



SWINDON & DISTRICT TENNIS LEAGUE

Minutes of Annual General Meeting, 22nd November 2005, at The Bell, Ramsbury

Present:

Amelia Tester	Chair / Ramsbury	Tony Spearpoint	Lechlade
Ralph Harding	President /Aldbourne	Bill Cook	Minety
Dale Burr	Treasurer / AK	Simon Hinton	Minety
Richard Vernon	Match Sec / A K	David Allsop	Nationwide
David Lukens	Secretary / WBTC	Theresa Allsop	Nationwide
Neil Allen	Committee / Swindon	Matthew Popham	Pewsey
Penny Clanchy	Sec, Wilts LTA	Roger Henry	Ramsbury/W League
Louise Crawford	Burbage	Alex Scott	Ramsbury
Dave Morris	Burbage	Peter Willetts	Ramsbury
Geoffrey White	Chiseldon	Paul Casey	Swindon
Geoff Bush	CS & Nalگو	Beryl Watts	Swindon
Hans Monahan	Devizes	Tony Robb	Wanborough
Bill Wells	Great Bedwyn	Dawn Hopkins	Wanborough
Steve Tapper	Gt Bedwyn	Martin Warnes	Wootton Bassett
Mike Taylor	Highworth	Liz Lewis	Wootton Bassett
Phil Robson	Highworth		

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Peter Hartland (Life Member /AK), Helen Cliff (Cricklade), Julia Hunt (Life Member) & Hilda Moore (Marlborough).

2. **Minutes of last AGM** were agreed.

3. **Matters Arising:** Life Members have received all mailings over the year.

4. **Chair's Report** Amelia Tester reported that we had won the Inter League Challenge, beating the Chippenham League 5-3 in the Men's and 6-2 in the Ladies. She thanked our team of Jon Page, Aaron Knowles, Rob Negus, Jon Wyles, Gemma Casey, Becky Poole, Angie Baldock and Rachel Popham.

Thanks were due to Wanborough and Chiseldon for hosting a very successful Presentation Evening, Roger Henry for organising the Winter League, the committee for their work over the year and Richard Vernon in particular for the always reliable results service.

Last season has been most enjoyable with lots of very competitive matches. Some matches were marred by instances of racket abuse. Amelia asked that any behaviour which contravenes the spirit of the league should be reported to her.

5. **Treasurer's Report** Dale Burr reported that the accounts looked healthy. 2 years income from presentation evenings had been recorded. £25 had been donated to charity in memory of John Ford of the Chippenham league who had died in a road accident in 2005.

6. **Match Secretary's report** Richard Vernon reported that a very competitive season resulted in none of the Div 1 titles decided until August. The relegation battle in Men's Div 1 was also very tight, with five teams all finishing with five wins each.

Three teams withdrew during the season: Shrivenham from Mixed Div 3 in Week 3, unfortunately leaving only 6 teams in that division, Gt Bedwyn B from Men's Div 5 in Week 9, and Highworth D from Men's Div 6 in Week 10.

There were only 4 conceded matches in addition to those of the three teams that withdrew. Very few ineligible players were played and only 20 result-sheet fines this year compared to 23 last year.

The new Bank Holiday rules seemed to work well, although one team failed to turn up on August 1st for an automatically-rescheduled match, claiming that they didn't know about the rule. There were a couple of instances of teams trying to change an agreed re-arranged date just a day or two before the match. Rules are a little vague here, but an agreed date should not be changed later than a week before the match, if at all.

7. Presentation Evening It was noted that the very healthy profit from this year's was due largely to Wanborough and Chiseldon doing their own catering. Thanks were extended to those responsible. Swindon and Nationwide will organise next year's and Aldbourne and Burbage in 2007.

8. Announcement of Life Members Geoff Bush was nominated by the Committee and presented with a certificate. No nominations were received from the clubs.

9. Election of Officers The current officers and committee were elected en bloc (proposed Geoff Bush, Seconded Dawn Hopkins)

Chair: Amelia Tester, **Secretary:** David Lukens, **Treasurer:** Dale Burr, **Match Secretary:** Richard Vernon, **Committee:** Bryan Archer & Neil Allen

10. Nominations for President Ralph Harding was nominated by Richard Vernon and seconded by Amelia Tester. No other nominations were made.

11. Inter-league Challenge Match Amelia Tester offered to organise next year's. Richard Vernon thanked Jon Wyles of Pewsey for stepping in at the last minute this year.

12. Entry Fees, Club Deposits and Fines will stay at the same rate for next season.

13. Starter Tennis Donation Roger Henry thanked the league for their donation of £100 this year to Wilts Mini Tennis. It was agreed to give £150 this year in view of the extra profits.

14. Any Other Business

Roger Henry asked that the Winter League should be on next year's agenda and proposed that the winter league organiser should join the committee. This was agreed. He clarified an ambiguity in the rules – matches can only be re-arranged in the event of bad weather (not because of problems raising a team).

Martin Warnes (WBTC) felt that the floodlights at Chiseldon were not of an acceptable standard. It was recognised that nothing could be done for this season and, unless conditions were dangerous, they should be regarded as the same for both sides.

Tony Spearpoint (Lechlade) asked if the league could address the issue of foot-faulting. It was recognised that only an umpire could call a foot-fault but it was in the spirit of the league to mention it to a persistent offender. Amelia Tester offered to send out some guidelines with the club packs next year.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

David Lukens – League Secretary