

WARRINGTON SNOOKER LEAGUE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held on Wednesday 16th July 2025

At Walkers Club

Current Officers :

Chairman & Treasurer

Graham Waterworth

League, Fixture, & Referees Secretary

Pat Wisedale

Competition Secretary

Danny Shaw

Introduction & Welcome

The meeting was opened at 19:00 by Pat Wisedale, who welcomed all our team representatives to this years' Warrington Snooker League Annual General Meeting. The League Committee would like to offer a big thank you to all, for all your efforts and continued support throughout the previous season.

A minute's silence was observed to remember past players of our League.

Roll call

Clubs in Attendance:

Alford A	G.T.B.L. A	Monks A	The Grange B
Alford B	G.T.B.L. B	Newton Cons	The Hatter A
Alford D	Irlam Catholic	Penketh Cons A	Walkers B
Deaf Soc A	Irlam Steel	Penketh Cons B	Warrington Cons
Deaf Soc B	Kings Club A	Penketh Cons C	Woolston A
G.E.S.M. A	Kings Club B	St Benedicts	Woolston C
G.E.S.M. B	Kings Club C	The Grange A	

Clubs not in Attendance:

There were 3 teams not represented at the Meeting :

The Hatter B, Walkers A and Woolston B.

These teams have deemed to have resigned from the League.

With reference to Rule8b – Attendance Bond, these Teams may rejoin the League, but will each be required to pay an additional £5.00 together with their League Registration Fee for the new 2025 – 2026 Season.

Approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting dated 19 June 2023.

It was decided to dispense with the reading of the minutes as they had been distributed to all team representatives 03 July 2025. There were no objections to these minutes being approved.

League & Fixture Secretary's Report (Pat Wisedale)

The 2024 – 2025 season was structured again into two divisions, with the number of Teams participating increasing to 30.

Pat gave a brief overall review of the season, noting that for a second consecutive season how competitive each of the Divisions were, with both outcomes being decided in the last weeks of the season. He provided a brief review and highlighted the achievements of our divisional prize winners.

It was pleasing to note that rearrangements of League matches were done very efficiently and undertaken promptly.

Competition Secretary's Report (Danny Shaw)

Danny provided a brief summary of the finals in the various Competitions, providing a review and a recap of this season's champions. A list of all our Seasons Champions is attached at the end of these minutes.

The League expressed its gratitude to all the referees's who officiated at the various competitions, throughout the season.

EPSB English League Championship

A Warrington Snooker League Team participated in this seasons English League Snooker Championship tournament held at the Ladywood Snooker Club in Walsall. Six teams competed during a 2-day qualifying weekend, but unfortunately teams from Staffordshire and Gloucester progressed to the finals stage of the tournament.

Treasurer's Report (Graham Waterworth)

An Interim Annual Statement was produced and circulated for discussion. It details our current finances for the 2024-2025 season. Graham reported that we have maintained our financial stability and that he was anticipating carrying forward an increase in operational funds of approximately £900.00 on last season

A number of entries have yet to be finalised, notably any EPSB related payments and the costs for this years' trophies. An updated and finalised Annual Statement will be provided to each team as part of the New Seasons documentation pack.

A breakdown of the individual competition fees has been provided, within the Statement to indicate the level of entrants per competition. It was also stated that a review of the League and Competition Prize Funds is to be undertaken for the new season.

Prize Presentation & Prize Money

For clarification:

Prize monies and Trophies (highlighted in **BOLD**) are awarded for:

- **Champions, Runners-Up** and Third places (prize money only) in each of the Divisions
- **Player of the Year** in each Division
- **Highest Break** in each of the Divisions
- **Champions, Runners-Up** and Semi-Finalists (prize money only) in each of the Competitions
- **Overall Highest Break** in any of the Competitions

Election of Officers

Danny Shaw and Graham Waterworth - To continue.

Pat Wisedale confirmed his retirement from the Committee.

No confirmed interest for his role had been received prior to or AGM.

Pat provided an overview of his current activities, highlighting frequent activities and busy periods. He reaffirmed that he will remain available to support any new candidate as well as saying that some of the work for the new season had already been commenced. During discussions it was agreed that:

- We will look to split up the numerous activities he undertook into separate roles,
- Need to consider introducing structuring periods where individual committee members can be contacted rather than the expectation that they are available at any time.

