

Minutes of the DLTC Committee Meeting

Thursday 31 March, 2022

Present

Chair – Martin McCarthy (MM)

Brian Butcher (BB), James Hart (JH), Sarah Maxfield (SM), Rachel Oleisky (RO) and Kevin Waller (KW)

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Helen Devy, Debbie Turner and Tracy Wyatt.

1) New Committee Members

MM extended a welcome on behalf of the Committee to JH and RO who were in attendance as Members of the Committee

2) Club Coaches

MM reported that unfortunately the Club was losing both of its Head Coaches. Jake Prime would be taking up a new post with Hull Tennis Academy at the end of April, and Toby Mettam had also made the choice to leave and pursue other avenues. Whilst JP would be leaving at the end of April, TM had indicated that he would stay until around the end of May when a new Coach would be in position, and could therefore assist with the handover and transition.

MM indicated that he had spoken at length with Paul Sheard at the Yorkshire LTA and he did not feel there would be any issues in recruiting a new Head Coach ASAP. It would also be an opportune time to look at the way in which the contracts were laid out and look at a different way of remuneration. Whilst the salary paid would be broadly the same, it would be structured in a more modern and transparent way.

Applicants would have to be Level 3 qualified and demonstrate what their coaching offer would be and how it would be successfully delivered.

The Committee discussed the role and structure and what would be required in the new position. A Committee liaison would be appointed once a new Coach was in place, and they would be invited to attend regular Committee meetings to keep the Committee informed of progress. It was also noted that the Young Coaches – George, Mark and Amy – along with the Tennis Leaders were happy to continue in their roles, which the Committee were happy to hear, as they were a credit to the Club and a great help with the Junior Squads.

3) Treasurer Role

A discussion was held regarding the role of Treasurer. Having indicated before Christmas that she wished to step down due to work and family commitments, TW had now indicated that it was imperative a replacement was found. Whilst TW had done a fantastic job in the role, moving forward, with the assistance of Smith Craven, the Clubs accountants and a new till system, the

role could be greatly simplified. However, despite an open invite to all Members asking for a new Treasurer to step forward and take on the role, none had been forthcoming.

MM went through the roles and responsibilities required of the Treasurer and it was determined following a robust discussion that RO would be happy to take on the role of Treasurer of Doncaster Tennis Club.

AGREED that Rachel Oleisky be appointed at Doncaster Lawn Tennis Club Treasurer.

4) Any Other Business

Staff Updates

MM reported that the Groundsman had now handed in his notice and needed to step away due to other work commitments but a replacement had already been found, and would be coming in every morning to open up and do around three hours work Monday to Friday in order to keep on top of the grounds maintenance at the Club. Martin Turner, the outgoing groundsman had spent a day with the new employee and given him an induction and shown him what needed doing and when. It was reported that the role would now largely relate to outside work only and other additional tasks such as the Legionnaires Check would be taken on by Amanda or the Bar Manager.

In terms of Bar Staff it was reported, that Amanda's role would now change and she would be known moving forward as Club Administrator, relinquishing the Bar Manager aspect of the role in order to concentrate on other issues and support the new Coach once in place.

With regard to the Bar Manager, it was AGREED that this role would now be taken on by Emma Capp. Emma was currently employed as a bar assistant and would take on new roles and responsibilities in the new role, including staff rotas, stock orders and so on.

Teams Tennis

MM reported that the Ladies Team Tennis would unfortunately be entered into Division 6 this year and would have to work their way back up through the Leagues. This was due to an administration error in entering the Teams by the deadline, and whilst DLTC had submitted an appeal, it hadn't been upheld, and there was nothing that could be done. It was noted that there were communication issues and it would be helpful if a female member involved with ladies tennis would come forward to sit on the Committee.

Moving on with the discussion of Teams Tennis, it was reported that the Club had incurred some fines as a result of scores and teams not being submitted on time. The Club had paid these in the past, but moving forward, if this happened again, the relevant Team would be required to foot the bill. KW reported that he would take ownership of the administration of this, and ensure that all forms were filled in on time in order to ensure fines were avoided moving forward.

Social Tennis

An update was given on Social Tennis. It was hoped that this would be brought back as it seemed to have waned in recent years. JH had been organising this to a degree and had a good group

going whereby anyone could get involved as and when they wanted to play and would look to promote this more moving forward to encourage more Members to get involved and play.

Price Increases

The Committee discussed bar prices and following advice from the supplier, it had been advised that prices were increased in line with recommended retail prices. This would mean increases of approximately:

12 pence per pint

6 pence per spirit measure

8 pence per bottle

It was also AGREED through the course of the discussion that Somersby be removed from sale along with Tetley's and would be replaced by other brands.

Upcoming Events

The major event coming up in the future was the Jubilee Party to be held at the Club on Sunday 5 June, 2022. KW was working on organising a Family Fun Tournament for the day for people of any abilities with a small entrance fee. This would last approximately an hour and he would work on this. Members of the Committee were asked to think of ideas and feed anything into BB for the plan. RO reported that a lot of ticketing and advertising pamphlets could be done through her. SM would look to source decorations and bunting in line with the Jubilee Theme. It was anticipated that a barbecue would be on offer, with a bouncy castle, band and entertainment. It would be open to anyone within the local community. BB would circulate a timetable of the afternoon closer to the event.

Events such as the planned Jubilee Party were good fundraising opportunities to raise money for Club funds, which could contribute to the needs of the Club. More of these were needed moving forwards, and BB reported that they needed to highlight these more and more. Issues such as replacement courts were highly costly and without such events as these, couldn't be considered. Therefore, it was hoped all Members would become more involved with social events in the future.

Meet and Greet

JH offered to take on the role of 'meet and greet' to new Members and show them round, introduce them to people who they may enjoy playing with and develop a rapport so new Members felt comfortable and at ease in what may be strange surroundings.

Funding

BB reported the further to a conversation held previously regarding Mental Health funding for tennis Andrea was looking into this and would provide a further update in due course. There were many other opportunities to explore to bid for grants and funding and the Club needed to be exploring these avenues.