



Minutes of the AGM held at The Civil Service Club
13-15 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HJ
on Tuesday 27th January 2026

The Secretary opened the meeting at 18:30

Present

Committee

Matthew Jones – Captain
Chris Sunderland - Vice-Captain
Darrell Lewis – President
Nick Archer – Treasurer
Neil Meixner – Secretary
Vacancy – Committee / Deputy Treasurer
Ken Adams – Committee / Young Guns
Neil Blundy – Committee / Social Events

Committee apologies: Fiona Watson & Jason Wood

Members in attendance were: - Steven Barker, Jon Coles, Jonathan Cross, Terry Dobbins, Joel Evans, Martyn Howie, Jamie King, Malcolm Marshall, Michael Salmon, Robert Seeley, James Steel, Steve Talbot, Gavin Tuck & David Wannerton

Apologies were received from Ian Abley, Chris Anderson, James Barrett, Mark Beer, John Bush, Peter Caneparo, Gary Dann, David Dickinson, Will Evans, Garry Fairbairn, Raja Flora, Michael Foster, Geoff Green, Andrew Hardy, Ro Harper, Digby Hebbard, Will Higgins, Ben Hurworth, Steve Hurworth, Steve Jones, Aidan Mahoney, Mitesh Patel, Adam Phillips, Jarlath Rooney, Josh Roughan, Guy Shorrocks, Iain Stevenson, Charles Twyman, James Whitworth & Keith Wilson

26 didn't reply at all.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 5th February 2025 were unanimously agreed.

2. Matters arising

The Secretary noted that under AOB he had undertaken to canvas members on the dress code for events. The question asked was "Should EPiC retain the current dress code for dinners/lunches?"

There were 41 respondents and the answers were

- 8 No, Smart Casual only
- 22 Yes, at selected events
- 11 Yes, except when the weather dictates.

So, 80% felt the current status should generally be maintained

3. Captain's Report

The captain read his report and those wishing to revisit it are able to do so on the website.

He highlighted the wins against BAGS and the draw against FOB despite most of the FOB's points being secured by EPiC members playing for the depleted FOB and the fantastic news that Nick Archer had won a trophy, that being the Recessionary Rose Bowl at Letchworth just last month after too many years to note here!!

Matt Jones said how much he enjoyed this year, thanked the Secretary and Treasurer and wished Chris Sunderland, Captain for 2026 a fantastic year!

4. Secretary's Report

The Secretary took his report as read.

He related the terrible news of the passing during the year of Steve Davies, who he had introduced. Steve was a live wire, and he will be much missed both around the golf course and the dinner table.

5. Membership

The Secretary outlined the current membership as 79 – 6 Honorary, 6 New Members since June 2025 (they get 2026 subscription included when they join), 44 paid up members as of today and 23 yet to pay their 2026 subscription. It was agreed that ~80 active members was a suitable number.

The following was discussed

- a. Who is eligible to join and the potential Rule Change for 2026 (See "Proposed EPiC Rule change for 2026") which was agreed subject to b below
- b. After some debate the consensus was that the joining procedure would be amended to include
 - i. It is up to the EPiC members to validate a prospective members eligibility prior to proposing them.

- ii. Recruitment at events of new members must be done through the inviting member. i.e. The EPiC Member must be the instigator of said application and not an invite at the event by the Captain or Secretary.
- iii. From time-to-time, EPiC is approached by word of mouth, the website or social media by a potential member who is potentially not known by existing members. In these cases, the Secretary will contact existing members to see if anyone can vouch for the potential member, if so then they will be invited to join. If not, The Secretary will assess their suitability and consult with the committee and provided these checks are satisfactory the potential member will be invited to attend a meeting as a guest and play with a senior member prior to being formally invited to join EPiC

6. Treasurer's Report, Charity & Accounts

The Treasurer's Report was taken as read. The Treasurer highlighted that the new system of booking through the website had made the accounting process so much easier and expected that to improve again this year now that subscriptions are done there as well.

The Treasurer proposed an additional £1,000 be added to the BHF contributions for the healthy EPiC account to supplement the £2,500 raised by members throughout the year. Agreed unanimously.

The Secretary reminded all present that, if possible, do not use PayPal on the website as it costs EPiC at least 1% more. He reiterated that if there was a business need then of course use PayPal.

Invoices/Receipts can be provided on request by the Secretary

7. 2027 Subscription

After some debate the subscription for 2027 will remain as £50

ALL members should endeavour to introduce at least one, preferably young, new member to the Society.

