

TRING SQUASH CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3RD APRIL 2023

1. ATTENDED BY

Mark Bullard (MB), Joanne Preston (JP), Matt Duncan (MD),
Merril Trueman (MT), Anthony Palmer (AP), Jan Kerry (JK), James Walton (JW),
Chas Lefevre (CL),

The minutes of the previous were approved.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Katie Winterstein (KWi), Joni Duncan (JD), Peter Barham (PB), Kelly Gascoine (KG),
Keith Warman (KW),

3. MATTERS ARISING

Discussions about Epos system ongoing. MB, PB, MD to meet with MMM to discuss
in due course. The discussion has arisen as the card machine is expensive (18p on
every transaction, even on a packet of crisps).

External sign has been installed.

New door locks remains in progress. At the last meeting, we had a discussion
regarding where the master key for the ladies would be kept in the event of an
emergency. MB suggested a location in the ladies toilet.

Defibrillator – latest newsletter was sent out with further details on CPR.

Court 1 sponsorship renewal is ongoing with Lennons looking to renew

Cost of bar roof repairs has been reimbursed by Pendley.

Toddler music group will start in September on a Thursday morning (small amount of
revenue for the club).

4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A – CHAIRMAN

JP has announced that she will step down as Secretary from September. MB looking
for other volunteers as no one has put their name forward from the current
committee.

MB has been approached by a member asking whether their friends could join as
social members. There are restraints around our charity status. AP noted that we had
discussed this in December 2022 meeting and committee agreed with the thoughts
and discussion raised at that time.

NK, CL and MB have looked at the cost of the ancillary heating on courts 2 and 4 and
have deemed that they are very expensive with limited benefit on court. An
experiment was done and having the heaters on raised the temperature by 0.1

degrees in an hour. Given the expense with the limited benefit, they have been turned off. Proposal is to not turn them back on and manage the heating through the main system so that the court temperature is suitable. Given this committee agreed with the proposal. A discussion was also held with regards to people being responsible and using the correct ball and suitable clothing for the temperatures.

Team training to continue this summer, as it has done in previous years. MD has suggested to Steve Malduca that there is some more structured training this year. The ladies teams have been invited to also have team training and will take that up later in the summer, before the winter season starts.

Pendley SC – costings received for car park repairs. Needs to be in the closed season for the rugby and football clubs, however struggling for dates as the car park is booked by external parties during that period (and the revenue is needed to do the work). Committee noted that there were a few particularly large potholes and MB noted that they would look at a temporary fix.

B – TREASURER

No report. The March 31st quarterly accounts will be presented at the following meeting as the quarter had just ahead a few days before the meeting.

Balance in the bank today is £174,773.60 – of which £170k is on deposit. That is after paying the annual Oakpark fire and intruder alarm maintenance of £1,160.40 today.

C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

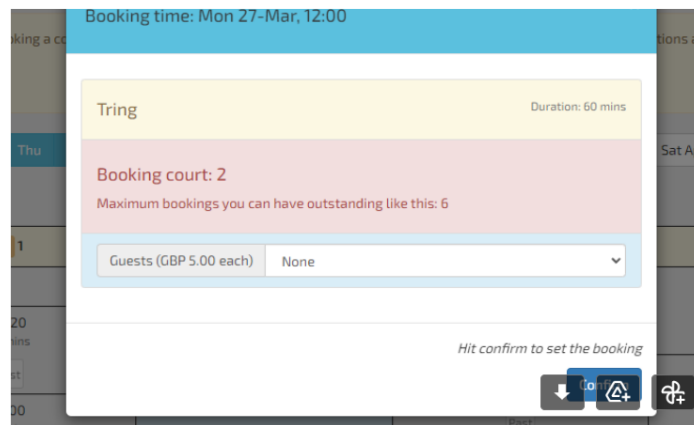
Below are the figures as of the 27th March 2023:

Total – 374 (up from 363 last meeting)

Adult – 238 (up 4 from last meeting)
Junior – 73 (up 6 from last meeting) – inc students
Life – 29 (same as last meeting)
Social – 34 (up 1 from last meeting)

Solo Bookings Update:

Solo courts are reducing, and members are now adding guests – Marks email added 'power' and showed a reaction from some members joining up family members. MMM has also been updated that if the solo option is selected the member is requested to select 'none/one etc...' prompting them to think about their booking! For example:



Long Overdue Payments

MMM now has this alert – which is great however, this has shown an issue where MMM allows members to book events/courts without credit. Most have a minor deficit but one member who has lapsed has built up £12 in debt from Club Night, making this tricky for me to approach. I will email Dom via MMM and see if this can be stopped if not already done.

D – SECRETARY

Court Maintenance booked by KW for courts 1 & 2 4th – 6th September 2023. In calendar. MB to note the dates in an upcoming newsletter.

5. TEAM REPORTS:

Men's Captain –

The Herts 1st team in division 1 finished one off the bottom due to a great recovery from a poor first half to the season. Thank-you to Steve Malduca and his team for an extra special effort in 2023.

The Herts 2nd team in division 3 still have two fixtures to complete and just hope to hang on to their division 3 status.

