

Minutes of the AGM held at Whitton Tennis Club on Wednesday 25th March 2015

Present: Sheana Swope, Jacqueline Johnson, Greg Smith, Mike Barnes, Julia Kurzeja, Julie Johnston, Richard Johnston, Simon Lazenby, Irene Owen, Louise Stables, John Wylie, Adriana Sokolowska, Sheila Nicholas, Val Brennan, Francesca Zweifler, David Galavan, Lionel Gardiner, Alex Topp, John Cranenburgh.

Apologies: Gerry Kingston, Andy Kerslake, Mike Kerslake and Mary Gray

In the Chair: Jacqueline Johnson

1. Ratification of the Minutes

The minutes of last year's AGM were accepted as correct and signed by Jacqueline Johnson.

The sad loss of Mary Morton and Andy McMahon were expressed.

Simon Lazenby's appointment as club coach was acknowledged.

League games status discussed.

Open Day will be on the 13th June 2015. A different agenda from last year will be pursued, taking into account programs/agenda that did not work well last year. Objective to sign up new members.

Feedback from those who attended the Christmas Party was positive and the evening was an overall success, thanks to Julia for organising it.

The Junior Finals were successful and it was noted that the players had a sportsmanship manner.

Thanks to Greg and his hard work in enabling the floodlights to be installed this year

Thanks to committee members for their help over the last year.

2. Treasurers Report: Sheana Swope

Funding of Floodlights

Floodlights £16,500.00 including planning permission

Total donations: £5600

Rugby Union: £1000

Tesco: £500

Brian Gray: £1000 (Mary Gray to be informed and thanked)

Mike Kerslake: £1000

Other contributions: Claire Merchant, plus loans totalling £10,000 from members of the club on interest free basis, unsecured over 10 years.

Outstanding fund required to cover the total cost of the floodlights: £860

Funds will be generated from use of floodlights and increased membership.

Cost of floodlight use

£4.00 per hour bookable in 1.5 hr slots

Cost of running lights per hour: 80p. Profit of £3.20 / hour which will be put towards funds for floodlights maintenance

Maintenance per year £200

Simon confirmed pricing of floodlights in accordance with other clubs

Court Maintenance

3 – 5 year plan for court maintenance

Sinking Fund previously £16,700. Presently £19,700.00

Additional £11,000.00 required to replace the hard courts

Greg Smith mentioned new set of processes for donations and funds by LTA which we will need to tap into.

Simon Lazenby mentioned LTA see potential in Clubs that increase their junior members which will help gain funds from them.

Tennis Court surface change: Greg Smith

Looking into changing surface of the courts.

Options;

Artificial grass, Astro Turf (sand) £36,000.00

Artificial Clay – 25 year guarantee £45,000.00

Suggestions from members welcome.

Sheila Nicholas wanted to know if members will be involved in the decision taken on courts.

Agreed to have a consensus on what surface to decide upon.

Simon Lazenby suggested members play on different court surfaces and give feedback. Sand courts easier to maintain.

3. Subscriptions : Sheana Swope

(Refer to Membership fees for exact pricing)

Single Members fee increase to £210

Married Senior increased to £378

Interest is growing for an intermediate/off peak section.

Simon Lazenby suggested allowing beginners to become off peak members and encourage them to move onto full membership

David Galavan suggested introducing a Family Membership fee to increase membership and encourage more play. To be discussed at next committee meeting.

Simon Lazenby & Sheila Nicholas proposed fees. Louise Stables seconded.

4. Coaching Report : Simon Lazenby

Simon acknowledged Jack Marskell's work increasing junior membership.

He will introduce Tennis Express after Easter to encourage social tennis

Simon has retained 80% of junior membership.

12 new juniors have been recruited since January 2015.

Would like to introduce the Head Coach from Teddington to WTC.

10th May proposed for Adult tournament

5. AOB

Padlock number to be changed on the 1st April. (Action by Greg Smith)

New number will be given to members on payment of subscriptions.

Maintenance Day 18th April 10.00am

Wimbledon Tickets

Senior Members

Members will be emailed ticket and court dates that have been allocated, to allow them to express an interest on whether or not they want to enter the draw. (Action by Jackie)

Junior Members

Parents will be emailed to obtain parental consent on whether they want to be in the ballot. (Jackie Johnson to email parents).

Championships: Julia Kurzeja

The draw for the club championships will be held on the 25th April 2015
Championship finals day will be Saturday 5th September 2015.

Proposed that Joan Wood should be offered an honorary life member
Richard Johnston raised the definition of an honorary member as one who has made a contribution to the club in some way. Joan's position will be discussed by the committee.

Election of Committee Members

It was proposed by Sheana Swope that Mike Barnes be the new Chair.
Richard Johnston and Simon Lazenby seconded.
Sheana Swope to remain as Treasurer
Jackie Johnson to replace Francesca Zweifler as Secretary.

The meeting ended at 9pm.