



**EPRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AT THE STONEBRIDGE MANOR HOTEL
ON SUNDAY 28th January 2018**

OFFICIAL
E.P.R.A
MINUTES
28th January
2018

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

1. Chairperson.....	2
1.1 Chairperson opens meeting.....	2
2. 2.1 Apologies.....	2
3. Attendees.....	2
3.1 Present.....	2
4. Minutes of Last Meeting.....	2
5. Matters Arising From Minutes.....	2
6. Chairperson's Report.....	2-3
7. Finance Report.....	3
7.1 Report.....	3
7.2 Notes.....	3
8. Examination Secretary's Report.....	3
9. Motions for Debate.....	4
10. Election of Officers.....	4

Meeting Opened at 1:10 pm

1. Chairman

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

2. Apologies:

Daniel Keeble (R4) / Terry Billingham (R4) / Yvonne Armitage (Treasurer) Further Apologies were received from numerous members

3. Attendees

3.1 Present

Officers:

Sue Mitchell (Chairperson) / John H. Hope (Gen. Sec.) /
Robert Shore (Exam Secretary. Temp)

Members:

Richard Rhodes (R2) / George Bradbury (R3) / Craig Shufflebotham (R3) / Lyn Carnall (R3)
Lloyd Kidd (R4) / Tony Coe (R6) / Dominique Chiu (R7) / Clair Watts (R7) /
John-Paul Eames (R8)

11 Votes

3.2 Objections

None

4. Minutes of Last Meeting

Proposed a true record: Richard Rhodes (R2) - Seconded: George Bradbury (R3)
Voting: for: 10 against: 0 Abstentions: 1

5. Matters Arising from Minutes

- i) Date to page headers incorrect.
- ii) Corrected Accounts produced at 04/06/17 Delegates Meeting (see Minutes)

6 Chairperson's Report

2017 the year has had its ups and down throughout the year.

Robert Shore, who had been examination secretary for many years, retired from the position. Many thanks to him for his hard work through the years.

Dominic Chiu became the new Examination Secretary, unfortunately, she was only able to do the position for about 6 months, due to personal reasons and work commitments. But the faithful Robert Shore very kindly stood in as examination secretary, until such time as a replacement could be found. The Association and I wish to thank him very much for standing in.

We have had problems with providing enough referees for the events at Yarmouth. The EPA has been on our case about this, we have tried to explain to them that people make themselves available then have to drop out at short notice. John Hope tries right up until the last minute to find referees. At the intercounty finals, 24 referees are required with a split shift of 12 and 12, but, unfortunately, we were short of referees. However, due to some referees dedication, 8 referees did a double shift but the EPA would not pay them double rate, they were only given Evening rate. This was because someone told the EPA this was happening and they would not pay full rate. I personally wish to thank those referees very much for their help.

As you know the four streaming tables at Yarmouth now require referees all day on each table.

We sent out the questionnaires to all referees. 125 questionnaires were sent out, we received 42 back, many thanks to those who filled them in and returned them. The

questionnaire replies were opened at the last event at Yarmouth, present were me, John Hope, and two delegates. The questionnaires were opened then so that if there was any issues etc. that needed to be discussed or motions put forward for AGM there was time. The questionnaire gave us some things to deal with.

We now have a Facebook page which seems to be quite popular. We also had some referees stating that they feel they are not contacted early enough for events. Also some referees mentioned the unrest between some committee members and the arguments between them. We will try and prevent this from happening. I can only apologise for this.

We eventually got the information onto the EPA database, at long last, again the EPA were moaning, so Yvonne kindly put all the info into the data base. EPA were ok with that.

We also nearly lost a referee due to another referee making comments to the referee, ladies and gentlemen please, if you have any problems with a referee at an event, or any one else, as you know there is a Senior Referee at each event, tell them and let the Senior deal with the problem, we cannot be losing referees over things like this please.

May I thank all the Delegates for their work throughout 2017.

And I wish to thank all the Committee Members for their hard work throughout 2017.

Well done to the referees that were upgraded in 2017. Look forward to more in 2018

Finally, I wish to close with our aims for 2018.

- 1; Provide the required amount of referees for all events.
- 2; Try and encourage more people to take the Referees Exam.
- 3; Prevent the arguments between committee members.
- 4; Make sure we have no issues with the EPA.
- 5; The website to be kept up to date, providing the information is received.
- 6; Database to be kept up to date.
- 7; Availability responses need to be quicker.

7. Finance Report

7.1 Report

I am happy to report that affiliation numbers are up slightly this year which is good news for the Association as a whole.

S Grade – down £20 (1 Referee)

A Grade – up £15 (1 Referee)

B Grade – up £48 (4 Referees)

C Grade – down £30 (3 Referees)

D Grade – up £40 (5 Referees)

E Grade – up £35 (7 Referees)

On a slightly sombre note, could members please remember to pay their fees when they submit their Affiliation Form. Two Referees submitted forms for 2017 but payment was never received by the Treasurer.

Examinations

2017 has seen a rise in Examination income of £182. Regions 2 and 6 have increased the most - keep up the good work. As our Examination Secretary has noted in his report, there are discrepancies between the amount due from exams and the actual amounts received to date, but he is quite correct that this only occurs where exam and paying in dates span across the year end.

