

Banbury and District Tennis Leagues

Minutes of AGM
29th January 2019
Brackley Tennis Club

Present

Colin Mercer (League Chairman), Trevor Stevens (League Treasurer), Art Kharlamov (League Secretary), Caroline Morland (Harbury), June Ward (Deddington), Libby Gibbs (Deddington), Trevor Barnes (Towcestrians), Paul Christie (Middleton Cheney), Val Christie (Middleton Cheney), Lizzie Cooke (Warwick), Julian Gardner (Tysoe), Mark Wolton (Banbury West End), Sandra Parsons (Kings Sutton), Richard Stidworthy (Banbury)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:33 p.m. by welcoming all attendees and thanking Brackley for arranging the meeting venue, food and drinks.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Sylvia Wilcox (Tysoe), Judy Kirk (Charlbury), Judith Haynes (Charlbury), Barrie Smith (Hook Norton) and Richard Carey (Brackley)

The following clubs also had no representatives attending the meeting:

- Byfield
- Priors Marston

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (15th February 2018)

The Minutes were circulated. They had been previously posted on the Banbury Tennis Leagues website. The Chairman asked the meeting to review them page by page and asked whether there were any questions, comments or corrections. There were none.

Trevor Barnes (Towcestrians) proposed the Minutes be accepted. The proposal was seconded by Paul Christie (Middleton Cheney) and the Minutes were accepted by all those present.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

The Chairman asked if there were any further matters arising from the Minutes. There were none.

4. Secretary's Report

The League Secretary then delivered his report which was accepted by the meeting attendees. The summary is available on the League website. He summarised the challenges the Leagues faced since the last AGM and the improvements which were made to the website and the Playwaze driven score entry and table generating system. He has also congratulated the teams who have achieved exceptional results in the Summer and Summer Weekend Leagues.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented a copy of the accounts for Year Ended 31st January 2019 which he summarised and then circulated for review. It is available on the banburytennisleagues.com website.

The Treasurer highlighted that the income over expenditure had improved and the surplus was about £170 (£169.54 as per accounts).

The Treasurer then pointed out that the Winter Fees have exceeded the Summer Fees which was perhaps unusual but explained that it was in part a result of one of the New Summer Weekend Leagues (Mens) not happening in 2018 due to lack of entries. The Secretary then confirmed that there was again only one entry - Byfield) in the Mens Summer Weekend League and therefore it will not be happening in 2019.

The Chairman then asked the meeting to approve the accounts as presented. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Trevor Barnes (Towcestrians), seconded by Lizzie Cooke (Warwick) and carried unanimously.

6. Election of Officers

The Chairman reminded the meeting that he said at last year's AGM that he wanted to step down and a reminder was issued six months into the year but there were no volunteers to take on the role. He also reminded that the situation is exactly the same regarding the Treasurer's position.

The Secretary expressed his willingness to continue in his role unless someone else would like to take over.

Again, there were no further nominations and the Chairman then said that he would implement the "backstop" position for the next Chairman to be selected at random. He also requested that due to the length of time he has been a Chairman (7 years) Harbury should be exempt from the Chairman selection procedure for a period of 3 to 5 years.

The question was then asked what the role involved, and the Chairman summarised his responsibilities.

Still no volunteers stepped forward and therefore a club was selected randomly out of a hat.

Banbury West End was selected and shortly after the AGM Mark Wolton confirmed that he will act as the Leagues Chairman at least until the next AGM in 2020.

There were no volunteers for the Leagues Treasurer and therefore Trevor Stevens agreed to continue in this role for another year.

The chairman asked whether the meeting is happy to re-elect current Leagues Treasurer and Leagues Secretary, and this carried unanimously by a show of hands.

The Chairman thanked the meeting and asked to be on a look out for potential new volunteers to be committee members.

7. Proposals

There were no formal proposals

8. Formation of the 2019 Summer League

At the time of the AGM it was understood that there were 30 teams entered.

The meeting was asked to consider an option of 4 Divisions with 8 teams in the first two Divisions and 7 teams in the third and fourth Divisions.

A discussion took place as to how many teams should be in each division with June Ward stating that it is very difficult for Deddington to play 14 matches in a season. An option of 5 divisions of 6 teams was considered but one downside which was discussed was that some teams promoted during the last year will have to stay in the same division.

After extensive discussions two options were put to the vote:

Option 1: Four Divisions 8/8/7/7

Option 2: Five Divisions 6/6/6/6/6

Option 1 (as copied below) was voted for by a show of hands 6 to 4

9. Formation of the 2019 New Summer Weekend League

One option was proposed which is copied below.

From the entries received it was clear that the Mens division is not going to be viable as only one team (Byfield) entered.

There were 4 entries in the Ladies Division and 5 entries in the Mixed division.

The Chairman then asked to approve the proposal as presented: 4 Ladies Teams and 5 Mixed Teams. It was carried unanimously by show of hands.

10. Any Other Business

The Chairman asked if there was any other business.

a) There was a question asked about how the Leagues Rules can be enforced i.e. financial penalties for not turning up for a match or some other options. The chairman proposed that this should be considered during the year and perhaps included in the formal proposals for next year AGM.

a) A question was raised again (same as during 2018 AGM) regarding teams playing tactically and forming their Pair1 and 2 after the Mens and Ladies Rubbers are played in order to potentially maximise their points and potentially not listing players in order of their playing abilities as stipulated in Rule 15.

Rule 15

15. Teams will consist of 2 men and 2 ladies who should be listed in order of their playing ability. The match will consist of 1 ladies' doubles, 1 men's doubles and 2 mixed doubles. Each rubber will consist of 2 sets, a tie-break to be played at 6-6 each set.

It was pointed out that it was not clear when the pairs should be declared and perhaps because of that we may need a change of the rule.

After a lengthy discussion the Chairman said that as there was no formal proposal to change the league rules at this AGM, no further progress could be made. It was left to clubs to decide if they wished to pursue a change to the rules at the 2020 AGM giving the required 14 days notice.

There being no further business to attend to the meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.

Formation of 2019 Summer League (Midweek)

Division 1

- 1 Banbury A
- 2 Hook Norton A
- 3 Byfield A
- 4 Banbury West End A
- 5 Charlbury A
- 6 Kings Sutton A
- 7 Middleton Cheney A
- 8 Deddington A

Division 2

- 1 Brackley A
- 2 Byfield B
- 3 Hook Norton B
- 4 Banbury B
- 5 Charlbury B
- 6 Byfield C
- 7 Banbury West End B
- 8 Deddington B

Division 3

- 1 Middleton Cheney B
- 2 Byfield D
- 3 Banbury West End C
- 4 Brackley B
- 5 Harbury
- 6 Tysoe A
- 7 Banbury C

Division 4

- 1 Kings Sutton B
- 2 Deddington C
- 3 Hook Norton C
- 4 Brackley C
- 5 Deddington D
- 6 Hook Norton D
- 7 Banbury West End D

Formation 2019 Summer League (Weekend)

Ladies

- 1 Byfield Ladies (Champions)
- 2 Kings Sutton Ladies (Runners Up)
- 3 Middleton Cheney Ladies
- 4 Warwick Ladies

Mixed

- 1 Priors Marston Mixed A (Winners)
- 2 Towcestrians Mixed (Runners Up)
- 3 Byfield Mixed
- 4 Harbury Mixed
- 5 Kings Sutton Mixed

Mens

- 1 Byfield Mens