

# **Gerrards Cross Squash Club**

## **Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting**

**held on 6th July 1998 at the Memorial Centre**

Present: K Hewison (Chairman) and 11 members

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

Apologies for absence were received from R Crosbie, K Birkby, S Jaggard, and T Coke.

### **2) Minutes of the 1997 AGM :**

The minutes of the 1997 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 seen the first serious event of his term so far, when the club suffered damage to the carpets in the lobby after an act of vandalism. The club was very lucky that the court floors were not damaged when a hose pipe was inserted through an open window and left on overnight. The court floors had been lifted and checked and found to be free from damage.

He thanked 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. In particular, he thanked David Evans who stood down from his position as House representative earlier in the year, and Bob Boyd who had stepped in to fill the gap. 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, the most recent of which had coincided with their moving house! 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 1997 were presented by the Treasurer (attached). DC reported that the accountants had recently changed their name to Nunn Hayward and that this should be noted for all future correspondence. This year's accounts show an increase in expenditure on repairs and maintenance following work on the front wall and on the external timberwork. Income from

subscriptions and the stamp machine was down whilst that from the light meters was up. However, the Club's overall financial position remains relatively healthy with assets of around £30K and a current account of around £12K.

C Hockin questioned the interest rates on the clubs account and suggested opening a holding account at a higher rate.

## 5) Appointment of Club Auditors :

The accounts of Messrs Nunn Hayward (formerly Nunn, Brown and Dales) were accepted unanimously.

The Honorary Accountants were thanked for their efforts and were proposed for reappointment by D Colwill, seconded by K Hewison and passed by a majority vote.

## 6) Membership Report :

D Sledge stated that the current level of membership is up on that reported at the previous AGM with the most noticeable increase showing in the adult and corporate categories. A mailshot to members who hadn't renewed their subscriptions reclaimed many old keys and a few old members.

The current figures for membership are as follows :

	1997-98	1996-97	1995-96	1994-95
Adult	100	87	99	108
Family	14 (45)	18 (50)	18	20
Under-25	7	8	6	8
Junior/Student	21	19	21	12
Corporate	62	35	20	15
Non-playing	-	-	-	4
Life member	7	7	7	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  
Madge Networks Ltd

MDS Harris  
Nunn Hayward  
RWS Translations

- Leaflets (offering a small reduction to new members) has been deposited with the New Neighbours Scheme to advertise the club to people moving into the area.
- Discussions have been held with Bojangles concerning some form of joint membership scheme with, as yet, no result. The arrangement whereby

members of Bojangles were granted permission to use the changing rooms during off-peak periods for a monthly fee continues for men only.

- A request was made that a directory of members be published.
- D Sledge indicated that he would like this to be his last year as secretary.

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

There was no house representative present but the following points were discussed briefly:

- Flooding of club house.
- A cheaper quote had been found for the work to strengthen the balcony and it was decided to proceed.
- It was reported that the cardkey lock on the external door had been giving problems and had been fixed on a number of occasions. It was decided to seek a replacement.

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

N Hallchurch reported the following :

- The 1st team had finished second from bottom of the 2nd division after 2 teams had dropped out. D Halkerston had captained the side whilst NH was out due to injury.
- Only 1 winter team had operated this season but there was sufficient enthusiasm to run a 2nd team again next season.
- No Summer team entered this year.
- The club championship was won by S Hefferman who had beaten S Bayley. B Boyd won both the vets tournament and the plate. The tournament had once again suffered a poor turn-out.
- It was again stated that the ladies tournament should be reinstated next season.

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

There was no Junior Representative present but it was reported that :

- The junior team had played well and gained promotion into Division 2 next season.

The Junior Championship result were as follows:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>
Under 12	No competition	
Under 14	J Roberts	A Heavyside
Under 16	G John	C de Looze
Under 19	M Redmond	A Allkins

The trophy for most improved player was awarded to A Allkins.

#### 10) **Subscriptions :**

Following a debate about the club's finances and subscription levels the committee recommended an increase in court booking fees whilst freezing the subscription rates for this year. The recommendation was as follows :

- £1 levy of members by Buckinghamshire SRA to be funded from club finances for this year.
- Peak bookings to rise from £2 to £3
- Off peak bookings to change to 1 stamp on the sheet plus £1 for lights.

After a discussion, the proposal was seconded by B Baker 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:	B Boyd
League Secretary:	Andrew Royal
Junior Secretary:	Graham Chambers
Elected Members:	Bob Beasley
	Chris Hockin
	Pam Hogan
	David Rose
	Peter Scott

#### **12) Any Other Business :**

- T Collins urged the club to investigate the issue of Memorial Centre Cards.
- It was suggested that the club hold some form of social event to mark its 25th Anniversary.
- Following a discussion regarding unstamped peak bookings and the level of DNA's it was decided to attempt to police this more thoroughly.
- D 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 9:20 pm.

D Sledge  
Hon Secretary