

Great Shelford Tennis Club – AGM 2018 - Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm, Great Shelford Pavilion

Apologies: Sue Fox, Colin Yeoman, Sarah Coppendale, John Coleman, Sarah Franklin

Meeting Minutes:

**Minutes of the 2017 AGM and matters arising**

Approved as they stand.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The 2017 Audited Accounts and the Sinking Fund Balance reports were circulated to members in advance, in accordance with the club rules.

The club membership is looking healthy - 26 new adult members joined this year compared to 9 the previous year.

Committee proposing that we discontinue the membership fees for under 8's. This category of membership only generates around £80 per annum and if we allow under 8's to join free of charge this may increase our number of younger juniors. No objections raised to this proposal.

The club's electricity bills are likely to increase this year due to a change in the government's VAT policy. The club is not registered as a charity so will have to pay VAT on electricity (an extra 20%).

The club's sinking fund stands at approximately £30,000. Some of this fund will cover the cost of the court cleaning and court resurfacing. Next large capital project is replacement of court floodlights. Rik Henson is currently looking into this and further announcements will be made to the members about this issue later in the year.

Accounts submitted to the members for their approval, which was given.

Thanks to Jeff for his continued efforts as treasurer.

## **Match Captain's Reports:**

### **Ladies and Mixed:**

Ladies Summer League – 6 teams entered.

Mixed Summer League – 6 teams entered.

Ladies Winter League – 4 teams entered. Ladies 1 may be relegated this year - all depends on last match! Ladies 2nd team stay, 3rd-4ths both relegated

Mixed Winter League – 3 teams entered, all teams remain in same divisions

### **Men:**

Men's Summer League – 8 teams entered. 1sts stayed up, 2nd-6ths all relegated.

Men's Winter League - 3 relegations in lower teams. 1st team came second in first division which is an excellent result. 2nd team has been promoted.

On paper the results look weaker than previous years but during this year a lot of team players have been playing up. Younger players have also been playing for the club and whilst they are not always winning matches they are getting valuable match experience.

Summary: in comparison to 5/6 years ago, we're not as strong at the top end of the club, but the teams are now starting to play in the right divisions for their level.

Chairman summary – there is lots of effort put into running the club teams, well done to everyone particularly Jacqui and Matt. Matt is now standing down as Men's Captain after 4 seasons in this role. During this time the Men's first team won the 1st division twice, which is a great achievement. Matt has also succeeded in getting more juniors involved and his time as Men's Captain has seen the teams flourish. Matt will still be available to advise as required in the future. Thanks very much to Matt for his contribution to the club.

### **Junior Organiser and Coach's Report:**

Coaching: We have around 70-130 children and 30-60 adults receiving coaching each week. There is a good split of men/women and boys/girls, probably the highest proportion of girls playing in the county. Particularly proud of the number of girls attending each week bearing in mind declining number of girls playing nationally.

External competitions: We have entered teams in the AEGON competition for the last 15 years. The last couple of years have been less successful due to a number of factors.

- There is a lot of long distance travel to places such as Peterborough for young teams (such as the U8) which is not very sensible.
- In addition the teams have struggled to compete at the same level as other local clubs such as Cambridge and this can be demoralising.
- This year we will enter enough teams to comply with TennisMark requirements - probably two boys teams (U14 and U16) and U16 girls - as we can easily enter teams in those categories who will enjoy the experience.
- In place of AEGON generally we will have more internal club competitions. This will include both adult and junior tournaments which will hopefully include more of the club members.

Summer camps: We have around 160 children playing across 6 weeks of summer camps. The children are mostly 4-6 years old. The new club initiative not to charge subs for that age group is likely to boost the number of junior numbers.

Coaches: Mark Sanders has given a heads up that LTA affiliated clubs will need to have accredited coaches. To be an accredited coach you must fulfil certain criteria such as having a DBS check, first aid training, safeguarding training, insurance etc. The coaches have always had these checks/training but Hamid previously used a different insurance provider rather than the LTA. Hamid will ensure that all the club coaches have accreditation.

