

# DUSTON UNITED TENNIS CLUB

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021 - 8pm in the Clubhouse

1. Present – Brian Warren, David Barr, Suzanne McIlwaine, Ian McIlwaine, Jan Johnson, Elizabeth Moore, Joe Harrhy, Richard Smith, Roy Robinson

2. Apologies – Mark Yoxon, Chris Bennett, Ann Barr

3. Review of 2020 AGM minutes – Agreed

4. Matters Arising

Floodlighting project – we have received an e-mail from Highlights Floodlighting Ltd which states that there are further delays in the worldwide supply chain of LED lights and that our order is expected on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2022. Highlights have now scheduled the work to be done on the courts for the week of 21<sup>st</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022. We have also received a letter from Philips who are the manufacturers of the LED lights to say that there is a worldwide supply issue for the components. The courts will be out of action for that week.

DUTC Lease – West Northants Council – we have been contacted by the solicitor acting for the Council requesting confirmation to proceed. This has been agreed.

5. Correspondence – as above.

6. Chair's Report

The return to more normal playing conditions and a good summer has meant that there has been a lot of enjoyable tennis to play and watch. I am pleased that the Club has run its own championships and that there are some new names on the trophies. Not only that but the Club has attracted new members and especially many new young players. Our Club Manager, David, keeps thinking up new initiatives, maintaining the profile of the Club as well as running some fun things such as the Cardio tennis. There have been some open tournaments at DUTC and it is good to see our players doing well in these. New floodlights will be installed in the near future and we can then enjoy well lit evening sessions. Behind the scenes there are lots of people that support the Club in many ways – whether it is serving on the Committee, running a team, cleaning the pavilion or doing administration work. A big thank you to you all. It is always difficult to compete against the larger tennis clubs in Northampton but the aim is to provide an enjoyable experience for you all and I hope you look forward to another good year on the tennis court.

## 7. Manager's Report

Membership Numbers. As we stand, we have a total of 280 members (210 – 2020). This is comprised of 72 adults (73 – 2020) comprising 49 Men & 23 Ladies (48 & 25 - 2020) and 184 Juniors, Students & Minis (108 – 2020). There are 24 Parent Members that I've not included in the overall adult members from this year. A huge overall increase of 80 members due to the addition of new coaching groups added after coming out of the January/February lockdown!

Treasury report. After a year of lockdowns and disruption it's pleasing to see to the club income in terms of membership fees go above what would be a normal year. The last normal accounting year from Nov 2018 – Oct 2019 brought in around £13k, this year it's near £17k.

This year has seen a more advertised approach to pay and play court hire to the general public on certain days and times which has rewarded us with £465 since April 2021. We have sent the first payment of £10,794 to the floodlights contractors (Highlights) for the upcoming installation so that's why we are at a small net profit of nearly £2000 for this year as we're now spending our hardearned savings. We have only just started to pay rates again in August 2021 since the pandemic began (less than £100 so far) and our electric bills still remain low although this will change very soon with the latest news on energy prices rising!

Facilities. All courts will be cleaned and moss killed on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> October by Craig Wetherall and his team at a cost of £1500. We will also be having the conifers behind court 4 trimmed right back and some trees removed on the bowls club side by Thompson Tree Services on 1<sup>st</sup> December at a cost of £1175. Thanks to Nick and Jan for keeping up with club cleaning and grounds too.

Minis and juniors. We've had record numbers for our term time programme and Summer Camps this year! As of October, our programme has 154 children per week. Coach Ed is doing 11 group hours plus individual hours per week.

Adult teams. Mens A, B and D stayed in their divisions. Mens C finished bottom of div 3 and were relegated. Ladies A and B stayed in their divisions. Mixed A were relegated from Div 1 and Mixed B stayed in Div 3. 6. Club Championships Finals Day. Liam Turner is another new name on the Men's Singles board this year after coming through some tough opponents and playing well in the final. Lucy Barr successfully defended her ladies singles, junior girls singles and mixed title with Joe Harray. Harvey Fairholm retained the boys singles. Jan and Suzanne also reclaimed their ladies doubles title. Connor Evans returned to partner his brother Max to the Men's doubles title.

Duston Cup. 16 pairs contested the event this year. Clubs mostly represented from Duston and Heyford as well as Towcester, Brixworth and Crick & West Haddon. Liz and Liam from Duston won the Cup for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time beating Richard and Aly from Duston/Heyford in the final.

## 8. Treasurer's Report – see above.

## 9. Membership fees – IM proposed that membership fees should remain the same as 2020-2021 across all types of memberships. Seconded by RR. Everyone agreed and to keep the monthly payment option.

10. NLTL AGM. NLTL Leagues and Teams – Summer 2022

Date of AGM – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November at Abington Tennis Club. Chairman to attend.

Rule changes – i) Should penalty points apply for no-show. All agreed that this should apply.

ii) Should 8 points or 4 points apply for a no show. All agreed that 8 penalty points should be applied.

Other comments to be raised at the AGM are that a minimum of 48 hours notice should be given if a club cannot field a team for a match. A total of 16 penalty points should eliminate a team from a division rather than the current 12 points (i.e. two no shows for a match season). The Men's Veterans winter league should start on Sep 1<sup>st</sup> which is the same start date as the Ladies Veteran's winter league.

Summer leagues 2022

Ladies A – EM to captain but all ladies to be asked if they can commit to teams so that EM can assess if there are enough players for a Ladies B team and if there is someone willing to captain this team. Deadline of Oct 31<sup>st</sup> for decision.

Mixed A - Captain tbd. Mixed B – Captain EM.

Mens A – Captain RS. Mens B – Captain IM. Mens C – Captain RR.

11. Election of club committee

Chairman – BW Proposed by RR. Seconded by SM

Club Manager - DB Proposed by BW. Seconded by EM

Treasurer - DB Proposed by BW. Seconded by EM.

*(This role does not include HMRC communication or returns)*

Child Protection – EM Proposed by SM. Seconded by JJ

Committee – en bloc. Proposed by SM. Seconded by IM

Fixtures Secretary JH Proposed by BW. Seconded by RS

12. Any other business

Mark Yoxon raised change of format for the Club Mixed Championship. This was agreed by all that the 2022 championship would be a group format played on set days. More details to follow. All other Club championships to remain the same format.

Chris Bennett raised court cleaning. This has been booked for 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> October.

RS – asked for netting at back of Court 3 & Court 4 to prevent balls being lost out of court. Agreed that netting should be installed.

DB – raised issue of access onto Court 4. The long term aim would be to have a path behind Court 4 but this is to be discussed at a future committee meeting.

RS – commented that the Duston Cup was very successful and worked well to start at 1pm. All agreed that an afternoon start time was the best option.

Christmas Quiz – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 6.30 for 7pm. RR wanted to finalise details.

Decided that Bring Your Own Food was the best option.

Fundraising event so £5 entry fee which gave each person a raffle ticket.

Limited to 40 people attending the quiz. Names to be passed to RR.

American Tournament Monday 27<sup>th</sup> December 11am – 2pm. DB would organise.

Christmas themed

13. Date of next Committee meeting – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 7pm in the Clubhouse or online.