



SWINDON & DISTRICT TENNIS LEAGUE

Minutes of Annual General Meeting Gerard Buxton Sports Ground, Brinkworth Road, Royal Wootton Bassett. SN4 8DS Wednesday 17th November 2021 7.00pm

2020 Committee	Club represented	2020 Committee	Club represented
Neil Allen	Chair – Swindon	Janet Saunders	Secretary - Purton
Jackie Wood	League Administrator – R Wootton Bassett	Charlie Foster	David Lloyd
Lindsey Hall	Treasurer – Purton	Steve Williams (Not present)	Nationwide
Andy Dickinson	Administrator - Minety		
Clubs Represented			
Aldbourne	Hugh Bland	Lechlade	Ian Heskins Kate Trotter
Ashton Keynes	Greg Buckle	Marlborough	Neil Emery
Burbage	[Fine for non-attendance]	Minety	Andy Dickinson
Calne	Jackie Barnett	Nalgo	Jane Halstead
Chippenham	[Fine for non-attendance]	Nationwide House	Apologises [Fine for non-attendance]
Chiseldon	Sue Turner	PAKT	Martin Cowell Pasquale Mazzotta
David Lloyd	Charlie Foster	Pewsey	Keith Hampson
Defence Academy	Richard Tudor	Purton	Janet Saunders Lindsey Hall
Devizes	Apologises [Fine for non-attendance]	Ramsbury	David Langton
Down Ampney	[Not currently competing]	Royal Wootton Bassett	David Lukens Anna Green Kirsten Walker Liz Lewis
Fairford	Paul Gardner Richard Harrison	Shrivenham	Apologies [Not currently competing]
Faringdon	Adrian Noke	Swindon	Neil Allen Lucie Barrass
Great Bedwyn	Bill Wells Steve Tapper	Uffington	Annabel Campbell Anne Hollingworth
Highworth	[Fine for non-attendance]	Wanborough	[Fine for non-attendance]

	Item	Main action/discussion points	Action by:
1.	Attendance & apologies for absence	Neil Allen welcomed everyone to the meeting, and announced for those who had not already heard, that sadly, Roger Witt (a	

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		<p>referee and the Wiltshire Tennis Competition Organiser) and Simon Hutchings (Aldbourn TC) have both died recently.</p> <p>Our thoughts are with their families at this sad time.</p> <p>Apologies received from: Robert Tapsfield – Shrivenham TC Karen Perrett – Devizes Tennis Club Steve Williams – Nationwide House</p>	
2.	Minutes of last AGM (24 Nov 2020)	<p>The minutes of the 2020 AGM were distributed prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.</p>	<p>Proposed: B Wells Seconded: R Tudor</p>
3.	Chair's Report Neil Allen	<p>The Chair reported that Winter League 2020/1 was not completed due to Covid restrictions.</p> <p>The Summer League went ahead as planned and the Winter 2021/2 is currently under way.</p> <p>The Presentation Night hosted by Royal Wootton Bassett Tennis Club was a great success and thanks to those involved. It was particularly nice to have Ethel Hutchings, our president presenting the trophies.</p> <p>Wanborough sadly did not collect their trophy.</p> <p>Neil thanked the committee for their hard work; Lindsey who looks after the finances, Charlie and Steve for helping on the committee; Janet (who is stepping down as secretary - and a replacement is needed); but particularly Jackie and Andy for the huge amount of work they do.</p> <p>Neil also mentioned Richard Vernon, who is not on the committee but creates the undertakes the league sorts.</p>	
4.	League Report Jackie Wood	<p>Jackie reported that last year's winter league was abandoned due to Covid, with barely a third of matches played.</p> <p>Entries for the Summer league were lower than pre Covid – with 22 clubs entering 112 teams in total. Seven teams withdrew before the start of the season, but once play started, the season went fairly well.</p> <p>Division 1 winners were: Men – Pewsey A, Ladies – Swindon A and Mixed - Swindon A.</p> <p>Fines were only £46.</p> <p>There were a few issues with ineligible players. Captains are encouraged to check the SDTL website for eligible players and any rule queries.</p> <p>The Winter League 2021/22 had 39 teams from 19 clubs entered and will have a longer break over the Christmas period. (As requested at the 2019 AGM). Matches are due to finish just before February half term.</p> <p>The latest version of the Tournament Software has removed the ability for clubs to add new players. This now must be performed by an administrator. Please email either Jackie or Andy.</p>	

