



**EPRA DELEGATES MEETING HELD AT THE
STONEBRIDGE MANOR HOTEL, COVENTRY
ON SUNDAY 7th February 2016**

OFFICIAL
EPRA
MINUTES
7th Feb
2016

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

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Meeting opened at: 10:05am

1 Chairperson:

The Chairperson welcomed everyone and convened the meeting.

2 Attendees**2.1 Present**

Officers: Sue Mitchell (R7) Chairperson / John H. Hope (R4) General Secretary / Robert Shore (R2) Examination Secretary / Yvonne Armitage (R2) Treasurer.

Delegates: R1: Vacant / R2: Richard Rhodes / R4: Vacant / R5: Terry Billingham / R6: Tony Coe (Representative) / R7: Clair Watts (Representative) / R8: Vacant.

Absent: R3

Observers: None

2.2 Apologies: George Bradbury (R3)

3 Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes proposed as a true record: Proposed:

Terry Billingham (R5)

Seconded: Robert Shore (R2)

Voting: For: 5 Against: 2 Abstentions: 0

4 Matters Arising From Minutes

Item Ref: 4ii) & 13vi) Hazel Dabrowski Suspension Notifications – Done.

Item Ref: 13iii), 13iv) & 13v) Notification of forthcoming 'B'–'A' Upgrade Assessments - Done

5 Correspondence:**5: 1 Region 2**

This letter is to formally address our concerns (raised last year during the Region Two Delegate's Report) over the distinct lack of timely communication that comes from the Executive Committee.

For any referee that doesn't attend pool events during the year then the minutes of meetings (along with an updated website) are the only way of keeping up to date with association matters and without seeing these will invariably question what their £5-£20 membership fee is for. As the largest region in terms of membership within the association, we are asking for a marked improvement to these issues and wish to see the minutes published within 30 days of any meeting and not necessarily the 14 days as detailed in the duties of officers section on the website. If for any reason there is a delay, is it possible for the Chair to help ensure reasonable timeframes are kept or utilise the help of a minute taker as volunteered at a previous meeting? Can it also be suggested that association files and documents be backed up to "cloud" based software that it freely available, free of charge, eg Dropbox etc. This will ensure that hard disk/USB memory stick failures are negated.

Following the publication of the minutes this week for last year's AGM and delegates' meeting it is understood that the General Secretary has had personal issues and we all wish you well and hope everything is okay, after all, family and personal things must always come first. Also, it should be noted that this is not a criticism of all aspects of the duties performed by the Executive Committee, the examination side of things, event/referee planning and treasury are sound but formal/official association communication to all members needs to improve immediately.

We all hold this association closely in our hearts and don't want to see the future of our association and growth of it compromised by simple, easily rectified mistakes.

Can this please be discussed within the correspondence section of the delegates meeting and be responded to accordingly by the committee.

5:2 Christine Robins

Emails received from Christine Robins (EPRA) and Alan Benton (EPA) regarding incident at Intercounty Finals weekend (Fri. 27/02/2015(see AOB)) 1# Email from Alan Benton re; his version, 2# Emails from Christine Robins re: her version & Senior Referees Report from Robert Shore. Email from Christine Robins indicating that she would resign end of 2015. Email from Christine Robins indicating that she had already resigned. Email from Paula Landers (EPRA/EPA) requesting that Christine Robins be allowed to Referee at GMC County matches.

5:3 John-Paul Eames

Verbal Abuse towards a Referee (see AOB) – Emails from EPA indicating result of Disciplinary Hearing (re: Shaun Payne R8). Shaun Payne to write public letters of apology to both EPA and John-Paul Eames. No letter received by John-Paul only Facebook Private Message. This was pointed out to EPA, their decision was that Shaun had complied with condition and that they would not investigate further.

5:4 George (Scott) McMillan

Email received from Bob Love – George McMillan has requested that he be allowed to attend Intercounty Finals (2015) as a spectator only, to support his son. EPA did not object, but requested EPRA input. Email to Bob Love from EPRA – stating that the EPRA did not have a problem with him attending as a spectator. Our involvement was as a previous Referee and as a player.

