

## **St. Helens Thursday Snooker League** **Annual General Meeting Minutes 2014/2015**

Present (17): **Birchley St. Mary's, Windleshaw, Greenalls, St. Teresa's, Greenalls XXX, East Sutton Labour 1, East Sutton Labour 2, St. Anne's Town, Lowe House, Ravenhead Social, Sidac Social 1, Legion Ravenhead, Holy Cross, Scala Snooker 2, Unison, Sutton Cricket, Rainford Ex-Services**

Apologies (1): **Huyton Constitutional**

Absent (5): **Scala Snooker 1, Rockware, Parr Cons WMC, Garswood Labour, Sidac Social 2**

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Meeting Opened at 7.45pm

Minutes were read out and accepted as a true record. Proposed by **Lowe House** and Seconded by **St. Annes Town**

**Dave O'Dowd** pointed out from those minutes that The KWT Cup format was generally very successful and well received by all who took part. Only disappointment being the non-participation of **Sidac Social 2** and the disputed withdrawal of **Birchley St. Marys** but other than that it was an excellent competition with plenty of upsets and good matches along the way. There were no other matters raised.

**Ste, Chris and Dave** gave brief reports which basically thanked everyone for their efforts and very high entry numbers in the competitions and league and cup games in the previous season. All mentioned their hope that numbers continue to grow in all competitions. Dave mentioned the scorecards and results were again received in on time in all cases. He also mentioned an issue with the receipt of un-signed scorecards and the issues they had caused in one or two games. Dave said he would bring this matter up later when he required an agreement from the meeting as to punishment for teams who submit un-signed cards in the future.

Finance was read out by Dave. The league made a profit of £13.20 over the year thanks to improved numbers in the league and competitions. He also confirmed that Hattons Solicitors had paid for another season's sponsorship, the 8<sup>th</sup> year in a row. Dave then mentioned we had spent the extra money on improved prizes where we could and the joint Presentation Night with the Wednesday League was a superb success. He also pointed out that the league had paid for an entry into the Greater Manchester Inter-League competition which we took part in from January to April. The team come through a very tough group to reach the Quarter-Finals where they lost narrowly to the eventual competition winners. Dave thanked all the players who had taken part. Finance was accepted and proposed by **St. Annes Town** and seconded by **Rainford Ex-Services**

**Ste Burrows** was re-elected as the League Chairman, un-opposed.

**Dave O'Dowd** was re-elected as the League Secretary and Treasurer, un-opposed.

**Chris Hill** stood down as the Competition Secretary this year after 10 years of help on the league committee in some form or another. He was thanked very much for his help and assistance. Dave asked for a volunteer to take his place but none was received. It was mentioned that a volunteer could come at a later date and should apply to the League Secretary if they wished to do so.

Jason Fairhurst (St. Teresas) was re-elected to the league committee unanimously. There were no new nominations.

A letter was read from **Mike Woodward of Sutton Cricket** with regards to an increase of team fees in order to offer better prize money to competition and league winners. This letter was read at the Wednesday League AGM on the previous night and some of those present at that meeting said that we should follow their agreed plan and adopt this into our league as well. Therefore the original plan to increase team fees from £35 to £50 was rejected and an amendment to increase fees to £40 for the new season and also to increment by £5 for the following two seasons (£45 in 2015/16 and £50 in 2016/17) was received from **East Sutton Labour 1** and seconded by **Birchley St. Marys**. This was passed unanimously.

A second proposal was submitted by Dave O'Dowd (League Secretary) on behalf of **Greenalls**. This was to abolish the extra point for aggregate score in league matches from the new season and until further notice. This was discussed for a period with arguments for and against being heard. The proposal was seconded by **Rainford Ex-Services** and was passed with a majority vote (1 against)

There were NO new applications received this year. Dave mentioned that new teams could still apply up until Registration in August and any we did receive would be communicated. It was also mentioned that **Moss Bank Community** had resigned from the league and we had also heard the possibility that **Rockware** would also be resigning after they had a 2<sup>nd</sup> team elected to the Wednesday League at their AGM. This would leave us with 22 teams for the new season with 12 in Division One and 10 in Division Two. It was then mentioned that in these circumstances the league has always moved to re-align the numbers to make them equal in each Division we have. Because of this, the meeting decided to continue to implement this rule and that, because they finished in the next place above the relegation zone, **Parr Cons WMC** would be placed in Division Two for 2014/15 to give us to equal Divisions of 11 teams. Dave mentioned that this would only happen if Rockware did not take part or we did not get any new teams.

The league structure was then mentioned in provisional details only that the league will be played as follows in the new season 2014-2015:

- a) TWO Divisions. Both with 11 teams (Subject to Registrations)**
- b) TWO sets of fixtures each team HOME & AWAY.**
- c) Each division will have an open date because of grid size (Two games)**
- d) Champions Challenge on 28/8/14. League season will start 5/9/12.**
- e) Any play-off needed will be arranged by the league on a mutual date.**

All of the above arrangements were voted on and passed with a unanimous verdict.

In any other business, Dave mentioned again the success of the pay & play scheme and that it will continue again this year. He asked delegates to suggest local benefactors if they wished to do so otherwise donations would remain for Willowbrook. The Steve Prescott Foundation was mentioned with a 50/50 split between them and Willowbrook. It was decided to allow the league sponsors, Hattons, to decide. Dave will contact them for a decision.

Dave then mentioned the scorecards and non-signed cards received. Details were mentioned of an incident where **Scala Snooker 2** and Birchley St. Marys had a dispute over a result in the KWT Cup which resulted in Birchley withdrawing from their group. A brief discussion went on around the detail of the above but Dave pointed out that any card which is not signed by BOTH captains (or team member) could be classed as un-official and any dispute could result in the game being Void and asked for a re-play. Dave then said that he wanted the meeting to agree that any cards that are received without signatures are to be classed as Void and the game re-played (unless both captains agree to the result after the game). Further to this that if no agreement is reached then the game remains Void and no points will be awarded to either team involved. This was accepted unanimously by the meeting. Home team captains are responsible for the card being fully completed and signed and this will continue.

Birchley asked if the etiquette offer of a drink before, or after, a frame has been played could be changed to offer a donation to charity instead. The meeting discussed and said this could be done at both teams discretion if this was wanted and no change was required to rules.

With no further business, everyone was thanked for their time.  
Meeting closed 9.00pm