

TRING SQUASH CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2025 AT 7.30PM

Attendees: Mark Bullard (MB), Steve Malduca (SM) Katie Winterstein (KW) Ruth Proudfoot (RP) James Walton (JW) Andy Booth (AB) Jan Kerry (JK). A Palmer (AP)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

P Barham (PB), Jo Preston (JP)

2. A warm welcome was extended to Maddy Hughes as a new committee member.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

Alternative ways of paying subscription: Product has the ability to allow members, new and existing, to pay their subscriptions monthly. New members would pay a joining fee and then pay monthly - further discussions to be had with MMM. It was recognised that the committee needs to be more proactive in encouraging new members to join the club. The website needs to be updated on a more regular basis, with more information on what is going on with the club. Links to leagues etc.

Joint Tennis & Squash membership: SM had had a meeting with the tennis club who were keen to work together and perhaps to have joint events with the squash club. Possibly use some funding for family squash sessions with the tennis club and vice versa. AB asked if Tring School still used the club, but it was reported that funding for this had ceased.

Action: RP to investigate if there is any funding for primary schools to play squash, and then maybe do a joint junior session with the tennis club in the autumn.

Additional Signage: It was reported that this was on order.

Graphic Designer: No names were forthcoming. Committee to keep looking.

Bar Improvements: MB has spoken to Martin Harding and asked for a timescale and a quote for the work.

Court Heating: MB advised that he hoped to have the heating installed over the summer.

Ladies Changing Rooms: New flooring has now been installed.

5. OFFICERS REPORTS

A- CHAIRMAN

Cleaning: A fee of £50 to be charged for private functions to cover additional cleaning costs. Members will still be expected to tidy up after themselves and leave the club in good order, the charge is to clean toilets, changing areas etc.

Junior Honours board is still outstanding: It had been agreed that this board should go where the coffee machine is, however, this is now not possible, although the balcony was a possibility.

Elite players: MB had been approached to support elite players in terms of free membership – this was viewed as a good way of getting elite players at the club and was agreed by the committee.

Pendley: MB reported that a 3G pitch will be put in by Tring Athletic in 2026/27. This will mean that the car park will become even busier. A significant review of the car park had been undertaken and £25k had been committed to making improvements.

MB advised that he would not be around for a while as he was having a hip replacement, the committee wished him well.

B - TREASURER

There was no report for this quarter.

C MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

AB had provided a report in advance.

Membership numbers as of end of February 2025 (March 6th 2025)

	MAR	AP R	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Adult 1 yr	233	231	236	239	237	240	240	227	225	223	230	228
Adult 3yrs	14	14	14	14	14	14	13	13	11	11	11	11
Adult (Mth)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family Jnr	35	33	33	31	28	28	27	28	27	27	28	27
Junior	32	32	36	36	34	34	37	35	33	32	34	32
Life	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	31	31	31	31
Social	41	42	44	43	43	43	42	37	28	31	35	35
Student	10	10	10	10	11	11	10	9	9	9	9	10
Total	405	403	416	416	409	413	412	392	377	377	391	386

Comments

- Multiple renewals ongoing
 - NOV: 2 new adults, 2 new linked, 2 more lost FOBs
 - DEC: 1 new adult, 1 new junior
 - JAN: 9 new linked, 4 new adult & 5 renewals, 7 new junior & 1 renewals, 5 lost FOBs
 - FEB: 5 new linked, 2 new adults, 1 new junior, 3 lost FOBs

- MAR (so far): 5 new linked, 2 new adult, 1 new junior, 1 lost FOB, 1 free Trial request
- Overall, membership numbers picking up a little, but averaging below 400.
- New Adult 1 year membership with payment monthly; 2 new members signed up.
- More requests to be a Social member by non-players/non-club members, for the cheap bar facilities.

It was reported that there had been lots of enquiries for social membership, and there were concerns that this was just to be able to use the cheap bar facilities. It was agreed that bar prices should be increased but that this would need to go to the AGM. Continue to investigate the possibility of a dual price system but recognised that this also has its problems.