5:5 Hazel Dabrowski

Email to Hazel Dabrowski R5, advising her that her suspension was now expired and she is now eligible to make herself available for EPRA duty.
Email received, giving thanks.

5:6 EPA

Email from Julian Adams (EPA I.T.) EPRA of access code, password etc. For entry to EPA Database.

5:7 Jon Shapland

Email from Jon Shapland advising of Referee requirements for forthcoming University 8Ball event.

5:8 Colin Fryers

Email from Deborah Barrow – Human Resources – ML Accessories Ltd. Requesting an informal reference to assist employment of Colin Fryers. Email and Reference sent.

5:9 Jacques Danilo

Email thanking John H. Hope (Snr Referee WEPF World Championships) for his assistance and advise regarding organisation of Referees etc. at a major event.

5:10 Trevor Wilcox S.A.

Email Requesting assistance, from the General Secretary, with the requirements of his new position as Rules Co-ordinator for South Africa. General Secretary to Respond.

5:11 Carol Vinyard

Email from Carol Vinyard & Tiffany Vinyard resigning from EPRA – going to Blackball.

5:12 Sharon Lunn

Email from Sharon Lunn (EPA) requesting Referees Exam information. Passed to Exam Secretary.

5:13 Diane Stocks

Email to EPA requesting details of incident, at Gt. Yarmouth, involving Diane Stocks.

Email from EPA stating that, whilst acting as Manager of GMC Youth Squad, Diane Stocks was Drunk and Disorderly and Abusive. Banned from all EPA Pool Events, above League level, for 24 (TWENTYFOUR) months. Also Banned from holding any Official Post, within the EPA, for 60 (SIXTY) months. - Not renewed EPRA Membership.

5:14 Peter Arundale

Email from Peter Arundale informing of Change of Address.

5:15 Mel Harley

Email from Mel Harley requesting EPRA paperwork (various) re: Ban and Constitution changes not received.

Matter dealt with. General Secretary will investigate.

5:16 Jim Arnold

Email requesting information regarding unforwarded Membership renewal payments sent to Jon Shapland, 2014-2015 not received by EPRA. Non-entry on Referees list on EPRA website – Matter dealt with.

6 Finance Report***6.1 Report: (see website)******6.2 Summary***

Financial year to date.

Number of renewals advised to date

'S' – 8 / 'A' - 9 / 'B' 13 / 'C' – 10 / 'D' – 14 / 'E' – 2

There will be other renewals that I have not been notified of.

There has only been one Examination taken place to date, R7 – 4 candidates.

So far the only Event income to date is the Champion of Champions (Nov. 2015) and the EPA Junior Trials (Jan. 2016) All Referees have been paid.

The sum of £236 has been received for Merchandise, however there has been some difficulty contacting the original suppliers, therefore I am unsure if the items have been ordered. I have yet to receive an Invoice.

It will be noted that changes have been made to the Income and Expenditure sheet, this is to make the accounts easier to read and better reflect Income and Expenditure on the sheets.

I would like to thank the Delegates who have endeavoured to advise me when financial events occur, this has made understanding Bank Statements easier.

Accounts proposed as a true record:

Proposed: Robert Shore R2.

Seconded: Richard Rhodes

Voting: For: 6 Against: 0 Abstentions: 0

Meeting Adjourned: 1:15pm

Meeting Re-convened: 3:05pm

7 Examination Secretary's Report***7.1 Report***

Examination October 14th region 6, papers and monies received December 2014. this is included because it was not included in 2014 account

Examination Region 6 14th October 2014 papers received December.

Region 6	6	4	2		
Total	6	1		Total 6	£48:00

Total number of candidates taking examinations, from March 2015 to November 2015 inclusive.

	D Grade	Pass D	Pass E	E Grade	Pass	
Region 1						
Region 2	15	8	3	1	1	15x£8 + 1x£5 = £125
Region 3	4	2	1			4x£8 = £32
Region 4						
Region 5	11	4		1		11x£8 = 1x£5 = £93
Region 6	3	2	1	4	3	3x£8 + 4x£5 = £44
Region 7	15	10	4	4	2	15x£8 + 4x£5 = £140
Region 8						
Total	48	26	9	10	6	Grand Total 2015 = £434:00

Regions one four and eight did not conduct any examinations during 2015.

