

TRING SQUASH CLUB

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21 NOV 2018

1. ATTENDED BY

Mark Bullard (MB), Peter Barham (PB), Joanne Preston (JP), Matt Duncan (MD), Anthony Palmer (AP), Chas Lefevre (CL), Merril Trueman (MT), Katie Winterstein (KWi), Jon Slade (JS), Hugh Dunford (HD)

The minutes of the previous were approved. Proposed by MD and seconded by MT.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

James Walton (JW), Joni Duncan (JD), Keith Warman (KWA)

3. MATTERS ARISING

- Manage My Match – ongoing project, meeting dates still to be agreed
- Court usage – Being discussed at committee level due to questions at AGM. Statistics prepared. The committee determined that there were a number of factors to be taken into account regarding changing the peak times, particularly the earlier slots and the impact on junior players after school. However, post 9pm, there is a significant drop in utilisation of courts and therefore *committee agreed unanimously to reduce rates to off-peak from 9pm onwards*. This will take effect as soon as possible
- Private function guidelines updated in line with discussions at previous meeting
- Email addresses – generic email addresses for a number of different areas to be actioned by MD (rather than the use of personal email addresses).
- Recycling – general waste bin which we use currently for free has an average of 51% recycled material across the area. Other options are available, although they would be expensive. MB had enquired about what the other Pendley clubs do with their recycling and all of their requirements and solutions are different. The committee felt strongly that we have an ethical responsibility to do something and therefore further enquiries will be made.
- Match scoring – CL has previously raised the issue of England Squash scoring being par to 11. Committee discussed the issue but felt that the current system within the club of default scoring of par to 15, but players can choose to play par to 11 if they choose to should be kept.

4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A – CHAIRMAN

- Coaching – On the 7th December Paul Carter is conducting 3 coaching sessions at the club from 4:30pm onwards. The 3 sessions have been well received and are over subscribed.
- Introductory sessions – KWi to reach out to previous participants of the free introductory coaching sessions who have not joined the club to see if there is any interest in continuing their squash participation.

- PSA Event – Steve Arnold is onboard to sponsor the event for a 3rd year in a row. The PSA event levels are changing and therefore to put on a similar tournament to last year, we would need to raise \$18k sponsorship (c.£14k). Dates to avoid - \$11k New York beginning of May, Welsh Open \$11k 7-11 May. British Open 19-26 May, \$30k in France from 30-2 June. TSC indicative dates for the club champs 04-17 May (to be confirmed with Malcolm). Potential date for Tring PSA event – 13th to 18th May. MB to speak to previous players to determine whether they would play in a tournament the week before the British Open. Committee felt that if we went ahead, we would need to go ahead and get the 17” tins previously discussed (previously quoted at £1,500) as players would want to play on them with the British Open the following week. Chris Noakes would be happy to be the tournament director again. Committee unanimously agreed to proceed with exploring the feasibility of putting the tournament on again in 2019.
- Membership survey / Club developments – MB progressing discussions with Clive Birch to explore strategic options for club investment.
- Pendley car park – new signs are up and all feasible bays have been marked to ensure people park in marked bays only. Going through a trial period until the end of the rugby and football seasons to see if people’s habits are changing. Current thoughts are that something further will need to happen.

B – TREASURER

Quarter to 30 Sept 2018 – First quarter for this financial year. £4k increase in profit yoy, predominantly due to:

- Court bookings and tournament fees up £7k – due to timing of draw downs from paypal. MD and PB to ensure that in future this is done on a consistent basis
- £3k more spent on repairs and maintenance yoy due to cost of new fire doors

Next quarter, profit will be up due to the subscription renewal period.

C – MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Member data as of 21/11/18

Adult Player	234
Junior League Player	8
Junior Player	61
Life Member	14
Life Player	19
Social Member	32
Student Member	8
	376

376 members, down from 445 in September – reduction due to losses through subscription period.

Adult members down from 280 to 234

Social members down slightly

Junior members dropped by 20

Similar drop seen in 2017, although not quite as large

D – SECRETARY

No report

5. TEAM REPORTS:

Men's Captain – 1st team are top of division 1. 2nd team are so far unbeaten after 4 matches. Iain Digby has replaced Rob Dunford in this team. 3rd team are 2nd in division 4 as they have only lost one match in five. Both Ethan and Callum have played once each for the team.

Ladies' Captain – 1st team are mid table in both the Herts league and Bucks league. 2nd team have lost both of their first 2 games, but enjoying the matches.

6. JUNIOR REPORT

Interclub matches not started yet. Theoretically starting on the 2nd December but still waiting for fixtures. Good team practice held and lots of keen juniors within Tring.

4 Juniors participated in the inter-county matches. Juniors continue to participate in regional and national junior tournaments.

Positive feedback received for the Junior notice board.

7. OTHER REPORTS –

House – Cooker will get regular cleaning going forward. New safe bought to replace old one (which didn't work). Court heating has been serviced. Court 3 loose steps have been dealt with, a couple more to do. Courts 1 & 2 have been painted. To enquire with KWa whether it is possible to schedule future court maintenance during the off-season.

Social –

24th November – Band - Dung Beatles. Sell out event

7th December – Tring Ladies Xmas Party

16th December – Tring Junior Christmas Party

Few personal parties in the club calendar.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Handicap tournament dates are on the notice board, deadline for entries 15 Dec.
- Issues with the existing glass dishwasher in the bar. To explore options with Benny to resolve, potentially requiring a replacement.
- Squash leagues – a little drop off in league numbers. HD to explore reducing the leagues from 6 to 5 players for the winter leagues and potentially having the leagues played monthly. Also to consider moving 2 players up and down one box each league (with exceptions for irregularities). HD has raised the suggestions with the current league players and awaiting responses.

The meeting closed at 21:36

9. NEXT MEETING

16 January 2018

Joane Preston

Tring Squash Club Secretary