The Bucks team finished in division 1 with a couple of losses that left them mid-table after threatening to challenge at one point.

We will not be entering any squash teams in the Herts Summer leagues this season as we cannot find a captain, however Steve Malduca and I will be running a racketball team in the each of the Bucks leagues starting in late April.

Thanks to the captains, Steve Malduca, James Taylor and Alex Preston as well as all the players for what has been a difficult season for all.

Ladies' Captain –

The ladies have had an excellent season this year for both teams. The ladies first team have won the Herts league for the first time since I was captain which is an excellent result. The Bucks league wasn't as good a performance, finishing 4th

due to weaker teams being played generally (due to availability on different match nights).

The 2nd team finished a close second (out of 7) in their division after all the results were in which is an excellent result, particularly given that they were struggling for players in the first half of the season.

Well done to both teams and thank you to Kelly Gascoine for running the 2nd team, and all the players in both squads who have contributed.

There's no summer leagues for the ladies divisions so we look forward to the 2023/24 season starting in October 2023.

6. JUNIOR REPORT

No report.

7. OTHER REPORTS –

House (from Nigel Kerry)–

- Leaks in entrance areas and lounge still happening. NK to get a roofer in.
- Ancillary heating on courts 2 and 4 turned off as mentioned previously.
- 2 shower controls in mens changing room need replacing. The cost of the controls is £360 + fitting. NK noted that as he wasn't getting many complaints, will leave for the moment.
- Court heating to be turned off end April as the weather warms up.

Social Report (club events in green)-

8th April 2023 – private party

15th April 2023 – Private Party

19th April 2023 – 5th May 2023 – Club Championships

13th May 2023 – Private party

3rd June 2023 – Dolly Parton Tribute

10th June 2023 – private party (x2)

19th June 2023 – private party (afternoon)

1st July 2023 – private party

15th July 2023 – Junior squashathon

11th August 2023 – private party

2nd September 2023 – private party

16th September 2023 – 40 year bar celebration

14th October 2023 – band night

4th November 2023 – private party

18th November 2023 – private party

25th November 2023 – private party

16th December 2023 – Elvis Tribute

3rd February 2024 – band night

18th May 2024 – band night

28th September 2024 – private party

19th October 2024 – band night

14th December 2024 – band night

Systems/Operations –

No report

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Development plan update – from the previous meeting discussion, MB wanted to clarify committee's thoughts around appetite for fundraising and thoughts on a revised proposal for an overall development. AP commented that following previous discussions, he wanted to propose that we completely abandon Plan B (a smaller scheme which doesn't achieve the original vision), focus on tangible improvements to the club where we can currently do so (bar & ladies changing room). JK noted that the club needs a disabled toilet so if a ladies toilet could be incorporated in the ladies changing room then perhaps the current ladies toilet could be changed into a disabled toilet. MT noted that we don't know what the membership will be like in the future and the club doesn't make enough profit YOY to support any borrowing. MB noted that while the club has significant funds in the bank, its not significant enough to fund all the future plans that people wanted in the original membership survey. One of the wishes was to have another glassback court which wouldn't be achieved.

After discussions, the committee present agreed that the larger development should be put on hold (despite the good vision) and the current focus should be improvements to the bar and improvements to the ladies changing room (existing footprint). KW has volunteered to work with the ladies to look at what was possible with regards to the refurbishment and the committee present would be delighted to take him up on that offer to come up with a proposal.

Bar/Lounge Improvements – Prior to the meeting, MB had circulated a document which brought together ideas from the Interior Designer that the committee had engaged and thoughts from the bar furniture sub-committee. The purpose of the document was to be a detailed specification. The proposal is to circulate the document back to Natalie so she can provide an end to end plan for us to progress the bar improvements. MT has offered to join the sub-committee to replace Jon Slade. Committee were positive about the detailed spec and agreed to proceed with the plan.

Committee noted that they would like to thank Cathy for her commitment to the club and will do something at the next AGM.

MB noted that they were waiting for 2 court clocks to replace the existing ones. Once received, they will be installed.

CL requested a chaser for tournament entries – last day for sign up 11th April 2023. Tournament dates 19th – 5th May 2023. Current entries c.70% of previous years. CL noted that at the request of JP, they were running a Junior girls U19 tournament this year however entries to the U19 open were disappointing.

World record picture frame created by Paul Wilcock. Committee noted their thanks to Paul for his work to pull it together.

MB noted that we still have issues with a dangerous player with 2 instances of him hitting people with a racket twice. Committee discussed the issue and noted that the club constitution included section 3a) which states that 'If, in the opinion of the General Committee, the conduct of any member is considered injurious to the

interests of the Club, the Committee shall have the power to suspend the member and also the ultimate power to withdraw membership'. Following discussion, committee agreed that the player should be issued with a warning and a suspension that he will not be allowed to play until he has a qualified coach in the club has assessed him as safe to play. Committee agreed that CL should remove him from the club championships as there is not sufficient time for his game to improve before that time.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday 22nd May 2023.

The meeting closed at 21:31.

Joanne Preston

Tring Squash Club Secretary