7:2 Upgrades

'A' grade assessments.

Tony Kay R2: Three failure assessments
 George Bradbury R3: Three successful Assessments
 Colin Fryers R4: Three successful Assessments

Submission to be discussed at January 2016 meeting. AOB.

8 Events Reports

The reports were read the meeting in their entirety; they have been shortened for the purposes of the minutes.

National Intercountry Finals: March 2015:

Senior Referee: John H. Hope 322

20 referee places were filled.

The Senior Referee attended the three Captains Meetings on Friday Night, after which the Intercountry Cup started (2 Referees).

On the Saturday the referees were split into 2 sessions, each of 12 referees. The first session referees started at 8:00am, all were on time and properly attired. The tables were all prepared and the morning briefing completed in time for matches to start at 8:30am.

The Main Arena was used for the Men's and Ladies events and the Games Room was used for the Junior event, 56 tables in total.

The areas were separated into 8# Zones, 6 in the main arena (36 tables) and 2 in the games room (20 tables). Of the 6 in the main arena two of the zones were actually the two streaming tables, which were refereed and timed. The remaining 34 tables were separated into 4 – 8+8+8+10. The 20 games room tables were used required.

The referees worked a rota of 60mins On – 30mins Off, rotating the zones.

All the referees worked very well and no problems were experienced.

By 3:00pm all the 2nd session referees had arrived and by 3:15 the briefing was completed and the oncoming referees were ready to relieve the morning referees. Session 1 referees were stood down at 3:15pm. The 2nd session referees worked the same rota.

Dominique Chiu stood in as Senior Referee at 4:30pm and I returned later in the evening to ensure all was ok.

On Sunday Morning 12 referees were on time and properly attired ready to start at 8:30am when all tables were prepared (main arena only) and the morning briefing, with play starting at 9:00am. The 2nd set of twelve referees attended at 9:20am. The referees worked 30mins On – 30mins Off for the first session, walk-about.

Between 12:00 and 12:45 all the finals were started on 24 tables, each Table refereed and timed.

All matches were completed between 2:10pm and 2:45pm. When all referees were stood down. The majority of the referees stayed behind for the presentation.

In all there were 3 play-off's, all were completed without any problems.

The Senior was called to the floor 6 times over the week-end, on 4 occasions the floor referee was correct, on the other 2 occasion a Foul Snooker decision and a Total Snooker were altered.

All the referees worked well and were a credit to the Association, my thanks to them and to Dominique Chiu for taking over for the 2nd Saturday session.

National Interleague Finals: April 2015:

Senior Referee: Shaun Baker

The event commenced on Saturday at 9.00 am with 54 tables in use, 36 in the main arena plus 18 in the Games room with 6 referees working 1 hour on / 20 minutes off and the areas split into 6 zones including 2 in the Games room. At 12.00 noon a further 4 referees came on duty so the breaks became 30 minutes on / off with the morning referees taking a one hour break at 13.00 and the later starters taking a one hour break at 17.00. The initial intention was to stand down 6 of the morning referees once the games room matches were completed, which was anticipated at 20.30 approx. However, due to changes to match schedules which resulted in a disagreement between the organisers this did not happen until approx. 21.30, the other 2 referees were stood down at 22.00 and 22.20. For the remainder of the day the main arena was split into 3 zones with 3 referees on / 1 off until play finally finished at midnight.

During the day there were seven 3 frame play offs all happened without incident and I was only called to the table once where a team referee had called a foul and the time keeper disagreed, I explained to the time keeper that he could not overrule the referee.

On Sunday there were 4 play offs during the last 16 matches and in both semi-finals, again without any issues. Table referees were in place from the quarter finals onwards and the final finished at 1535.

In the final frame of the final a time foul was called and then the player played out of turn and the referee called a serious foul (for the very last time!). He replaced the balls and play continued, I would like to complement Colin Fryers on his handling of the situation which was excellent at a very tense point in the match, I only got involved in the incident to offer morale support.

I would like to thank all of the referees who attended the event, they performed their duties admirably and without complaint especially on Saturday evening when things did not go to plan.