Action: - Increased bar prices to be agreed at the AGM

D – SECRETARY

No report

6 TEAM REPORTS

Men's Captain Report – Steve Malduca

Racketball Teams (Summer 2025)

Discussions are starting around teams for the summer racketball season. Given the number of members now playing racketball we are hoping to run 3 teams; 1st (captained by Steve Malduca) and 2nd (captained by Paul Hobday) teams in Division 1 and a new 3rd team to be captained by Ross Proudfoot in Division 2.

Squash Teams

Men's 1st Team – Herts Div 1

With 3 games left, as at 5th March, the 1st team have moved up to 7th with 3 wins and 1 loss since the halfway point. Last week's away win at Radlett was the performance of the season as we beat a very strong Radlett team 4-1. Katie's 3-2 win over Nick Rossiter was one of the most brutal and fantastic games of squash seen for years!

We have 2 more home games: Thur 5th March v Biggleswade and Thur 20th March v Nuffield so please come and support!

Squad: Ben Hedger, Harry Wyld, Katie Maliff, Charlie Yerrell, Alex Preston, Steve Malduca, Simon De Coninck, Callum Egan, Nick Lavery, Ed Bottrill and Chris Davey.

Division 1: Winter League 2024/25

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	Team		P	W	L	D	F	A	Pen	Total
1	Stortford 1	★	14	12	2	0	224	92	0	224
2	Stortford 2	!	14	8	6	0	173	170	0	173
3	Berkhamsted 1	!	13	8	5	0	169	135	0	169
4	Radlett 1	★	12	8	4	0	159	115	0	159
5	Harpenden 1	★	14	5	9	0	153	183	0	153
6	Nuffield 1	!	12	6	6	0	146	141	0	146
7	Tring 1	★	13	4	9	0	130	177	0	130
8	Biggleswade 1	!	12	4	8	0	119	169	0	119
9	Harpenden 2	!	10	2	8	0	71	162	0	71

Men's 2nd Team – Herts Div 2

The 2nd team (captained by Iain Digby and James Taylor) have dropped to 3rd although playing each team 3 times means they have plenty of games to recover top spot.

Squad: Simon De Coninck, Callum Egan, Tim Delderfield, Nick Lavery, Martin Harding, Iain Digby, Matt Doody, Keith Warman, James Taylor, Matt Duncan, Pete Quarman, Paul Wilcock, Simon Roberts.

Division 2: Winter League 2024/25

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	Team		P	W	L	D	F	A	Pen	Total
1	Nuffield 2	!	11	9	2	0	175	81	0	175
2	Berkhamsted 2	★	12	8	4	0	168	116	0	168
3	Tring 2	!	11	7	4	0	156	108	0	156
4	Harpenden 3	!	10	6	4	0	124	113	0	124
5	Letchworth 1	!	11	4	7	0	123	130	0	123
6	Haileybury 1	★	11	5	6	0	116	147	0	116
7	Gosling 1	!	12	0	12	0	51	218	0	51

Men's Bucks Team – Bucks Div 1

The Bucks Team (captained by Mike Pearce) remain in 5th after 13 matches with 3 left to play.

Squad: Katie Maliff, Ethan Duncan, Alex Preston, Steve Malduca, Simon De Coninck, Callum Egan, Richard Carr, Ed Bottrill, Mike Pearce, Chris Davey, James Taylor.

Division 1

Standings								P-W-L-D: Fixtures
R	Team	Points	P	W	L	D	Recent	
1	Wycombe Squash & Racketball Club: First	196	13	11	2	0	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	
2	Beaconsfield Squash: Lions	161	12	8	4	0	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	
3	Berkhamsted Lawn Tennis & Squash Rackets Club: First	160	12	8	4	0	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	
4	Holmer Green SRC: First	151	13	6	7	0	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	
5	Tring: Men's 1st Team	136	13	6	7	0	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	
6	Aylesbury Tennis & Squash Club: First	125	11	5	6	0	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	
7	CBLTSC squash: Hawks	115	11	4	7	0	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	
8	Gerrards Cross Squash: First	113	13	3	10	0	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	
9	Beaconsfield Squash: Trojans	108	12	4	8	0	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	

Ladies' Captain – Joanne Preston

The ladies leagues are coming to an end in late March so there are a few more games to play for all teams. All teams have enjoyed a successful season so far. The ladies 1st team are currently sitting second in the Herts division with a couple of games in hand. We are sitting mid table in the Bucks division with a few to play, a better season than last year.

