

Bishopthorpe Tennis Club
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Thursday 15 November 2018

Present

Jo Bewley [Chair]; Julia Sykes; Ellie Page; Alan Wilkinson; Georgina MacKenzie; Sue Hanley; David Moore; Marion Burgess; Andrene and Sam Watson; Martin Eason; Kathryn Dickinson; Jane Parkin; Nicola Graham

1. Apologies

Heather Fish; Mick Miller; Rob Williams; Gary and Emma Cashmore; Linda Moore; Laura Rhodes; John Coop; Sue Clayton; Roger and Carmem Mackle; James Parker; Paul Lewis and Katie Lewis;

2. Minutes from Meeting 16 November 2017

Accepted as a true record, with the correction of a spelling mistake: Steve Clack had attended the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

Jo reminded the group that a decision was taken at the 2017 AGM allowing Mixed teams to choose if they wished to no longer provide food after matches, as long as this was done following an open discussion. Mixed 4 team had taken this forward but there had been reports that this had received mixed feedback. The committee had therefore decided that this option would not be available in 2018.

4. Chair's report

Jo noted the sad death of Heather Reynolds, who in the past had been a great supporter of the club.

Jo gave a summary of the year. As ever, there had been some great tennis played and members had reported enjoying playing in the club. It was great to see some new members on a Monday night for adult coaching – hopefully these members would feel confident to join in the Thursday club night and matches in 2019. Jo was really pleased to report that coaching had continued to provide a high level of quality coaching, special thanks to be given to Freddie.

As ever, thanks to Mick Miller for maintaining the clubhouse and the site so magnificently, and everyone else who supported the club on the committee, as Captains, and 'behind the scenes'.

It was great to report that the courts had been repainted at the end of September. They were looking great – and we will be getting new nets next year. Thanks to Sam for organising all of this.

The social event that had taken place this year was probably less successful, as less members had been able to attend. However, it was great that other events had taken place, such as the Vintage Tennis event – thanks to Sue H and Marion for having such a great idea and for organising.

Jo gave an update on the rules that had been issued regarding Safeguarding which had been issued by the LTA. This would be discussed in more detail later on the agenda.

Jo gave her personal thanks to Ellie, Alan and Laura for all the roles they have undertaken for the club over the years and for being such great help on the Committee.

5. Treasurer's report

Jo thanked David Moore for yet again undertaking the role of Treasurer so well.

David submitted the accounts for 2018. The audited accounts [thanks to Roy Bayles] showed that total receipts were down by about £400 compared to 2017. This was due to less members joining, although it was pleasing to note that adult coaching fees, which had increased this year, now matched the cost of the adult coaching.

The main expenditure in 2018 was due to the courts being resurfaced. Without this the club would have had a surplus but with this expenditure the club reported a loss of just over £5,000.

Cash assets at the end of the year were £26,482

6. Annual subscription

Despite the club's healthy bank account, it was recognised that we need to continue to be mindful that we would need to finance any future court resurfacing. It was therefore necessary to ensure we continued to ensure our club membership fees allowed for continued investment in the club buildings/grounds etc.

The committee proposed the following:

£5 increase for single membership/junior membership

£10 increase for families/seniors

Match/coaching fees to remain as currently.

A suggestion was put forward that instead of increasing the membership fees the club could consider putting on fundraising events during the year. However, following a discussion it was acknowledged that it was difficult to identify anyone to lead on the fundraising, and all considered the additional membership fee was the easiest way to generate the funds required.

The AGM therefore confirmed this proposal.

7. Team Captain Reports

- Men's 1st: Captain: James Parker. Sam Watson reported.
A good season. Many players had been used to support the team. Ended mid table.
- Men's 2nd. Captain: John Coop
The team was reported to have not been phased by the restructure of the league. Despite 3 wins the team finished bottom of League 8. John passed on his thanks to those who helped with the team during the season.

- Mixed 1st. Captain: Ellie Page
A tough season in Division 2 but the team managed to avoid relegation
- Mixed 2nd. Captain: Andrene Watson
It had been a challenging season, when at times it was difficult to get a full squad of ladies. But some enjoyable games were played.
- Mixed 3rd. Captain: Julia Sykes
It had been a good season although there had been some tough matches. Finished mid table
- Mixed 4th. Captain: Paul Lewis
It had been a good year – the team ended the season mid table, having won 6 and lost 6 matches.
- Mixed 5th: Captain: Marion Burgess
In the team's second season the team had won 2 matches. One of these was scored 100-8! The team ended 5th.
- Ladies 1st. Captain: Laura Rhodes
It had been a really challenging season. It had been difficult to get out a full team on many weeks of the season. Despite some close matches the team finished 7th and are therefore relegated.
- Ladies 2nd. Captain: Georgina McKenzie
It had been a difficult season, especially with the need to support ladies 1st team on many weeks. The team had finished 7th in the league and awaited to understand whether this meant relegation.