Golden Cue: May 2015:

Senior Referee: Sue Mitchell

Saturday 9th – All Referees reported for duty and were suitably attired at 7:30am. Tables were prepared (in both arenas) and morning briefing done ready for 8:30am start of play.

The T.D. requested that two referees were put permanently on the two streaming tables. This was done, even at such short notice. Because only 6 referees were requested, this meant that the shifts were 5 refs on, 1 providing breaks, (1hr 15mins On – 15mins Off).

Second Round matches started at 9:30 am, meaning all 36 tables were in use to facilitate slow matches.

Although this was the first event using the Revised WEPF Playing rules, we were instructed not to assist the players as they should already know the changes.

The Dress Code was only to be enforced if brought to our attention by a player/manager or if the offence was blatantly obvious.

At 9:45am, a further referee arrived for duty for the Golden Cue Singles, starting at 10:00am in the Games Room. Breaks remained as is, a referee from main arena was used for Games Room referees breaks.

I was called to the floor for decisions twice, once for a Total Snooker (Refs decision ok) and once for Foul Snooker (Refs decision changed).

At 1:00pm John Hope came over to sit in as Senior while I had a break, he stayed on to the end of the days play, even though he was not due on until 4:15pm. My thanks to John.

At 2:00pm a further Referee reported for duty, this meant a temporary change to 1hr On – 30mins Off.

The second session of 6 Referees reported for at 4:15pm and after the briefing the first Session Referees were stood down at 4:30pm.

At 7:00pm the Referee starting at 9:45am was stood down, further alterations were made to working rota.

At 10:30pm the Games Room matches were completed, three Referees were stood down for the day, including the 2:00pm start Referee. At 11:00pm two further Referees were stood down. At 11:35pm the remaining Referees were stood down.

I was not called to the floor at all for a decision..

Sunday 10th – All Referees were in attendance at 8:30am, Tables were prepared and the briefing was completed ready for 9:00am start of play.

I was requested to allocate 8 referees to table Referee the Last 16 Team matches. The other two Referees officiated the Singles matches. Breaks were taken as and when possible.

The Team Semi-finals started at 12:00 and the Singles Semi-finals at 12:50pm. The Finals started at 1:40pm and 1:50pm respectively.

All Referees were stood down by 2:40pm.

During the Team Quarter-finals between Leicester and Essex Teams, an issue occurred on Table 25 (Streaming). It transpires that whilst a Leicester player was at the table, an Essex Player stood up, made a comment and walked away. This caused the Leicester player to stand up from his shot. As he was about to resume his shot another Leicester player was both seen and heard to call out "Wait for the Call". The match Referee took this as a direct instruction to the player, he immediately called a 'Coaching Foul' this was obviously disputed by the team. I was called to the table and after talking to the Referee, offending spectator and the players, my I concurred with the Referees decision. This was worsened by the fact that this was the deciding Frame. There was a lot of verbal interaction following this, with the Referee being subjected to some very unsavoury verbal abuse. This matter should be discussed further.

WEPF World Championships: June – July 2015:

Senior Referee: John H. Hope 322

Note: Unfortunately the exact draft of this report has, together with other files & folders, been lost on a corrupt Memory Stick. I have endeavoured to compile a Report from notes made.

Referees Attending:

John H. Hope - (R4) Eng. (Senior Referee)
 Colin Fryers – (R4) Eng.
 Lloyd Clark – (R2) Eng.
 Edmund Lewis – S.A.
 Monique Sampson – S.A.
 Sasha Gauchi - Malta

Additional Referees:

Robert Shore – (R2) Eng. (1# Day)
 Richard Rhodes – (R2) Eng. (1# Day)
 John Chapman – (R2) Eng. (2# Days)
 Paula Landers – (R2) Eng. (2# Days)

Tony Kay – (R2) Eng. (2# Days)
George Bradbury – (R3) Eng (2# Days)

Televised Matches Referees: (2# Days)

John H. Hope – (R4) Eng. Senior Referee
Peter Arundale – (R2) Eng. Referee & Timekeeper
Sasha Gauchi - Malta. Referee & Timekeeper
Edmund Lewis – S.A. Referee & Timekeeper
Monique Sampson – S.A. Timekeeper

Instead of the usual 4+1 Referees of previous years, there was an extra Referee, Sasha Gauchi from Malta. This made a tremendous difference to the work load of the floor Referees. It allowed me to give all the Referees upto half a day off, in rotation. It allowed a Referee (Lloyd) to assist Stan Grant in the setting up of the Washington suite after the opening ceremony. It also allowed Robert Shore to set an exam for Sasha . Because of the language difference, he sat an 'E' Grade exam, which he passed with flying colours.

