

AGM 2022 – member ideas

Investment

- Small court for juniors & wall to hit against
- Two new mini red courts – Guy
- How about having a hitting / practice wall (I know some clubs have them). David Hopkins (e-mail address supplied)

Sports Association

- Club fees to include a £20 bar levy to ensure all members use and support the club's bar. If the bar fails the club will pay to bailout the bar so introduce a levy
- Sports Association to review the location of the defibrillator i.e. to place outside easily accessible in an emergency – Astrid
- Please replace door key code with a legible new pad. Not a paint job by Bob – Angela

Membership fees

- Can someone do a peer group analysis of other tennis club fees to see if we are too cheap. Need to keep on top of court replacement provisions
- The gap of some £80 between senior members & OAP members is too much. Need to revisit the pricing of subs

Social tennis

- Make a bit more of social tennis by more regularly (not always) putting people of similar abilities / age groups together as well as deliberately separating
- Social should be timed 25 mins and then swap around
- To start social use a random method. Cards would work quite well. Then after a time period winners move up, losers move down and split to play opposite previous partner
- Please could you review tennis balls for Saturday club afternoon. Why can't we have new ones every 6 weeks – not hand me downs. Surely club subscriptions be used for this.

Team tennis

- Monday & Wednesday should be for team practice not socialise and mixing. Play 1 up or 1 down in teams
- Consider a new member link scheme i.e. someone from 4th / 1st team contracts to see if would like to play 3 months after joining
- Website – more info about teams and who to contact and what division they are in. To encourage new members to get involved.

Tennis competitions

- Celebrate the handicapped tournament with a finals evening
- Ladder singles and ladder doubles
- Expansion of the club championships by the introduction of age-related men's and ladies' singles events as part of the annual club tournaments. Perhaps adopting the Warwickshire league vets' basis of over-45 for men and over-40 for ladies may be appropriate. The current open age basis of the current singles events has led, in recent years, to somewhat predictable outcomes and effectively closed events. They are extremely entertaining and high quality finals but seem somewhat removed from the bulk of the club membership. More senior age singles events would perhaps be more inclusive, more closely reflect the age demographic and composition of the membership and probably be less predictable and more even in competition. There are ample courts available on finals day to accommodate two further finals. – Graham Mather (e-mailed prior to the meeting)
- Amend the basis of the annual mixed doubles championship to enable free and open choice for pairings. Perhaps there are other opportunities during the tennis calendar and/or social sessions to have more 'American' style tournaments or other fun competition events where pairings can be randomly put together, but for the club championship it seems more appropriate to have it on the same basis as all the other championship events. – Graham Mather (e-mailed prior to the meeting)

Attracting new members

- Promotion of club membership at Heart of England, Bablake, KHVIII and other schools in the areas to attract new members
- Advertise outside of Balsall Common as clubs are much more expensive than us
- Engage with new members to understand the good / bad elements of the joining process. – Phil Kelly (e-mail address provided)
- Ask new members where they heard of the club to guide where to advertise the club more effectively – Phil Kelly
- Perhaps advertise through estate agents who are already attracting people to the area / community – Phil Kelly

Other

- Read out the ideas at the AGM or e-mail to all members after
- These ideas should be made public with reasons as to action or not action
- Committee member for the juniors – Guy
- Best court manners cup – on & off court
- Paul Foster to get free membership
- More tangible recognition for Paul Foster. The amount of hours contributed by Paul in the maintenance and upkeep of the club, together with court clearing probably saves the club at least £5,000 pa (based upon paying labour costs for 10 hrs a week on minimum wage). As a gesture he could be offered free or honorary membership but he would probably refuse! Perhaps a more tangible benefit that he would accept is free use of the bar, where his tab is settled via club funds each month / quarter (an I'm sure this would still represent a

significant saving for the club... unless we were deemed to be encouraging him to increase his alcohol intake!) If not this then some other benefit or gesture should be thought about. – Graham Mather (e-mailed prior to the meeting)