REIGATE & DISTRICT SNOOKER LEAGUE MINUTES OF THE 2025 AGM @ COULSDON CLUB 3RD SEPTEMBER 2025

The meeting was opened at 7.30pm.

1. Attendees and apologies for absences

Team representatives from the following teams were present:

Comrades Club A

Comrades Club B

Comrades Club C

Comrades Club D (were approved under agenda section 5)

Monson Club

South Park

Spots & Stripes C

Townend Social Club

Woldingham Village Club

There were no team representatives from the Spots & Stripes A team.

Apologies for absence were received from Lewis Allen and Mick Davies.

2. Minutes from 2024 AGM (for approval – Item 1)

Max Burt invited comments from the attendees. There were no comments. The Minutes from the 2024 AGM were unanimously approved.

3. Treasurer report (for approval – Item 2)

Tim Mander went through the Treasurer report in Mick's absence. Tim highlighted that the closing balance at the end of the 2024-25 season. Tim noted some additional expenditure items during the 2024-25 season; the 8-year renewal of the domain name, the honorarium paid to Bob Steadman and the charge from Coulsdon Club to host League Finals Day last season (the first time the league has been charged by the club for using the snooker room).

Tim invited comments from the attendees. There were no comments. The Treasurer report was unanimously approved.

4. Election of officers (for approval)

Max, Tim and Mick (in absentia) were re-elected into their current roles. The Chairman role remains vacant. Max and Tim both appealed to the attendees to consider putting themselves forward for the role of Chairman should they wish to join the committee and make a positive impact on how we run the Reigate & District Snooker League.

2025-26 committee:

President - Tim Mander

Secretary - Max Burt

Treasurer - Mick Davies

Chairman - Vacant

5. Registration and welcome of new teams (for approval)

Max confirmed that 10 team entries had been received. Max noted the following 6 teams would be unchanged from the 2024-25 season:

Comrades Club A
Comrades Club B
Monson Club
South Park
Spots & Stripes A
Woldingham Village Club

Max noted the following changes to the Frames teams from the previous season, following the closure of Frames:

Frames A -> Comrades Club C

Frames B -> Townend Social Club

Frames C -> Spots & Stripes C

Max proposed that a new team (Comrades Club D – captained by Glynne Parkes) enters the league for the 2025-26 season. The proposal was unanimously approved.

6. League competitions

a. Handicap Cup competition (for approval – Item 3)

Max proposed the introduction of a brand new Handicap Cup singles competition. Max noted the following as part of the proposal:

i. Single round knockout competition, consisting of best of 3 matches up to and including the semi final and best of 5 final (to be played on League Finals Day)

- ii. Handicaps will represent the points that each player starts on at the beginning of each frame played in a match
- iii. Free entry for the inaugural 2025-26 competition
- iv. "Opt-out" entry for league players who played in the league during the 2024-25 season (i.e. list of players on page 7 of the AGM meeting pack)
- v. "Opt-in" entry for all other league players
- vi. Handicaps for "opt-out" players as set out in Competition Rules
- vii. Handicaps for "opt-in" players based on Competition Rules (if available), otherwise handicaps to be set at discretion of Secretary after consulting with the relevant team captain
- viii. Handicaps will be fixed for duration of the season.

Max invited comments from the attendees. Mark Field suggested that the handicaps were not fair for certain players (using Labeeb Ahmed and Henry Eastwood as an example) and suggested that using points averages rather than frames averages would be a better method to use. Max noted that he had investigated the alternative method suggested and pointed out that use of the points averages can also be considered unfair for certain players. Max acknowledged that no method would be perfect and that the committee had been limited in their capacity to investigate other potential methods for this season. Other suggestions were made, including using handicap bands (e.g. +0, +7, +14, etc.) or using a variable handicap system where handicaps would change based on match results during the season. Max mentioned that the committee will consider alternative handicap methods ahead of the 2026-27 season but reiterated the proposal by the committee was to use the handicaps as set out on page 7 of the AGM meeting pack for the 2025-26 season.

Mark also noted that the high number of potential entrants to the Handicap Cup competition and suggested the number of rounds could result in issues with short deadlines to play matches. Max noted he expected the number of entries to not go beyond a round of 32, but he couldn't confirm this until the number of entries was known. Max also noted that the schedule can be adapted if needed to ensure a balance of time was made available to play matches when setting the competition deadlines.

Gary King noted the risk of home players struggling to book tables for matches with the introduction of another competition. Max noted that players can mutually agree to play the match at any alternative venue.

