



# English Pool Referees Association

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## 2023 DELEGATES MEETING

Location: Longton Pool & Snooker Club, 37 Normacot Rd, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, ST3 1PL

Date: Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

Time: 10:30 am

Minutes: Steve Peregrine

Present:	Chair	George Bradbury (GB)
	General Secretary	John Hope (JHH)
	Treasurer	Lyn Carnall (LC)
	Region 1	None
	Region 2	None
	Region 3	James Cheadle (JC)
	Region 4	Steve Peregrine (SP)
	Region 5	Terry Billingham (TB)
	Region 6	Tony Coe (TC)
	Region 7	Simon Grove (SG)
	Region 8	Rob Ward (RW)
	Other	Robert Shore (RS)

Agenda Item	Minutes	Actions
Meeting Opens	GB opened the meeting at 10:50am	
Apologies	Received from Region 2.	
Minutes of the last Meeting	None to review. JHH explained that the 2020 minutes were on a USB stick that went missing from the top table at an EPA event. He also explained that 2 days prior to this meeting, he had found his notes from that meeting and promised to get the minutes re-written within 2 weeks.	JHH
Matters Arising	None, see above.	
Correspondence	None disclosed.	
Finance Report	LC explained that the reserve account has little or no activity with only £25.08 income from bank interest.  The chequing account is healthy due to the flurry of recent International Rules exams, but this is likely to drop going forwards.  Report attached.	
Exam Secretary's Report	JHH said that he had received all the documents from Richard Rhodes on paper and all had been marked.  Reference was made to the Region 4 exam from 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2022 that was still waiting for official results and that these exam papers were not included with the others and can only be presumed to be lost. Agreement was made that the provisional results given become the official results with the 2 pass candidates	

	<p>being passed, the 2 borderline candidates being passed and the fail candidate failed.</p> <p>Region 4 Delegate SP to resolve and close.</p>	SP
Event Reports	None disclosed.	
Region Reports	<p>Regions 1 – 3: No report.</p> <p>Regions 4, 6 and 8 reports attached.</p> <p>Region 7 report – 1 referee's seminar was held with 29 people taking it and 22 gained a pass mark. Request submitted via email to JHH regarding Dean Winter being assessed for his A grade status.</p> <p>Region 8 requests Life Presidency award for Jim Arnold.</p>	<p>JHH/GB</p> <p>JHH/GB</p>
Misc	<p>The meeting was suspended at 12:30pm to give some time for lunch before the AGM at 1pm. The AGM continued into the evening and this Delegate's Meeting was never concluded.</p> <p>Meeting considered closed at 12:30pm.</p>	
Next Meeting	TBC	

**EPRA FINANCE REPORT - INTERIM REPORT to JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> 2023**

**Checking Account**

	In	Out	Balance
<b><u>Opening Balances 01/01/23</u></b>			
Checking account			<b>£ 812.18</b>
<b><u>Income (See Appendix 1 - Income by Region)</u></b>			
Region 1 - 8	£ 0.00		
Merchandise	£ 542.46		
Exams	£ 2,293.00		
EPA	£ 7,495.00		
 Total In	 <b>£10,330.46</b>		
			 £11,142.64

**Expenditure**

Committee Expenses	£ 159.44		
Honoraria	£ 450.00		
Meetings	£ 0.00		
Travel Expenses	£ 0.00		
Referee Expenses	£ 7,870.00		
Website Hosting Charge	£ 30.00		
Merchandise	£ 444.42		
 Total Out	 £ 8,953.86		
			 £ 2,188.78
Assets at hand:			
Printer	£0		
Laptop	£0		
32 EPRA badges	£0		
 Closing Balance			 <b>£ 2,188.78</b>

**Reserve Account**

	In	Out	Balance
<b><u>Opening Balances 01/01/23</u></b>			
Reserve			<b>£5,382.09</b>
 Interest	 £25.08		
 Closing Balance			 <b>£5,407.17</b>

## Region 4 Report, Stoke-on-Trent, 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023, Steve Peregrine

Dan Keeble approached me personally in the last quarter of 2022 asking if I would consider applying for the position of EPRA Region 4 Delegate. He also approached others in the region. After some consideration, I agreed to stand and myself and one other candidate submitted our cases on paper for suitability for the position which Dan sent out to the region 4 EPRA members to vote with a voting deadline.