David reported that it had not been possible to get an U18 team out. U14 team played well in their 2 matches, although unfortunately lost both. David proposed that there would only be one team submitted next year

8. Mixed 5th Team

Everyone agreed that the Mixed 5 team had been successful this year. However, during the year Captains reported experiencing significant difficulties in getting a full team out in many of the teams. In addition to this, we already know that 3 regular players are leaving this next year.

Ahead of the AGM Jo had invited Mixed Captains to the last committee meeting to discuss the options for a 5th Mixed team this coming year. The advantages/disadvantages of only submitting 4 teams was discussed at the AGM discussed and the following was agreed:

- The club needs to make a decision as to whether to submit a 5th team in January i.e. before it is known whether any new members have joined the club.
- The club therefore needs to plan 2019 matches with the assumption that we have less players than we had in 2018
- To minimise some of the problems experienced this year, Mixed 1,2 and 3 teams will have a squad of 8.
- In light of this, it was agreed to only submit 4 Mixed teams for 2019. However, it is believed that it is more than likely that despite this, everyone should have the level of match play they wish to.

- It was emphasised that this decision was only for this coming year. If more members joined, or more members wished to play in matches, we can submit a 5th team again for 2020 season.

The group also discussed whether a joint Ladies team with Copmanthorpe would be possible. After a discussion it was decided that this was complicated due to League rules.

9. Tournament reports

Thanks to Andrene and Sam who coordinated these events and to everyone who participated. Andrene and Sam reported that these were well supported.

The awarding of the trophies followed the AGM but for the minutes these members were recorded as worthy winners:

Spring Cup:	Alan Wilkinson and Carmem Mackle
Floss Slack:	Ellie Page and Alan Wilkinson
Fukaya Trophy:	Tim Brown and Ellie Page
Senior/Junior trophy	Josh and Jake Wong
Junior Singles	Daniel Cranidge
Albert Ridsall Cup	Charlie Rice
Ian Mackie	Ian Samworth
[as chosen by coach Freddie Bachelor]	
Men's Doubles:	Sam Maxwell and Chris Goulden
Ladies Doubles:	Ellie Page and Jo Bewley
Men's Singles:	Richard

Again, no Ladies Singles tournament had been held this year.

10. Safeguarding Responsibilities

Jo reported as a member of the LTA the club needed to comply with revised LTA rules. Over the summer the LTA had requested that all clubs complied with their safeguarding requirements in order that they continue to receive LTA membership. The committee had discussed this and agreed that whilst this was an LTA requirement, it was good practice, especially due to the number of juniors we had in the club, and therefore should be completed. To this end Jo reported the following:

- Jo has been confirmed as the club's Welfare Officer. This will be advertised on the web site/notice boards etc.
- In order to achieve this Jo had had her Safeguarding training [completed through her work] confirmed by LTA and she was in the process of having her DBS confirmed.
- Two new policies had been written: Safeguarding and Diversity
- The Club's Code of Conduct had also been updated.

It was agreed that these would all be displayed on club notice boards, alongside First Aid information [as suggested by Mick Miller], as well as on our website.

11. Election of officials/club roles

The following people were nominated and seconded in their roles:

Chair	Jo Bewley
Treasurer	David Moore.
Membership Secretary	Georgina MacKenzie
Minute Secretary	Jo Bewley
Match Secretary	Sam Watson
Committee members	James Parker Katie Lewis Nicky Graham Roger Mackle

Thanks to Katie, Nicky and Roger for agreeing to put their names forward.

Other roles that members have agreed to take/continue:

Carmem	Maintaining the toilet
Mick	Gardening/maintenance
Kathryn Dickinson	Collection of new balls Recycling of used balls
Facebook	Katie Lewis
LTA membership	Georgina McKenzie

Jo pointed out that there still was a vacancy in the Social Secretary role. If anyone would like to organise a club get together, that would be really appreciated.

12. Any other business

It was confirmed that this would be the last event attended by Ellie Page and Alan Wilkinson. Jo thanked both, as well as Laura Rhodes, for their tremendous contribution they had made to the club, both on and off the court. It has been really appreciated. They were offered the club's very best wishes for the future – they will be missed!