

# **BIDDESTONE TENNIS CLUB** **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Thursday 22nd February 2024 at 7.30pm</b>	
<b>Location</b>	White Horse Biddestone	
	John Marrinan (Chair)	Ashley Clarke
	Jane Walters	Colin Thomas
	Indira Krishnamma (Secretary)	Claire Pugh
	Harriet Snell	Paul Williams
	Sam	Tom Benton
	<b>Apologies</b>	
	Derek Walters	Camila Davis
	Shaun Hitchcock (Blue Sky)	Jane Phippen
	Mary Webster	Sue Hutchinson
	Trish Simpson	

AGENDA		Action by
<u>1.Review of actions arising from minutes of AGM held on March 9th 2023</u>		CT Sam
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Minutes agreed as a correct account of the meeting</li><li>- CT to investigate the use of Phenix tennis balls for next season</li><li>- Sam to find out more about Play Your Way to Wimbledon and report back to the committee</li></ul>		

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AGENDA	Action by
<p data-bbox="252 392 502 427"><b><u>2.Chair's Report</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="252 465 651 495"><b>2024 AGM – Chairman's Report</b></p> <p data-bbox="252 497 839 526">A warm welcome to everyone attending our AGM!</p> <p data-bbox="252 555 408 584"><b>Membership</b></p> <p data-bbox="252 600 1246 658">In 2023 our club had a total of 207 members which is similar to the totals for the previous 3 years yet significantly greater than the numbers prior to 2019.</p> <p data-bbox="252 674 1246 790">As a result of the change in coaching provider in summer 2023 and the lack of coaching for a number of months during summer the renewal rate for juniors and mini tennis members has been quite poor. We expect numbers to gradually build again with the new provider.</p> <p data-bbox="252 806 1246 954">Maintaining our membership numbers and hence income is important in order to maintain the good condition of our facilities and to offer a range of opportunities for members to play tennis. To attract new members for all ages and standards, we will continue to raise our profile through social media, contact with local schools and offering coaching programmes for all.</p> <p data-bbox="252 969 403 999"><b>Club Tennis</b></p> <p data-bbox="252 1014 1222 1162">The club actively encourages member participation through Club Tennis and a series of rotas for all members plus a mixed ladder competition. This helps all members to meet others and new members to integrate. I would like to thanks the organisers of these popular events for the work they put in running the rotas and ladder. Thanks to Jane W, Sue H, Claire and Derek.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1178 373 1207"><b>Coaching</b></p> <p data-bbox="252 1223 1246 1429">In late 2023 we took on board a new coaching arrangement with Blue Sky Tennis. The Blue Shy Head Coach at Biddestone is Shaun Hitchcock. Shaun has already delivered a limited initial coaching programme for both juniors and adults with plans for a more extensive offering in the Spring to be accompanied with an Open Day launch on the afternoon of Saturday April 13th. Shaun's coaching is a very popular with both juniors and adults. I would like to thank him for his efforts so far and look forward to seeing him develop a comprehensive coaching at Biddestone.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1444 710 1473"><b>League Tennis &amp; Club Competitions</b></p> <p data-bbox="252 1489 1005 1518">Colin will provide a separate summary of league tennis in 2023.</p> <p data-bbox="252 1547 574 1576"><b>Development of Facilities</b></p> <p data-bbox="252 1592 820 1621">Summary of achievements of next recent years:</p> <p data-bbox="252 1637 1246 1778">In 2019 we installed floodlights on court 2 (costing the club £14K). In 2020 courts 2, 3 and 4 were re-laid (costing the club approx. £33K). In 2021 we installed floodlights on the single court 1, this installation cost approximately £19K. That's a total spend of approx. £66K over 3 years (of which £9k came from Wiltshire Council grants and £5k from a Sports England grant). Our membership income is</p>	

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<p><b>Social Events</b></p> <p>The club held our Annual Dinner in May 2023 at the Bell Inn in Yatton Keynell. This was a popular event, from the feedback it seemed to be enjoyed by all who attended. This year we are going to hold our dinner at the Neeld Arms at Grittleton on Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. In addition, we held a Fun French Tournament in June and a Mixed Doubles Tournament in September. We have plans for similar events in 2024 as listed in the agenda with the emphasis being on fun!</p> <p><b>Biddestone Village Hall and Recreation Trust (BVHRT)</b></p> <p>We continue to work closely with BVHRT to improve our shared facilities. We have supported village community events such as Bonfire Night, gardening in October and tree planting in December.</p> <p><b>Volunteering</b></p> <p>A significant amount of voluntary time, effort &amp; commitment that goes into planning, running, &amp; maintaining our tennis club. I'd like to thank all our committee members who have contributed to our success in 2023. I'd also like to thank Trish Simpson for taking on the role of Welfare Officer. I am pleased to report that all members of the committee have agreed to stay on. In addition, I would like to thank to the members who attended our Working Party in October. A great job was done in cutting back the undergrowth behind the courts, repainting the summer house, repairing the perimeter netting etc.</p> <p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>In summary Biddestone Tennis Club is in good shape, it offers great facilities increased membership, court utilisation and member participation. I look forward to another successful year of growth particularly with the new coaching arrangement in place.</p>	
<p><b><u>3. Treasurer's Report</u></b></p> <p>To be supplied by AC</p> <p>AC to investigate the possibility of achieving a higher rate of interest from available funds.</p>	<p><b>AC</b></p>

