

DUSTON UNITED TENNIS CLUB

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 6th November 2019 - 7.30pm in the Clubhouse

In attendance:	David Barr	DB	Club Manager		
Ian McIlwaine	IM	Liz Moore	LM	Chris Bennett	CB
Richard Smith	RS	Roy Robinson	RR	Brian Warren	BW

Apologies: Mark Yoxon, Suzanne McIlwaine, Ann Barr, Jan Johnson (JJ)

DB thanked everyone for attending.

1. Review of 2017 AGM minutes.
All agreed that the above was a true reflection of last year's AGM
2. Matters Arising – Mark Yoxon – loan scheme to members was not followed up this year.
3. Correspondence – Craig Wetherall - offer of court cleaning with a discount of 3 courts for the price of 2. Discussed later in the meeting.
4. Chair's Report – no Chair at present.
5. Manager's Report – DB provided a written report. See attached. Key points are noted here.
There are 188 Adult members compared with 130 in 2018 although 26 of these are Parent members. Basically, the Club is down 5 Adult members. There are 95 Junior members of which 84 are Minis which is a record. This part of the Club is thriving. DB noted that he now coaches 7 County juniors. Ed Gallas helps with the Juniors.
The Mens teams now have a team in each division due to relegations this year so that is better for 2020. The Ladies A were promoted to Division 1 which will test the team. Suzanne McIlwaine has registered all the teams for 2020 and booked courts in advance. All club members now have the correct access to book courts in advance.
Club Championships – the Mens and Ladies champions retained their titles so congratulations to them. The day produced a lot of good tennis. The Mini Tennis Championship is to be moved back to the Summer 2020 as this more practical. The Duston Cup had only 12 pairs instead of 16 as the date clashed with other events but the Duston Cup was won by our pair of Liam and Liz. Well done. The second time DUTC have won in the 5 years of the Cup.
Courts 1-3 have moss, lichen and algae and need to be cleaned. The estimate is £1000. RR asked whether cleaning is needed and if painting would be a better option. DB stated that cleaning must happen before any painting. CB thought that it would be good to take advantage of the 3 for 2 offer and **DB agreed to book the cleaning for next year**. RR noticed that Court 4 was puddling a lot but DB stated that it does drain quickly after the puddling and the grip is excellent.
DB thanked Jan and Nick Johnson for their work in keeping the Clubhouse and grounds in

good order. Committee agreed.

Martyn Bilbie has replaced the lights that had failed but 2 have since failed. MB used scaffolding for which there was no charge but is no longer available so a ladder or cherry picker would be needed. Costs of cherry pickers are too expensive so **CB agreed to ask Yannis** if would use a ladder and attempt to replace where necessary and perhaps re-angle lights to give better coverage.

LTA Child Protection visit pending. This requires self-assessment forms completed, surveys completed, training where necessary and the website to be updated with current information. **DB and LM to action.**

6. Treasurer's Report

Membership income is up by £1183.50, Webshop (Easyfundraising) down by £46.30, Bar profit up by £192.77 and the TV license refund with the sale of the TV raised £103.40. The main fundraising event was the 1000 shot challenge (on the hottest day of the year- phew) but raised £1160, the RR 2019 Quiz raised £268 and the Football scratch card - £71. Two big changes were the decrease in electric costs (down £1273) and that there were no expenses this year. Expenditure last year was £19,000 for the resurfacing of Court 4. Sales of used tennis balls returned £200 so keep collecting. IM studied the accounts and noted that the cash balance is £26,000 showing an increase of £9,700 since last year. A good year overall.

7. Membership fees.

DB asked that these remain the same. BW suggested a £5 increase but the overall opinion was to keep them the same. Adults - £185 per year. Juniors - £65 per year. Parent - £90. Parent & mini - £48. Family - £385. Match Fees – kept the same at £2 per match. The LTA Affiliation fees are the same at £110 per court per year.

8. Club house and grounds

RS – commented on the slipperiness of the decking outside the pavilion. **DB to put some more non-slip strips down and to hold a working party** to remove and replace the decking. Floodlighting – DB restated that replacement was the priority but that we are short of £7000 (Estimate for replacement was £33,000). IM recommended that the Club should always hold £5000 as a reserve in case of emergencies. All agreed. If the costs of court cleaning is £1000 and the cost repainting (estimate of £5000) then replacement of lights would have to wait until 2021. See above for individual light repairs. RR asked about Council grants but this would be difficult in this instance although we have had grants in the past because of our junior programme. Everyone was in favour of cleaning and repainting to keep the courts playable for at least another 3 years. BW was investigating the cost of artificial clay courts and whether the existing macadam base would reduce the cost of court resurfacing.

9. Election of club committee

Chairman – BW proposed by DB, Seconded by RS. Elected

Club Manager – DB proposed by IM, Seconded by LM. Elected

Treasurer – as Club Manager.

Child Protection – LM Standing and Elected.

Committee – JJ, IM, RS, RR, LM, SM. Proposed En Bloc by CB. Seconded by BW. Elected.

10. Any other business

DB wanted an Adult Membership recruitment drive and asked everyone to promote the Club.

Court maintenance – DB asked all the Committee members to use the leaf blower when they can and to lop any branches from overhanging trees.

DB wanted everyone in the Club to use the Easyfundraising website to help to raise funds.

BW is to promote and help instruct members (Note - BW was asked by EasyFundraising to be on the panel of 63 nationwide members that review the use and accessibility of the site)

DB noted that Club night attendance is dropping and that Wednesdays are poorly attended.

BW asked if two courts could be released as a match night for some teams. **SM to note.**

CB asked if there could be Club singles and doubles ladder. DB replied that this was tried in the past but matches did not get arranged so it was abandoned. DB also tried a box league.

CB wondered if the league could be offered to other Clubs but this was thought to be complicated with court bookings etc

DB – suggested an Adult coaching plan. He referred everyone to www.clubtennis.co.uk and to Sutton Churches Tennis Club which run a successful scheme and is a similar club to DUTC.

All agreed that DB should promote and try this next year. **DB to decide length of plan, pricing and the remuneration to DUTC.** It is hoped that this scheme will encourage full membership.

DB noted the League AGM, Monday 11th November at Brixworth. **RR & BW to attend.**

LM said that she is attending the LTA Forum on 1st November at Kings Park and it is hoped that BW would be able to attend as well. This is to help clubs promote and recruit.

11. Date of next meeting – Spring 2020? The AGM will be October/November 2020 prior to League AGM