Dan announced that I was elected by the EPRA Region 4 members with a 2/3rds majority.

Section 11a of the EPRA Constitution states 'Each EPRA Region, as defined by the English Pool Association, shall elect a referee (Delegate) to represent that Region at Delegates Meetings of the EPRA.' There is no other reference in that document to any further qualification procedures required to become a Delegate. Therefore, the position was accepted and here I am according to Constitutional Rules, the current Region 4 EPRA Delegate and have been acting as such ever since.

Records for Region 4 show that there are 22 current EPRA members, of which:

- 5 are International Rules only.
- 7 are World Rules and International Rules.
- Grades are S (3), A (1), B (2), C (0), D (13), E (3)

No requests have been received this year for consideration for upgrade of referee grade.

Contact has been made with the list of Region 4 members by way of an introduction and I have received several Emails since from different members on one topic – When are we going to get our official results and Certificates?

This question relates to a World Rules exam taken at Legends Club, Braintree on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (only provisional results have been received) and also more recently to an International Rules exam taken on 30<sup>th</sup> April where official results have been awarded but no sign of any certificates.

The management are aware of these frustrations and promises have been made to rectify, but as yet, nothing has been received.

EPRA events since my election include one International Rules exam on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 at The Court Club, Peterborough, which all 7 candidates passed. These included Cavan Roberts from Bedfordshire at only 14 years old. Information was requested from the General Secretary to determine if this makes him the youngest referee in the country, but nothing received as yet.

I also took this exam since it was the new 'multiple choice' version of the exam over the written version taken in November due to being fed up with waiting for the official results of that test, so I have taken the International Rules exam twice, provisionally passed it once and officially passed it once.

Candidates were informed of their successes individually by Email from myself and in line with previous actions from Dan, they were offered the opportunity to request more information on their results from the Acting Exam Secretary. Two of the candidates requested this and they have received nothing by return.

Details of this event:

<b>Exam Serial</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>EPA County</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Pass/Fail</b>
R4IRDK001	Cavan Roberts	Bedfordshire	85	87	PASS
R4IRDK002	Steve Peregrine	Cambridgeshire	90	92	PASS
R4IRDK003	Nicky Josselyn	Essex	86	88	PASS
R4IRDK004	Rhian Welch	Bedfordshire	87	89	PASS
R4IRDK005	Dani Gatto	Cambridgeshire	92	94	PASS
R4IRDK006	Rebecca Daubney	Bedfordshire	83	85	PASS
R4IRDK007	Andrew Mear	Cambridgeshire	82	85	PASS

All known Region 4 EPRA members were notified of today's AGM by myself and there was little or no response to that information. No EPRA meetings have been held during my time in this position, but plans are being hatched to organise something shortly after today's proceedings, depending on the outcomes.

Region 4 EPRA members have commented that they are wholly unsatisfied with the management and organisation of the Association and are commonly asking the question, "What's the point?". Several are known to have only continued being a member in 2023 because the membership fee was waived this year, otherwise they would not have renewed.

This is a sad position for this Association to be in.

Steve Peregrine.

## Region 6 Report, Stoke-on-Trent, 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023, Tony Coe

In Nov 2019 I held my final Worlds Rules exam and R6 gained 3 D grade referees and an E grade, all three D grades have since gone on to referee at National events once they resumed after Covid and there were R6 referees at the 2020 Intercounty finals in March 2020 just prior to the lockdown.

When National tournaments resumed in Oct 2021, the new referees (Leon Shaw in October and Marc Gough and Ian Bodman both in November) made themselves available to officiate, with the November event turning out to be the last one at Great Yarmouth.