The ladies 2nd team have had an excellent season and are sitting top of the table with a clear margin between them and second place. They have won all ten games so far this season – a very impressive feat.

7. JUNIOR REPORT

SM has been helping out on Friday night juniors which is going well. There has been 6 attending the first session and 4 to 6 attending the second. Club nights have been going well.

8. OTHER REPORTS

House – Please find below a list of things that have been done or are being worked on. They are in no particular order.

- There has been a water leak onto the balcony. A repair has been carried out but as it hasn't rained since I'm not 100% sure it will work. The roof was cleared of all leaves and water.
- Damp has been appearing around the fire exit door on the balcony. There was a break in the soffits above the outside of the door. This has now been repaired.
- The moss on the roof of the single-story extension needs removing. The roofing company has given me a verbal quote of £1500 to clear the roof and then treat it to prevent moss returning immediately. A verbal quote of c£250 was given for an annual check and clearance of roof and gutters. The treatment for the moss should take place every 2 years

- There are still leaks from the roof into the loft, but they don't seem as bad as previous years.
- An extractor fan is being installed in the kitchen above the cooker on 28th March. The very old fan which currently sits in the window will be removed in due course.
- I have commissioned a fire risk assessment. Apparently, we should have one in place, and it should be reviewed every 3 years. Sadly, I suspect this will be opening the proverbial can of worms.
- We have changed all the "call points" for the fire alarm to make it easier to test. Dave Armstrong and I will do the fortnightly tests. We are going to try and do a Fire Test training with the juniors on 12th.
- It is March and I haven't had a single complaint about the court heating. Either I've got everything right or the players have given up complaining. I'm aware that MB will give the committee an update re new court heaters
- There have been a few plumbing leaks which have now been repaired.
- The use of the club during the day is changing as are the heating needs. The heating will be controlled by something like a Hive. I will advise cost before proceeding.
- There is a hole on the floor of court 2. We are due renovations on Crt 1 & 2 this year and it will be dealt with then. We have an excellent supplier who maintains the courts, but we need someone to replace KW to deal with that supplier. A current squash or Racquet ball player who is using the courts regularly would be the best replacement. It can be VERY easily done by a non- committee member. This needs to be sorted asap so that a provisional booking for September 2025 is confirmed.
- MB will give an update re ladies changing room shower tiles.
- C le F supplies data about utility usage within the club. We are getting anomalies with the electricity usage in the early hours of the morning. Very annoying but important we are aware of them.
- Decorating needs to be done, especially around court 3. I have asked a couple of internal bods, to no avail. The same applies to the replacement of the bar key cupboard door. So, if the committee knows of a decorator or a chippy please pass on their details.
- I am tasked with adding a new fire exit sign in the lounge. This has been ordered and will be fitted when it arrives.

Social Report (club events in green)

22 March – private party
 24 April – committee meeting
 17 May – Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band
 03 June – committee meeting
 07 June – private party
 28 June – private party pm & early evening
 12 July – private party
 06 September – private party
 14 November – Charity quiz
 18 October – Elton John Experience
 20 December – Elvis Impersonator

System/Operations – See Matters Arising

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Women's Squash Week – runs mid September.

Court Maintenance – 7-23 May?

Wish List Friday Night Club Night – possible interest in additional coaching and new people playing racketball. JW asked would it be possible to print out leagues and put on the board to generate more interest.

Action: J K agreed to remove old out of date information from the board and would put up leagues.

First Aid Course – MB to put in news letter to see what interest the club gets. Course would be free for members.

Action: If sufficient interest AP and MH would set up

10 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday 24 March at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 21.07pm

Jan Kerry

Tring Squash Club Secretary