly with the service with the bar and the food. This was really down to a lot of staff changes from previous years. For 2026 we have now moved to the Hermitage, hopefully will be better and a bigger playing area. Well done to Mark & Matt on their 3rd win in 4 years. Bookings have been taken for 2026 already.

Alternative Rules/ British Ladies

Sussex held these in June, 2022 was last Alternative Rules, 2019 was last British Ladies so good to see these back. 32 good number for Alternative Rules, 11 perhaps slightly disappointing for ladies. Well done to Mark and Pauline on their wins

County Champs

10 teams took part – same as last year. Surrey won their first ever county champs – well done to them, only surprise it took so long! Oxon A won division 2 to gain promotion. Disappointing no Northants present and not sure they will be back. Despite efforts to message them, no communication at all to confirm their attendance. Would be good to get Notts and York involved but difficult to get them all to travel down but the offer is there.

Off the Spot Open

Run in Didcot by Mark in September. Had 32 entries but Mark let down on the day by players who didn't make it and ended on 27, 8 down on last year. Also affected by the clash with WBBA. Believe Mark has booked date for next year which will hopefully avoid any double bookings.

Team Champs/Mixed Pairs/ Special Ladies

Team Champs – 6 teams played, same as last year. There were debates over eligibility of teams with players not playing 50% of league games. I was unaware of this rule, but it would call in to question eligibility of players in past years for instance Kevin Clark doesn't play league games but plays in this competition. Format worked better in my opinion as played all v all but it is more of a struggle allocating tables.

Mixed Pairs/ Special Ladies both went well with 16 entries in Mixed, of which 13 entered the ladies.

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

6 for AE singles (one down to due Northants) / 5 AE Ladies (same as last year). Both comps high standard and well done to Matt Jones and Jean Brackenridge. Over 50s and 60s a bit down on last year with 24 entries for Over 50s (down 6). At least was able to do the 50's in groups to give everyone at least 2 games.

Grand Prix/Ladies Grand Prix/ AEBBA Under 30s

Good turnout for both Grand Prix didn't have to go too very far down reserve list. Under 30s had 8 (down 2) which is pretty good. Well done to Matt Jones and Denise Wills on their respective wins

AEBBA Challenger Championships

Not held

Well done to all the winners. All in all it has been a positive year, we have run a full program including Alternative Rules/British Ladies. On that note think we need to think about if Sussex want the OTS in 2027 and could we swap these events round, or will there be other bidders (eg Surrey) Good entries to most competitions this year, with most being comparable to last year

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. And also thanks to Matt Knight who gets me here on time and doing admin and a lot of shouting....

Finally a special well done to Matt for winning the 3 big events this year, a massive achievement. I did check and KT has done it twice in 1994 & 2006, so we shall see if anyone can stop Matt doing it 2 years running.....

## **8. England Report**

Another great performance from the England team against Guernsey on Saturday 7th June winning the singles 29-7 and the pairs 27-3 to give us a brilliant 56-10 win

This year for the first time for me as captain we had 2 new players making the team. Many congratulations go to Bob Hall and Michael Wilson who certainly stepped up and between them got 15 out of a possible 16 points so a fantastic first appearance.

Next year is an away game to Guernsey and last time we managed to win by just 2 points so we know their team will be up for this one so we can expect another close match.

I would also like to thank the players that took part over in Guernsey this year in a Captains select team made up of players who were not playing in the England match in June. Really pleased to see players wanting to take part in this and hope we are able to make this a permanent fixture going forward.

I can confirm the following players have been selected for the away game against Guernsey 2026

- 1.Matt Jones
- 2.Mark Trafford
- 3.Curt Driver
- 4.Martin Cole
- 5.Nigel Senior
- 6.Michael Wilson
- 7.Alan Donovan
- 8.Gerry Fitzjohn
- 9.Matt Knight
- 10.Joe Oakley
- 11.Bob Hall
- 12.Chris Cox

Reserves

- 1.Damian Coates
- 2.Martin Smith
- 3.Stuart Carruthers
- 4.Dave Jones

- 5.Phil Osborne
- 6.Gary Powell

I would like to congratulate both Chris Cox for making the team for the first time and to Damian Coates who is 1st reserve .