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		There was a query from the floor, (Paul Gardner) asking why a player cannot play twice in the same week. A proposal may be brought to the next AGM where a 2/3 majority is needed to change the rule.	
5.	Treasurer's Report Lindsey Hall	<p>The treasurer's report was distributed at the meeting. Lindsey reported that the years accounts were skewed by the cancellation of previous seasons. Summer fees were down, as clubs were credited from last year and only one lot of engraving was done on the trophies.</p> <p>Overall, we have an excess of income over expenditure of -£405.87 but the account is £24 better off than 2 years ago.</p> <p>A donation of £200 has been given to Wiltshire Tennis Juniors.</p> <p>It was noted that the LTA Tournament Software costs are covered by the teams' entry fees.</p>	Proposed: N Emery Seconded: L Barrass
6.	Election of Officers	<p>Neil Allen, Jackie Wood, Andy Dickinson, Lindsey Hall, Charlie Foster - all standing for Committee.</p> <p>Neil Allen will stand and stay as Chair for one more year only. He will definitely be stepping down at the next AGM. Steve Williams may stand for Committee this year but was unable to attend the meeting.</p> <p>Lucie Barrass volunteered to be secretary.</p>	Proposed: P Mazotta Seconded: S Tapper
7.	Nominations for Life Members	David Lukens was nominated in recognition for his long service as SDTL Secretary and Chair, along with all his work to implement the LTA online system.	Proposed: J Wood Seconded: N Allen
8.	Annual Presentation Evening	<p>Neil thanked RWB again for hosting this year. Jackie reported that a donation from the raffle proceeds has been sent to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance.</p> <p>Aldbourn had previously offered to host in 2022, however this may not be the case now. Hugh Bland will report back</p>	Aldbourn
9.	Entry Fees, club deposits, fines	<p>Club deposits will be scrapped.</p> <p>Entry Fees and fines will remain the same.</p>	Approved by show of hands
10.	Donations	Treasurer recommended that a £200 donation be sent to LTA Wiltshire juniors.	Proposed: A Noke Seconded: K Walker
11.	Proposed Rule Changes by Committee	A full mark-up of the proposed rule changes and a paper on changes to the player database were circulated to clubs prior to the meeting.	

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	<p>Rule tidy-up:</p> <p><i>1.e. Any team withdrawing after the initial sort is published shall forfeit its entry fees.</i></p> <p><i>1.i. The LTA Tournament software will be used to administer leagues.</i></p> <p><i>1.l. Clubs will be charged a £4.00 entry fee for each team entered in a league.</i></p> <p><i>1.m. Clubs will be charged a £2.50 fee on each league entry to pay for raffle prizes at the annual presentation evening.</i></p>	<p>Approved by show of hands.</p>
	<p>Single pair match postponed due to bad weather:</p> <p><i>5.h In the event of a team fielding one pair at the point a match is postponed due to inclement weather, then when the match is rescheduled that team may only field one pair.</i></p> <p>The rule change was challenged by P Mazotta and R Harrison. After much discussion, a vote was held.</p> <p>It was recommended that the Committee should look to strengthen the postponement of matches to ensure it is by mutual agreement of both captains.</p>	<p>Rejected by a show of hands.</p>
	<p>LTA Advantage Player Database:</p> <p>The LTA are keen to get all players registered with LTA Advantage and start to engage with the World Tennis Number (WTN). To this end in the latest version of the tournament software the ability for clubs to add new players has been removed. The feature is still open to administrators, but this is an extra burden on them.</p> <p>The committee feel the league should be embracing the WTN anyway.</p> <p>Under the proposal everyone will need to be registered with LTA Advantage. Players only need to register once and can be affiliated to more than one club.</p> <p>For a match to count toward the WTN all players will need to be registered. Players using the LTA player site will be able to use their WTN to find players of a similar standard to play against socially. More details can be found on the LTA web site.</p> <p>It is proposed that the LTA Player Database be implemented in the 2022 Summer league.</p> <p><i>1.j. The League will be compliant with and support the World Tennis Number (WTN) scheme.</i></p> <p><i>1.k. All players participating in the league must be registered with LTA Advantage.</i></p> <p><i>6.d. If a player is not registered with LTA Advantage when results are entered, the league will permit “unknown player” to be used temporarily until that player is registered.</i></p> <p><i>6.e. When entering an unknown player, the user must complete the comment field with their name.</i></p> <p><i>6.f. The person entering an unknown player for the opposition must inform their captain by email, text or by phone within 72 hours of the scheduled match and request they be registered.</i></p> <p><i>6.g. Unknown player entries must be replaced by the offending team with the registered players details within 10 days of the scheduled match.</i></p>	<p>Approved by show of hands</p>

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		<p><i>6.h. Failure by the offending team to replace unknown player(s) within 10 days of the scheduled match date with a registered player entry will result in the player(s) being classed as ineligible and rule 8.a) below will be invoked.</i></p> <p><i>6.i. The match result must not be confirmed until all registered players are entered.</i></p>	
12.	Proposed Rule Changes by Clubs	<p>Keith Hampson said that he had calculated that travelling to away matches and the use of floodlights created around 6 tons of CO2. Proceeds would go to a recognised body, not necessarily the same each year.</p> <p><i>1.n. To off-set the emissions produced as a result of travelling to league matches, each team will be charged a £2.00 emissions levy in Summer and Winter leagues. All monies raised from this levy will be invested in a registered carbon off-setting scheme.</i></p> <p>Sue Turner pointed out that non-LED flood lighting lamps will be illegal in a few years' time.</p> <p><i>[post meeting note – is this only new installations and lamp replacements or does this apply to existing installations. Clubs need to check.]</i></p>	Approved by show of hands
13.	AOB	<p>Questions asked about forming a Facebook / social media group for clubs to keep in contact with each other, ask questions and exchange ideas. The existing Facebook page “Swindon District Tennis League” can be used for this.</p> <p>The LTA website has lots of information and advice, which should provide the answer to most queries. Clubs can also contact the regional LTA rep for further information.</p> <p>Enquiry was raised about having the next AGM on Zoom as well as in person. It was decided that it was too difficult to achieve this as it would be hard to capture the comments from the audience and hear the online participants.</p> <p>Score sheets: Committee will investigate reorganising the layout.</p>	

Meeting ended 8.45pm