



Five Towns' Quiz League – AGM Minutes

1st September 2025 – Held at Carleton Grange

Teams in Attendance:

Team	Att	Team	Att	Team	Att
Featherstone Phoenix	Y	The Vic	Y	The Dudes	Y
Kippax British Legion	Y	The Other Team	Y	Carleton Grangers	Y
Lofthouse Lions	Y	Olde Tavern	Y		
Kings Arms	Y	Olde Tavern Allsorts	Y		
Kippax Legionnaires	Y	Flanagan's Army	Y		

#	Item	Detail	Actions
1	Open	The meeting opened at 8:10pm and a register of teams was taken. Please see table above for attendance.	
2	Apologies	There were no apologies received.	
3	Balance Sheet	Stuart Topps (ST) explained that the finances were in a good shape and that we had made a profit of around £300 over the course of the season. All teams had paid their subscriptions and the question setter had been paid also. ST also explained the sponsorship of a barrel at the Selby Beer Festival had taken place. The closing balance was £1,754.57. John Grasham (JG) asked if there had been any progress on getting online banking and ST confirmed that this wasn't possible with the account we hold.	
4	Subscriptions and Finance	As detailed above, the league is in a good financial position with a profit for the year however the sponsorship from Layer's Cleaning will cease, meaning we will have £300 less this season. The Committee thank Layer's for their continued support over a number of years. Given the financial position and even without the sponsorship the league would have turned a small profit, it was agreed to keep the subscriptions at £6 per team per playing week for the 2025/26 season. The cost of £40 for a photographer for finals' night was questioned and it was agreed to try and do this 'in-house' going forward.	
5	Committee	All committee members were willing to continue on the committee, this was proposed and seconded and passed unanimously. The new position of League President has been created and Simon Curtis was nominated and seconded and this was passed unanimously. Owing to other commitments, Neil Aspland (NA) asked to step down from his statistician role. Dave Roach (DR) agreed to	



		take this over as a non-committee role. NA to remain on the committee.	
6	Teams for 2025/26	(Please note that this was item 7 in the agenda however it was felt this was better placed to be discussed before the format of the league.) All 12 teams from the 2024/25 season confirmed that they will continue and that existing captains remain. Flanagan's Army have changed their name to The Shoulder of Mutton. Two new teams have emerged this season from a mixture of new and existing players. 1. The Smeaton Scholars, playing out of The Shoulder of Mutton in Kirk Smeaton, captained by Ken Glew. 2. The Oat Crackers, playing out of The Mason's Arms, Ackworth, captained in the interim by Debby Aspland. It was noted that quiz leagues tend to be shrinking rather than growing so it is a great reflection of the league that we will run with 14 teams this season. Welcome to the new teams and any new players.	
7	Format of the League	The proposal was to retain the split-league format whereby all teams are placed in one division with it splitting in half mid-season to form Division 1 and Division 2. Dave Oldfield (DO) proposed that the league revert back to the two league format from the start to avoid weaker teams having to play against stronger teams. This was seconded by Helen Topps (HT). A vote was held and the proposal was rejected with 2 for and 10 against. Therefore, the split-league format will remain for the 2025/26 season. A second proposal was made by JG (on behalf of an absent team member) to reset the points to zero at the mid-way point meaning that both Division 1 and Division 2 teams will start from scratch when the league splits. Points in favour of this are: • Helps keep the league fresh with no clear winners emerging at the half-way point. • D1 and D2 teams will only be judged against their divisional peers. Points against: • Seemed as unfair to teams who do well in H1 • The final tables will only be based on roughly one-third of the season's matches. After a healthy debate, it was agreed to keep the existing format whereby H1 points remain in H2. There was also a discussion about H2 and byes. With seven teams in each division, there will be a bye week for each team. It was agreed that if the two teams affected each week want to	IM to formulate the fixtures on this basis



		play a friendly with that week's questions, they could, subject to the payment of the usual match fees. Matches would be played on a handicap basis, based off the H1 results.	
8	Questions	Dave Bill (DB) opened this section with confirmation that Rob, the question setter, was happy to continue at the existing rate of pay. He also explained how good a setter he is and gave recent examples of other leagues where the questions were of a much lower standard. NA made a proposal that on link questions, any part of the answer that forms part of the link should be in bold. A recent example being Rupert Brooke being an answer with Brooke being in bold however Rupert was the part that formed the link of fictional bears, perhaps creating confusion. It was agreed to feed back to Rob to ensure links are relevant to the part being written down as the answer. Ben Middleton (BM) proposed to remove the fifth question from rounds to help stop stronger teams being so dominant against weaker teams. After discussion, this was rejected. Some other general points were: • Questions are sometimes a little wordy • Questions should have pronunciation guides for difficult words • Alternate correct answers should be given where possible After SC stepped down, the issue of who would print, package and distribute the questions was raised. DB confirmed that his company would print and package and once they were sealed, he would deliver them.	DB to feed back to Rob DB to feed back to Rob
9	Rules Changes	The first proposed rule change was to move the start time earlier to either 8:00 or 8:15pm. After much discussion, this was rejected and a start time of 8:30 will remain although teams are reminded to be there in plenty of time for a prompt start. DB proposed that all non-written questions should have a time limit of 30 seconds to ensure quizzes do not go on for longer than necessary. After much debate, it was agreed to change this to 45 seconds for the first answer and 15 seconds for any subsequent pass overs. A prompt after 30 seconds should be given and question readers should be strict about sticking to the time limits given. HT raised the issue that players who arrive late have sometimes been refused to join once the quiz has started. This does not form part of the official rules so it is reiterated that the spirit of the game should be applied and allow players to join late if needed.	Captains: Remind players to arrive on time Captains: Feed back to question readers
10	League Promotion and Inter-	JG has been in conversation with three other quiz leagues in West Yorkshire (Colne Valley, Calderdale and Airedale) to propose a summer competition between the four leagues,	



	League 'Champion's League' Tournament	consisting of 6 rounds with each league organising their home questions. Teams would be made up of four players and anyone who played in the season is eligible. It was agreed that this was a great way to boost engagement and JG should continue to progress and feed back at the mid-season meeting.	JG to progress and feed back
11	Key Dates	Pre-season Charity Night – 22nd September at Featherstone Hotel. Starts at 8pm. Please bring a raffle prize along and consider which charity to support. Season start – 29th September Winter break – 22nd and 29th December	All: Bring a raffle prize
12	AOB	All teams should take a picture of the answer/score sheet and send via the WhatsApp group as soon as possible after the end of their match. Please speak to the opposing team if this isn't possible as we hope at least one player from the 8 playing will have access. Duncan Cooper (DC) asked that if or more friendlies could be arranged between the FTQL and the Dearne Quiz League to help engagement for both leagues. DC to send full details over to IM and we will promote.	Captains: Ensure score sheets are sent DC to send IM details
13	Close	The meeting closed at 9:50	