

## **TRING SQUASH CLUB**

### **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021**

#### **1. ATTENDED BY**

Mark Bullard (MB), Joanne Preston (JP), Matt Duncan (MD), Keith Warman (KW), Merrill Trueman (MT), Jon Slade (JS), Katie Winterstein (KWi), Chas Lefevre (CL),

The minutes of the previous were approved.

#### **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Paul Armstrong (PA), James Walton (JW), Joni Duncan (JD), Peter Barham (PB), Jan Kerry (JK),

#### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

Chairs discussed later in the meeting.

#### **4. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

##### **A – CHAIRMAN**

MB, PB, PJ and Chris Langford met for the pre-AGM meeting. Subs discount will be announced at the AGM (already effective in MMM) and the England Squash fees holiday has been passed on. Thanks to MD for updating MMM.

PA is standing down from the committee at the AGM. This leaves 12 on the committee which is what is required. Other members can be co-opted if interested.

Social events have started again. 2<sup>nd</sup> card machine was working. Committee discussed that there are occasions that the bar managers / early Saturday evening bar volunteers don't know that events are being held. The club calendar is kept on the website but MB will inform the relevant people and a paper calendar will be kept behind the bar.

Cleaning issues have been raised to MB. Previously NK had proposed a schedule and one off issues can be raised to him directly as noticed. MB to look into.

Bar staff – MB put out a request in the latest newsletter to try to recruit more volunteers. Anyone whose interested, please let us know.

Pendley – Chilfest – likely may not happen as it keeps on being deferred.

Pendley Bowl Shields – The squash club defended its title in the tournament held recently between the Pendley clubs. Well done to the team.

##### **B – TREASURER**

No Report. The Full Year accounts to the 30 June 2021 will be presented at the AGM on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

##### **C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Membership figures as of 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021:

Since the last committee meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 we have had 23 new members and a few renewals from those members who didn't rejoin in Oct 2020.

Adults 258  
Juniors/Student 71  
Social 32

Total 361 Members.

Trend is upwards. Numbers are back to the levels pre-covid in January 2020.

## **D – SECRETARY**

No report.

## **5. TEAM REPORTS:**

### **Men's Captain** –

Additional team to be entered into the Bucks league, captained by Michael Pearce. To be played on Wednesday evenings.

Herts league overall are struggling with teams entered so looking to combine the leagues. KW waiting to hear what divisions there will be. Potentially entering two teams into Div 1. To be played on Thursday evenings.

Tuesday evenings – currently holding team training on the later courts (when there is no demand). Proposed to hold up to Christmas as people get back to playing.

### **Ladies' Captain** –

Ladies first to be entered into the Herts 1<sup>st</sup> division, 2<sup>nd</sup> team to be entered into the Bucks league.

Both leagues are struggling for players. Herts league have gone down to 3 players per team. The Bucks 1<sup>st</sup> division only has 3 teams in it and they're playing each other 4 times which is too many games for the 1<sup>st</sup> team to play over the season (in addition to the Herts league) so the 1<sup>st</sup> team has been withdrawn from this division for this season.

## **6. JUNIOR REPORT**

Junior coaching starts Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday coaching starts first weekend in October.

Tournament – U14 tournament to be held. All games apart from the final to be held on one day this year to encourage entrants– Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September.

Herts closed running at the same time so an unfortunate clash.

Wednesday coaching – the session from 4:20 – 5:20 is extremely busy with lots of kids in this age group. KWi has considered various options to accommodate the interest and the best option is having a third court during that time slot. Given this would be 1 court slot and there would be multiple kids on the court instead, Committee supported the proposal.

## **7. OTHER REPORTS –**

### **House –**

New fridges have been installed in the bar & kitchen.

New 3 year gas & electricity contract is in place.

Ladies Shower screens are on order.

General maintenance activity ongoing

### **Social Report -**

September 2021 – December 2021 - European Football on BT Sport – CL fixtures are on the calendar.

Sept 18<sup>th</sup> – Private party

Sept 25<sup>th</sup> – Canoe Club training

Sept 28<sup>th</sup> – Club AGM

October 16<sup>th</sup> – private party

November 27<sup>th</sup> – Skamungas – Band Night

Dec 18<sup>th</sup> – Club Xmas Event - Elvis Tribute Evening

June 11<sup>th</sup> 2022 – Wedding Party

### **Systems/Operations –**

MMM changes effected – membership fees and rolling subs.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Keys for the bar – keys are being hidden around the club for others to collect which is not ideal. MB has looked into a biometric safe which is large and can be expensive. Committee discussed a number of options including keeping bar keys in a safe / locked area accessed by the MMM fobs. MD/MB to speak to MMM to see what could be done.

Finals night - CL has proposed to have all the finals on Court 3 in the order below so that all the finals were on the show court. MB commented that it would be a long session. KW suggested that matches should be played back to back as there will likely be some shorter matches than the 40 minutes allocated.

U14  
Juniors  
Mini or Plate  
Mini or Plate  
Veterans  
Ladies  
Main

Junior presentation to be held earlier after the junior matches.

Committee were supportive of CL's proposal, with matches running back to back (no breaks) and players told indicative times of not before. Committee were also supportive of closing the other courts while the finals are played.

Racketball championships – MB spoke to Paul Hobday regarding a 2021 racketball championships. Dates being looked into. Likely to have people arrange own matches for the earlier rounds with semi finals and finals on fixed nights.

Bar chairs – Following on from the last meeting, MB has had a discussion with a local supplier regarding replacing the older chairs in the bar area. The supplier sent through some suggestions which MB distributed to committee members prior to the meeting. Concerns were raised regarding whether any furniture purchased will fit in with any future redevelopment. MB suggested that purchasing furniture in neutral colours would mean that it could be incorporated into any future redesign of the bar area. Committee discussed the options and decided that a subcommittee should proceed with replacing the furniture. MD, JS and JP volunteered to look at it.

Scope: all the furniture to be reviewed, might not need to be replaced at this time. Sub committee to revert to the full committee with a proposal.

Ramp for disabled access – needs to be accessible to all so its available when needed. Problem on the previous event.

World Squash Day – 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021 – KWi distributed an email to committee regarding events. Committee were supportive of the proposal. Other suggestions including a potential exhibition match and coaching (using the development fund) for any new members / beginners.

Beginners / Intermediate lessons – the club quite often gets enquiries regarding coaching for beginners / intermediate levels and do not provide anything apart from the free coaching at the start of each year. KWi proposed trying to set up group coaching on a weekday daytime to see what interest there is. Committee were supportive of the proposal.

JS raised the issue of players playing dangerously on court. MB to speak to the person involved.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

AGM scheduled for Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7:30pm.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

The meeting closed at 21:46.

Joanne Preston

Tring Squash Club Secretary