

Banbury and District Tennis Leagues

Minutes of AGM

17th February 2011

Banbury West End Tennis Clubhouse

Present:

Trevor Stevens (Treasurer), Jackie Robinson (Secretary), Nick Adams (Deddington), Bronwyn Adams (Deddington), Shirley Griffith (Brackley), Nigel Hicks (Kings Sutton), Julie Smart (Tysoe), Paul Christie (Middleton Cheney), Garry Liversage (Middleton Cheney), Ray Armstrong (Banbury West End), June Ward (Deddington), Alison Hopewell (Charlbury), Stephen Rogers (Banbury), David Hudson (Hook Norton)

1. Apologies:

Michelle Blee (Byfield), Colin Mercer (Harbury)

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It was previously agreed that the role of Chairman would be on a revolving basis whereby club names would be picked 'out of a hat' annually in advance. Last year it was agreed that Harbury would take the Chair for 2011. Unfortunately Colin Mercer was unable to attend so Garry Liversage (Middleton Cheney) stood in as Chairman.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (23rd February 2010):

The Minutes had been previously circulated. There were no comments.

Paul Christie (Middleton Cheney) proposed the Minutes be accepted, seconded by June Ward (Deddington). The Minutes were accepted unanimously.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes:

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

4. Secretary's Report

A written report was circulated and is available on the BTL website.

Jackie Robinson said she was very sorry to be leaving as League Match Secretary, a role she has fulfilled for 11 years. She has enjoyed it very much, has made many friends and wanted to thank everyone involved for their help and cooperation.

The Treasurer, Trevor Stevens, presented a bouquet and a monetary donation contributed by the clubs to Jackie. On behalf of all Clubs, Teams and Members he expressed grateful thanks for her hard work and unstinting efforts.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary and it was passed unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report

A written report was circulated and is available on the BTL website.

The increase in fees and tight cost control has resulted in a small surplus of £20.54 compared with a deficit of £305.02 last year.

Current available interest rates are very low; there is no option to improve. Garry Liversage confirmed that this was his experience.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions. There were none.

The Chairman thanked Trevor and asked the members to approve the accounts. Passed unanimously.

6. Election of Officers:

Chairman: Colin Mercer (Harbury) – elected by Draw at the AGM on 23rd February 2010.

Treasurer: Trevor Stevens (Deddington) – proposed by Ray Armstrong (Banbury West End), seconded by Jackie Robinson, re-elected unanimously.

Secretary: Nick Adams (Deddington) – proposed by Nigel Hicks (Kings Sutton), seconded by June Ward (Deddington), elected unanimously.

7. Formation of Summer League:

Banbury & District Summer League 2011 (Proposed)

Division 1

Banbury A
Banbury W.E. A
Brackley A
Byfield A
Byfield B
Charlbury A
Kings Sutton A

Division 2

Banbury B
Banbury W.E. B
Brackley B
Deddington A
Hook Norton A
Kings Sutton B
Middleton Cheney A

Division 3

Banbury C
Banbury W.E. C
Byfield C
Charlbury B
Deddington B
Hook Norton B
Tysoe A

Division 4

Banbury W.E. D
Brackley C
Charlbury C
Harbury
Hook Norton C
Kings Sutton C
Middleton Cheney B

Division 5

Banbury W.E. E
Byfield D
Deddington C
Deddington D
Hook Norton D
Hook Norton E
Middleton Cheney C
Tysoe B

There was discussion about the fairness of tactically conceding games that may affect other team's promotion and relegation position.

It was generally felt that whilst this was technically within the rules it was outside the spirit of the league and a little unsporting. A suggestion to fine offending clubs was rejected.

Nick Adams said that concessions would be clearly shown in the results section of the website and completed Match Cards would also be accessible via the website.

Acceptance of the proposed Divisions was proposed by Julie Smart (Tysoe), seconded by Alison Hopewell (Charlbury) and passed unanimously with a reservation that the conceding games problem should be resolved by next year by the proposed Dispute Resolution Committee.

8. Proposals:

None

9. Rules (amendments):

Nick Adams (incoming League Secretary) proposed that all references to communication by phone or post should be replaced by email. This will enable results and tables to be maintained in a timely manner even if he is away from home.

Nick Adams stated that from his point of view the limit of one rearranged match (rule 3) could be relaxed as agreed changes requested by consenting Home and Away Match Secretaries could be easily accommodated by him. Subsequent discussions suggest that this may not be quite so straightforward and this proposal would be better reviewed after some time in the job.

Jackie Robinson (outgoing League Secretary) pointed out that Nick Adams has no experience of handling tennis league disputes and proposed that a Committee should be formed to handle dispute resolution. This idea was discussed later in AOB.

10. Any Other Business

There was discussion about late starting matches leading to poor playing conditions later in the evening. The rules clearly state that players should be on court and ready to play at 6:15 and Team Captains should ensure their team complies.

There was further discussion about teams without floodlights making a contribution to the costs of those with floodlights when floodlights had to be used. This idea has been previously raised, considered and rejected. Julie Smart (Tysoe) said that her Club had floodlights and their committee considered it an insignificant issue and recommended others do the same.

As stated earlier the incoming Match Secretary has no experience in interpreting tennis club rules or adjudicating in disputes so it was proposed that a Dispute Resolution Committee be formed.

After discussion it was further proposed that this Committee should consist of the Chairman (who would have a casting vote), the Treasurer and two Match Secretaries (who would be independent and have no vested interest in the dispute). This committee would meet on an ad-hoc basis, not necessarily in person but could carry out their discussions by phone or email.

This was proposed by Nigel Hicks (Kings Sutton) and seconded by Paul Christie (Middleton Cheney).

Nick Adams was asked to email Club Match Secretaries with this information.

11. Presentation of Certificates

The Chairman presented certificates to the Winners and Runners Up of the 2010 Summer League. Congratulations to those Winners and Runners Up.

With no further business to discuss the Meeting closed at 8:35.