#### Ladies

- 1.Jean Brackenridge
- 2.Denise Wills
- 3.Michelle Baden
- 4.Anita Blackman
- 5.Lorraine Hall
- 6.Pauline Withey
- 7.Jenny Florey

#### Reserves

- 1.Dawn Jordan
- 2.Janet Burns
- 3.Tracy Guy
- 4.Caroline Jones
- 5.Karen Bacchus
- 6.Melissa Beach

I would like to thank Pauline for her many years as Captain of the England ladies team and for the support she has given to many players over that time as captain. Pauline is and always will be a great ambassador for the game we all love and look forward to seeing her at next years opens.

As one captain leaves another player steps up and I would like to Congratulate Michelle Baden who becomes the next England ladies Captain.

#### **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

General Committee: Tony Jenner, Curt Driver, Michael Wilson

Proposed: Dawn Jordan, Seconded: Michael Wilson, Vote: Unanimous

#### **10. Honoraria:** The following honoraria was agreed

Secretary - £300

Tournament Director – £300

Matthew Knight - £100

Matt Jones - £100

Cliff Slade - £100

Alan Donovan £100

Proposed: Gerry Fitzjohn Seconded Mark Trafford Vote – Unanimous

#### **11. Rule Proposals:** NEW RULE PROPOSAL

PROPOSED STUART CARRUTHERS SECONDED JEAN BRACKENRIDGE

this would be Rule 96 k in the scorer and marker section

“If, after the bar has dropped, the scores are close, either player may request a calculation of the total in-play match scores. Only the scorer may perform this calculation, recording the current break and relevant match details. No one else may assist unless asked by the scorer. Once calculated, the scorer’s decision is official, and both players must agree the scores are correct before play continues. Any disputes must be resolved before the next shot.”

Vote: Unanimous

Ammendment to above

PROPOSED MICHAEL WILSON SECONDED TONY JENNER

“If, after the bar has dropped, the scores are close, either player, when they are at the table, may request a calculation of the total in-play match scores. Only the scorer may perform this calculation, recording the current break and relevant match details. No one else may assist unless asked by the scorer. Once calculated, the scorer’s decision is official, and both players must agree the scores are correct before play continues. Any disputes must be resolved before the next shot.”

Vote: Unanimous

#### **12. Any Other Business:**

1. Competition Dates 2026

Confirmed Dates 2026

6th September - Division 1 - Totteridge

13th September - Division 2 - Totteridge

26th September - Off The Spot - Oxford

Provisional Dates 2026

28th June - BI Ladies, Alternate Rules (triangles)  
11th October Team Champs, Mixed, Special Ladies -Sussex  
25th October - Singles, Over 50's & 60's - Totteridge  
29th November - Grand Prix, Under 30's - Totteridge

6th December – AGM – Totteridge

Dates to be published on the AEBBA Website as well as proboards. Michael to help with the website.

2. Pete to contact Chris Saville re proboards
3. Kevin – Updated the meeting on WBBA events
4. Mark – wanted to let people know that Phil Collins made he's first 147 break in snooker. He made 146 at the age of 15
5. Nigel – Darren Ogier had asked if there was anything AEBBA could do as they want to hold a world cup for ladies tournament in Guernsey and Jersey are not happy. It was suggested that they need to speak to each other and try and sort as theres nothing we can do.
6. Dawn – Thanks to Michael for what he put on the British Bar Billiards facebook page re Jersey. Michael does a lot for bar billiards and the comments he got were totally out of order.
7. Sussex put forward that they would like to hold the Off The Spot in 2027. This could be held alongside the Under 30's as Michael said there were a lot of young players but they don't travel but may play if it was held in Sussex (or Surrey)

**MEETING CLOSED 5.02 PM**