

MINUTES OF SQUASH CLUB AGM

30TH JUNE 2008

PRESENT:

D.Sledge, N.Hallchurch, M.Branton, J.Mayfield, C.Redmond, A.Kemps, R.Gulati, D. Foskett, V.Paul, P.Scott, G.John, A.& R.Crosbie, R.Fisher, M.Lawson, D. Colwill.

APOLOGIES:

J.Woodford, M.Lilley, C.Ward, B.Baker.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chris Redmond has retired as club treasurer and been replaced by Ainsley Kemps.

Cathy Sample has given notice as membership secretary to go and live in Dubai, John Mayfield has volunteered to take over as Membership secretary.

Nick Hallchurch explained the new company rules and layout as per letter sent to members on the 4th June 2008.

Comments from the floor:

G. John: Would the ownership of the land be withdrawn from the club?

N. Hallchurch replied that we have a bare licence, not a lease, which could be terminated with reasonable notice – a minimum of 6 to 12 months. We would have to find out if we have security of tenure. There is no peppercorn rent paid for the land.

A. Kemps: As we pay £1 per year membership to the community association, does this not give us security of tenure as it is mandatory?

N. Hallchurch replied that the Community centre have an interest to provide a sporting facility to the residents of Gerrards Cross and surrounding area.

R.Gulati: Accounts should be produced twice a year but we don't have to have them audited as we are a small company but they must be filed.

R.Fisher: What happens about the fee that everyone is liable for if the company folds up?

D.Colwill: We are paying full rates at the moment, do we get a rebate? Also would any repercussions would make the subs go up substantially/

A. Kemps replied that accounts fees would increase.

R. Gulati suggested that we have an accounts review to protect Ainsley in the future.

Nunn Hayward will carry on doing our accounts as they have been excellent in the past.

P. Scott asked if the club could borrow money to pay for refurbishments?

N. Hallchurch replied that the board of directors would be able to borrow money in the future if it is needed.

M.Lawson asked what the maximum cost of setting up the company is likely to be.

N. Hallchurch replied that set up costs should be up to £7k but that he doing it all at a reduced rate. Limited company cost £100. There needs to be a first meeting to change members and appoint directors etc and there will be a cost involved to do this.

R.Fisher: Will there be a fee paid to Nunn Hayward?

N.Hallchurch: Yes there will be but we haven't gone very deep into costs and all issues yet. If we do a large proportion of the work, the cost will be lower to other companies involved. Simon Dodd could audit the accounts if we need it.

A. Kemps: The rates are about £2K per annum.

N.Hallchurch:I am asking for £3k for all work done so far. Ongoing work could be another £1-2k more.

D. Colwill: I am concerned about a subs hike!

N. Hallchurch: The present committee members may not want to stand for re-election if the association is carried on. We will watch the reserves and some costs will be passed on when all figures are accounted for.

Many other comments were made about membership costs per annum.

The floor on the whole agreed that our club is extremely good value for the fees paid and a small raise would not push people away.

N. Hallchurch suggested that we make a more detailed report.

P. Scott asked if the change would put the club at risk.

N.Hallchurch replied that we would challenge any attempt to close down the club. We are here on association trust each way.

G.John was concerned that the end date on the licence may give the Memorial Centre the ability to squeeze us out.

N.Hallchurch: We want to pass the resolutions. We will worry about possible repercussions later.

David Sledge asked for a vote on the matter.

The motion was passed unanimously plus five absent members had also given their votes of acceptance.

Previous AGM Minutes:

Rory Fisher proposed to accept last year's AGM minutes.

Mike Lawson seconded.

Treasurers report:

Income and expenditure accounts produced by Chris Redmond. See attached sheets.

Proposed by C. Redmond

Seconded by A. Kemps.

Appointment of club auditors.

It was proposed that Nunn Hayward remain as our auditors.

Proposed by Nick Hallchurch.

Seconded by Gwyn John and John Mayfield.

Membership review:

250 members at this time comprising of:

113 Adults

9 under 25s

19 Family members

17 Juniors

4 Corporates

4 Life members

60 members joined the summer leagues compared to 67 last year. We possibly lost 100 members at renewal in Oct 2007. All members will have to complete renewal forms in Oct 08 for accountability and because of change of use.

John Mayfield recommended a subs increase of approx 5% for the year 08/09 to cover change of use costs and possible renovations in future, eg, the front wall of court 2 and bearing in mind as always- the roof.

Renewals income is approx £13.5k.

Court usage is 50-60% at peak times

25-30% off peak times

These percentages are slightly down on 2007 figures.

A vote was passed to increase subs by 5%.

Juniors will now be able to play at any time but will have to pay peak prices at peak times.

The new squash ladder has been up and running since October 2008. Members can challenge 3 places above their position.

House secretary's report:

Court 2 front wall needs replacing in 2 years time. Showers go cold during use in the ladies changing rooms. This may be from incorrect thermostat settings as the controls are only on a quarter before water becomes boiling hot so possibly not enough demand to fire up the heaters?

Bulb outside court 1 is u/s

There is no clean up planned for the courts this year.

Heating thermostat on the balcony needs to be controlled in the winter as members leave it on high and forget to re-adjust it when they leave the club.

Electricity cupboard needs a lock on it.

Members still need to be vigilant about wearing the right shoes on court.

Club Captain's report: Rory Fisher.

First team came second in Division 2 so no promotion.

Second team are mid level in Division 3. Won 9 matches out of 16.

The Ladies team had a lovely sociable season with lots of fun and managed to come 6th in Division 2 and win some games. They need more ladies to join the team as they struggle some weeks to get a full team out.

The Vintage team need more over 55 players.

Junior's report: Rakesh Gulati.

A large number of juniors have been lost to university. We need to recruit more younger players.

John will email the family members with age 8-12 year old children.

Subs are to be agreed at the next committee meeting.

Election of officers:

Chairman - David Sledge

Club Secretary – Maria Branton

Treasurer – Ainsley Kemp

Membership secretary – John Mayfield

Ladies Representative – Anita Crosbie

House – Richard Crosbie and Vince Paul

Club Captain – Rory Fisher

Committee members- Nick Hallchurch, Rakesh Gulati, Peter Scott

Proposed by David Colwill

Seconded by Gwyn John

AOB:

Problems with the booking terminal may become an issue as the company supplying them in the UK were no longer in business.

A vote of thanks was made to Nick Hallchurch for all his work in the change to club status.

A vote of thanks was also made to David Sledge for all his work involved in the same.

A vote of thanks to all the committee for their hard work in the upkeep and running of the club over the past year.

It was reported that the main tournament winners for the year had been:

Club Champion: S Hefferman

Veteran's Champion: S Bayley

Ladies Champion: Anita Crosbie

A full list of tournament winners would be provided in the forthcoming newsletter.

Meeting closed at 2203.