

# DUSTON UNITED TENNIS CLUB

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – 6.30pm via Zoom

1. Present      Brian Warren (Chair)      BW      David Barr (Club Manager & Treasurer)      DB  
                  Richard Smith      RS      Ian McIlwaine      IM  
                  Suzanne McIlwaine      SM      Joe Harrhy      JH  
                  Jan Johnson      JJ      Aly King-Smith      AKS
2. Apologies – Ann Barr, Chris Bennett, Andy Law, Pam Draper, Barbara Masters, Annie Bills, Afan Nadsri, Athos Kyprianou, Lee Morris, Steve Pimenta, Victor Perriera, Mark Yoxon, Pim van Baarsen, Dan Holman, Elizabeth Moore, Ian Patefield, Suzanne McIlwaine
3. Review of 2022 AGM minutes. Agreed as on DUTC website

### 4. Matters Arising

DUTC Lease – The solicitor for DUTC is negotiating the final stage of the Lease (as at Oct 2023)  
 Court resurfacing costs expected for work starting in April 2024

Company	Location	Estimated Cost (inc VAT @ 20%) 2023	Estimated Cost (inc VAT @ 20%) 2022	Possible Additional Costs eg new net posts, edgings	Tennis Clubs using this company	Website	Comments
Spadeoak	Buckinghamshire	£44,870.00	£44,150.00	£1,446.00	DUTC	<a href="#">Home - Spadeoak</a>	Spadeoak resurfaced courts 1-3
Charles Lawrence	Loughborough	£42,750.00	£40,245.00	£510.00	Hambledon, New College, Churchdown	<a href="#">Tennis Court Construction   Charles Lawrence Tennis Courts (allcourts.co.uk)</a>	
Trevor May	Kent	£47,400.00	£43,800.00	£3,000.00	Shooters Hill, Avenue Tennis	<a href="#">Trevor May Contractors -   - At the surface of sport</a>	
Chiltern Sports	Buckinghamshire	did not requote but this was the highest quote in 2022	£48,696.00	£3,503.00	Coolhurst, Greenford, Riverside	<a href="#">Tennis Court Construction and builders - Chiltern Sports Contractors   Tennis Courts, Padel, Sports, Recreation , Multi Use Game Areas (MUGA), Play Areas. - Construction, Installers, renovation, maintenance</a>	This could be over quoted as new perimeter edgings are costed at £6k

BW outlined the options above and whilst there is probably little difference between the court contractors he felt that we should go with the company who originally resurfaced the courts as the lifespan was very good. IM –

wanted to check the payment options and dates of each payment. BW stated, as the case with all companies quoting, 20% of the cost as the initial payment, 60% of the cost when the resurfacing is completed and 20% after the painting of the courts. IM thought the date of the final payment was key in ensuring that the Club had sufficient funds. **BW would contact Spadeoak to check costs, payments and date for resurfacing.** RS – each year the courts are breaking up more and puddling more so it would be apt to not wait for the surface to worsen. DB asked if the courts could be resurfaced during Easter 2024. **BW to check.** All present (including Elizabeth Moore by proxy) agreed to go ahead with the resurfacing project. **BW to report to Committee as soon as all information from Spadeoak is known.** DB – ideally it would be good to powerwash the courts this winter but approximately £900 would be wasted and this can be better used for the resurfacing. Db suggested that we do as much as we can ourselves to kill the moss, powerwash and sweep the courts. IM agreed with this plan. RS agreed and noted that there are few matches in December. **DB would contact the company that did the powerwashing last time to see if there would do a partial area where the moss was (south side of all courts).** RR – can we get a personal loan to help with the cashflow during May – July. BW to ask as appropriate. IM – will the Bowls Club be willing to let the contractors and DUTC members use their carpark. **BW to check with the Bowls club chairman although they have let the car park be used in the past.**

5. Correspondence – none.

#### 6. Chair's Report

Overall it has been a quiet year and very much dominated by wet weather but all the league matches, the Duston Cup and the club championships got played. The majority of discussions in Committee meetings and with members has been on how and when to resurface the courts. This topic will be the main discussion at the AGM but the Committee has given consideration to having the option of members paying for a two year membership in 2024. This will attract a good discount and it is hoped that members will take advantage which will increase our funds to cover the cost of resurfacing as well as any unexpected expenditures. We are in the final stages of negotiation of a new Lease with West Northants Council for a 25 year Lease starting in 2024. There has been much success with our team players in the Northants Leagues and with the juniors in their age group competitions. This is very heartening and helps to maintain and better our standards of play. Many thanks to those who are on the Committee and to those members who volunteer to help with jobs on the court, the surrounds and the Clubhouse.

#### 7. Manager and Treasurer Report

Membership Numbers. As we stand, we have a total of 183 members (235– 2022). This is comprised of 67 adults (71 – 2022) and 103 Juniors, Students & Minis (138 – 2022). A big decrease of 52 members overall (43 minis due to a Coach leaving) but only 4 adult members less than last year. This is more like pre-pandemic levels however.

