



**THE VETERANS SQUASH RACKETS CLUB
OF GREAT BRITAIN**

PRESIDENT: Nigel Belle

CHAIR: Ian Graham

**MINUTES OF THE 63rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain
held at Colets Health and Fitness Club
on SUNDAY 18th OCTOBER 2026**

Present:	President	-	Nigel Belle
	Chair	-	Ian Graham
	Hon Treasurer	-	Robert Smith
	Hon Fixture Secretary	-	Nick Sheppard
	Committee Members	-	Karen Hume
			Ash Chakraborty
	Area Representative	-	Allen Barwise

22 members including the above attended the meeting: Chris Howes, Jane Belle, John Prestwich, Catherine Ruffle, Matt Clarke, Martin Fallows, Derek Wright, Mandy Akin, Karen Hume, Richard Winter, Chris Ansell, Paul Clarke, Nigel Bacon, Bryan Francis, Nigel Warr, Brian Brock.

Apologies for absence: Ros Featherstone, James Dubois.

1. Opening of AGM

The President opened the meeting at 12.00 noon and welcomed those present. He thanked his hard-working committee members for ensuring that we have a very successful, vibrant and financially stable club looking after nearly 400 members. The AGM took place at the annual tournament finals weekend with a buffet lunch.

Ash Chakraborty agreed to take the minutes of this meeting, approved by all those members present.

2. **Approval of 62nd AGM Minutes**

These minutes from 27th October 2025 had been posted on our website and emailed to all members. They were proposed by Nick Sheppard, seconded by Allen Barwise and carried unanimously that they were a true record.

3. **Matters Arising**

Nil.

4. **Approval of 2025 Accounts**

The Accounts for the year ending December 2025, show a marginal fall in overall membership revenue but encouragingly a continuing number of new members, so overall membership remains still close to 380.

In 2025 the Club continued their policy of utilising their funds to support the larger matches and tours which have been a great success in the last couple of years.

Reflecting a relatively small loss for the year the bank account remains in a healthy position, and the Club remains solidly financed for the future. They were proposed by Karen Hume, seconded by Ian Graham and carried unanimously that they were a true record.

5. **Chair's Annual Report 2025/26**

GBV have continued to thrive in the last year. Nothing particularly new but maintaining the successful fixture list and continuing to extend our geographic reach boundaries from York via Cardiff as far down as Chichester.

Tours remain popular as does Aubrey's 5 Q's, Nigel's Newsletters. Thanks to all those people who put the working parts of the Club together.

Our route forward has to be maintaining what is already working well. There will be another attempt to increase tournament numbers and make greater use of the website. We lose Nick Sheppard as our Fixture Secretary at the AGM and he has done a brilliant job in building our fixture list for the last 10 years. Not many players have the opportunity to play at Lords, Hurlingham, Fitzwilliam Dublin, HMS Temeraire et al. A sincere thanks to Nick for all the time he has spent doing this.

Finally, our playing numbers have been decreasing as members age but recruitment is going extremely well with 25 new members. The Club continues to have a group of dedicated committee members who make the whole thing work. My continued thanks to them all.

6. **Election of Officers**

The meeting was asked to approve the Club Officers en bloc as per the list below who had all agreed to stand again. It was proposed by Nick Sheppard, seconded by Mandy Akin and carried unanimously that the Officers below be elected:

President	Nigel Belle
Chair	Ian Graham
Hon Fixture Secretary	Wayne Beglan
Hon Treasurer	Robert Smith
Hon Secretary	Rosalind Featherstone
Tournament Director	TBA
Committee Members	Karen Hume Ash Chakraborty
Area Representatives	Allen Barwise (North) Ian Ross (Scotland) Lynne Davies (Wales) Andy Murray (Midlands)
ESM Representative	TBA

7. **Any Other Business**

Allen Barwise stated on his recent trip to the Jersey squash tournament, he was requested if The Veterans Squash Rackets Club of Great Britain could bring a team to Isle of Man next year. Allen is in the process of arranging this fixture.

Nick Sheppard also stated that ongoing discussions are taking place with fixtures in Cornwall and Hamburg.

President Nigel Belle in his closing remarks stated that the Club Championships have had extremely low turnouts from our members. He wished going forward, more members would participate in the Club Championships and return it, to its former glory. Nigel stated that 50 new members had joined in the last nearly 2 years and requested them to play in the tournaments as listed on the website. Nigel then went on to thank Nick Sheppard for his hard work and dedication over the last 10 years as the Hon Fixture Secretary.

8. **Closure of 63rd AGM**

There being no further business the President thanked all for attending and to enjoy the buffet food. The meeting closed at 12.15pm.

These minutes to be approved at the 64th AGM