

Minutes of the Derbyshire Tennis Association Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 28th November 2023 at 7.30 p.m. at Derby Tennis Centre

Present:

John Last (President and Life Member)
Jenni Connell (County Safeguarding Officer, DTC and Woodlands)
John Briggs (Junior County Cup Team Representative and Life Member) (*Zoom*)
Frank Beer (Honorary County Treasurer and Ashbourne)
Louise Walker (Honorary Secretary and Duffield)
Rob Hawkins (DTC Centre Manager and DTC)
James Grindell (County Chair, LTA Councillor and Duffield)
Chris Booth (Seniors Cup Team Representative, Management Committee and Church Broughton)
Paul Hatton (Tennis Sub-Committee Chairperson, Management Committee and Breadsall) (*Zoom*)
Charlie Pick (Management Committee and Chesterfield) (*Zoom*)
Jenni Bull (co-opted member of Management Committee) (*Zoom*)
Diane Gibson (*Zoom*)
Robert Gibson (*Zoom*)
Andy Bell (Chesterfield) (*Zoom*)
David Chilvers (Littleover, Secretary)
Julia Booth (Church Broughton)
Joy Stanwell (Woodlands, Secretary)
Andy Liles (Woodlands, Chairman)

Proxy Votes received:

Roger Thompson (Life Member), Proxy to President
Jonathan Park (Ashover), Proxy to President
Mr Dennis Archer (Life Member), Proxy to President
James Rushby (Adults County Cup Team Representative, Management Committee), Proxy to Chair
Ashbourne Tennis Club, Proxy to President
Ashley Broomhead, (Life Member), Proxy to Chair

The meeting commenced at 7.35pm when there were 15 voting members in attendance and 6 Proxy votes.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Ashbourne TC, Netherseale TC, Roger Thompson, Dennis Archer, John Fletcher, Etwall TC, John Allen, Jonathan Apedaile (Derby Area League and co-opted member of Management Committee and Rolls Royce)

2. Minutes of AGM held on Tuesday 22nd November 2022

Jenni Connell requested that item 8 be amended to read Management and Executive Committee Meetings. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting were taken as read and were agreed as an accurate record, to be signed by the President.

Proposed by: John Allen

Seconded by: Paul Hatton

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. A review of what has been achieved in 2023

James Grindell updated the meeting on matters of interest:

- The Incorporation process is in progress and we are heavily involved in becoming an Incorporated Body/Constitution on advice from the LTA. This is expected to be completed during 2024
- The ongoing LTA/Government nationwide Parks project involving £30m joint funding has enabled Derbyshire to see facility/court improvements in - Alvaston, Markeaton, Matlock and Staveley including key pad entry to courts. With more to follow
- Derbyshire Open and Closed County Cups had taken place
- County training has been provided to 80 + children over 36 weeks
- Received approximately £8k in sponsorship
- Reinstated the Lawson Wood Cup which was won by Chesterfield
- Relocation of DTC is ongoing

5. Approval of the accounts of the Association with Treasurer's Report

Frank Beer read through the Treasurer's report. This is an interim 3 month statement as we move from 30/09 year end to 31/12 in line with LTA Accounting requirements.

Julia Booth asked for clarification on loans.

Frank responded with details of Coaching grants available.

The accounts were unanimously approved by the meeting with no dissensions.

6. a) Rule Change: Change of rules proposed by Management Committee - amendment of Rule 7. ".....A person shall not be eligible to be elected to be an Officer of the Association if they have previously held such office for an aggregate total of 10 years in the case of the President...". To be amended to 15 years.

For the duration of the process of incorporation the Executive Committee have requested that John continue to stand until this is completed.

Proposed by Chris Booth.

Seconded by: Andy Liles

Rule change unanimously approved, with no dissensions.

6. b) Rule Change: Change of rules proposed by Management Committee - amendment of Rule 9. An Annual General Meeting Of the Association shall: (1) Be held annually on the fourth Tuesday in November." To be amended to the fourth Tuesday in February.

Discussed but agreed not to pursue.

7. Consideration of the Annual Report of the Management Committee and the Derbyshire Tennis Centre Manager

John Last read through the Management Bulletin no. 48.