Event Income

Although there seems to have been a very healthy increase in event income it must be borne in mind that 2017 has been an extended year due to the change of our Year End date. This means that there have been two occurrences of the Ladies / Champion of Champions weekend in this financial year. Another added bonus is that 2017 saw the European Championships being hosted by the EPA and, subsequently, the services of the EPRA were required albeit on a smaller scale than in the past. Obviously these two items do not come around every year. 2018 will see the Event figures return to more normal amounts.

A query was raised over the 2017 Membership payment of Terry Billingham (R5) & Robert Middleton (R5). R5 to investigate.

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

Accounts as a true record: Proposed: George Bradbury (R3) Seconded: Robert Shore (R2)
For: 8 Against: 0 Abstentions: 2

8. Examination Secretary's Report

[This report has been prepared using data from Dominique Chiu for the period March 2017 to August 2017 inclusive, coupled with my data, September 2017 to November 2017 inclusive. To my knowledge, January, February and December were "Exam free".]

The Total number of Candidates taking exams during 2017 was 48.

Five E grade exams were conducted, a total of 13 candidates took part, 5 passed with a mark of 80% or better. The success rate of 48.57% is a poor result, compared to last year, 75%.

E Grade Examinations increased from 3 up to 5, Region 2 held one Exam, Region 4 one Exam, Region 6 three exams.

No other Region held E Grade Examinations during 2017.

The number of E grade candidates improved to match the 2015 tally, but the pass rate was much lower.

Ten D grade exams were conducted; a total of 35 candidates taking part, 17 passed with a mark of 85% or better, a success rate of 48.57%.

3 candidates were awarded an E Grade pass scoring less than the required 85%, and more than 79%

D Grade examinations saw an increase against 2016, up from 5 to 10

Region 2 held two exams with 11 candidates, Region 4 one exam with 5 candidates, Region 6 three exams, with 7 candidates, Region 7 held three exams with 13 candidates.

Disappointingly Regions 1, 3, and 8 did not hold any exams during 2017.

The revenue from exams was £345.

My figures may not exactly tally with our treasurers' report owing to late pay-in for a November exam in Region 6 dates not falling within the financial year.

Correction to Grade: Paul Ward (R3) was a 'D' Grade for 2017.

Jamie Thompson and Tony Coe, both completed their probationary period, and are now considered approved examiners.

9. Motions for Debate

SEE SEPERATE SHEET

10. Election of Officers

SEE SEPERATE SHEET

Meeting Closed: 2:40pm

Next Meeting: 3rd February 2019

EPRA 2018 AGM
ELECTION OF OFFICERS

EPRA CHAIRPERSON: Sue Mitchell (Incumbent)

Vote that Sue Mitchell remain as EPRA Chairperson

For: 10 Against: 0 Abstentions: 1

Sue Mitchell to remain in office. **Passed Majority.**

EPRA EXAMINATION SECRETARY: Dominique Chiu (Resigned 2017)
Robert Shore (Acting temporarily)

A Motion was tabled that: a Proposal be allowed to elect an:
Acting Examination Secretary for the remainder of that Officers elected period. January
2018 - January 2019.

Vote that the Proposal is permitted:

Proposed: Lloyd Kidd (R4) Seconded: Dominique Chiu (R7)

For: 10 Against: 0 Abstentions: 1 Carried Majority

Proposed that: Richard Rhodes be elected as:
Acting Examination Secretary. January 2018 – January 2019.

Proposed: Lloyd Kidd (R4) Seconded: Dominique Chiu (R7)

For: 10 Against: 0 Abstentions: 1 Passed Majority

EPRA AGM 2018
PROPOSALS & MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

To be added to: 'Rules & Constitution' as: Disciplinary - 16(d)

EPRA Members will not divulge information, regarding the EPRA or running thereof, to other bodies without permission from the National Committee / Executive (as available). Including, but not restricted to, information that might, at that time, cause issues between the EPRA and other bodies, but would be freely available to other bodies at any other juncture. Any breach of this could be regarded as 'Bringing the Association into Disrepute'

Proposed: John-Paul Eames (R8)

Seconded: John H. Hope (R4)

For: 10 Against: 0 Abstentions: 0
Proposal PASSED – Unanimous.

To be added to: 'Dress Code'

The 'S' / 'A' / 'B' Grade 'Dress Code' to be applicable to all Grades and Genders at Hotel, National and International level. Also to include all Televised / Streamed Matches & Events.

Grades S, A and B

Black evening suit
White plain dress shirt
Black bow tie

Or

Black Plain Dress Shirt

Black or White Bow Tie

Black plain polished shoes
Black socks
White gloves
Stop watch

Grades C and D

Black blazer (with badge)
Black trousers
White shirt
Black bow tie

Or

Black Plain Dress Shirt

Black or White Bow Tie

Black plain polished shoes
Black socks
White gloves
Stop watch

Note: The C and D grade dress may be worn at County level and local events but S, A and B dress must be worn if officiating at a higher level.

Ladies

Black evening suit, or black knee length skirt and black jacket
Black plain polished shoes
White plain shirt or blouse
Black bow tie

Or

Black Plain Dress Shirt

Black or White Bow Tie

White gloves

Stop watch

Proposed: John-Paul Eames (R8)

Seconded: John H. Hope (R4)

For: 8 Against: 0 Abstentions: 2
Proposal Passed – Majority.