**TWSRC**

**AGM 30th Oct 2023**

**Chairman’s Report**

Some sad news…. recently we lost Mary Scott-Millier who suddenly passed away in August this year. Mary had been associated with the Club for over 30 years, as a player, coach and referee. She will be greatly missed. The Club have plans to hold a Junior Tournament in her name, and further details will be announced in due course.

I am pleased to report that our membership numbers continue to remain healthy and in fact have now exceeded pre-covid levels in all categories. Subs are still the club’s primary source of income so it remains vital that we continue to market for new members. Rollo Bramwell, our membership sec has continued with some excellent work in managing new members, subscriptions, and the members database. There have been some changes to England Squash fee’s structure and Rollo will report further at the AGM.

I would like to thank Mike Rose, our Treasurer, for his management of the Club’s finances. We, like all, have been hit especially hard by rising energy costs and inflation increases affecting our operational costs in general. Despite this, the Club’s finances remain healthy and Mike and the Committee continue to keep a close eye on expenditure.

Our Junior academy has continued to thrive, under the leadership of Declan Wainwright, who works tirelessly in growing our junior section. We now have 60 plus juniors, covering all abilities from beginners to some national ranked junior players. I have attached a report prepared by Declan which provides more detail on the progress made, events and achievements of some of our successful juniors.

Mary Scott-Millar, as we know, played a large role in growing junior squash and with the continued support of Zeb and his coaching staff the future looks very bright indeed.

For the first time (or at least since 2006) the club managed to field 4 teams in the summer leagues. It is fantastic that team squash is supported so well as it really helps to raise our profile in the area.

Special mention goes to the 2nd team (led by Sam Colegate) who finished runners up in the summer league, having been narrowly pipped by Limpsfield. Our 1st team (captained by Jonny Powell) summer performance was hit by injury, but are now back to full strength and aiming to push hard for a successful 2023/24 winter season placing. Ed Wales and Richard Morris have worked hard in encouraging and developing a strong pool of players to support our 3rd and 4th teams.

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|  | Summer 2023 | Winter 2022/23 (current) |
| Ist Team – Div 1 | 9th / 10 | 5th / 10 |
| 2nd Team – Div 2 | 2nd / 9 | 7th / 10 |
| 3rd Team – Div 4 | 3rd / 8 | 8th / 10 |
| 4th Team – Div 5 | 5th / 11 | n/a |

Congratulations to out 2022 tournament winners / runners up:

Mens Champion – Jolyon Head (Runner up – James McMeckan)

Vintage – Matt Harris (John Barham)

Super Vintage – John Barham (?)

Mens Doubles – Thomas & Chris Membrey (Richard Morris & Carig Bowers)

Veterans – Jolyon Head (Vinay Asthana)

Mens Plate – John Webberly (Miles Montelius)

Handicap – Rob Hunt (Martin Steyn)

Mixed Doubles – Jemima & Richard Morris (Simon Lees & Sara Barraud)

The Xmas doubles again proved a great success with a good turnout. Thanks to Giles Membrey for his organisation.

Many thanks to our Club Captain, Adam Barnes for all his efforts with team organising and his involvement with the League and in-house tournaments.

Our box leagues continue to be managed by Steve Pearce and thanks to him the number of players (and boxes) has grown. If not already, do consider joining as it can be a good way of meeting other members. Please contact Steve if you would like to participate.

The Kent Open Pro Tournament (sponsored by 501 Fun) was held in January, with both a Men’s and Ladies draw. Again made possible by the support of Jonny Powell and funding support from the PSA.

Tournament director, Alan Thatcher, signed up an international field and managed to ensure the Club received some valuable press and general media coverage.

Owen Taylor (Wales) won the Men’s event (runner up Noah Meredith (Eng). In the Ladies, Torrie Malik (Eng) beat Alison Thomson (Sco). The event was very well supported by members, family and friends who witnessed some excellent squash over the 3 days. A special mention goes to ‘our’ Noah who beat both the top and third seeds on his way to the final in which he pushed the eventual winner (ranked 100 places above him in the world rankings) to 5 games.

Thanks to Mark Nicolson and his team for running the bar and organising some great food for players and spectators. Thanks also to all members of the committee and others who were involved in the organisation.

During the past year the club has seen the redecoration of the bar (also new bar stools) and viewing areas, the kitchen (also new fridges), entrance hall and the courts corridor. We are grateful to Alison Barton who managed the project and sourced all the pictures and signage. Work was also undertaken to the patio area with cleaning of all areas and replanting.

As per our works schedule all 3 courts were closed for a period whilst the walls were cleaned/painted, floors sanded and relined, and a glass doors fitted to Courts A and B. New LED lights were installed on all courts which not only has greatly improved the quality of lighting and will also in time help the club lessen maintenance and running costs. Thanks must go to Simon Lees, Sara Barraud and Ian Simmons.

During the year an Interclub Tournament and Social event was held, organised by Richard Morris which was well attended and enjoyed by all who took part. We continue to run regular club nights (free courts!) to which all members are invited.

Congratulations to Zeb Young, our coach who won England Squash Coach of the Year.

I would like to thank all our bar staff (headed by Mark Nicolson) for the work they put in and to the cleaning staff for their continuing hard work.

Thanks also to the Committee who continue to give up their time in order to ensure the Club continues to run smoothly.

Chairman

Martin Steyn