

Dunblane SC Board Meeting – 22nd August 2023 at 8.00pm

Present: Bernie Beattie, Maureen Carroll, Bill Perrie, Nicola Wishart, Emma Morson, Mark Goundry.

Apologies: Stewart Milne, Richard Gallagher, Phil Wilson.

Board welcomed Alistair Forbes, who showed us photos of original Clubhouse backing on to Ochloch Park road and visualisation of new and adapted buildings. It was agreed that a plan view and visualisation would be shown at Celebration dinner together with talk by Alistair about evolving process of design enabling partial demolition of current building and new clubhouse providing covered terrace for watching tennis and new padel court.

Gail Williams, Club's Welfare Officer spoke about new LTA policies on Safeguarding, online communication, photography and filming and use of changing facilities policies etc. Gail and Stewart will meet with Matt Hulbert, Tennis Scotland to discuss the changes.

LTA recommended age for unaccompanied children playing tennis is 13 so children below that age will not be invited to play in adult leagues and competitions. If Gail is away, then Bernie will be person to whom Safeguarding concerns are brought to. The welcome letter to new members will include current safeguarding and welfare policies. Only 2 people should put news on social media and abide by guidance. Welfare Officer should be invited to every Board meeting and any Welfare issues discussed.

Minutes of last meeting approved.

Buildings and Grounds

1. Stewart will contact Halliday to come later in the year to improve court lighting.
2. Car park lines painted and tables moved to grassed area.
3. Door entry system has been fixed by Pointer.
4. Broken step down to courts 3 & 4 needs repairing.

Finance

Bernie provided a summary of the club's finances. Mark Walker Tennis collected the fees for the Summer Camps and Sandy has been paid. Club has paid Kirsty her outstanding coaching fees from last block.

The Club has returned to taking money for coaching through Clubspark and Bernie will pay the coaches direct with the remainder going to Mark. £10,000 has been received so far for the current block. Coaches in training for Level 1 are volunteers and get remuneration when they have passed Level 1. Mark's contract will need to be updated with new payment method. Kirsty Robertson is no longer coaching at the Club.

Membership

Club has 494 members, 215 are juniors. Subscriptions reduce to proportionate fee on 1st September.

Emma will change the welcome letter new members receive in line with new LTA guidelines. Next year letters can be sent through Clubspark. Bag tags and stickers are not being picked so Emma will dispense with them in 2024.

Tennis

Men's 1st singles team have won Division 1. Men's 2nd singles team are 2nd at present with some outstanding scores to be entered. Ladies 1st O45 team came 3rd and Ladies 2nd O45 team came 5th.

Club Championships start on 27th August for 2 weeks with Finals on 9th and 10th September. Richard and Sandy are organising the Junior championships and Phil the adult ones.

Mark has been unwell and required time off. Sandy took over coaching and organisation of Summer camps.

Emma has been discussing next coaching block with Mark and Sandy and will have a weekly meeting with the coaches to see how block and attendance is going. She will also ask for feedback from parents.

Coaches block booking courts after 6.30pm for private lessons has been unpopular because of demand on courts. Emma suggested adult member getting coaches to book the court. Board agreed.

Nicola asked if her 14-year-old son could play in adult box leagues, in order to keep his interest in tennis. At present juniors have to have played for an adult team to qualify. Captain of men's 3rd team has not been playing juniors as he wanted to get promotion for the team. Board decided that if the junior is over 13 and of an adequate ability (determined by a coach and the board) and match organisation is done by parent and the match is arranged when a coach or parent is at the Club, then junior would be allowed to play in Adult box leagues and competitions.

Squash

Squash box leagues recommence on 1st September and Bernie has emailed members asking if they want to be included.

There will be a meeting of Crieff and District league on 16th September, with 2 Scottish Squash employees attending. Clubs taking part in the League will probably be asked to affiliate to SS this season.

James Dougan has taken over as Head Coach at Bridge of Allan SC and cannot recommence coaching at Dunblane until October. Bernie will ask Jane Martin if she would coach for us.

Social

James' coffee van and Ice cream cart will be at the Tennis Finals day.

Centenary Dinner – about 150 – 160 tickets have been sold and dinner will be in Strathallan Suite. Dunblane Hydro want names for tables by 1st September and payment by 2nd. There are 2 food choices (no tea or coffee). Chef talks to those with food allergies.

7pm drinks reception with musical accompaniment by youngsters.

7.30pm Dinner, Welcome and Judy's quiz. Mark's group will play from about 8 – 10pm.

9.45pm dessert, Neil's talk on Club History, Judy Murray Q & A

10.45pm Auction led by Josh Berry.

Raffle prizes will be distributed to each table during the evening. All music must stop by 12.00 and venue departed by 1.00am.

Pickleball coaching – Judy has offered free afternoon sessions at Cromlix. Nicola as agreed with her that we will ask everyone to pay £20 with all monies going to the Centennial Tennis fund.

House

Door entry system has been fixed and fire inspection has been completed.

AOCB

Members have been asking about pickleball sessions. Emma will speak with Dorothy Welsh about having 3 badminton courts at the Dunblane Centre.

Clubsport Stirling are introducing a Dunblane Sports Hub, which gets local sports club reps together to discuss relevant issues. Bernie will express an interest on behalf of the club.

Date of next meeting - tbd.