



LEEDS TENNIS LEAGUE
AUTUMN GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2016, 8PM
AT
ALWOODLEY TENNIS CLUB

Geoff Smith (**GS**) in the Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. With 19 out of a possible 25 clubs in attendance the meeting was quorate.

Those in attendance being:

1. Adel –John Micklethwaite, Tracy Watson (**TW**)
2. Almscliffe - Cameron Fraser
3. Alwoodley - Sally Harris, David Robson (**DR**)
4. Armley –Stuart & Gillian Pedder
5. Chapel Allerton – Audrey Reed, Kasia Hiorns
6. Dacre Banks - Russell Gaunt
7. David Lloyd – Gillian Telford (**GT**), Pete Telford
8. Grove Hill, Otley – Lynne Ashworth, Hilary Dove
9. Ilkley – Colin Campbell, Julia Cressey
10. JCCS– Joanne, Darren & Sophie Hobson
11. Kirkstall - Roger Harris, Wendy Staniland
12. Pool – Geoff Smith (**GS**)
13. Rawdon - Matt Martindale (**MM**)
14. Roundhay - Jo Hill (**JH**), Sarah Abbey, Elaine Abbis, Ian Green, Lucy Laville, Camala Marsh, Ann Sedivy
15. Sandal - Greg Turner
16. St Chad's – Jill Ingle (**JI**)
17. Wakefield - Steve Bastow (**SB**)
18. West Yorkshire – Tony Abbott (**TA**)
19. Whitkirk –Mary Stearman (**MS**), J Cooper, C Harding, H Haywood, D Lowe, E Scampton

Gavin Sutcliffe of the LTA was also in attendance

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:

Armley – Janet Pritchard
Bardsey - Dave McDermott
Chapel Allerton – Dan Chubb, Tom Knapp
Dacre Banks - Rob Pickard
Horsforth Tennis Club
Kirkstall – Alan Bailey
Pool – David & Jackie Broome, John Clemie, Gavin Westworth, Paul Woodham
Rawdon – Ray Crowther
St Chad's - Penny Rice, Stephen French
Wakefield - David Burton
Wetherby – Mike Green

GS then introduced **Gavin Sutcliffe** who gave a short presentation introducing a collective club membership initiative being introduced by the LTA. The scheme is designed boost club membership levels with support from the LTA. Gavin explained that Leeds has very active leagues and clubs and has been chosen for the scheme following successful trials elsewhere in the UK. A workshop is being held on Wednesday 9th November at Alwoodley TC, 7pm. For those unable to attend please contact Gavin, by email, for further information Gavin.Sutcliffe@LTA.org.uk or see the attached flyer.

Jl then gave details of financial support available from Yorkshire Tennis covering interest free loans, grants and coaching. Clubs must be registered with the LTA to be eligible. See attached flyer for more information.

2) MINUTES OF THE 1ST MARCH 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

GS asked the meeting whether they were happy with the Minutes of the AGM and that they correctly portrayed the discussions at the meeting and the decisions as made. This was duly agreed.

There were no matters arising

Proposed: Tony Abbott; **Seconded:** Mary Stearman

3) REPORT ON 2016 LEAGUE COMPETITIONS

3.1 Summer Leagues

Jl presented a brief summary.

Despite a weather affected season the majority of matches were played and reported though not all results were confirmed.

Mens: 6 matches were forfeited and 3 were unplayed/unreported.

Unfortunately one Club fielded an ineligible player breaching Rules 4 & 11 regarding the total number of matches to be played in a season and by playing for a lower ranked team when already tied to a higher ranked team. Sets won by the player in these matches concerned were awarded to the opposition. This altered the final league placings in Div 5.

Clubs and Captains were reminded to be aware of the Rules of Play.

Ladies: No issues to report

Medley: 2 matches forfeited and 1 unplayed/unreported.

There were some early season issues with logons and passwords but these were soon resolved.

Juniors: 7 matches unplayed.

With 11 teams in the U14s a number of fixtures had to be scheduled in school holidays and some Clubs struggled to raise teams as a result. This will be avoided next year if possible.

Veterans: 4 teams competed during the summer. The season can continue this winter if there is demand.

Otherwise it will restart next May. Please contact Mike Green.

Winter: A very closely fought battle in Div 1 with the eventual winners only being decided on the % of games won. A third division has been added for the 2016/17 season which is currently underway.

Singles: No feedback available. There are thought to be around 60-70 active players taking part.

Jl then went on to explain issues regarding fixture generation. These have been done manually for the last few years by an experienced team who were able to keep clashes to a minimum. This season, with even more teams competing and the absence of the usual fixture team there had been extra pressure and time constraints on the manual fixture scheduling. In the end some fixtures were done manually but a basic programme was also used with efforts then made to minimise clashes.

Jl proposed that this programme be developed and used in 2017. The main benefit being that once the division make ups are confirmed at the AGM the fixtures can then be produced very quickly. The main drawback for Clubs is that the fixtures would be produced on a division by division basis only. However Clubs would also have longer in which to review and re-arrange fixtures pre season.

It was agreed to adopt this approach.

4) FINANCE

JH presented a report on the League's finances and accounts.