Treasury report. Another good year for membership income despite a drop in members (£16.6k). This is helped by a good number of adults staying on as well as attracting new members to replace the ones that didn't rejoin.

We have a bank balance of £39k with a net of around £12k this year.

Facilities. We need to resurface courts 1-3. See Brian's quotes for works.

Minis and juniors. David coaches around 80 children per week. The highlights of the year include Rupert Smith becoming 9u boys County champion and Esa Ali runner-up. Everly Burton was girls 9u county girls runner-up.

Adult teams. Congratulations are in order for the Mens B and D teams who both earned promotion.

Unfortunately, the Ladies A got relegated to the bottom division.

Club Championships Finals Day. Max Evans secured a hatrick of titles this year with the singles, men's and mixed titles (partnering Mikey and Katie). Lucy and Katie won the ladies doubles. Ellie returned to win the Ladies singles. Rob won the Plate.

We had about 85 people attend the Presentation Evening this year thanks largely to David's successful junior championships and new Star Awards.

Duston Cup. 16 pairs contested the event this year. Thanks to Richard for organising. Clubs represented included Duston, Heyford, Towcester, Brixworth, Kettering and Crick & West Haddon. Richard and Aly won the event beating Amy and Christoph from Abington.

IM asked for a breakdown of the electricity costs to compare the running of the new lights compared to 2022. **DB to check on number of units used per winter month for 2022 and 2023**

8. Membership fees – proposed for 2024/25 and a two year 2024/26

*Note : one year memberships kept at the same amount as for 2022/23*

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP	Annual Fee 2024/2025	1 yr Direct Debit	2 year Membership 2024/2026 paid in one sum or (1/4/24 and 1/7/24)
Adult	£195	£24.99	£338 (£200 and 138)
Adult Couple	£375	£44.99	£650 (£390 and £265)
Young Adult (19-22yrs)	£155	£19.99	£268 (£160 and £108)
65 years +	£170	£21.99	£295 (£177 and £118)
Family 2 adults from same household and children	£405	£49.99	£702 (£421 and £281)
Family One Adult 1 Adult and children	£235	£29.99	£407 (£244 and £163)
Parent and Junior 1 parent and 1 junior aged 10-18 years	£155	£17.99	£268 (£160 and £108)
Junior Student 10-18 years	£70	n/a	£120 (n/a)
Mini and Me 1 parent and mini 4-9 years. Extra minis £24	£65	n/a	£112 (n/a)
Mini age 4-9 years	£30	n/a	£52 (n/a)
Coaching (anyone accessing Club coaching only)	£30	n/a	n/a

9. NLTL AGM. NLTL Leagues and Teams – Summer 2024. Teams to be decided at the next Committee meeting.  
NLTL AGM – Mon Nov 6<sup>th</sup> (Chairman to attend)

10. Election of Club Committee – to be voted en-bloc. Proposed by Andy Law & Seconded by Chris Bennett

Chairman – Brian Warren

Club Manager – David Barr

Treasurer – David Barr

Child Protection – Elizabeth Moore

Committee - Ian McIlwaine, Elizabeth Moore, Joe Harrhy, Roy Robinson, Richard Smith

Fixtures Secretary - Joe Harrhy

Team captains – Summer 2024 (to be decided at next Committee meeting)

## 11. Any other business

Two requests were received by the Chairman

- i) Testing of electrics in the Clubhouse. It was accepted by all present that this should be carried out.  
Committee to action.
- ii) Reinstatement of showers. There was minimal interest in this and the Committee are concerned about Legionella disease. This would be discussed again at the next committee meeting.

DB – can an Open Tournament be run over the Christmas holidays to help with funds for the resurfacing? All in agreement and this to be organised at the next committee meeting. AKS suggested that this would be more fun if it was themed.

RR and IM – there is concern that match dates are not always run in a social way and an economic manner. It was important to stress to all captains that the social side after a match was important and that everyone contributed. DUTC should not get a reputation for being anti-social. RR suggested increasing the home and away match fees to cover drinks at a home match. Several present felt that this would be difficult because often members are only used for one match and would not participate generally in the home match socials. RS thought it was only some teams where this was a problem and asked for this to be discussed at the next committee meeting.

AKS – shutting the gate at night is difficult and concerning if alone. This is not just a female issue although it is a greater issue for a female alone. The padlock is not easy to lock in the dark and sometimes does not lock when turning the key. RS and IM suggested swapping the click shut lock on the clubhouse with the one on the gate. DB noted that most members had a key to the gate lock and not the new clubhouse padlock. DB asked that this could be resolved at the next committee meeting.

## 12. Date of next Committee meeting - to be decided when we have all the information regarding the resurfacing to the courts.