



MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 16th October 2017

8.00 pm at the Squash Club

PRESENT

Committee: John Croft (Chairman), Chris Thain (Treasurer), Caroline Winning (Membership Secretary & Secretary), Richard Morris, Will Burke, Mark Gates, Mary Scott-Miller, Mark Groves Gidney

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Doug Hulse, Rollo Bramwell, Miles Montelius, Chris Winning, Dale Curtis, Alan Nicholson

2. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

These were proposed and approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising.

4. NOTES FROM NICK DONALD RE ENGLAND SQUASH

Each member's annual membership fee includes membership to England Squash (£7.50 per member).

Each member should know what they are getting for that i.e. What value does ES provide for you and other 40K members? It was felt that communication has been extremely poor over the last number of years.

On Nov.11 there will be a vote re new Articles of Association to ensure compliance with Sport England Code of Governance.

Sport England (SE) who lay down the rules for the National Government Bodies (NGB) believed that ES was not fit for purpose, nor their decision making. They advised that to be eligible for funding they need to change their Board. Furthermore, certain criteria need to be met:

- To lead and support growth of squash and racket ball in England, focus on recruiting and retaining more players and developing talent and elite, high performance squash
- Team of less than 20 execs located in Manchester
- Board of 10 – CEO + 9 non-execs, supported by Council of 38 counties of which one is Kent
- Receives funding from SE via Nat Lottery. Funding is for a 4-year cycle and we are just in a new one (2017-21)

- ES will receive a grant of £8m (v £14m in last 4-year cycle) – c 5m is for core mkt/grass roots and £2m for talent and £800K for elite squash. No capital grants. It's about getting people to play and retaining them.
- Tennis and table tennis are the same, badminton materially less. Squash not Olympic sport so no material funding from UK Sport
- 2017 – income £4m - £ 3m from SE, commercial negligible and Membership fees £300K

New membership scheme is being rolled out and there will be an increase to £10 per member on 1st December 2017. The package will offer:

- Comprehensive Insurance (player and club)
- 'Squash Levels'
- Content – not just squash player magazine
- Technology platform
- Discounts with trading partners

Nick was happy to take any feedback regarding ES.

5. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Subscription fees remained the same as last year. We offered a further membership category, this being a half price membership for the wife/partner of a full member. Any junior 18 years and under whose parent pays a full membership, retains free membership.

Your club membership also includes fees to England Squash and Kent SRA. We have to pay for any playing members within the club. This is currently £7.50 per adult and £5 for juniors to England Squash, and £7.50 for adults and £1 for juniors to Kent SRA. Both these fees are likely to increase in the next year.

Following the request for renewals, due on 1st July, we lost 40 members this year.

- 12 members moved away or went to Uni
- 3 left due to work and time pressures
- 1 left due to injury
- 24 members left without reason or no response to emails or phone calls

Previous years have seen 41 last year, 50 in 2015, 32 in 2014 and 35 in 2013.

As of today, we have 207. Generally speaking what we lose each year, we gain back by the end of the next membership year.

Junior	32
Student	9
Under 26	7
Full	132
Remote	3
Social	18
Honorary (no fee)	5
Coach (no fee)	1

6. TEAM SQUASH

- 4 teams for the winter team – 1st team in Division 1, 2nd team in Division 2, 3rd team in Division 4, 4th team in Division 5. 4th team will be a development team run by RM consisting of juniors, ladies and U35's members.
- Summer team – 2 teams in Division 1.
- Overall team squash is thriving.

JUNIOR SQUASH

- The junior Sunday coaching continues to prosper as does the West Kent Box league, where the juniors get to put into practice their squash skills in a competitive environment. The Box League is rotated monthly between TWSRC, St John's, Limpsfield, Knole Park and Poulthwood. TWSRC has around 14 members. In the last Box League, TWSRC had the top 3 best players – Jemima & Will Morris and Thomas Ballard
- Sunday squash (3-5pm) continues to be well supported
- There are 2 junior teams running (Saturday afternoon matches) with 8 team players.
- County – last year Jemima Morris got to the final of the Kent Girls U17 Counties.
- Inter-County – Thomas Ballard and Will MORii played in U15's in Solihull, and Jemima played in the U17's
- Wish to engage more with schools in the coming year to attract more juniors.
- RM thanked Jolyon Head and Dean Newberry for supporting the juniors through the year with coaching
- RM would also like to get some more Level 1 coaches and is waiting for a London-Southeast coaching opportunity.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

- CT advised that accounts were independently reviewed and approved by Chris Winning and was thanked for this.
- Whilst the accounts showed a £6k loss, this was due to extraordinary things to account for, the main thing being maintenance and refurbishing - £26k (ladies changing room and courts)
- The club received a grant from TWBC of £3k, mainly to help with the refurbishment of the ladies changing rooms
- The club also received a net rate rebate of £4.5k. Going forward the club no longer has to pay business rates.
- With an adjustment of all these, the club would have shown a profit of around £7k (v £1k last year)
- Income this year is up £4.5k (fees, bar profit, light cards)
- Net assets of circa £10k
- CT advised that there were no definite decisions around expenditure over the coming year so the expectation would be that assets will increase next year.

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- JC talked about his Chairmanship over the last 6 years and highlighted to the membership what has been achieved:

- Refurbish club premises
- Updated both changing rooms
- Built the patio area
- Major refurbishment of all courts
- Changed booking system
- Automated light connection system
- An increase of 50% from 2011 to 2016 in annual court bookings
- Management accounts produced monthly and yearly
- New membership categories introduced
- Jason Barry joined as coach, increasing overall standard of squash within the club
- Affiliation with local schools for coaching
- Annual professional tournament now takes place
- Very successful junior programme
- New sponsors for the club
- Revenue from subscriptions in June 2011 was £29k. In 2017, £38k.
- Revenue from the sale of light – in June 2011 was £7k, in 2017, £18k
- Bar profits in 2011 were £10k, in 2017, were £15k.

- JC thanked the following:

- CT for all his work on the accounts
- CW for looking after the membership and the social activities
- RM for driving the junior programme forward and managing the teams
- Brian Hunt for organising all the competitions
- Keith Spurgeon for doing the leagues
- Chris Winning for organising the golf days
- MG for all club maintenance
- Dale Curtis
- Mary Scott-Miller
- Miles Montelius for his continuing work around MyCourts
- Tim Donald for all his bar work, table tennis and weekly social squash

9. RESIGNATION, RE-ELECTION & ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

- John Croft, Chris Thain and Caroline Winning are resigning from the Committee
- Miles Montelius and Mark Gates are due to retire by rotation and are happy to offer themselves for re-election. A vote was taken for the re-appointment of both with a unanimous vote in favour for each.
- New committee member and Treasurer, Rollo Bramwell was proposed by Mark Groves Gidney and seconded by John Croft. A vote in favour was unanimously carried.

- New committee member Roger Kent (club communications) was proposed by Mark Groves Gidney and seconded by John Croft. A vote in favour was unanimously carried.
- New committee member Vicky Waterson was proposed by Mark Groves Gidney and seconded by John Croft. A vote in favour was unanimously carried.
- Mark Groves Gidney thanked JC for all his work as Chairman over the last 6 years.
 - JC advised that the committee will meet in due course to elect the new Chairman.

10. AOB
- None

CKW
05/11/2017