Jenni Connell asked for it to be noted that there was an Inclusion and Diversity Committee.

The awards would be promoted by Rob Hawkins and he will be selling tickets from January 2024.

Rob Hawkins read through the Derbyshire Tennis Centre Report.

Rob emphasised the help received from Dave Keal who is always available as a mentor and a great support personally to Rob over the last 12/13 years and who continues to hold a coach and mentor role.

Chris Booth asked if the Padel court would move if/when DTC moves?

Rob Hawkins confirmed that this would be portable and would be moved.

Thanks were extended again to Rob who had done a great job and worked very hard with DTC producing a profit.

8. Election of Officers of the Association:

Nominations had been received in respect of the following Officers, who were duly elected:

President:	John Last (Life Member)
Chairman	James Grindell (Duffield)
Hon. Secretary:	Louise Walker (Duffield)
Hon. Treasurer:	Frank Beer (Ashbourne)

9. Election of County Officials

Nominations had been received in respect of the following County Officials, who were duly elected:

Adults County Team Representative	James Rushby (Church Broughton)
Seniors County Team Representative	Chris Booth (Church Broughton)
Juniors County Cup Team Representative	John Briggs (Life Member)
Tennis Sub-Committee Chair	Paul Hatton (Breadsall)
County Safeguarding Officer	VACANCY

Thanks were extended to Jenni Connell for 6 years of hard work as County Safeguarding Officer. A replacement for Jenni needs to be identified.

10. Election of a Management Committee (up to 6 members)

Nominations had been received in respect of the following Management Committee, who were duly elected:

Charlie Pick (Chesterfield)
Katy Wilson (Woodlands)
Jenni Connell (DTC)
Jon Apedaile (Roll-Royce)

Rob Salmon indicated in advance of nominations being made that he wasn't seeking re-election and stepped down. The DTA thanks Rob for his input as DTA Chairman, a member of the Management Committee and also as a previous Chairman of the Tennis Sub Committee.

11. Election to Honorary Life Membership of persons recommended by the Management Committee for services rendered to the county of outstanding merit

No proposals made this year.

12. The award of County Colours to players recommended by the Management Committee who they consider merit the award

No nominations this year.

13. Consider the draft Memorandum and Articles ref DTA Ltd from Brabners.

This is work in progress. We held a meeting in July 2023, little progress was made due to lack of response from Brabner's. John Last progressed this in early October and we now have a 2nd Draft. We will need an EGM to finally approve this.

14. The fixing of the annual subscription for affiliation of Clubs, Organisations and Associate Members.

Currently we are not collecting anything. There is confusion from Clubs over affiliation/registration to the LTA providing automatic affiliation to the DLTA. This is not the case. A debate and agreement regarding what will happen on dissolution of the DLTA upon Incorporation will be required – this will happen as part of the process.

Compilation of the list of Clubs who were affiliated to the DLTA pre-covid – 2018/2019 were agreed to be those included in the Constitution in case there is an issue. A subscription is fixed for £0 until incorporation.

16. The fixing of the maximum sum that can be authorised by the Management Committee to be expended on any one transaction

The proposal for increase was to cover the Padel Court at DTC.

After some discussion it was agreed that the amount will remain the same - £15k as until we are Incorporated this will not proceed.

17. Consider and if thought fit by resolution take such action against Clubs, Schools or Associate Members suspended by the Management Committee under Rule 13(9) including disaffiliation.

No action required.

18. Determine the rights and privileges from time to time conferred by the Association upon Associate Members.

There was to be no change.

19. Any Other Business

Julia Booth asked if we were under pressure to take part with the format of the LTA Awards as she highlighted these do not match with the DLTA Awards – there are 6 or 7 trophies affected.

James Grindell responded that since the Awards 2017 these have been online due to time and desire to organise. It is easy to adopt the LTA methodology but agreed that the ‘personal’ Derbyshire awards were not catered for. Nominations have been poor and it was agreed that we need a separate method with a different deadline for the Derbyshire awards.

The meeting closed at 8:28 p.m.

Signed President