Stuart Daniels (Grange B) said he would take on the role of Fixture Secretary.

Rule changes

Prior to our review of the new proposals, Graham said that he had found a number of discrepancies within the existing Rules, which he would correct, e.g. spelling mistakes, duplications, plus

Team Championship

Definition of the competition is wrong, in that the text contains reference to players retaining their handicaps, when in fact the competition matches are played “off scratch”.

Match Results

The Captain of the Home Team must post an image of the match result onto the League WhatsApp group by 12 midnight on the day of the match.

The fine element for not completing this to be removed.

There were no objections to a tidy up the existing set of Rules.

The following rule changes were discussed and accepted :

Rule 8d Fees

To Increase the current match fees from £1.00 to £2.00 per frame.

Rule 18 Handicaps (Proposed by John Turnbull)

The maximum handicap to be reduced from 50 to 45.

Rule 18 Handicaps

The minimum handicap to be reduced from minus 50 to minus 40.

Increase in Referees Fees

That League Referees match fee to be increased from of £15.00 to £20.00 per match.

Introduction of a ‘Gross’ High Break Prize

At present, we have just the standard high break prize (net) for Division 1, Division 2 and Competitions. The idea is to bring in a ‘Gross’ high break which will include players handicaps onto the break. Only ‘net’ breaks over 30 will count towards the ‘gross’ high break prize and would work as follows;

Example;

Player 1 has a handicap is 20. They make a ‘net’ break of 35. This will mean their overall gross break will be 55.

Player 2 has a handicap of -15. They make a 'net' break of 65. This will mean their overall gross break will be 50.

New players will be exempt from the 'Gross' break prize as their handicaps will fluctuate throughout the season and could be off an unrealistic handicap at the time of the break.

The existing high break prizes will remain as usual.

The following rule change was discussed and it was agreed to trial the introduction of the MISS Rule, but only during the semi-finals and finals stages of all competitions :

Introduction of the MISS Rule

This to be based on this simplified explanation for the referee / marker. A **“FOUL & a MISS”** can be called when the player fails to hit the ball on, namely :

- I. If you can see all of the Object ball on - it can be called a FOUL & a MISS and 3 misses results in the loss of frame.
- II. If you can see part of the Object ball on it may be called a FOUL & a MISS.
- III. If you are snookered a FOUL but no MISS can be called,
 - a. **Unless** in the opinion of the referee/marker a player is **deliberately** trying to gain an advantage which is against the spirit of the game.
 - b. Or the **player on** requires 1 or more snookers to win.

The referee/marker may continue calling a 'Foul & a Miss' until he is satisfied that a genuine attempt has been made or for a maximum of 3 attempts.

When a FOUL & a MISS is called, the opposing player's 3 options are as follows:

- They can choose to play the next shot themselves (as you would in regulation play),
- Or they can elect to make the opponent play,
- Or they can have the balls replaced (to the best of the referees / markers ability) and nominate the opponent to play their previous shot again.

It is extremely important to remember the ability of the player/s you are refereeing, i.e. if someone is not getting close to a successful escape, and maybe never will, bear this in mind. Whilst this is not factored into the rule, use some common sense.

Both players in a match have the right to question the referee/marker's decision to award or not award a miss, at the time. However, once a referee/marker has given their justification either way, players are strongly advised to refrain from arguing with the referee/marker at the table. They are requested to inform their Captains who can then make a formal complaint by email to the Committee.

The following rule changes were discussed and rejected :

Rule 10 Promotion & Relegation (Proposed by Les Corns)

Players from the promoted teams (subject to them remaining with those teams) to receive an additional 5 points onto their new seasons handicap.

An amendment to include teams being relegated to lose an additional 5 points was also rejected.

Introduce a maximum Handicap Variance for League matches (Proposed by Les Corns)

For ALL League matches the maximum variance should be limited for players with a “minus” handicap, with the exception of professional players.

- I. For players with a minus handicap (between minus 1 and minus 10) the maximum variance is limited to 35 points.
- II. For players with a minus handicap (between minus 11 and minus 20) the maximum variance is limited to 45 points.
- III. For players with a minus handicap (between minus 21 and minus 30) the maximum variance is limited to 55 points.

- IV. For players with a minus handicap greater than minus 31, and for any professional, or player who competes in any WPBSA or EPSB tournaments (with the exception of playing in the English League Championships) no limit to the handicap variance is applied.

