

## The Marches Petanque

Chair  
Ian Williams  
Gwylordyfain  
Craswall  
Hereford  
HR2 0PP

Secretary  
Melanie Williams  
Gwylordyfain  
Craswall  
Hereford  
HR2 0PP

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at Seven Stars, Clehonger on 18<sup>th</sup>  
October 2022 at 7:30pm

Present: Ian Williams (chair), Steve Bradley (vice-chair), Adrian Reeve (website manager), Tracy Adams (treasurer), Rob Connell, Roy Wilkes, Trevor Allen, Gemma Allen, Alistair Rabbage, Marie Jones, Alan Turner, Zak Williams, Barbara Turner, Helen Reeve, Ken Davis, Ian Clark, Chris Starnes, Barbara Clarke, Stella Acton, Michael Hewitt, Blair Baker, Melanie Williams (secretary).

Apologies: Ben Campbell, Pete Allen, Carol Bradley, Jens Bryan, Matty Taylor, Eric Acton, Roger Marshall.

Minutes of last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes – there were none.

Items to discuss in AOB – Trophies (Ian Williams) Website fees (Ian Williams)

Reports:

Chair – 'It was great to have a full season at last. Thanks to the Officers who do a great job with little reward. Thanks to all for being here tonight and to all members for keeping petanque going in the Marches.

Treasurer – we have a current healthy bank balance of 1856.16 and books are currently with verifiers.

Results Secretary – Thanks to all teams for getting results in so quickly.

There were no further Officer Reports but the Chair asked Trevor to report back on progress of Marches players (via Hereford Petanque Club) in competitions further afield – at regional level: Hereford took 2 of the three Closed competitions (Alistair Melanie and Trevor in Triples with Bill Ian and Rob in second and going on the Champions of Champions to represent the region), and Trevor taking the Singles title. Hereford players formed a third of the Regional Squad at Lowestoft in the Inter Regional Competition. Melanie had a particularly good season, also winning regional International Women's Daytitle, HoE Winter Pairs and a Women's Pairs event where she played (and beat) some of the best players in the country. Ian Williams got to the Silver Final at the National Titles Weekend in Ferndown, beaten by Sean Prendergast – one of the top England players.

At national level the club performed extremely well in the EuroCup competition, reaching the PE Cup stage where they finished second in the competition. The team consisted of Ian and Melanie Williams, Andy Wright, Alistair Rabbage, Trevor Allen and Roy Wilkes. Special thanks to Roy for perseverance through long, hot and very tiring days. For a club of only 15 members, this was a great achievement. The 2022/23 season sees Hereford with two teams entered for the competition.

If any Marches players are interested in playing at regional/national level, please contact Trevor for further information. Don't worry about standards of play, it's having fun that counts.

Election of Officers

Chair – Ian Williams

Vice-Chair – Steve Bradley

Vice Chair Playing – vacant

Secretary – Melanie Williams

Results Secretary – vacant

Treasurer Tracy Adams

Website Manager – Adrian Reeve

Incumbents were re-elected unopposed. Nominations were sought from the floor for vacant roles. Results Secretary is largely redundant now as Adrian fulfills the role. Trevor Allen volunteered for Vice Chair Playing, was proposed by Ian Williams, seconded by Gemma Allen and unanimously agreed.

Appointment of Verifiers – Ewan Cardwell and Dougie Like are happy to continue. Proposed by Ian Williams, seconded by Helen Reeve and agreed unanimously.

Summer League fees 2023 – agreed these should remain at 25, proposed Ian Clark, seconded by Rob Connell.

Any Other Business:

Ian Williams explained that gathering trophies, arranging engraving, and keeping track of trophies was a tricky task and wondered if anybody might be willing to take it on. Ian Clark volunteered, and this was accepted with thanks.

Ian Williams also raised the issue of website fees. Currently, it is a 50/50 split between Marches and Hereford PC. However, Hereford PC is simply a contact page and is not used in any other way. HPC has very limited finances, so Ian suggested a more appropriate split based on usage. It was agreed that Marches would pay 75% and HPC 25%.

Adrian then asked if it would be possible to ask Frank Sentinella if he could explain extent of services covered – Adrian would like to make some changes but doesn't want to run up a huge bill! Melanie will email Frank to enquire.

Adrian then asked if we could discuss player recruitment. There are not sufficient venues for more teams at present, but the pool of players is shrinking. If each team could try to attract one new player, it would increase numbers of people playing petanque. If anyone has ideas for player recruitment, please get in touch.

The meeting closed at 20:06