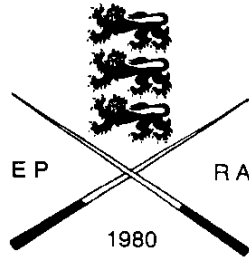
Moving into 2022 I went to the European championships in Killarney with 3 other referees from England (George Bradbury, Simon Groves and Dean Winter) and we were joined by one from Ireland. The National events moved to different Pontins around the country starting with The Interleague event in April and the intercounty event moving to May due to the pool tables not being available in time for March and R6 continued to be well represented for those events.

Prior to the October event in Brean Sands, Ian, Marc and myself were asked if we could do the World Championships again in Killarney, fondly remembered for the use of the Shark Rack 🤪 hopefully NEVER again and of course the "Infamous Phantom Chicken Licker of Olde Killarney Town struck".

Just prior to the Worlds I held my first International Rules exam for Marc and Ian as the World Masters were now being played to this ruleset. The exam was a true written referee exam (not the multiple choice exam we now use that actually doesn't include one single referee question as such). This exam was an intermediate exam that tested the candidate on both the rules and their knowledge of the proper calling procedures and I hope this exam can be ratified by the EPA to be taken by anyone wishing to referee at National events in the future.

In late 2022 and into 2023 The EPA adopted International Rules as their main ruleset with almost immediate effect and the rush was on to hold exams. I have held numerous exam days for Somerset, Region 6, for a local league (Highbridge) and a couple on County match days for individual Devon, Somerset, Bristol and Dorset candidates who couldn't make the official exam days).

Including myself, Marc and Ian, R6 now has 27 (I think) referees qualified in International Rules and all 5 Counties in R6 have at least 2 qualified referees for home County matches. Finally The National comps continued in 2023, the first two being played to both WR and IR but to date have all been in Pakefield Suffolk this year but an extra comp was added in May where sadly numbers of players attending was low resulting in a vastly reduced number of referees officiating so hopefully things will improve for the EPA's finances for the Oct and Nov events.



# English Pool Referees Association

## **Region 8 Report: 2023 Delegates Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

Longton Pool and Snooker Club, 37 Normacot Road, Longton, Staffordshire, ST3 1PL

### **Apologies/Thank You**

I would like to firstly take the opportunity to extend my thanks to Rob Ward for representing Region 8 at this delegates meeting. Due to work commitments, I am unable to attend, and he has kindly offered to represent our region at this meeting. A sincere thank you for supporting the EPRA and R8.

### **International Rules Examinations**

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2023, an exam was conducted at Swinton WMC, Swinton, South Yorkshire. **5 candidates** were in attendance and all **5 passed** the exam.

On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023, a further exam was conducted at The Davy Lamp, Ilkeston, Derbyshire. **25 candidates** were in attendance. **17 candidates passed**, and **8 failed**.

This has resulted in an increase of 30 to the regional membership. It is my hope many of these candidates will renew membership for 2024 when the time comes. Some expressed a desire to officiate in the future during the seminar.

Further interest exists within the region. Certain candidates who did not meet the pass threshold have registered an interest to take the exam again. No further dates have been agreed at this time. An attempt was made to conduct an exam on 23<sup>rd</sup> April at The Davy Lamp once again, but this clashed with a county game so was placed on hold. Scheduling conflicts have made it challenging to arrange more, but it is my intention to hold another one at the earliest opportunity, hopefully before the autumn events. The General Secretary and Examinations Secretary will be kept informed.

### **Jim Arnold Life Presidency (Membership No. 95 – A grade)**

Jim has been a valued member of region 8, and region 3, prior to the change in regional structure some years ago. For 40 years he has supported the association and played an active part in the regional and national structure, and has officiated many times at both national and international events. Region 8 wholeheartedly supports his consideration for the position of Life President, given his historic contribution to the EPRA. I would like to personally thank him for representing the very best of the EPRA and for the dedication and commitment he has shown.