

Tennis Committee minutes from meeting 18th Nov. '20

1. **Attendees:** Stuart Trotter; Shona Ross; Ed Gallagher; Martin Lee; Isobel Campbell; Keith Fowler; Sheena Crichton
2. **Apologies :** none
3. **Head coach report:** This was circulated to all the committee last week by IC after the sub-committee meeting. Main points were:
 - Management of children going to the bathroom - an email has gone out asking that a parent needs to escort the child to the toilet. As of this Friday at 4 pm there will be no toilet facilities due to tier 4 restrictions.
 - Groups: Ash has started to juggle the groups with juniors. A whole new structure will kick off in the New Year.
 - Men's training: the Thursday evening session is now being advertised as men's singles and doubles and is available for anyone to book (to be for intermediate and advanced level). SC questioned where it had been advertised as no one has seen it. Seemingly it has been put on Clubspark but nowhere else as yet. This needs to be addressed.
 - The subcommittee discussed the social sessions and IC talked about getting suitable sessions for adult beginners. It was thought that social sessions should state what sort of player level is suited. The committee needs to decide this, however ST said the Sunday afternoon group was not necessarily a beginner level as long-term members played at that time. KF said this has been going on for years and usually people help guide newcomers to the right session. ST pointed out that when he joined there was no elitism and he felt very welcome.
 - Ash is keen to organise Christmas tournaments one for adult beginners, one for children and the normal adult one between Christmas and New Year.
 - Ash asked about development of the ground at the end of the clubhouse but this is out with the jurisdiction of the tennis committee.
 - Clubspark payments: there is still some discrepancy here but the balance is in our favour. (It's due to lag in payments transferring to us) Non-members additional fees has been paid to the treasurer.
 - Bookings on Clubspark: KF has sorted bookings so we can see what each colour means (he has put an example online for us to have a look at). This should make it easier for people to understand as there is a clear colour-coding. Ash will start using this from the beginning of 2021.
 - The courts are getting deep cleaned on the 25th of November.
 - Numbers at coaching are still very healthy. Ash is dealing with coach development and trying to get more coaches mentored from January.
 - EG questioned the bank transfers where there seems to be a 25p transfer fee from Stripe for any size of transfer. KF questioned how refunds work and EG replied that he can see them on the account through "Stripe" (Stripe is a similar system to Pay Pal and is linked to the LTA Clubspark system).
4. **Previous minutes:** approved by IC seconded by ST. SC will send to Sandy with sensitive items removed.

5. **Matters arising:** SC pointed out that there was felt to be quite poor communication during club championships as many people did not know how to access the information and in addition there were many who did not know that they were involved in consolation challenges. This is something which will need to be looked at for next year. SC made the suggestion that perhaps a small sub-group needs to be formed to deal with the club championships if they are going to be extensive.

- Numbers of tennis members: 258 adults, 55 juniors and 79 minis. There may be also Sports Club members who are not registered as Tennis members who are playing plus non-members who are involved in coaching sessions. The LTA recommendations are 60 adult members per court. SR says we need to discuss any possible capping of membership with the Board as a tennis committee because the Board will not stop taking on new members unless we advise them. IC has calculated the amount of court time for members and it is very tight so we really need to monitor and review regularly possibly limiting numbers joining the club.
- One of the problems with court time is people not cancelling courts when unable to use them (this was highlighted in a letter to the committee from Duncan Ferguson). SC asked if we could set up a Clubspark alert to send a reminder to members 24 hours before their booking to remind them in advance that if they cannot honour the booking they must cancel it. IC will speak to Fraser about this.
- There seems to be a big difference between the hours which are booked for coaching and the court bookings. This could be because there is a lot of one-to-one coaching and IC thinks we should have an agreement on not using too many courts. It needs to be checked if non-members can get one-to-one coaching. SC suggested that no more than two courts be used for coaching at peak times. ML suggested that one-to-one coaching should be encouraged at non-peak times.
- Cardio tennis disclaimer: ST will send an email to Ash about this.
- **Guests are still not allowed.**

6. **Treasurer's report:** £8755.88 in balance. Ash's latest invoice has been settled and non-members fees have been paid to the Sports Club. EG asked that his report for the AGM be sent out beforehand. ML will do this if EG sends it to him.

EG has had no response from the guy who came to look at the lighting but he already has one price from Halidays. He also reported a damaged bench and is going to get a new one.

7. **Covid officer:** we don't owe more money for the club toilets as the toilets are shutting on Friday. (SC to contact Sandy to make sure this is on the website). The bins are getting put back up next week hopefully.

8. **Maintenance:** EG mentioned the extended car park and the need for stones to cover the muddy area. KF thinks it would take around 20 tons and Kitch has a roller to flatten these down. EG estimates the cost to be roughly £800: we need to go through the Sports Board for this.

- Some drag-nets need fixing.
- If we go back to tier 3 and the gym opens, the Sports Board will have to decide what happens regarding toilet facilities. IC pointed out that we need these for any tournaments.

9. Sandy's suggestion we split up **CMC duties:** ML says it gets very busy at certain times of the year. He says 3 people would be good and also suggests folders would be useful to be able to keep information.

10. **Payment of re-registration fee:** ML feels this should be run by the tennis committee.

11. **AGM:**

- ST sent out an email asking for questions but has only received two emails so far: 1. from Duncan regarding cancelling of courts by members not able to use them. 2. From George asking about cancelling bookings for social sessions; about confusion over club night and social; about 2 team training sessions for men's 3rd team on Sunday night (we think is a mistake); and mentioning there is no team training for ladies 4th and 5th team. IC and SC both said that there *was* training on Sunday afternoons but that it had not been taken up sufficiently to continue.
- Rules for the next committee: George Cheyne has agreed to be CMC; Carlos may join the committee. We need a Chair and ST had suggested KF but he declined having done it for 7 years previously. We need some younger people on the committee. IC suggested that as there is no-one keen to stand up as Chair at the minute it should be left to the first committee meeting to appoint a Chair. It is asking a lot for someone to come onto the committee and become Chair immediately therefore we want to have as many people coming forward onto the committee as possible to help with the running of the section. KF said the requirement is to nominate positions at the AGM but we need an interim person which as yet has not been decided.

12. **AOCB:** ML still has some pennants and does not know who has to receive them. If anyone has any ideas who they should go to please contact the committee.

- EG asked if people could be reminded of the code when they were sent out details once they had joined the Club. ML will check that Lizzie has all the accurate information for new members.
- IC asked if we got all the trophies returned and if they were given out to the winners. The gents over 45's plate has not been returned. IC will e mail Tony Miles again or ST will phone him.
- IC thanked ST, ML and SC for their time served on the committee.

13. **Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th December at 7 pm**

Christmas tournaments	AW	In progress
Previous minutes to be sent to Sandy	SC	Completed
Problem of people not cancelling courts. Fraser to be contacted re an alert system	IC	In progress
Cardio tennis disclaimer	ST to connect AW	In progress
New bench	EG	In progress
New lighting quotes	EG	In progress
Toilet closure to be advertised on web site	SC to contact Sandy	Completed
Muddy area of extended car park	EG and SR to contact Board	In progress
Drag nets to be fixed	EG	In progress
Info for new members	ML	In progress
Return of trophy from previous 45+ winner	IC and ST	In progress