



**EPRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AT THE STONEBRIDGE MANOR HOTEL
ON SUNDAY 25th JANUARY 2015**

OFFICIAL
E.P.R.A
MINUTES
2015

Chairman:	Sue Mitchell	General Secretary:
Vice Chairman:	Position Vacant	John H. Hope
Treasurer:	Yvonne Armitage	
Exam Secretary:	Robert Shore	

All correspondence to the General Secretary

www.epra8ball.org.uk

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Meeting Opened at 1:20 pm

1. Chairman

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all the Delegates.

2. **Apologies:** Colin Fryers (R4 Del.) / Jon Shapland (R8 Del.) / Shaun Baker (R2) / Paula Landers (R2) / Jonathon Baxter (R7)

3. Attendees:

3.1 Present

Officers: Sue Mitchell (Chairperson) / John H, Hope (General Secretary) / Robert Shore (Exam Secretary) / Yvonne Armitage (Treasurer)

Members: Simon Baker (R1) / Richard Rhodes (R2) / Peter Arundale (R2) / George Bradbury (R3) / Terry Billingham (R5) / Dominique Chiu (R7)

4. Minutes of Last Meeting

Proposed a true record: Terry Billingham (R5) Seconded: Simon Baker (R1)

Voting: for: 6 against: 0 abstentions: 1

5. Matters Arising from Minutes

None

6 Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson wished all in attendance a Happy New Year.

I would like to thank the Executive Committee for their work in the past year and thank all the Delegates, Examiners and Referees for all their hard work over the past year.

I have noticed at the Yarmouth events, that the Senior Referees are rarely called to the floor, this is a credit to the Referees. I also noticed that at Yarmouth the EPA are using the Games Room more frequently, this area is not necessarily conducive with good Refereeing, but Referees seem to be coping with this and adjusting their work ethic and getting on with it.

Unfortunately, we had to suspend a Referee this year, I hope the Referee concerned re-affiliates this year.

The number of Exams taken was, I noticed, down on the previous year, we need to work on this, Exams are important to the association.

Within the Upgrades last year, we gained three new 'S' grades. Well done to all concerned.

There still seems to be a sticking point with the EPA regarding Referees who do not hold EPA Cards. It is our belief that for us to disclose members details, unless they have agreed otherwise, would contravene the Data Protection Act. Hopefully this will sort itself out, eventually.

I have sort, and received, assurances that the EPRA website will be updated asap, and kept that way in the future.

Again I would like to thank all the associations members for their support and work over the past year.

7. Finance Report

7.1 Report (Statement)

Available on website

Report Summary

The main source of income for the Association is membership fees, this, however has dropped by £119 this year. Grades which have lost members are:

'S' – None, 'A' – 2 (£30), 'B' – 2 (£24), 'C' – 3 (£30), 'D' – None, 'E' – 7 (£35).

However, Administration costs have fallen by over £600.00 (see Finance Statement).

Disappointingly, after a rise in Examinations in 2013 over 2012, the income from exams fell By approx. 45% in 2014. (see Examination Secretary's Report)

Event Income has risen slightly, due to a small rise in referees requested by EPA. Obviously a consequence of this, is a slight rise in outgoings to referees.

Over the course of the year, there were three 'S' Grade Assessments, the Assessee's being paid at normal normal day rate, costing the association £420.00, there is, however, no assistance with cost from the EPA. This caused a drop in usable income from the levies to £17.00 instead of a possible £437.00.

Suggestions for a solution to this problem will be discussed at the Delegates Meeting, AOB.

The Association has changed merchandise suppliers, for merchandise ordered through the General Secretary, the new suppliers can supply poloshirts etc. at better price and equivalent or better quality.

Because of Playing Rules changes, which came into effect on 01/01/2015, the Association has been left with an excess of 422 Guidance Books, because of this 'over order' these books are having to be written off.

Because sufficient funds had not been transferred form the Deposit Account to the Current Account, the treasurer was unaware the Invoice for new Guidance Books was imminent, when the invoice from the printers arrived, it was paid by the Treasurer personally. The amount of £225.60 appears under '**Creditors**' in the Financial Statement.

This is the fourth year that the Associations 'worth' has decreased, to avoid using the Associations reserves, this matter needs to be addressed. Methods of increasing the Associations income. Methods of achieving this require discussion.

Accounts a True Record: Proposed: Terry Billingham (R5) Seconded: Pete Arundale (R2)

Vote:For: 7 Against: 0 Abst: 0

Full details of the accounts are available online at www.epra8ball.org.uk.

8. Examination Secretary's Report

The Total number of Candidates taking exams during 2014 was 31.
This is the lowest number since I took up office in 2005.

Two E grade exams were conducted, a total of 7 candidates took part, 6 passed with a mark of 80% or better. The success rate of 71.43% is a good result, slightly down on last year.

E Grade Examinations decreased from 6 down to 2, Region 1 was responsible for 1 exam, and one other exam was conducted at the European Pool Championships in Ireland with 6 candidates. No other Region held E Grade Examinations during 2014.

6 D grade exams were conducted; a total of 24 candidates took part 13 passed with a mark of 85% or better, a success rate of 54.17%. This year saw the introduction of awarding an E Grade pass to those that scored less than the required 85%, and more than 79%, 5 such passes were awarded. The standard was good this year with 4 candidates scoring 90% or more.

D Grade examinations saw a fall from 2013, down from 10 to 6. Region 2 held 2 exams with 10 candidates; Region 4 held 1 exam with 2 candidates, Region 6 held 1 exam with 6 candidates, Region 7 held 2 exams with a total of 6 candidates. Disappointingly Regions 1 3 5 and 8 did not hold any exams during 2014.

The revenue from exams is Down on last year. We have a total of 227 for 2014. My figures may not exactly tally with our treasurers' report owing to late pay-in for an exam in Region 6 dates not falling within the financial year.

Wepf changed playing rules last summer which EPA adopted from January 2015. New D grade and E grade examination papers have been formulated. All examiners will have these with official answers by Mid-February. As and when they wish to conduct exams to the revised rules, new papers will be issued to them.

9. Motions for Debate

SEE SEPERATE SHEET

10. Election of Officers

SEE SEPERATE SHEET