8. 2026 Programme

Pretty much complete. See website for latest updates

Please put the dates in your diaries.

9. 50th Anniversary Celebrations

Steven Barker and Darrell Lewis gave a brief rundown that the Charity day would be held at Moor Park and they were proposing using the West Course as it's an easier "society" course and is cheaper therefore maximising profit to the Charities which would be split between the BHF and Steven Barker's Captains Charity, likely to be related to cancer, but yet to be confirmed.

Steven would be getting the Charity Committee together but instantly got and confirmed the offer from Chris Sunderland to be on committee.

10. Succession Planning

The Treasurer and Secretary reaffirmed they would stay on to see the 50th celebrations to conclusion and that Neil Blundy was still willing to take on the secretarial role in a minimum 2 years' time so the timing could work!!

The planning for Treasurer needs more work.

11. WHS System and Penalty proposals

The Secretary informed the meeting that the website see <https://www.epicgolfsociety.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/World-Handicap-EPiC-Rules-Rev-Feb-2025.pdf> contains all a member needs to know on how handicaps are determined.

However the Secretary did agree that the Penalty system although agreed at previous AGM's was not posted on the website and he undertook to do so asap.

12. Website, Social Media etc

Website – Change of Management and way forward (See "Website Report 2026") – The Secretary presented the report as read, thanking all members for their support during the last year as there had inevitably been teething problems. It was agreed that a gift should be presented to the Secretary's nephew as a token of our appreciation in providing a free service both hosting and troubleshooting the website for EPiC.

Social Media Report – (See "Social Media Report and 2026 targets"). The report was taken as read with the Chris Sunderland reiterating the salient points. It was agreed that LinkedIn should be the primary social media outlet.

13. Social Events

Messrs Blundy, Sunderland and Caldecourt had all undertaken to expand the offer to at least 3 events one of which would be a Xmas dinner.

14. President's Thoughts

The president outlined the importance of the BHF to him, stating that he had met them and intended to do a formal "photo opportunity" handover of a cheque for the monies raised.

He thanked everyone involved in publishing the "History of EPiC".

The President supported the introduction of a "Past Captains" Event which on consideration by the attendees was agreed to be extended to last year's trophy winners.

15. Appointment of Officers, Vice-Presidents, and Committee

The Committee proposed that the officers for 2026 be as follows: -

- a. Chris Sunderland - Captain
- b. Steven Barker – Vice -Captain
- c. Darrell Lewis – President
- d. Nick Archer – Treasurer
- e. Neil Meixner – Secretary
- f. Vacancy – Committee / Deputy Treasurer
- g. Ken Adams – Committee / Deputy Secretary
- h. Neil Blundy – Committee
- i. Fiona Watson – Committee
- j. Matthew Jones – Committee
- k. Matthew Caldecourt – Committee

The appointment of the Officers and Committee was carried unanimously.

The Secretary wished Jason Wood, who was stepping down this year after sterling service to EPiC and noted that there was a vacancy for the Deputy Treasurer position.

The Secretary proposed to reintroduce formal committee meetings before guests arrive at Ashridge on 13th May and Essendon on 8th July

16. New Captains thoughts and Tour Update

Chris Sunderland stated what an honour it was to be Captain for 2026 and that new venues had been introduced this year which he was sure would be well supported. He thanked Matt Jones for an amazing year and hoped all would enjoy 2026 as much.

During this the tour was discussed with definitely two perhaps three slots still to fill, Steve Talbot immediately offered his services. Which were accepted!!

17. AOB

- a. Bush Trophy – The President and Secretary, after consultation with John Bush, decided not to award the trophy this year and bring it to the AGM for sanction. The President proposed that it would be awarded from time to time to a member who had displayed exceptional commitment to EPiC over an extended period. The meeting approved this proposal.
- b. Mystery Trophy – The Secretary and Treasurer informed the meeting that a trophy had been discovered in the archive, which on investigation appears to be awarded to the Captain of the winning team on tour. It has only been engraved up to 2014, so the Secretary needs to do a bit of research and add to the trophy count on the website, history and elsewhere.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at approximately 20:32.

Following on from the meeting the following replica trophies were presented by Matt Jones – Please see the website Blog for details

Jubilee Cup – Martyn Howie

Captains Cup – Chris Sunderland

Recessionary Bowl – Nick Archer