I attended the Team Managers Meeting on Saturday 20th June.

Seniors Masters matches started on Saturday 20th afternoon, these were officiated by myself, Edmund Lewis S.A. & Monique Sampson S.A.

The Opening Ceremony was held on Sunday 21st at Midday with the first matches starting at 1:00pm. All Referees were in attendance (except additional refs). Working 60 mins On and 60 mins Off.

For Monday – Wednesday Matches started at 9:00am and finished anywhere between 11:45pm to 1:30pm. Referees worked 90mins On and 90mins Off.

No undue Incidents or Seniors call to the floor were recorded.

Unfortunately on Tuesday Monique Sampson S.A. was victim of the same problem as Kim Koffe SA. in 2015. She, again, became unwell with a particularly painful foot/leg infection and was unable to participate in any extensive Floor refereeing duties for the duration of the event, assisting, there on, in any way which did not aggravate her condition. I note that the S.A. Referees stayed at the same apartments each year, I'd give them a miss next time if I was them. From here on in, the Referees breaks were altered to suit the requirements of matches scheduled.

On Thursday, 6 extra Referees (1 Day) came in to assist in the Table Refereeing of the Men's Individuals Last 32 / 16. The last of these finishing at approx.. 11:30pm.

On Friday 2 extra (1 Day) came in to assist in Table Refereeing various Semi-finals / Finals in the Washington Suite. ie. U/21, Juniors, Seniors & Wheelchair events. Both Team and Individuals. Plus some Walk-about. Friday also saw the Men's and Ladies Individuals Quarter-finals. The World Masters Men's and Seniors started at 7:00pm.on Friday through Sunday night. With the Seniors and Ladies Finals table Refereed on Sunday Night.

The Main and Plate Finals were Tables Refereed on Monday evening.

Monday, saw the end of the Team Matches, followed by the Men's Play-offs. In the afternoon all matches were moved to the Washington Suite.

The Ladies Individuals Semi-finals and the Ladies Team Finals were also played on Monday. Both Table refereed.

Also, Monday saw the Televising of the World Masters Mens Final. This was Refereed by Colin Fryers.

Two additional Referees were brought in for the TV events, which were played on Tuesday and Wednesday in Television Arena. Referees Duties for the two were as follows:

Tuesday 1st July:

Men's Indiv. S/F(1)	Peter Arundale Eng. (R).	Colin Fryers Eng. (TK)
Mens Indiv.S/F (2)	Colin Fryers Eng. (R)	Monique Sampson S.A. (TK)
Men's Team S/F (1)	Sasha Gauchi Malta (R)	Edmund Lewis S.A. (TK)
Men's Team S/F (2)	Peter Arundale Eng. (R)	Monique Sampson S.A. (TK)

Wednesday 2nd July:

Men's Team Final	Edmund Lewis S.A. (R)	Monique sampson S.A. (TK)
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Ladies Indiv. Final Peter Arundale Eng. (R)
 Men's Indiv. Final John H. Hope Eng. (R)
 (Peter Arundale sat in as Snr Ref.)

Edmund Lewis S.A. (TK)
 Monique Sampson S.A. (TK)

I was pleased with the way the overseas Referees performed and conducted themselves, as did the home Referees. Many thanks for everyone's excellent work.

The After Championships Banquet started at approx. 9:00pm.

Interleague KO Cup: October 2015:

Senior Referee: Sue Mitchell

Saturday 3rd – All 12 Referees were in attendance at 8:30am, the tables were prepared, including the Games Room, and the briefing completed ready for 9:00am start of play.

The arenas were divided into 8 Zones, giving a rota of 1hr On and 30mins Off.