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<p><b><u>4. Coaching Report 2024</u></b></p> <p>Blue Sky Tennis had a very positive first four months working with Biddestone Tennis Club. We have seen program numbers grow from 50 players, when we started in September, to over 70 for this January term. That is an excellent response considering the time of the year, so thank you to all the Biddestone members for welcoming us and getting involved in the coaching.</p> <p>Feedback has been positive speaking to parents and members about the coaching delivery since we have started, and Blue Sky Tennis will look to grow the coaching program going in to the rest of the year with addition of other sessions during the week, building relationships with local primary and secondary schools, running internal and external LTA sanctioned competitions and working with the club's teams to enhance their doubles knowledge and skills.</p> <p>AC to find out if Blue Sky have capacity to do coaching for the mens league teams.</p>	<p>AC</p>
<p><b><u>5. Plans for Club and League Tennis 2023</u></b></p> <p><b>League tennis</b>-Colin said that BTC is entering 10 teams in the CHDTL for 2024 In the 2023 season, the Mixed teams had had a good season, the Women's teams had had an even season and the Men had had a slightly disappointing season.</p> <p><b>Club and rota tennis</b>- the rotas are running well and so are Saturday mornings which have been very well attended. Friday evenings will start once the weather improves. Sam proposed that for the first part of the evening the men be grouped by team on rota nights. JM to look at the feasibility of doing this.</p> <p><b>Internal club competitions</b>- Colin said that he would organise the internal club competitions that would again each be played on one day on a September Sunday except for the mens singles which would be played over a longer period.</p>	<p>JM</p> <p>CT</p>

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<b>AGENDA</b>		<b>Action by</b>
<b><u>6.Election of Officers</u></b>		
Election of Officers for 2024 Proposed by John Marrinan. Seconded by Jane Walters		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairman -John Proposed by PW. Seconded by JW</li> <li>• Secretary- Indira Proposed by JM. Seconded by JW</li> <li>• Treasurer - Ashley Proposed by IK. Seconded by CP</li> <li>• Membership Secretary -John Proposed by PW. Seconded by AC</li> <li>• Head Coach -Shaun Proposed by JM. Seconded by CP</li> <li>• Events, Comms and BVHRT- Jane Proposed by JM. Seconded by IK</li> <li>• Media Manager - Tom Proposed by JM. Seconded by JW</li> <li>• Welfare Officer -Trish Proposed by JM. Seconded by JW</li> <li>• Other -Derek Proposed by JM. Seconded by AC</li> <li>• LTA and League Contact -Colin Proposed by JM. Seconded by JW</li> <li>•</li> </ul>		
<b>7. Proposed League team entries and nights</b>		
Mixed A - Monday		
Mixed B - Monday		
Mixed C - Monday		
Ladies C - Tuesday		
Mens C - Tuesday		
Ladies A - Wednesday		
Ladies D - Wednesday (Sheldon School)		
Mens A - Wednesday		
Ladies B - Thursday		
Mens B - Thursday		
<b><u>Proposed Team Captains</u></b>		
<b>Team</b>	<b>Captains and Alternate</b>	
Ladies A	Louise Blackman/Helen Benton	
Ladies B	Sue Hutchinson Jane Walters	
Ladies C	Claire Pugh/Indira Krishnamma	
Mens A	Paul William/Colin Thomas	
Mens B	John Marrinan/Derek Walters	
Mens C	Nigel Hillier/Ashley Clark	
Mixed A	Colin Thomas/Paul Williams	
Mixed B	Jane Walters/Sue Hutchinson	
Mixed C	Claire Pugh/Indira Krishnamma	
The start date for the Summer League is April 15th.		
Fees will be:		
Summer matches £6		
Winter matches £4		
Club competitions £4		

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AGENDA	Action by
<p><b><u>7. Any Other Business</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. JW to contact dan Tonkin with a view to setting up a social tennis day with Almondsbury TC</li> <li>2. JM to discuss ideas for a Wimbledon linked day at the club with Shaun</li> <li>3. Jet washing to be investigated</li> <li>4. LTA safeguarding support visit. All approved the safeguarding policy.</li> <li>5. The timing of fee payments was discussed and it was agreed to continue to collect fees in January in good time for league matches beginning.</li> <li>6. Visitor fees and rules were confirmed.</li> <li>7. Maintenance morning on March 9th was confirmed.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Next committee meeting Thursday March 23rd at the village hall</u></b></p>	<p><b>JW</b></p> <p><b>JM</b> <b>JM</b></p>