Thanks very much to both Matt and Ollie for all their hard work. They are both exceptionally good coaches and we are fortunate to have them at the club - hopefully for a lot longer! Particular thanks to Matt who has juggled both his coaching role and being Men's captain for the last 4 years.

Hamid has been selected to take over as the over 35's Hertfordshire Captain. He has also been asked to coach a talented 16 year old girl called Joanna Garland. She is currently number 4 in the world for her age group. Joanna will play in the junior tournaments of both the French Open and Wimbledon this year. Hamid will coach Joanna at the club; she will be available to play club matches and help out at club Open Days etc.

And finally after 15 years Hamid has achieved his goal of moving to the village!

Chairman summary - really pleased for Hamid that at last he is moving to a new home in the area. This shows his commitment to the club and we are very pleased to be linked to Over&In.

### **Election of Committee and President for 2018/19 Season:**

The proposals were circulated to members in advance, in accordance with the club rules, and no objections were raised.

Penny Saich (President)  
James Diver (Chairman)  
Victoria Roles (Secretary)  
Jeff Scripps (Treasurer)  
Hamid Hejazi (Head Coach)  
Rufus Curnow (Mens Captain)  
Jacqui Lloyd (Ladies Captain)  
TBC (Junior Captain)  
Colin Yeoman (Social Secretary)  
Angharad Harris/Rebecca Stacey (Tournament Secretary)  
Rik Henson - Facilities and maintenance

At the meeting it was proposed and seconded that Colin Yeoman will take on the role of Social Secretary from Laura Blatherwick. Laura did a great job in this role last year, particularly with the Feast, club Open Day and Christmas party. Laura has now gone travelling and when she returns is likely to live elsewhere. Colin has kindly agreed to take on this role and we look forward to welcoming him to the committee. As previously mentioned Matt Sanders is standing down as Men's Captain and it was proposed and seconded that Rufus Curnow will take his place. Angharad Harris has stepped into the Tournament Secretary role following Rebecca Stacey having her hands full with twins! The new ladder (with app) is up and running and we currently have 8 people participating.

Chairman summary - thanks to all the committee members for their help and support in running the club. Particular mention to Rik Henson who has done a lot of work on facilities/maintenance this year. Rik has been looking into the installation of a new gate to allow direct access from the courts to the rec. He's also looking into the funding of new floodlights and did a great job with the clubhouse at the last spring clean. Any members who would like to get involved in the committee would be very welcome, it's not too much work and good fun working with motivated people. Finally thanks to Penny for her help and encouragement as the club President.

### **Subscription and Entry Fees for 2018/19:**

The proposals were circulated to members in advance, in accordance with the club rules, and no objections were raised. Senior membership has increased to £137 (from £133); Senior OAP membership will be £110; Associate membership is rising to £91; Associate OAP will become £73; juniors will rise to £41 (the first increase for 7 years). There is the possibility of a more substantial increase in subs next financial year if the club has a significant financial outlay to replace the court floodlights.

### **Club Rule Changes:**

There are no rules changes proposed this year.

**Any other business:**

Mark Sanders gave advance notice of some LTA changes coming into force this year. There will be much stricter enforcement of LTA rules and policies (eg club must have a welfare officer, who has undergone training etc). The new stricter controls will be enforced from re-registration on 1st October this year. All the details of what the club will need to do to comply are on the LTA website. There will be checks carried out by the LTA so we need to ensure compliance. Committee will have to sign off to say that club is complying with LTA policies. Mark reiterated that all club coaches will have to be accredited and if they're not they won't be able to coach at GSTC.

Chairman - Diary dates went out with the AGM documents. There will be other dates to add in due course such as match practice dates. The club lease expires in March 2019. Victoria is currently liaising with the Parish Council about the terms of the new lease. We are looking for a longer term this time, in the region of 50 years. We need the new lease in place before we can obtain funding for projects such as the new floodlights.

Q - How much with the floodlights cost to replace?

A - Around £50,000

Chairman summary - thanks to all those members who braved the snow and ice to attend.

The meeting concluded at 7.45pm.