

**South Australian Pétanque League (SAPL) Inc.
Minutes for the Meeting held on Saturday 4 November 2023
at ESP**

Attendees:

Anthony Pietsch (President)	Tina Stockley (Vice President)
Stan Wilson (Secretary)	Ken Medhurst (Treasurer / FAB) (V)
Mike Read (AHPC) (V)	Rada Pierre (CDPA) (V)
Naz Saunders (ESP) (V)	Colin Hill (GPC) (V)
Helen Hill (GPC)	Brett Williams (State Umpire Manager / PPC) (V)
Peter Matthews (NGPC) (V)	Adrian Clements (State Coach Manager)
Glenis Wilson (Assistant State Coach Manager)	

Note: Clubs are allowed two delegates and one voting member. Officers and State Coach and Umpire Manager do not have a vote on the Committee. Voting members are denoted by (V) on the attendance list.

1. Apologies.

Coonawarra Petanque Club; Wendy Benson, Deb Rodda (ESP), Terry Hall (FAB), Allan Sanderson (Public Officer)

The President welcomed those present and opened the meeting at 9:58am

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 14 September 2023 had previously been circulated to all clubs.

Colin Hill proposed that they be accepted as a true and accurate record, this was seconded by Mike Read and carried unanimously. The President and Secretary signed and dated the minutes, and they will be posted on the SAPL Website.

3. Business arising

3.1 (# 23.7)

Anthony reiterated that attendance at SAPL events has stabilised or dropped off slightly in recent times and that he doubted any action would be needed to limit participation in our league rounds this season. Therefore, the current Team Capacity policy is adequate for the time being. He suggested that the Action item should be suspended.

Action Suspended

3.2 (#23.15) Anthony reported that the supplier had agreed to replace the SA Jackets which were supplied in the wrong colour, at no expense to SAPL.

Action Closed

4. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer had supplied a Financial report for the first quarter of the financial year to all clubs and summarised that for the quarter :-

- Net Total Income was: \$6364.90
- Cost of goods sold \$804.97
- Net Total expenditure \$3360.55
- Net surplus for Quarter \$2199.38

The balance sheet shows SAPL has:

1. \$9042.02 in the bank account
2. \$1670.00 Master Games in advance
3. \$1974.93 in uniforms held by Hip Pocket Workwear
4. \$ 220.10 balance of ORSR grant

5. \$316.80 Trophies paid in advance
6. A Net equity of \$8400.59

Following a few clarification questions Tina Stockley seconded the Treasurer's proposal that the report be accepted and it was carried unanimously.

5. Umpires Report.

The State Umpire Manager said that there was nothing to report.

6. Coach's Report.

The State Coach Manager reported that during the recent Oceania Championships held in New Caledonia Australia won 4 medals and two players from SA, Selina Dally and Haejung Jang, won the silver medal after losing a 2½ hour final 12-13.

7. Tournament Director's Report.

The Tournament Director reported that since the last committee meeting the round 2 of the 2023/24 season had been held with 25 teams, a near record for Gawler. Also, the State Doubles Championship had been held with 31 teams participating, including 10 in the women's competition. He noted that, like last year, there were a lot of mixed gender teams in the Open (8 out of 21), which was a bit disappointing as SAPL holds a mixed gender championship later in the year. Glenis said that she had spoken to a woman in a mixed gender team who was unaware that the intention was to have single gender teams. It was agreed that we should try to promote the event better, while staying within gender discrimination laws.

Adrian Clements complained on behalf of CDPA that the club was disappointed that a number of the CDPA teams were pitted against each other in rounds 2, 3 and 4 of the last Interclub, which he said disadvantaged the club by limiting their opportunity to participate in play-offs for the top positions. He thus suggested that the new draw system was unfair.

In response, Anthony said it was just a freak circumstance that could similarly occur if we used a totally random draw or the standard Swiss system and would in fact be more likely. Also, it could just as easily have happened to any other club that had five teams in the draw. Over a six round series, one can assume that the 'luck of the draw' will even itself out. Therefore, he disputed the claim that the system was unfair.

As requested at the previous meeting, Anthony then presented the committee with an illustrated explanation of the new 'Swissish' system that he has developed, covering the design principles and some of the specific difficulties that needed to be addressed. It is similar to the Swiss system, in some respects, but using a map-based approach makes it more efficient to run and it can be used with untimed games.

Compared to previous approaches, the new system reduces the luck of the draw and provides more evenly-matched contests in the preliminary rounds. It does this by pitting teams against others that have recorded the same number of wins or losses. However, there will be one or two exceptions in some cases depending on the number of teams. To keep these to a minimum, and to provide the best possible response to those that can't be avoided, game maps need to be specifically designed for each potential number of teams.

On the question of intraclub match-ups, Anthony acknowledged that no-one likes having to play another team from their own club. For some years now, we've been able to avoid this in the morning session by using a filtered random draw (another of Anthony's unique innovations). However, with the new system, that technique can only be applied to the first

round of games. Unfortunately, if it's just left to chance after that, a situation can arise on rare occasions like we had in Round 2.

To conclude, Anthony explained that he has now devised a refinement to the new system that will significantly reduce the risk of this happening in future. The maps can be divided into subgroups of eight or more teams that don't mix with teams from other subgroups. The program that randomises the draw can then be constrained to ensure that each club's teams are evenly distributed between the groups. The larger clubs might still have two teams within a group and they may cross paths, on some occasions, but it will happen less often and be limited to one such game at most per team.

