

TRING SQUASH CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20th March 2019

1. ATTENDED BY

Mark Bullard (MB), James Walton (JW), Joanne Preston (JP), Matt Duncan (MD), Anthony Palmer (AP), Merril Trueman (MT), Katie Winterstein (KWi), Jon Slade (JS), Hugh Dunford (HD)

The minutes of the previous were approved.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Peter Barham (PB), Joni Duncan (JD), Chas Lefevre (CL), Keith Warman (KWa)

3. MATTERS ARISING

PSA Tournament Dates – current thinking is this will be held the w/c 15th October 2019. Committee agreed that holding the semis on the Friday night and Finals on the Saturday night would be preferable. \$20k sponsorship required, the main sponsor, Arnold Homes, has committed again.

Replacement chairs for the bar area – MT has looked into replacing the broken chairs in the bar area and has found a suitable replacement. The club will go ahead and purchase chairs to replace the broken one.

4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A – CHAIRMAN

Nigel Kerry has volunteered to act as House Manager.

AP is working with Betty Longhurst to take over as licensee.

JD is standing down as Membership Secretary from the AGM in September 2019 at the latest. MB commented that he appreciated the longstanding commitment that Joni has shown to the role and the club over many years and thanked her for her dedication. MB will start the process to look for a new Membership Secretary.

Club developments – MB has commenced discussions regarding the development plan. This is ongoing.

Pendley – per the recent update to all members from MB, Pendley committee has decided to go ahead with getting the car park management system in place (target 1 June 19) as there continues to be ongoing problems related to parking in the car parks.

Dog walking – dogs being walked on the fields need to be kept on leads. This is going to start being enforced.

MMM – role out ongoing, Club Championships will be held via MMM. Entrants need to sign up online, per the emails that have been communicated.

Utilities – renewal due, MB to speak to PB, likely to lock in rate for 3 years.

B – TREASURER

Bar sales up £2k (6.5%) and GP % better (32.65 vs 31.75)

Court bookings a tournament fees significantly up due to paypal drawdowns - £6,885 more paypal drawdowns (£11,885 this year, versus £5,000 last year) – will even out in the second half of the year.

Subscriptions and entry fees up £3k, of which due to 11% price increase in Oct 2018

Repairs and maintenance up due to expenditure on the two new fire doors and for court repairs.

Cash balance currently at £152k

C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

MembershipType	19-Mar
Adult Player	258
Junior League Player	8
Junior Player	71
Life Member	14
Life Player	19
Social Member	32
Student Member	9
	411

D – SECRETARY

No report.

5. TEAM REPORTS:

Men's Captain – The 1st team still have about 3 matches remaining and looking at the table they should finish the season in a very credible third. Likewise with the 2nd team, they could get the runners-up spot but it looks good unlikely. The 3rd team have secured promotion from division 4 and hopefully they could be champions!

The handicap competition was won by Jack Gregory, and can I say that competition was a great deal of fun!

The racketball competition was won by Martin Harding after beating Ross in the semi and Steve Malduca in a final that lasted 75 minutes!

Ladies' Captain – Only a couple of matches still to be played. The ladies 1st team has ended up 4th out of 5 in the Hertfordshire league (mid table positions were very close from 2 to 4), and 3rd out of 5 in the Bucks 1 division

The ladies 2nd team is 4th out of 5 in the Bucks 2nd division, a great result for the team, most of whom hadn't played team squash before the last season.

6. JUNIOR REPORT

Inter club matches finished. Still waiting for results. U19 team was undefeated. Results will be posted when received.

Junior leagues carrying on. Open sessions held once a month are well attended – c. 15 kids each time.

Concern was raised regarding young kids being left unattended during the club while waiting for coaching sessions. Committee agreed that parents need to be responsible for their own kids (under 8s should be supervised) and that will be added to the consent form.

7. OTHER REPORTS –

House – John Markwell to look at the legs on the pool table. Also, to enquire regarding the cost of getting it re clothed. CL to enquire.

Man's toilets – there is a general smell at certain times of the day. To be raised with Nigel.

Oven cleaning – regular cleaning will commence.

Courts 3 and 4 will be cleaned with the floors sanded/repared during the first week of September. KW is getting quotes regarding getting variable tin heights.

Ladies changing rooms are very dirty with mould etc. To enquire regarding getting a deep clean.

Non-marking shoes & goggles signs not prominent enough. New signs to be put on each door by MD. Spare shoes box to be left out for borrowing.

Social –

30th March – Band night, only c.16 left

17th May – Finals night, club championships

20th July – Band night

Some other private parties booked in, dates in the club calendar.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MMM Update – progress slightly slower than ideal, due to implementation being run by volunteers. Next stages:

- Infrastructure: Onsite hardware inspection has taken place for all items (clocks, door entry, kiosk etc). Required infrastructure list defined.
- Court booking system implementation will follow
- After that, door entry system will be implemented

Club championships to be held via MMM. Leagues already running. 229 members have already signed up to MMM.

MD requested assistance in the communication around MMM to club members. Any volunteers to inform MD. Idea that posters could be drawn up to place around the club to inform members of the current progress.

World Squash Day – 12th October. To look at doing something to support this. Perhaps a counties tournament, or a social match versus Berkhamsted (MB to enquire if they would be interested). Would like to do something which could include as many members as possible.

Junior subs – JD has suggested that we have different rates for junior subs for different ages. England Squash rate is consistent for all U19 players., Committee felt that the junior subs were low as is and therefore to be left as is.

Private parties held at the club – needs to be booked by a member with the member taking responsibility (attending the party, tidying up etc.). Policy to be updated to make clear that the club reserves the right to refuse a party for any reason (Club Chairman has the ultimate decision).

Non-members playing – ongoing issue where certain members are bring in non-members to play. Committee felt that it should be emphasised to the members that this is a members club, and while occasional guests are welcome to play, and social guests, regularly allowing non-members to enter the club to use the facilities is not acceptable. MB to add to his next newsletter.

Par to 11 scoring has been raised again by HD as he is getting regular complaints that people in the leagues are not finishing their matches within the allotted court time. HD to advise A and B league players to play to par to 11 if they want to ensure they finish games.

Junior teams – TSC needs to pay the registration fee for the junior teams. KWi to arrange.

Social Media Coverage – Facebook updates to be taken over by JP and KWi. To request that Dave Suter sets up a social media email address for members to email any updates to.

Licensing – Bar opening times where we don't need to seek additional permission are listed behind the bar. Special permission required from the council to open the bar outside those hours. AP to prepare an update regarding the licensing details.

Handicap tournament & Racketball tournament – suggest presentation of finals to be held on the club finals night in May.

Wasp nests – to be kept an eye on in the garden. If they become an issue then to look at how to be addressed

Vending machine – looking at a new one which would contain more products (such as balls, grips etc) rather than just drinks. Looking at the options and the cost implication / efficiency. In principal, committee felt that a more modern machine with more options would be beneficial.

The meeting closed at 21:59

9. NEXT MEETING

Monday 20th May 2019

Joanne Preston

Tring Squash Club Secretary