

Tennis committee minutes 14 July 2020

1. **Attendees:** Stuart Trotter; Isobel Campbell; Keith Fowler; Charan Singh; Shona Ross; Martin Lee; Ed Gallagher; Sheena Crichton
2. **Apologies:** none
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** approved by IC; seconded by ML
4. **Matters arising**
 - a) SC mentioned that people are still booking and not turning up. ML is to send an e mail to remind people that courts must be cancelled if they are not going to be used.
 - b) E mail domain for tennis : this is not fully working yet but in progress.
 - c) New members of committee are needed to replace those who have left or are leaving. ML intends to send out an e mail with brief descriptions of what we need. IC has taken over the Clubspark and given Lizzie full admin. rights. IC has also spoken to Carole Wilson who is willing to help out. Lizzie is going to check people booking are all members and delete anyone who has left the club. Carole will bill the club for any hours she works and add this on to the billing for coaching and meetings.
 - d) Coaching update. IC, SR and CW have agreed to start getting children back on courts. SR has tried to contact a full list of those previously involved. There has been a good response from all contacted. SR has spent six hours on this today alone. It will start on 20th July. E mails will eventually go over to Martin which will involve more administration. ST would like a separate file for non-members and KF questioned whether coaches could maintain the list of non-members? It was decided this could become part of the Head Coach's role. ML said it is manageable for members and non-members e mails. EG has a list of what was due to people regarding classes which were cancelled and it was decided we should offer people replacement lessons in August. SR is taking responses for all junior coaching at the moment. Sessions will run on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2 pm to 4 pm on courts 1,2 and 3 starting on 20th July.
5. **Position of Head Coach.** There were 23 applicants, six were interviewed and, from these, three were chosen for coaching sessions yesterday. IC, SR and KF were the interview panel and SR and CS viewed them online later. Thanks to the guinea pigs who took part in the coaching sessions. It was a close run thing but it was unanimous in the decision that Ashley Webster be the preferred candidate. A letter of intent is to be sent to Ash and thereafter discussions to find out when it would be suitable to start. Everyone in Ash's sessions was on court full-time and there was no standing off court. He is keen to grow community tennis and has a huge amount of experience in this country and abroad. He has worked with performance for Tennis Scotland and has run a club in the Manchester area so he has plenty of experience. In Barcelona he developed a programme and managed coaches. He is self-employed and used to managing that side of the business. We must encourage and support Ash and let him engage with the community.

ST wanted to particularly thank IC, SR and KF for all their hard work with the applications and interview processes. IC suggested after the email was sent to Ash that there should quickly follow on discussion of the contract with him. KF said we have to discuss our expectations and aspirations as well as the contract. We should give Ash a three month vision of what we want. KF, SR and IC Will meet with Ash.
6. **Ongoing COVID-19.** There followed a discussion about which posters should remain and which should be removed. The basic guidance has not changed therefore the only poster needing removed is the "During Play" one. SC will inform Sandy Thomson to remove that one from the website too. Social tennis cannot take place at present.
7. **Treasurer's report :** there was a very generous gift of £1000 to the club from the estate of Ali Romanis. The balance in the main account is £5654.33 and there is £83 in the coach's account. The total therefore is £5737.33. SR suggested it would be nice to do something special with the £1000 from Ali and suggestions are welcome.

EG is going to donate £20 to Logan for the coaching sessions with the children yesterday. ST suggested buying a wee gift for the children who helped at the coaching sessions and he will order some tennis related gifts online.

KF left the meeting at 8 pm.

8. **Social media** : it was suggested we may be able to get AC involved in devising an etiquette poster. IC suggested that the minutes from the mini subgroup on coaching should go on the website too. She also suggested that there should be a précis at the end of the appointment process of the Head Coach.

9. **Security of the main gate**. EG has written to Clubspark but got no reply so he would like to contact Roddy McNeil to discuss the idea with him.

10. **Reduced league format for 2020**. ML has heard from 4 teams but thinks we may have to mix the teams. ML said the gents 1st team did not seem interested but CS will contact 1st team captain to check. John Stevenson just wants people back playing tennis and so the rules will be slightly relaxed. We need to check the dates given and also accept that there is an entrance fee of £30 per team. SR says it is a step too far for junior teams at the moment but if Ash starts soon we may change this.

11. **Tennis etiquette** : SC will draw up some rules and then contact Anthony Coia to see if we could devise something more appealing as a poster to reinforce tennis etiquette at our club.

12. **Guests** : CS asked if it was possible to re-introduce guest passes but it was felt that the courts are too busy at the moment with many new members and that we are still in COVID-19 therefore unable to support guests. IC mentioned the junior member who had brought a guest last week and ST is going to contact him regarding this.

13. **Tennis Scotland** has requested the use of our courts for juniors especially for a box league. This will mean non-members coming to our courts but we need to allow them two days as that is part of our agreement regarding the new courts. The problem at the moment, however, is that there are no toilet facilities so Tennis Scotland may not take up the offer at present.

14. **The letters from Sandy Thomson** were discussed and points raised have been addressed earlier in this meeting.

15. **AOCB** : SR would like coaching "starting up" to be mentioned on the website with Carole Wilson's number being the contact.

SC asked about the tournament which has been set up for some of the male members with Queens Park, Titwood and Hillhead but which has not been something done through the committee. CS assured the committee that it has been organised by someone at Titwood and it would be made clear that Hillhead would not be a venue for matches which included guests from elsewhere.

EG mentioned the PayPal account which Carole will use to take payment from juniors. The money should be paid to Hillheadcoaching@gmail.com in the PayPal account before Monday. An e mail is being sent to the juniors with all the PayPal information before the children arrive for coaching on Monday. PayPal avoids problems with social distancing which would be unavoidable with Sum-up.

SR asked that padlocks be put on the other benches so that junior equipment can be stored there.

Date of next meeting : Tuesday 18th August at 7 pm.

ST thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm

Actions

E mail to be sent to members about cancelling courts and also reminding them that guests are NOT allowed at present.	ML	Completed
E mail to be sent to members re people needed with suitable skills to help with committee tasks.	ML	Completed
Tennis e mail domain	KF	In progress
E mails to be sent to unsuccessful candidates for the interviews.	ST	Completed
E mail to be sent to Ash. ST will send it round the sub committee before sending it out. He will also phone Ash after this committee meeting.	ST	Completed
“During Play “ posters to be removed from the courts and the web site	EG and SC	Completed
Poster on etiquette	SC	At the printers
Gents 1st team to be contacted re the reduced league	CS	Completed
E mail to be sent to junior member who has been flaunting the rules re bringing a guest, lying about his age and general court etiquette	ST	Completed
Meeting to be set up with Ash once he accepts the position of Head Coach	KF, IC, SR	Completed
Benches to be moved into tennis area and padlocks to be bought.	EG and others to help	Completed
E mails to be sent to juniors re coaching.	SR and ML	Completed
Security of main gate	EG	In progress
Small gifts to be bought for juniors who helped at Head Coach interview sessions	ST	In progress