

# **Gerrards Cross Squash Club**

## **Minutes of the 24th Annual General Meeting**

**held on 9th June 1997 at the Memorial Centre**

Present: K Hewison (Chairman) and 15 members

### **1) Apologies for Absence :**

Apologies for absence were received from B Boyd and C Redmond.

### **2) Minutes of the 1996 AGM :**

The minutes of the 1996 AGM were adopted as a true record. There were no matters arising. The chairman emphasised the value of contributions to the annual newsletter which will be distributed prior to membership renewal night.

### **3) Chairman's Report :**

The Chairman reported that the past year had been the quietest of his term so far, thanking the Committee for helping to ensure that the Club continued to provide good quality squash facilities in well maintained premises at a highly competitive membership fee.

He thanked David Evans for his continuing contribution as House representative, and Andrew Royal for his long standing efforts as league secretary. He reported that Nick Lees was likely to be standing down as Treasurer after 5 years in that position plus another 2 as House representative. The Committee were very disappointed at the prospect of losing such a long standing and valuable member and wished him well in his new post which will take him out of the country for extended periods. Whilst on the subject of committee membership, he stressed the importance of injecting new blood and ideas and urged members to consider standing on the committee in whatever capacity they could manage.

Thanks were expressed to Anita and Richard Crosbie for once more organising successful and highly enjoyable Handicap Tournaments. These tournaments are an opportunity to mix socially with other club members as well as providing the chance for us lower league players to cause an upset by beating the higher ranked players.

He finished by thanking the Committee for assisting him in his role and wishing the membership another year of enjoyable squash.

### **4) Treasurer's Report :**

The audited accounts for the year ending in September 1996 were presented by the Treasurer (attached). This year's accounts show a surplus of income over expenditure, mainly due to decreased expenditure on repairs and maintenance. Income from subscriptions and court bookings was down. The level of membership has been a major point of concern for the Committee over the past year. However, the Club's overall financial position remains relatively healthy with a current account of

around £11K.

## 5) **Appointment of Club Auditors :**

The accounts of Messrs Nunn, Brown and Dales were accepted unanimously.

The Honorary Accountants were thanked for their efforts and were proposed for reappointment by N Lees, seconded by B Boyd and passed by a majority vote.

## 6) **Membership Report :**

The current level of membership is once more down on that reported at the previous AGM with the most alarming reduction showing in the adult category. The usual mailshot to members who haven't renewed their subscriptions was not carried out this year which may have contributed to the drop. To counter this, the mailshot for this year's renewal will be sent to all members who did not rejoin last October. Leaflets have been posted in the library and with the New Neighbours Scheme to advertise the club.

The current figures for membership are as follows :

	<b>1996-97</b>	<b>1995-96</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1993-94</b>
Adult	87	99	108	110
Family	18 (50)	18	20	24
Under-25	8	6	8	9
Junior/Student	19	21	12	18
Corporate	35	20	15	23
Non-playing	-	-	4	6
Life member	7	7	5	5

Corporate membership has continued to grow in popularity to the extent where pressure on lunch-time courts has become quite high. The following organisations are currently involved:

Hitachi Data Systems  
Martin Baker Aircraft  
Nunn Brown and Dale  
RWS Translations  
Trebor Bassett

The arrangement whereby members of Bojangles were granted permission to use the changing rooms during off-peak periods for a monthly fee is expected to end shortly.

## 7) **House Secretary's Report :**

The house representative reported the following points :

- The courts were due to undergo their usual annual maintenance during August when the walls would be washed and the floors sanded. Also to include minor

- repairs to plasterwork around the doors.
- A new phone had been purchased outright by the club and installed on the balcony.
- A water cooler had been installed in the original position of the phone. Extra cups were stored in one of the balcony cupboards.
- A quote of £1700 had been received for work to strengthen the balcony rail. After discussion, it was decided that further quotes should be sought before having the work carried out.

## 8) **Captain's Report :**

Nick Hallchurch reported the following :

- the summer team had finished 5th out of 6 in the 1st division of the Summer League (having won division 2 the previous year) which was a creditable performance.
- NH had been injured all season but had maintained two teams by recruiting players from Middlesex clubs.
- The 1st team had started late but had managed to avoid relegation which was very good.
- The club championship was won by Mike Burnett who had beaten Peter Jones. The tournament had once again suffered a poor turn-out.

He thanked all those who had been involved in keeping the teams together.

## 9) **Junior Secretary's Report :**

David Colwill reported

- the Sunday afternoon coaching sessions had run throughout the winter
  - 2:30 to 4:30 experienced players/match practice
  - 4:30 to 5:30 beginners /improvers
- Monthly sessions were run for the beginners by Jenny Brown.
- A team was entered in Division 3 of the county leagues and had achieved good results, winning 5 matches from 12.
- The team fell victim to strong competition in the County knock-out for juniors.
- The Christmas match between the Juniors and a Chairman's select team was again won by the Juniors.

The Junior Championship result were as follows:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>
Under 12	No competition	
Under 14	Tom Chambers	Oliver Skelding
Under 16	Tom Chambers	Gareth John
Under 19	Gareth John	Alan Allkins

The trophy for most improved player was awarded to Chris de Looze.

DC expressed his thanks to all those who had assisted in the junior coaching, especially to Graham Chambers who had agreed to fill his position when David took up the reigns as treasurer. The Chairman thanked David Colwill for all his efforts.

**10) Subscriptions :**

Following a debate about the club's finances and subscription levels A Royal proposed that the fees be raised to £55 for adult membership and £80 for family. It was noted that the last year's increase was due to the increase in Memorial Centre subscriptions. The proposal was seconded by T Coke and passed by a majority vote.

**11) Election of Club Officers :**

The following Officers and Committee members were elected:

Chairman:	Ken Hewison
Secretary:	David Sledge
Treasurer:	David Colwill
Club Captain:	Nick Hallchurch
Ladies Representative:	Anita Crosbie
House Member:	David Evans
League Secretary:	Andrew Royal
Junior Secretary:	Graham Chambers
Elected Member:	Pam Hogan

**12) Any Other Business :**

- A request was made to replace the hair-dryer in the Men's changing room.
- David Sledge urged members and Committee to consider articles for submission to the September Newsletter in the vain hope that they might actually do so.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:03 pm.

D Sledge  
Hon Secretary