During the presentation, both Adrian and Rada expressed doubt that the system has been adequately improved. Adrian proposed switching to an entirely different approach, in which each club is represented by three teams who play the teams from each other club in blocks of three games. A copy of the proposal is attached, to be discussed and considered at the next meeting.

8. Masters Games Report

The SAPL AMG project manager Naz Saunders reported that 63 people participated and they reported having a ball. She thanked the Umpires, the TD and the clubs and their volunteers for making the event fun for all participants, and presented an AMG thank you pack to Anthony.

Stan proposed a vote of thanks to Naz for her work organising the event. This was endorsed enthusiastically and carried unanimously.

8.1 Disbursement of AMG Income

Naz and Ken estimated that in addition to the reimbursement of the lunch and social payments SAPL would receive around \$1870 from the sports fee payment.

It was agreed that the host clubs should receive all the lunch and social function payments for the events they hosted.

On previous occasions SAPL has retained some of the income and distributed the remainder to the host clubs.

Stan proposed that SAPL should retain 40% of the income to be used for promotion of Petanque and that the host clubs should be given the remaining 60% on a pro rata basis dependent on the AMG participants at their club. Tina seconded the proposal and it was carried unanimously.

9. PFA.

Stan reminded the club delegates that PFA is seeking Expressions of Interest to host the 2024 ISC. Entries close on the 30 November 2023. He thought it would be good if a club from SA could host it.

10. AOB

10.1 Repurpose of State jackets

When the State uniforms were purchased for the ISC the supplier provided jackets that were blue and gold instead of blue and red. The error was not seen until it was too late to correct. The supplier has agreed to replace the jackets with ones of the correct colour. Anthony suggested that, rather than going to waste, the blue and gold jackets could be used as prizes for State champions. Tina suggested that SAPL run a draw to see who got

them. After discussion it was agreed that the jackets would be used as prizes at the discretion of the committee.

10.2 Precision shooting 2024

Brett reported that PFA have decided that there would be no National Precision Shooting Championship in 2024. Rather, each state is required to hold state championships and the highest point scorer in the state events would be declared National Champion. He recalled the poor results at last years state championships and proposed that each club should hold club championships and only those men scoring more than 25 and women scoring more than 15 should be allowed to compete at the State level. He agreed to provide a written proposal to the committee.

Action 23-16 BW

Next Meeting and Close

The meeting was closed at 11:58 am.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday the 11 January 2024 at Prospect Petanque club at 7:00 pm

Signed:

President 

Secretary 

Date 11-1-2024

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Actionee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Status</u>
23.7 (240)	2/2/23	AP	Anthony to continue refining the Team Capacity discussion paper.	Suspended
23.15	14/9/23	AP	Approach Jonathan Giddings with regard to wrong colour of State Jackets	Closed
23.16	4/11/23	BW	Provide details of the 2024 Precision Shooting methodology	Open

Note: Items shown as Closed in this report will be removed in the next summary report.

Proposed Interclub Format

I believe the current Interclub format is in need of a change; a change that will make it a true Interclub.

Currently, there are 7 clubs that participate regularly.

My proposal is that each club fields three teams. A club plays three matches against the teams of one other club at a time. There is no need for a draw before start of play. Play would begin at 9am. After a short lunch break, a club's 3 teams would play another club. There would be no need for medals on the day, as all results are cumulative for the whole season.

The season would require 7 rounds, so that over the year, each club plays against each other club twice.

In each round, one club will have a bye, either am or pm, but would still be involved in that round.

If a club is unable to field 3 teams, they can either forfeit the games they cannot contest, or seek uncommitted players from other clubs to complete their teams. (Messy, and makes match results dodgy.) I understand that some of the larger clubs can field more than three teams, but this idea seems manageable and will mean that all clubs can host, as there are fewer pistes required.

Rounds held in the winter months would need to be allocated to hosts that have good lighting, as there will be one more match round than the current format.

With nine matches in each tie, there will be a winning result for each match. Points can be simply assigned to the number of games won, with the champion club awarded at season's end. There can still be individual awards at season's end based on games won as well.

Appendix 1 Proposed Interclub format continued

Below is a possible scenario for the rounds.

Round One (am)	(pm)	Round Five (am)	(pm)
AHP v. CPA	AHP v. PP	AHP v. PP	AHP v. ESP
ESP v. FAB	CPA v. ESP	CPA v. ESP	PP v. CPA
GP v. NGP	FAB v. GP	FAB v. GP	FAB v. NGP
PP bye	NGP bye	NGP bye	GP bye

Round two (am)	(pm)	Round Six (am)	(pm)
AHP v. ESP	AHP v. GP	AHP v. GP	AHP v. NGP
PP v. CPA	CPA v. FAB	CPA v. FAB	CPA v. GP
FAB v. NGP	NGP v. PP	NGP v. PP	ESP v. PP
GP bye	ESP bye	ESP bye	FAB bye

Round Three (am)	(pm)	Round Seven (am)	(pm)
AHP v. NGP	FAB v. PP	FAB v. PP	AHP v. FAB
CPA v. GP	CPA v. NGP	CPA v. NGP	ESP v. NGP
ESP v. PP	ESP v. GP	ESP v. GP	GP v. PP
FAB bye	AHP bye	AHP bye	CPA bye

Round Four (am)	(pm)
AHP v. FAB	AHP v. CPA
ESP v. NGP	ESP v. FAB
GP v. PP	GP v. NGP
CPA bye	PP bye