The full report is attached to these Minutes which JH summarised as follows:

- Summer league entry in 2016 was free
- Singles league has generated fees of £130. New entrants pay a one off charge of £10.
- Winter league fees £72 of div 1&2, £60 for div 3.
- The League has £8700 in the bank which includes £2000 due to Leeds Beckett.
- Provisions are held for Website upgrade of £1440 and Secretarial/Admin £1250.

The Committee has approved another waiver to Summer and Veteran League entry fees for 2017.

Full accounts will be presented at the AGM in 2017.

5) WEBSITE AND IT MATTERS

5.1 Website

SB reported that a small payment is made to 1&1 for website hosting which is covered by the reserve in the accounts.

5.2 IT

The LTA system continues to work well although some changes we would like to see for our leagues are not possible without the agreement and input of the LTA which is unlikely.

There is still an issue with results being confirmed when input, rather than by the losing captain. We are unable to do anything other than to remind users to be aware of this so when inputting results please press “save” rather than “confirm”.

SB will assist JI with the fixture generator programme in flagging up potential clashes.

6) RULES AND FAIR PLAY CHARTER

JI outlined the reasons for the proposal to amend the wording of Rule 3(i) which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The proposed additional wording to the Rule is highlighted in red below.

- 3(i) Matches shall be played to a conclusion unless the captains **both** agree to postpone, abandon or temporarily interrupt the match. If agreement cannot be reached, then the match shall commence, or continue, under existing conditions, except that **either side** may opt to terminate a match after 9.00 p.m. (April & August), after 9.30 p.m. (May & July) or after 10.00 p.m. (June) **or earlier in the event of bad light or adverse weather conditions, in which case Rule 3(ii) applies.** In addition, if a match commenced earlier than 6.30 p.m. or if floodlights or indoor facilities are being used, either side shall have the option to terminate the match when four hours or more have elapsed after the designated starting time.

It was agreed to adopt the revised wording by a unanimous show of hands from the floor.

League Rules have not been reviewed since 2013 so it was agreed that this exercise would be carried out prior to the next AGM.

7) ROTATION POLICY FOR ELECTED OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The rota for Elected Officers and Committee Members of the league was reviewed. The following nominations will be confirmed at the AGM in 2017:

Chair	Matt Martindale
Vice Chair	Ilkley
Immediate Past Chair	Geoff Smith
Secretary	Jill Ingle
Treasurer	Joanna Hill
IT	Steve Bastow, Steve Cordingley, Mike Green
Fixtures	To be confirmed
Singles	Dwight Brown
Veterans	Mike Green
Winter League	Gill Telford
Mens 1&2 Divisions	Bardsey
Mens 3	Alan Cutts
Mens 4	Dacre Banks
Mens 5& 6	Dave Robson
Ladies 1	Jo Bailey
Ladies 2 & 3	Tracy Watson
Medley 1	Almscliffe
Medley 2	Wendy Staniland
Juniors	Mary Stearman

JI noted that the rotation policy was working well. The number of Section Co-ordinators needed would be reviewed in light of the number of divisions required after the AGM when team entries for summer 2017 have been confirmed.

Immediately after the meeting Colin Campbell, Ilkley, put himself forward for Vice Chair.

ACTION: JI to confirm nominations from Almcliffe, Bardsey and Dacre Banks

8) PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

The following awards were announced for 2016

SECTION	WINNER	PRESENTED TO
Ladies Division 1	Whitkirk A	Jackie Cooper
Ladies Division 2	Roundhay B	Ann Sedivy
Ladies Division 3	Wetherby	<i>To be presented at the AGM 2017</i>
Medley Division 1	Chapel Allerton	Audrey Reed
Medley Division 2	St Chad's A	Jill Ingle
Mens Division 1	Ilkley A	Colin Campbell
Mens Division 2	Roundhay A	<i>To be presented at the AGM 2017</i>
Mens Division 3	David Lloyd	Pete Telford
Mens Division 4	Wakefield B	Steve Bastow
Mens Division 5	Sandal	<i>To be presented at the AGM in 2017</i>
Mens Division 6	Dacre Banks	Russell Gaunt
U16	Rawdon	Matt Martindale
U14	Rawdon	Matt Martindale
U12	JCCS	Sophie Hobson
Winter League 1	Chapel Allerton 1	Kasia Hiorns
Winter League 2	Wakefield	Steve Bastow
Veterans	Horsforth	Retained

Replica trophies were awarded to all division winners

All players were congratulated on a successful season and photos were taken of the presentations.

All clubs are responsible for engraving the trophies for the year.

**ACTION: JI to send copies of the photos to the winning teams
JI to issue entry forms for the 2017 summer league in early January**

GS then thanked Alwoodley for hosting the meeting, free of charge to the League.

He expressed his thanks to all Officers and Committee members for their hard work during the year.

He thanked everyone for coming and pointed out that there were only 7 Mondays until Christmas. If anyone then needed a drink he reminded them that the bar was still open!

Subsequent to the meeting GS called the next meeting of the League.

This will be the **AGM** and will be held on **Tuesday 28th February 2017** at Alwoodley Tennis Club.