

TRING SQUASH CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2019

1. ATTENDED BY

Mark Bullard (MB), Joanne Preston (JP), Chas Lefevre (CL), Katie Winterstein (KWi), James Walton (JW), Matt Duncan (MD), Peter Barham (PB),

The minutes of the previous were approved.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Keith Warman, Merril Trueman (MT), Paul Armstrong (PA), Jon Slade (JS), Anthony Palmer (AP)

3. MATTERS ARISING

PSA Tournament:

A great tournament, fantastic to have a new and up-coming player to win the tournament, and great atmosphere for the week at the club. Unfortunately, the club made a £2k loss, tickets weren't fully sold out on the first 2 days, we paid over £1.2k for accommodation for the players as we didn't have sufficient billets (due to heavy demand) and the tournament level was higher at \$20k (versus \$15k in previous years). Sponsorship was £12.2k for the week.

Alex Noakes is leaving the PSA tour next week (off to university in the USA) so potentially we would need to find a new tournament director for any future tournament (although Chris will remain first choice if he wishes to run another).

Committee are in favour of supporting further tournaments, noting that if the tournament stays at the \$20k level, we need to try to increase sponsorship and confirm a main sponsor.

Robotic cleaner:

still to be looked at following the last meeting – MB to action.

4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A – CHAIRMAN

MMM – all functionality is now live. Few teething issues and variations to work through but a lot of positive comments are coming through. Anyone who hadn't renewed their membership was blocked from the 15th November and that has been a call to action with an influx of membership over the last few days. Thanks to Joni for stepping back into the membership secretary role for November while Paul has been on holiday.

Letters board – not a very good entrance to the club. Committee are considering other options as to what can be put up instead of the letters.

Pendley Car Park – rental to film companies is voted on by all the clubs. It brings in good revenue which is used for the maintenance of the car park. During the recent road works, the car park was used by heavy lorries and therefore there are ongoing talks to get the contractor to make repairs to the carpark.

Development plan – meeting with Clive Birch to further discussions will be held in early December.

Table tennis – there have been some negative comments received by committee members that table tennis have been played on peak courts (and courts 3). Committee discussed, and will keep an eye on usage but do not feel it is appropriate to limit court usage at this time.

B – TREASURER

PB presented the quarterly accounts to end of September 2019. As subs were paid in October/November, the 6 month figures to end December will provide a better yoy comparison. Paypal drawdowns have always distorted the accounts, which has gone away with MMM.

In 3 months to Sept 2018, we made a profit of £2k (£5.9k drawdown from paypal on the 1 July which related to the previous year). Without the paypal drawdown, the 3 months to end Sept 2018 would have been a £3k loss.

3 months to Sept 2019 – loss of £8k

YOY comparison

- £8k down on income, of which £5k due to paypal drawdowns.
- £3k increase in costs in 2019, partially due to a one off hardware cost for the installation of MMM.
- Electricity up 30%
- Bar sales down £1.5k yoy

Committee expressed its thanks to PB for the detailed accounts.

C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

As of 18th November 2019, 278 fully paid members on MMM following the first membership run. Paul and Joni (in Paul's absence during November) along with MMM have been working through any issues which have arisen.

Adult - 176
Family - 16
Junior - 29
Life - 25
Social - 22
Student - 2

D – SECRETARY

No report.

5. TEAM REPORTS:

Men's Captain –

The 1st team have only won one of four matches and sit 5th of 8 in a tight division 1.

The 2nd team are 1st in division 2 having won four of five matches, they have played a game more than their rivals.

The 3rd team, like the 1st team, have won one of four matches and also sit 5th of 8 in division 3.

Ladies' Captain –

In the Bucks leagues, the 1st team is currently 3rd out of 7 in division 1, and the 2nd team is 4th out of 7th.

The 1st team also play in the Herts league, however the Herts league generally is struggling this year with our first 2 matches being postponed by the opposition due to lack of team players available. We are currently 4th of 6, although that is partly due to having played less matches than the top two teams (who have played 4 each).

6. JUNIOR REPORT

The junior inter club leagues have been delayed and will start on 8th Dec. Further dates for the matches are Jan 26th 2020, Mar 1st 2020, April 19th 2010. Teams are to be confirmed. I have offered to help with the organisation of these and will work with Julian Craxton (Radlett Coach).

KW has discussed with Alex Preston starting the Junior Tring Leagues, Open sessions, payment of Junior group coaching on MMM - in progress.

7. OTHER REPORTS –

House –

Investigation of the showers has been commissioned. ProHeat will make recommendations.

Deep clean of men's and ladies' showers has been undertaken.

Deep clean of the cooker has been undertaken.

General repairs undertaken.

6 month safety check of the fire alarm has been carried out. All is in order.

Redundant cabling is being looked at being stripped out including Bookit.

KW requested a court downstairs. MD to speak to MMM to enquire whether we could get another device to show the court time.

Social –

December 14th - Band Night Attention Seekers

January 18th - Private Party

January Baby Shower Party - Date TBC

Feb 29th - Private Party
March 21st - Band Night
Feb-Mar - 6 Nations Rugby

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Handicap tournament – entries are open.

England Squash safeguarding requirements for coaches – guidelines have been changed and all coaches need to do a 3 hour in person coaching.

Coaches must renew their safeguarding qualification every 3 years in order to maintain their valid Coaches Club status. Previously, coaches could both attain and renew their safeguarding qualification via online training, there is now a need for England Squash to ensure that all coaches have attended the latest face to face training.

For coaches whose safeguarding qualification expires soon, we are proposing a 'grace period' between now and 1 February 2020 during which time their Coach Membership (including insurance) will still be valid regardless of whether their safeguarding qualification has expired. This should allow enough time for all coaches to complete face to face training.

- Coach Member validity will be subject to the coach having evidenced that they are booked on to a course before the end of the grace period (e.g. emailing evidence of their booking to England Squash), alongside holding a current Coach Membership, up to date DBS certificate, and First Aid certificate (Level 2 and above).

Committee discussed the new requirements and given the impact (including regarding insurance), committee felt that going forward, anyone who is advertised on either the club website, or the boards in the club, would need to meet these new requirements.

Disabled access – ramp is now available. Other facilities will be discussed as part of the development plan.

Nigel Kerry has pulled together a list of contacts (suppliers etc.). MB will add information such as licensing hours, fire officer review etc. and this will be available on the website. Committee agreed that documenting this information was very useful, and essential to a smooth ongoing running of the club. Committee were uncomfortable with this information being on the website. Committee questioned whether there was an option on MMM to share private documents, or alternatively a cloud option.

Junior leagues – KW to introduce junior leagues on MMM. There is the option for when 2 juniors are playing against each other, they could be offered a reduced court rate. Committee felt that given the court rates are low as they are, this wasn't required at the current time.

Committee expressed its thanks to MB, and all the other volunteers, for his efforts to run the successful PSA tournament. Committee also expressed its thanks to AP for the band night which was supported by 91 members and the £600 money raised for charity and encouraged members to support the next band night on the 14th December.

MD questioned whether we could review LED lighting again given the electricity costs are going up and the costs of LED lights have come down. All of the lights on one court need to be done at the same time.

9. **NEXT MEETING**

28th January 2019

The meeting closed at 21.33.

Joanne Preston

Tring Squash Club Secretary