

**Bovingdon & Flaunden Tennis Club
Committee Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

Jill Cohen – Chair, Kevin Wilkes, Andy Ferguson, Martin Allen, Ali Lyons, Kay Gobby, Alison Doyle

Apologies:

Review of minutes

No Outstanding actions

Agenda Items

Discussion on New Committee Ways of Working

Agreement to be open and transparent and copy people in on email if unsure.

WhatsApp group to be used for items requiring quick response

Agreement on FCM dates for the year. All meetings on a Monday, start time at 7.30

Dates: 16/1, 6/3, 8/5, 10/7, 4/9, 2/10

AGM 2023: Mon 16th October

Subgroups: following groups agreed

Lease: Kev, Jo Alden and Jill

Coaching: Kev, Jill, Ali and Mike (will include contract discussions)

Tennis Activities: Ali, Jill Mike

Court Surface / resurface: Martin and Kev

Other decisions

Additional Standing Agenda item agreed: Health and Safety

Committee Member to take lead on H and S: Andy (prior knowledge and experience)

Action:

Alison to identify LTA contact for H and S

Alison to ensure H and S is regular agenda item

Andy to review any action required with regard to defibrillator training

Safeguarding

No outstanding issues

Action

Agreement for new committee members (**Andy, Kev and Martin**) to attend online safeguarding training on Monday 14th November at 7.30

Kay to facilitate session

Tennis Activities

Aim is to develop a **Calendar of Activities** that will be kept up to date on the website (possibility that this will involve technical wizardry).



Full worked up version will be available for launch in January however there will be set of elements that can be communicated end of November. These are likely to include

- American Tournament over the Christmas Period (Karen F leading)
- Children's Christmas Activity on last Sat of block 2 (Ali and Mike)
- Floodlit tournament December (? Lead)

Calendar for 2023 is likely to include:

- Double box leagues during term time (not holidays)
- Singles ladder over the course of the year
- Club Champs in Sept as usual (may also include Junior event on the day)
- End of block Easter activity for Children
- Dot Burgin Trophy

Floodlight Tokens and Match Fees

Ali raised the concern that the suggested doubling of cost for floodlight tokens is likely to have a disproportionate negative impact on match players (who for home matches will have to pay fees plus token increase).

Action

Kevin to revisit numbers ahead of any planned increase 24th November

Ali also reported that there have been issues with the **floodlight key for court 4** (over sensitivity)

Action

Martin to check

Finance

LTA re-registration

Kevin indicated that he would be leading the LTA reregistration process.

The only identified likely issue may be concerning Nick L who currently coaches for the Club but does not have registration credentials with the LTA.

Action

Kev to follow up with Nick to find a sensible solution. There is likely to be a similar issue at Halton so worth sharing their experience.

Fee Splits: discussion among the Committee around contract with Everyball and Fee splits. Current focus is to ensure that the Club is able to provide high quality coaching rather than to make a profit out of the coaching. The feedback from members is that coaching has improved considerably under the new supplier and the Committee are committed to working with Everyball to continue the relationship

Reporting of Subs: discussion between Kev and Andy about ensuring the link up between individuals being approved for membership / self-renewing and tracking that payments for this are being received. Hope that the move to online banking may improve the process but **short-term Kevin / Andy to liaise.**



Membership

Offers to attract new members

Discussion amongst committee regarding the need (or not) to attract new members. Currently numbers are in about the right area but it is always good to have new members in case of any reduction at renewal time

Further conversation regarding court usage: typically, mid-week during the day is quieter and could be used more

Discussion about what we offer to attract Juniors and / or Beginners. Saturday coaching is improving and this is a positive for Juniors but still lack of other activities including tournaments. Lack of potential sessions for beginners / an offer to show pathway for beginners who join the club

View that we don't want to discount for beginners (not felt fair compared to other members) but that an option may be to offer a limited amount of free / discounted coaching

Actions (Andy to lead)

Develop visual to show pathway for beginners joining the club

Investigate holding rusty racquets sessions for beginners / returners to tennis with appropriate coach (? John or Geoff)

Possibility of mid-week junior sessions (input from **Ali and Mike**)

Possibility of pre school pick up sessions on Monday when Phil is at Club (**liaise with Ali and Mike**)

County memberships

Andy flagged two current County Memberships. Committee felt these were appropriate as they weren't being abused (i.e., members aren't local)

Marketing

Andy suggested taking up the offer of Jax to help with the marketing of membership offers and Club generally. Committee were very supportive of this suggestion

Andy raised concerns on inaccuracies in **Bovingdon Magazine** article

Action: Alison to investigate

Facilities

Court Issues

Number of the Committee reported that there were serious cracks appearing on Courts 1,2 and 3 plus step between court 3 and 4. These courts have only recently been resurfaced and the appearance of cracks is a concern. **It is not felt the cracks mean the courts are unsafe for play although this will be monitored.**

There has been the start of an email dialogue regarding this between the supplier (Chris Rolfe) and the previous Treasurer. It appears the work was awarded to Chris but carried out by sub-contractor

Action

Keve to review the emails in the Treasurer inbox and follow up with **Martin** and supplier to look at next steps including? heat treatment.

Courts 4 and 5



These courts will need resurfacing in the near future. The Committee discussed the pros and cons of different potential surfaces, bearing in mind cost implications and pros and cons of our courts being different from our local competitors for matches.

Actions

Kev and Martin to work together on next steps including clarity around size of budget and timescale for work

Kev and Martin to obtain quotes for possible suppliers and bring these to the Committee for discussion. Once Committee has firm date on the possible options and potential cost implications it will share this with the members and seek feedback.

Fencing

The fencing at the club by the car park is looking scruffy however Martin confirmed to the Committee he is comfortable that this can be repaired with limited cost. Committee also agreed to remove the (tired) Babolat banner

Action

Martin to report back on costs to the Committee

Clubhouse

Martin ran through a list of activities that will be required to smarten up the clubhouse (currently looking shabby). He mentioned that it would be good to tidy up the noticeboards and suggested that Everyball were keen to have an external noticeboard with Coaching information. There was also a discussion around a cabinet / shelf for either the Dot Burgin Trophy or a list of winners plus photo of Dot.

Action

Martin to coordinate the work perhaps using working group

Alison to help provide layout and content for noticeboards once in place

Martin to liaise with **Ali** on Dot Burgin approach

Car Park

Discussion was past Admins bedtime so could someone else summarise please!

