

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

**To be held at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 23 September 2026
at Heaton Sports Club (HMRUFC)**

1. League Committee

Re-election of the current committee for the 2026–2027 season:

Andrea Clarkson – Chair

Charlotte Bulmer – Treasurer

Mike Wagstaffe – Website

Greg Spiller, Alice Walker – Question papers

Barrie Atkinson – Committee member

John Palmer has decided to step down from the committee. Our thanks go to John for his work over the years on behalf of the league. A volunteer is required to replace John on the committee.

The following will remain as signatories to the Vernon Building Society account:

Charlotte Bulmer, Mike Wagstaffe, Barrie Atkinson, John Palmer

2. Financial Matters

Subs for the 2026–2027 season will remain at £40 per team.

The webmaster is to be reimbursed £110.46 for payments already made for website hosting (one year) and domain name registration (two years).

We need to choose a new charity for the 2026–2027 season. Nominations will close on 4 December 2026, with a decision to be made at the Christmas Quiz (one team, one vote).

3. Last Season (2025–2026)

The following are confirmed as winners/runners-up in 2025–2026:

	Winners	Runners-up
League	Smart Alex	Alexandra
Dave Badley Cup	Swan & Railway	HMRUFC
Plate	Tiviot	Alexandra
WIST Champions Cup	Smart Alex	Albert
Fred Woolley Trophy (Christmas Quiz)	Alexandra	N/A
John O'Neill Trophy (Presentation Night Quiz)	Swan & Railway	N/A
WIST Cup (pre-season friendly)	Stockport	Withington

4. 2026–2027 Season

(a) Teams

All eight teams have confirmed their participation in the new season, so there will be no changes to the format of any competitions. A team intending to change venue should do so before the start of the season.

(b) League programme

The league programme will run for eighteen weeks. Each team will play fourteen league games (seven home, seven away) with four bye weeks, on two of which the team will set questions.

(c) Knockout competitions

As last season, the knockout will consist of a qualifying phase, comprising two groups of four (randomly allocated) teams. Each team will play the three other teams in its group, once at home and once away.

Group placings will be determined by group points, then by average score (including handicap), and then, if required, by head-to-head results (including handicap). The Dave Badley Cup semi-finals will be contested by the two group winners and two runners-up. The third and fourth-placed teams will contest the Plate semi-finals. All semi-finals will be determined by a random draw.

(d) WIST Champions Cup

There will be no changes from last season's format for the WIST Champions Cup, with the quarter- and semi-finals played on Thursdays. This means these dates (3 December and 11 February) will be quiz-free for teams not taking part. The final is *provisionally* scheduled for **Wednesday 5 May 2027**. The Stockport League will be represented by Smart Alex, Alexandra and Swan & Railway. It is assumed that the Tiviot will decline their place, so it will be offered to the Armoury. This season it is the Stockport League's turn to set the questions, so volunteers are needed.

(e) Question setting

For league matches, each team will set questions on two of its four bye weeks. Question setters are responsible for delivering a question paper to each venue, ideally by the Tuesday of that week.

For each of the six weeks of knockout qualifying group games two of the teams in both groups will set half-a-quiz for the other group. This will require every team to produce a half-quiz on **three** occasions during the qualifying phase. Questions for the Dave Badley Cup semi-finals will be set by the two teams that finish fourth in their qualifying group. Similarly, questions for the Plate semi-finals will be set by the two teams that are runners-up in the qualifying groups. As usual, questions for the Dave Badley Cup final will be set by the two Plate finalists and *vice versa*.

For all games (except the knockout finals) a spare question paper should be left at the Alexandra. Andrea and Ali (Smart Alex) have generously offered to set/present the Christmas quiz, whilst Barrie Atkinson (Alexandra) has kindly volunteered to set our share of the questions for the pre-season friendly against the Withington League. We are still looking for someone to set/present the quiz at the end-of-season Presentation Night in May.

(f) Pre-season friendly

The pre-season friendly against the Withington League will be at 8.30 p.m. on Thursday 8 October at the [Parrs Wood Inn](#). The Stockport team, going for an unprecedented fourth consecutive win, will comprise players from Alexandra, Swan & Railway and Smart Alex. Spectators are welcome.

(g) Communication

The WhatsApp group seems to have worked well so far and will continue as the primary means of communication within the league.

5. Dates for the 2026–2027 season

Pre-season friendly v WithQuiz: Thursday 8 October 2026 (venue Parrs Wood Inn)

First matches (KO qualifying games, week 1): Thursday 15 October 2026

Christmas Quiz: Thursday 17 December 2026 (MCs Andrea and Ali, venue TBC)

No matches on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve

Knockout finals: Thursday 13 May 2027 (venue TBC)

End-of-season Presentation Night: Thursday 20 May 2027 (MC TBC, venue TBC)

'European' nights (free nights for non-participants):

Thursday 3 December 2026; Thursday 11 February 2027; **Wednesday 5 May 2027**

6. Any other business