Some matches were played on 2 tables, some on 1. In the event of draw an extra frame was Played, lag for break. In the knock-out stages a 3 frame play-off was used, break to carry on.

Teams would Referee and Time their own matches. Dress code enforced when brought to floor Referees attention of when blatantly obvious.

At the end of one particular match, a complaint was issued to Top Table, by one of the teams, regarding a Dress code issue. The decision was to set the score back to 8 v 8 and play a play-off. The original winners also won the play-off.

Referees were stood down between 10:00pm – 10:50pm.

There 6 play-offs during the day, all were played without incident. I was not called to the floor for a decision during the day.

Sunday 4th – All referees reported for duty at 8:30am. Both arenas tables were prepared and the briefing given ready for play at 9:00am.

Five matches were played in the Games Room on 3 tables each, an EPRA Referee on one table with the teams refereeing and timing the other two. (5 EPRA Referees in total). Other matches were played in the main arena with walk-about referees.

The last eight matches were all on by 11:45am, on 3 tables. Again with an EPRA Referee on one of the tables.

The semi-finals went on at 1:20pm & 1:25pm, table refereed and timed. These referees were stood down on completion of the matches.

The Final started rather late at 2:40pm, again on 3 tables. The Final finished at 3:30pm and the remaining referees were stood down after the Presentation.

I was not called on for a decision all day.

I would like to thank all the Referees for their hard work over the weekend.

Champion of Champions: November 2015:

Senior Referee: Shaun Baker

During the pre-Tournament discussion with Alan Benton I was told that the Ladies KO Cup competition would be completed on the Saturday with table referees required for the semi-finals and final.

The event started at 9 am prompt on Saturday with 32 tables being used in the main room and 16 tables in the games room for the ladies last 16 in which there were three play offs, as there were two at the same time one took place without table referees from the EPRA. The last 8 of the Ladies event was also played in the Games room with two playoffs in this round of matches. The semi finals started at 2.30 pm and the final started at 4.40 pm and finished at 6.15 pm. with the 4 afternoon shift referees covering these matches which took place in the main arena.

The referees worked 6 on 2 off (1hour on / 20 minutes off) with an extended break at 12.00 noon and 12.40 pm.

In the C of C event the last 2nd round match started at 12.35 pm and the last 3rd round at 3.45 pm, the last of the last 32 games started at 5.30 pm. The day shift referees remained until the conclusion of the last 32 matches at 7.05 pm.

The 4 afternoon referees then covered the conclusion of the Men's and Ladies singles events with table referees on the semi finals and finals which concluded at 11.10 pm.

On Sunday the event started at 9 am with the last 16 of the C of C team event, there were two play offs in the last 16. The event paused at 11 am in order to observe Remembrance Day. The referees worked 8 on / 4 off, 1 hour on / 20 minutes off with table referees on the quarterfinals. The semi finals started at 12.20 pm and the final at 1.30 pm finishing at 2.10 pm, both rounds were played on three tables.

The conduct and work of the referees was very good during the weekend, and I would like to thank both Richard Rhodes and John Hope for their additional support during the Saturday of the event.

I also spoke to Alan Benton during the event and expressed concern regarding only have 8 referees on the Saturday day shift to cover the main arena and the games room and he agreed this could be increased to 10 referees in the future.

9 Regional Reports (written)

Reports were read to the meeting in their entirety, they have been shortened for the purposes of the minutes.

Region 1: Position Vacant

Region 2:

Richard Rhodes

Earlier last month we held our first delegate's meeting of the year and the Region Two AGM. There wasn't a great deal of information to report back from these meetings, our regional association continues to run successfully and we have a good working relationship with the regional EPA for which I attend the majority of their 6 meetings per year.

The main news from our AGM is that I was re-elected as delegate for a further two years, but as stated during my report at the meeting, this term will be my last term as Region Delegate. This is my third full term as delegate and before becoming the elected delegate I was covering the role whilst Phil Turner became Vice Chairman of the national association. I now feel that after these two years it will be right that someone else should become delegate and take our regional association forward.

