

## **TRING SQUASH CLUB**

### **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30th NOVEMBER 2016**

#### **ATTENDED BY**

Betty Longhurst (BL), Mark Bullard (MB), Keith Warman (KW), Matt Duncan (MD), Anna Ashwell (AA) Peter Barham (PB), & Chas Lefevre (CL).

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Jon Slade, Joni Duncan & James Walton (the 'J' team).

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

#### **2. MATTERS ARISING**

CL gave an update on the progress of the Handicap Tournament. 45 participants have signed up. CL is encouraging more players to sign up. There was a discussion about the how the handicap will be applied. The proposed handicapping will remain in place.

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

##### **A – CHAIRMAN**

BL & PB explained that PB will keep the cheque book as the current arrangement is proving impractical. Cheques raised by PB will be accompanied with an invoice for secondary signature.

BL is seeking clarification about the club's state pension obligation to its staff.

##### **PSA Event hosted at Tring Squash club**

The club has been asked whether it would like to host a PSA Tour event. BL & MB & Iain Digby met with Chris Noakes who outlined how this type of event is structured. The club would host either a \$5000, \$10,000 or \$15,000 event. The size of the prize pot determines the level of player who would enter. For a \$15,000 pot you can expect many players with a PSA World ranking of between 40-70.

As well as the prize fund the players will be playing for world ranking points making the event very important and competitive. These won't be exhibition matches.

The prize fund is made of sponsor donations. Revenues raised through tickets, bar and food sales go to the hosting club. Currently £4000 has been pledged by sponsors.

The competition runs over 4-6 days. There can be a qualifying event or just a main draw. It is likely the event would take place in May/June 2017.

CL suggested that a program promoting the sponsors and the event would be one way of making the proposition attractive to the sponsors.

The committee voted unanimously in favour of pursuing this with the immediate action for committee members to sound out club members and potential sponsors.

## **B – TREASURER**

PB handed out the year to date (YTD) accounts and compared current performance with last year. Bar takings are down, but other revenues figures are broadly in line with last year. Profitability is up, but mainly because there has been little maintenance expenditure YTD.

The committee questioned whether the drinks vending machine is worthwhile having.

## **C – MEMBERSHIP**

Membership numbers: -

230 Adults, 47 juniors, 26 Life & 37 Social Members.

The new 1 month grace period has proved very helpful to JD, as has the new PC.

## **D – SECRETARY**

MB gave an update on the Welfare policy, explaining that the sub-committee had agreed on the policy document and the parent consent form. MB explained that the sub-committee took the ESRA standard policies and modified them to reflect the way that this club operates.

MB outlined the next steps which are:-

1. Post the policy on website and in the club.
2. Post details of the welfare officer on the web-site and in the club.
3. Contact all parents of juniors who are members or who use the club and ask them to sign the parent consent form.

The meeting voted unanimously in favour of these actions.

BL made some suggestions about the two documents. MB will incorporate these and re-issue the documents.

HD/MD offered to help getting the contact details of the parents of junior members so that they can be sent a parental consent form.

MB informed the meeting that the club will make greater use of the club events calendar to keep members informed about matches, parties, meetings and BT Sport matches.

MB will speak to BT about renewal of the BT Sport service.

Better communication is needed about private party events with Malcolm Newton who runs the Saturday bar rota to ensure that these events are properly staffed.

## **TEAM REPORTS:**

### **E – MEN’S CAPTAIN**

KW went through the men’s teams for this season. The first team is doing well with some good wins this season. The second team is doing well having played 6 and won 4.

The third team is doing well but struggling on occasions to get players and needs to encourage more club players to consider playing. The Vets team is also struggling to get players.

KW made the comment that he thought the Herts league was slightly weaker this year as some clubs are no longer paying players or as many players.

The leagues were discussed. KW thought the decision to modify the P1/P2 league should have been brought to the committee. There was a discussion where various views were put forward, but in conclusion is that the purpose of the P1/P2 to get more team players playing in the leagues hasn’t been successful. HD will make a recommendation after the next league on changes he thinks are necessary.

### **G – LADIES CAPTAIN**

No report

### **H – Racquetball aka Squash57**

A discussion about setting up a Squash57 ladder took place to see if it would work better than the current league system. HD will talk to JW.

### **I – Leagues**

HD will post the current leagues on the board to make it easier for members to follow league activity.

## **5. OTHER REPORTS**

### **Junior Coaching**

Junior coaching numbers are:

Wednesday -13

1st Session Saturday – 4-6

2nd Session Saturday – good numbers

1st Session Saturday – good numbers

1st Session Saturday – >4

## **A – MAINTENANCE**

- Extra heating has been installed on court 2, similar to the additional heating on court 4. MB suggested that the switch for the auxiliary heating on court 4 be exchanged for one that has an 'on' indicator, the same as on court 2. Instructions about how to use the auxiliary heaters is needed.
- It was reported that the hot water had been left running all night.
- The fire doors will be replaced.
- BL / JD will make selections for the new carpet and flooring.
- Bi-fold doors will be fitted 6/12/16.
- Glass back doors for the courts will be fitted with opaque glass from top to bottom.
- The cooker will be replaced.
- The committee room tables will be replaced.

## **B – SOCIAL**

- December 2nd – Comedy Night – SOLD OUT
- Private function 10th December
- Private function 17th December

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Dogs in the club are welcome, but should be on a lead with their owners at all times. This was agreed unanimously by the meeting.

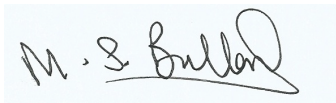
MB to contact the council requesting pot-hole repair at the entrance to the car park.

Help to set up and break down the bar & lounge for the comedy evening is required, Friday (2/12) morning/afternoon and Saturday morning (3/12).

The meeting closed at 22:10.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

January 11th 2017 (TBC)

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue rectangular background. The signature appears to read "M. S. Bullard".

Tring Squash Club Secretary