



The Marches Pétanque League

Chairman

Jens Bryan

Secretary

Douglas Like

Committee Meeting @ The Seven Stars, Clehonger, Tuesday 30th July 2024 at 7.30pm

Present : Phil Lear, Helen Reeve, Peter Clarke, Blaire Baker, Mark Jones, Chris Cooper, Ian Williams, Melanie Williams, Adrian Reeve, Steve Bradley, Andrews Roberts, Jens Bryan & Douglas Like

Meeting Started at 7.30

1. **Apologies** : Barbara Clarke, Pete Allen, Alan & Barbara Turner, Simon Watson.
2. **Any Items to be Discussed in AOB** – Melanie Williams and Peter Clarke will give updates on HPC & WHPC respectively.
3. **Minutes of Last Meeting**: Approved and signed.
4. **Matters Arising from last Meeting**: Rules were the main discussion point. Some teams are not applying the rules of marking the coche and moving the circle in line with that mark. It is the Team Captain's job to explain these rules and ask their team members to follow them. More experienced members could help by guiding the less experienced players about these rule changes. The only changes from Pétanque England rules are **string lines are dead boule lines** and **we play 50 cm from all sides with the coche**.
5. **Officers Reports**: Jens Bryan reported that an email about the rule changes had been received. The discussion was talked about going fully over to Pétanque England rules and it was pointed out that the Marches Rules allowed more play on narrow pistes. It was noted that the rule changes had been voted on at the last meeting and it would be 12 months before they could be voted on again. The decision was to remind Team Captains to help their members with the rules.

The Finance Report showed a healthy bank balance of £2,305.74. This includes an amount of £344.56 transferred from the No.2 account, which previously had been held separately.



6. **Summer League:** Adrian gave a Review on the Summer League with only one point difference in the 2 leading teams in Division 1. It is a close race at the bottom of the table. Division 2 is not as close with a clear leader, however the 2nd place could be close.
All in all, the summer league is going very well. 1 team will receive a point deduction for late cancellation.
7. **SLKO Cup :** One game to be played on 31st July but once this is completed the teams will be split into a Main and a Plate competition from 1 to 8. The Main competition will be 1st Vs 4th and 2nd Vs 3rd and the Plate will be similar 5th Vs 8th and 6th Vs 7th. Neutral pistes are to be played on which will be decided jointly by both captains.
8. **Wyestitch Cup:** Everything is going smoothly with the Wyestitch Cup and no troubles with playing on a different night to Wednesday have been encountered. Teams are asked to play the finals as soon as possible so the Executive can organise the right size shirts for the winning team. Wyestitch are sponsoring shirts for the cup winners.
9. **Marches Competition:** Steve Bradley brought up that the competitions have not been supported very well for a few years and is wondering if the league competitions should stop. This brought a lot of discussion on the subject of how to get more interest from players, and how to make it more attractive for players to come. Jens Bryan did a run down on the results for the Triples and Pairs and the table for the Marches Cup is all online. The Singles is at Wilton Bridge on the 18th August.
To get more interest we shall look at how to email the members direct rather than via Team Captains. This will take some time to develop due to GDPR regulations and obtaining members details and sign off.



10. **AOB**

- 10.1 Regarding meetings, there was a proposal for renaming the various meetings as there could be some misunderstanding between the Executive meeting, the Committee Meeting and the General meetings as to the purpose of each and who is involved.
Suggestions please to be brought to the next meeting.
One suggestion is to rename the 'Committee meeting' with 'The Marches Teams Meeting'.
Other suggestions please before the AGM in October.
- 10.2 Melanie Williams gave an update on the coaching at Seven Stars on the 11th May 2024 which was very well received with around 18 people turning up. Hopefully there will be more regional coaching on the way.
- 10.3 It was noted that an Associate Membership of Pétanque England is available for £10 p.a. and this brings insurance cover as well.
- 10.4 Hereford Pétanque Club got to the semi-final in the Euro cup which is a high standard of boules, and they played in the Inter Club Competition in the Heart of England winning 13 out of 15 games, winning the competition outright.
- 10.5 Peter Clarke gave an update on WHPC with a great coaching program for Juniors with roughly 30 children attending the coaching session. More Cubs/Scouts/Duke of Edinburgh groups are gaining an interest in the sport and are coming back in September.
This is a great step as juniors are the future of the sport and we need more kids being interested.
Peter suggested that a Youth Development Officer position be created.
- 10.6 Jens Bryan noted that the Sundowners are hosting a 'demonstration / come and try' event at the Eardisley Show on Monday 26th August 2024 (1pm start). This event is to gain interest into the sport of pétanque. Any help would be very gratefully received.
- 10.7 The AGM for the end of the Summer League and the Trophy Presentation will be held on Tuesday 22nd October 2024 at The New Strand.

Meeting ended at 9.18pm.