With no further comments, Max put forward the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved.

b. 6 Reds Handicap competition (for approval – Item 3)

Max proposed the introduction of a 6 Reds Handicap competition. Max noted the following as part of the proposal:

- i. The competition will be scheduled for the last Wednesday night before Christmas (17th December 2025)
- ii. The competition will take place at Spots & Stripes
- iii. Entry will be £10 cash entry "on the door"
- iv. Prize fund will be split 66.67%/33.33% between 1st/2nd place
- v. 6 reds handicaps will be set to be half of the 15 reds handicaps (as set out on page 7 of the AGM meeting pack)

Max invited comments from the attendees. There were no comments. The proposal was approved by 8 votes to 1.

c. Handicap Team Knockout competition (for discussion)

Max suggested the potential introduction of a Handicap Team Knockout competition. Max noted the following suggestions for the competition:

- i. To follow same competition rules as for the Team Knockout
- ii. Individual handicaps used for the Handicap Cup would be used for Handicap Team Knockout matches
- iii. Handicap Team Knockout final would take place on League Finals Day (alongside Team Knockout final)
- iv. An additional week would be added to the league schedule to allow teams more opportunity to play Round 1 team matches.
- v. A further week would be added to the league schedule for Handicap Team Knockout quarter final matches to be played on a Wednesday night.

Max invited comments from the attendees. Labeeb suggested that the Handicap Team Knockout could replace the Team Knockout, rather than having two separate team competitions. Gary noted that the introduction of another team competition risked congesting the league schedule.

7. League format and schedule

a. Schedule (for discussion)

Max went through a draft league schedule based on 10 team entries and the inclusion of the Handicap Cup and 6 Reds competition:

- i. The league would start on Wednesday 8th October
- ii. Introduce a competitions round week on 5th November to support players with playing first round matches for both Burgess Cup and Handicap Cup

- iii. Six reds competition on last Wednesday before Christmas
- iv. Two weeks break for Christmas
- v. Team Knockout QF second week after Christmas, allowing 8 weeks for two-leg semi finals to be played.
- vi. At least four weeks to play each round of competitions matches

Max thanked Mark for his hard work running the league's website over many years and noted he would liaise with Mark to get the finalised schedule loaded onto the website.

b. League Finals Day date (for discussion)

Max noted Sunday 22nd March 2026 as a suggested date for League Finals Day, to be held at Coulsdon Club and that all competition semi finals would need to be played at least a week before League Finals Day (i.e. Sunday 15th March 2026).

Max explained that players who know they will not be able to attend League Finals Day should not enter league competitions. Max note that time would be given for players to opt out or opt in to competitions before the first round draws.

Max noted the draws for this season will be live streamed on the league's new Facebook page.

c. Creation of Division 2 (for discussion):

Max noted the following potential ideas for future league seasons:

- i. Two separate divisions noting the league would likely need at least 12 teams for this to be feasible
- ii. Splitting the league teams into Division 1/Division 2 teams, with promotion and relegation featured within one league division
- iii. Splitting individual players into Division 1/Division 2 players and introduce separate awards/recognition, for example:
 - 1. Highest Division 1/Division 2 Break
 - 2. Highest Division 1/Division 2 Points

8. Rules amendments

- a. League Rules (for approval Item 4a and 4b)
- **b.** Competitions Rules (for approval Item 5a and 5b)

Max invited comments from the attendees on the proposed amendments to the

League and Competitions Rules.

Kevin Palmer asked how the committee would deal with situations where players are unable to agree on the dates offered by the home player (e.g. due to being unavailable to play on certain weeknights). Max explained that the amendments to the Rules now made it clear the actions that both the home and away players should take to organise matches and that both players would be eliminated if they were still unable to play matches by the deadline. Max explained that he will not be giving deadline extensions this season and he encouraged players not to sign up to competitions if they know their availability will be limited for arranging competition matches. Tim reminded the attendees that they should speak to Max as the league Secretary to raise any potential match disputes and further emphasised that both players have to make an effort to get matches played by the deadlines.

With no further comments, Max put forward the two proposals. The proposals were unanimously approved.

9. Any other business

- a. Trophies: Mark asked where all the league's trophies are located. Max explained that the League Trophy, Team Knockout Trophy, Burgess Cup, Winchester Trophy, Anniversary Shield and High Break Trophy are with Woldingham Village Club/Labeeb and the Charles Hill Cup is with Mark. After an investigation last season, Mx explained the Burgess Plate is missing and likely lost. The committee will consider whether to arrange/purchase a replacement trophy for the Burgess Plate.
- b. Anniversary Shield: Mark asked whether the Anniversary Shield would be played this season. Max explained that the committee was happy for the competition to take place this season and that Max would be happy to facilitate this as the league Secretary. Max suggested that the eligibility criteria would likely remain as the previous competition; based on the top four players on the Div 1 Points table at the end of the season. Max acknowledged the format that had been used in previous years and noted that the format for this season's competition would need to be clearly set out and agreed between the Secretary and those who would qualify for the competition.

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 9pm.

Tim Mander President Max Burt Secretary

Signed

Signed

Date 11 September 2025

MRBW

Date 11 September 2025

Allim J.