Team Handicap Competition (Les Corns)

Consideration to change the format of the Team handicap competition, to be played based on a “team” handicap rather than individual handicaps. The Teams handicap to be based on an average of that teams’ “core” players (i.e. those 6 or 8 regular players or who have played at least 10 matches during the previous season ; new teams would be assessed on those who have played the most games)

Notice of Meetings

Pre-Season Meetings Schedule:

- **League Registration Meeting** - **to be confirmed**
- **League Formation Meeting** - **to be confirmed**

The new season is anticipated to start mid September, again with two divisions.

Any Other Business (Open discussion)

Introduce consistency of Match Balls (Weight and Standard)

All League and Competition matches should be played with a standard set of Aramith Tournament Champion Snooker Balls at the very least with the weight of 142g +/- 3 g as opposed to the lighter inferior 129g sets.

<https://premiumcues.co.uk/products/aramith-tournament-champion-snooker-balls>

It was suggested that the League poll the various clubs to ascertain their present state of snooker equipment to gauge what, if anything teams feel they may require.

Introduce a new Inter-League competition

Six-Reds Team Competition

The competition would be based on

- Teams to consist of 5 players
- Each match will be played using only 6 reds, plus all the colours.
- To include a Rule Change :
 - a. A player cannot snooker behind a nominated colour at any time

Suggestion to run this competition, either over the Christmas period, towards the end of the regular season or as a Summer League.

Anticipate that this will become the format for a Summer League.

The Chairman then thanked everyone for such a productive meeting, offered our thanks to the Walkers Club and staff for their hospitality this evening and closed the meeting at 21.00pm.

Presentation of Trophies

Pat was presented with a cash reward, in recognition of all the work and considerable energy he has donated to our League over the past seasons.

The Annual League and Competition Trophies were then presented to our various champions.

2024/25 Season - League & Competition Results and Stats	
Division 1	
Champions	GESM B
Runners up	Irlam Steel
3rd Place	Woolston A
Player of the Year	Jordan Brown (Walkers A) - 21 Wins
Highest Break	Shaun Brearley - 75 Break
Relegated	Deaf Social A, Alford A, Penketh Cons C
Division 2	
Champions (Promoted)	Penketh Cons C
Runners up	Deaf Social A
3rd Place (Promoted)	Alford A
Player of the Year	Neil Callen (Penketh Cons C)
Highest Break	Wayne Brown - 105 Break
Wooden Spoon	The Hatter B
Team Championship	
Champions	Newton Cons
Runners up	Woolston A
Semi Finalist	GESM A
Semi Finalist	TheGrange A
Team Handicap	
Champions	TheGrange A
Runners up	Alford B
Semi Finalist	GTBL B
Semi Finalist	GESM B
Individual Merit	
Champion	Brian Hall (The Grange A)
Runner up	Declan Cassidy (Woolston A)
Semi Finalist	Sean Brearley (GTBL B)
Semi Finalist	Paul Dean (Newton Cons)
Individual Handicap	
Champion	Scott Horobin (Woolston A)
Runner up	Paul Dean (Newton Cons)
Semi Finalist	Darren Hunt (GESM A)
Semi Finalist	Russ Jones (Alford B)
Three Man Team	
Champions	Declan Cassidy, Kieran Cassidy & Dave Holmes (Woolston A)
Runners Up	Neil Callen, Daniel Savage & Peter Stringfellow (Penketh Cons C)
Semi Finalist	Ian Beaton, James Beaton & James Fredericks (The Grange A)
Semi Finalist	John Small, Lee McDermatt & Bernie Richards (Warrington Cons)
Pairs Handicap	
Champions	Mitch McJay & Tyler Whittaker (Kings Club A)
Runners up	Hong Quach & Shaun Brearley (GTBL B)
Semi Finalist	Scott Horobin & Dave Bonehill (Woolston A)
Semi Finalist	Neil Callen & Wayne Aspinall (Penketh Cons C)
Seniors Championship	
Champion	Keith Melia (GESM A)
Runner up	Noel Conreen (Penketh Cons B)
Semi Finalist	Steve Thorpe (Irlam Steel)
Semi Finalist	Andy Sergeant (IrlamCatholic)
Competiton Highest Break	
Highest Break	Sean Brearley - 76 Break