As Robert has pointed out in his report, Region Two have had an excellent year for examinations and I am hoping that 2016 will be just as good. However, this year's affiliations have been disappointing so far. Quite often it's slow at the end of the year/beginning of the new year but I'm well down on numbers at this point compared to last year. I would like to suggest that we introduce easier ways to re-affiliate to the association, such as electronic membership form and use paypal (for example) or even get rid of the form altogether, just get members to confirm their personal details. I think we need to move away from so much paperwork. I can be a discussion point for future meetings and any proposed changes brought in via an AGM or it could probably be decided at one of these delegates' meetings.

I have not had any requests for upgrades in the past 12 months but I do have concern for one which is outstanding. One of my members is undergoing A grade assessment. However, having spoken with him, he feels disillusioned that there has been no communication from the national executive committee as to his progress or indeed when his assessments will/have taken place. I recall (correct me if I'm wrong) that a decision was made (within the last few years at a delegates meeting) that A grade candidates would be informed of when their assessments would take place? This hasn't been the case and now we have a member who feels disheartened and cynical towards our association. Further comments regarding association communication have been sent in to be discussed within correspondence. I would urge to executive committee to recognise areas in which must be improved to take our association forward and not back.

If anyone would like any further information then I am happy to oblige either here at the meeting or on a personal basis.

Region 3:George Bradbury

No Report (apologies)

Region 4: Position Vacant**Region 5:**Terry Billingham

Wesley McKelvey ran exam on 6th June for 7 candidates at the Herald Sporting Club. This was excellent venue. 4# candidates passed the 'D' Grade exam Michael Rees / Robert Middleton / Kay Taylor / Andrew Carpenter and Rebecca Winchurch was awarded an 'E' Grade.

Region 5 was requested to supply a referee, by the General Secretary, for National Junior Trials at the 147 Club, Leicester. On 16th-17th January. Terry Billingham attended, the event ran smoothly and was an enjoyable event.

Region 6:

Tony Coe (Representative)

As you know I only became region 6 ERPA delegate on 06/12/15, I am still rather blind as to what is required of me and hopefully will learn a lot at the forthcoming AGM, I was unable to make the last Region 6 meeting on 17/01/16 as it clashed with Somerset senior trials, I asked my colleague Lee to enquire if the Region wanted me to bring anything to the ERPA's attention but as yet I don't think there was anything, I would like to find out about holding exams in region 6 as I know players from Yeovil, Sherborne, Chard, Martock and possibly Highbridge are interested as well as Bristol players within their respective county teams, I said I would be happy to help but am I qualified to run the pre-exam seminars and the exams? Sorry this report is rather basic but not much to report.

Region 7:Dominique Chiu (Clair Watts Representative)

It has been a relatively quiet season for the referees, with five exams around the Region - 2 in London, 2 in Hants and 1 in Berkshire.

58 members on the database, with 22 has not affiliated, i.e. 62% renewal rate.

Unfortunately, we have lost three members –

- Roy Lambourne who decided to stop the affiliation for personal reason;
- Gareth Williams return to his home town
- Jason Herring who do not wish to re-affiliate for own personal reason.

Going forward in 2016, we have 57 members on the database so far, 37 has not affiliated, i.e. 35% renewal rate. Some of these members will be coming off our database as well as they passed their exams in our region but actually came from another region. We are currently waiting on confirmation from Hants to confirm who needs to come off the database.

The remaining memberships were being followed up via their county reps in January, we hope to see some will re-affiliate in February. Do note though: Holding more exams will not stop the issue of members do not want to re-affiliate.

The speculation is that the membership does not offer any tangible benefits to the members; some areas were in particular concerns:

- the website is still not entirely up to date, eg. Missing meeting minutes and lack of correspondence. There is no 'wow' factor to attract people to becoming referees. One of our referees feedback as: *I personally have sent correspondence to the general secretary in the past year, only to discover it has been sent to the wrong address. Information such as this needs to be up to date. Similarly, the 'still to affiliate' list is seldom updated, as I should have appeared on that list (owing to late affiliation) yet I didn't. This may be the first impression a prospective referee has of our association, and currently, it would be a categorically negative impression, as far as I'm concerned. I think this feedback could perhaps be given to the individuals responsible for the maintenance of the site as matter of urgency for the future of our beloved association*

- With the increasing pressure of not able to referee any other events once you are tied into EPRA, which EPA seem to dictate what this organisation can and cannot do, this does not give people incentive to join the organisation.
- Referees constantly getting verbal abuse at National events, and be treated like 'nothing' does not encourage people to put themselves forward to be part of the team. People feel vulnerable when they are on the floor at their duties. One of our members quote *"we are afraid to stand up and say what is wrong and when 'enough is enough'. In short we have lost authority and standing. That isn't so much our fault, but a product of some difficult situations we have found ourselves in in recent years."*
- The extremely long-hour shifts and thankless tasks properly will see more members reluctant to renew their membership or attending events.
As a regional delegate, I don't know what could bring more members in, maybe the organisation can suggest ways to improve publicity and popularity?

Region 8: Position vacant

10 EPA Report

As discussed in 5: Correspondence.

11 Forthcoming Events 2016

EVENT	DATE	No: REFEREES
Seniors trials	3 rd March	4 # + 1 Senior Referee
Mens/Ladies & U23 Trials Seniors Intercounty Finals	4 th March	8 # + 1 Senior Referee
Intercounty Finals (B Section)	4 th March	3 #
Intercounty Finals	5 th – 6 th March	24 # + 1 Senior Referee
Mens World Champs Qualifiers	14 th – 15 th April	TBA
Interleague Finals	16 th – 17 th April	TBA
World Masters Qualifiers	6 th May	TBA
Golden Cue + Singles	7 th – 8 th May	TBA
WEPF World Championships	19 th – 29 th June	TBA
World Masters	24 th – 26 th June	(World Championships Referees)

12 Next Meeting: Sunday 3rd July 2016

13 Any Other Business

- i) 'A' Assessments – It was agreed that the two successful candidates (Colin Fryers R4 & George Bradbury R3) would be immediately regarded as 'A' Grade Referees. Dependant on successful Written Exams.
- ii) It was agreed to purchase a new Laptop (maximum £400) for use by the General Secretary.
- iii) It was agreed, that, Daniel Keeble would act as EPRA Delegate for Region 4 – Unanimous
- iv) It was agreed, that, Tony Coe would act as EPRA Delegate for Region 6 – Unanimous
- v) It was agreed, that, John-Paul Eames would act as EPRA Delegate for Region 8
- Unanimous
- vi) All cheques to EPRA to be paid in by Delegates at earliest opportunity.
- vii) J. Foxon (R1) to be contacted regarding 2016 Membership Renewal.

- viii) Christine Robins R2 was accused of Verbal Abuse towards a EPA Official, this was clarified by several bystanders including an EPRA Referee and two players. She also, in an Email, admitted the offence, with regret. Christine Robins was suspended by the EPRA, subject to a Disciplinary Meeting. Christine Robins (R2 (see Correspondence)) has resigned her position as an EPRA member. Therefore, no further action can be taken.
- ix) John-Paul Eames was the subject of Verbal Abuse and Social Media Abuse from a player following a Referees decision. The player was 'dealt with' by the EPA and was ordered to write a public apology to John-Paul Eames. Only a Facebook PM was received. An Email was sent to the EPA complaining that the terms of the disciplinary Meeting had not been adhered to. John-Paul Eames (R7 (see Correspondence) EPA have refused to re-open Shaun Payne matter, therefore no further action can be taken.

Meeting closed: 4:45pm

14 Summary of Actions

Who	Summary	Reference
Gen. Secretary	Trevor Wilcox (SA) re: Rules Co-ordinator for Sth. Africa	Item 5:7 Correspondence
Gen. Secretary	Mel Harley - Paperwork	Item 5:15 Correspondence
Exam Secretary	G. Bradbury R3 Written Exam	Item i) AOB
Gen. Secretary	C. Fryers R4 Written Exam	Item i) AOB
Gen. Secretary	New Laptop	Item ii) AOB
Gen. Secretary	R4 Delegate – Inform Regional EPA	Item iii) AOB
Gen. Secretary	R6 Delegate – Inform Regional EPA	Item iv) AOB
Gen. Secretary	R8 Delegate – Inform Regional EPA	Item v) AOB
Treasurer	J. Foxon Membership	Item vii) AOB