

HIGH WYCOMBE LAWN TENNIS CLUB

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

4 JULY 2022



Attendees	Andy Gibbs, Chair Sue Chapman, Secretary Alan Gates, Treasurer Maggi Newcombe, Off-Peak Representative Clare Smith, Membership Secretary Ross Murray, Head Coach Adam Smith, Junior Representative & Men's Mike Nye, Committee Assistant
Apologies	Carolyn Nye, Social Secretary

	Action
Minutes of Last Meeting The minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 9 May 2022 were approved for circulation to the Trustees.	SC
Marketing / Social Media A few posts have been made on social media. Sammie Martin is happy to post but doesn't have time to create content. It was suggested more use was made of the content provided by the LTA. RM agreed to promote the Sunday beginner/rusty racket sessions and junior summer camps. These sessions could also be promoted on the website home page, which has not been refreshed for a while.	RM/ CS RM / AGa
Membership Update 4 new members have been recruited recently but only 2 enquiries have been received in the last month.	
Membership Renewals The number of renewals is still below the 2021-22 level, but slightly ahead of pre-covid numbers. Full members – 118; Off-peak - 24; Coaching – 7; Age 21-25 – 6; Fully paid-up juniors - 56; Hitting parent – 11; UTR – 14.	
Coaching Update Josh Oxley has joined as a full member. He has been working on the junior programme with RM as well as coaching individuals. A small group of players who have been attending Thursday night coaching sessions are at a stage in their development where it would be useful for them to be able to play with more experienced players. It was suggested RM should invite them to stay	

<p>on and play on the last Thursday of each month until they are of a standard to become members.</p> <p>Junior squad numbers are up.</p> <p>RM will be running Tennis for Free on the Desborough Park courts and junior summer camps at HWLTC.</p> <p>RM has been working with John Hampden and Hannah Ball schools. No new members have resulted but RM will target the parents again in September.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RM</p>
<p>Clubhouse Improvements</p> <p>Coffee Machine</p> <p>The coffee machine has been purchased and is now in use. A choice of coffee pods are available at £1 each from the vending machine. Fresh milk will be bought weekly and kept in the kitchen fridge.</p> <p>CS will stick step-by-step instructions on the machine and the vending machine and then an email will be sent to the membership.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CS / SC / AGa</p>
<p>Wednesday Coffee Morning Session</p> <p>This session will start on Wednesday, 6 July and be open to members and non-members. RM will draft an email to members and it will be advertised on Facebook.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RM / AGa</p>
<p>River Maintenance</p> <p>MNy will order another skip and Ivan Cicin-Sain will be asked to remove the river debris. Another working party will be organised when the new skip is in place. When all the debris in the corner by the toilet block has been removed the area will be flattened. The plastic chairs can then be stored there under a tarpaulin.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MNy / AGi</p>
<p>HWLTC 75th Anniversary - Saturday 11 June</p> <p>24 members played in the Barbara Stuart Rose Bowl tournament, which was won by Philippa Worley and Matthew Warne.</p> <p>The weather was fine and the afternoon tea/garden party went well. A few past members joined the celebrations and Margaret Stevens cut the anniversary cake.</p> <p>A link to photographs will be posted on the website.</p> <p>Thanks to Carolyn for making the day a success.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AGa</p>
<p>LED Floodlights</p> <p>Originally it was intended that only the floodlights on courts 1-3 would be upgraded, however in order to maximise savings, it would be prudent to upgrade all six. There would also be technical issues with the shared floodlight posts on courts 3 and 4.</p> <p>The club may be eligible for a Low Carbon Workspace grant of £5k and may be able to apply to Buckinghamshire LTA for a 5-year interest free loan of £10k. The best quote received is £19k + VAT for 3 courts - £47k including VAT for all six courts. If the club was able to secure the £15k of funding then it would be possible to upgrade the floodlights for all six courts and resurface the clay courts in 2 years' time. Currently the cost for the top grade of artificial clay is approx. £60k + VAT for 3 courts.</p> <p>The newer version would require much less maintenance, which is currently costing us approx. £2k pa.</p> <p>MNy agreed to deal with the planning requirements.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AGi</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MNy</p>
<p>Ladies Captain / Teams / Match Practice</p> <p>Julia Atkins has resigned as overall Ladies Captain and first team captain.</p>	

<p>As there is now no one to organise match practice, RM was asked if he would be prepared to give guidance and assist with the integration of the juniors. CS will liaise with the 2nd and 4th team captains on the best date for RM to assist.</p> <p>In the past juniors playing matches have been asked to upgrade their membership to U21 category. It was agreed that U18s would not be required to upgrade unless they were also playing in adult social sessions.</p> <p>It was also agreed that, from now on, U18s playing in senior matches would be required to pay the full match fee of £3.</p> <p>As the courts are now under-used on a Tuesday evening it was agreed RM could have one court for coaching.</p>	<p>RM / CS</p> <p>RM</p>
<p>Big Tennis Weekend</p> <p>It was decided not to run the event this year but dates for 2023 would be put in the calendar when the key dates are set in January next year.</p>	<p>SC</p>
<p>Branded Clothing</p> <p>Some members have enquired about HWLTC branded clothing. Birds of Dereham have a large range of clothing at reasonable prices - www.birdsofdereham.com – and a low minimum order. Details will be sent to members.</p>	<p>RM</p>
<p>Ukrainian Refugees</p> <p>One 13-year old girl has attended match practice and has potential to become a team player. Two other juniors are receiving coaching.</p>	
<p>Court Congestion</p> <p>Alan Worley, who runs the High Wycombe & District Mixed League, has confirmed that home matches can be held on Friday evenings. This would ensure that Monday and Thursday evening social players have a minimum of 3 courts. Lucy Duncan, Fixtures Secretary, will be made aware of this for 2023 matches.</p>	
<p>Financial Update</p> <p>UK RPI is now in excess of 11% but the club is experiencing a much higher increase in costs. The gas and electricity contract has just been renewed for 3 years, and electricity costs are expected to rise from £3k pa to approx. £6.5k pa. Gas costs are expected to double to £1k pa.</p> <p>It is estimated that 50% of floodlight usage is on Monday and Thursday social nights. As there is no charge for floodlights on these evenings, it is estimated free floodlights will cost the club £3.25k pa.</p> <p>There has also been a 50% increase in the cost of tennis balls from £4 to £6 per tube and with more increases possibly to come, the club will spend approx. £4k pa on balls. Most of the new balls are used at match practice and in matches.</p> <p>Match fees cover the cost of new balls for home matches and team entry fees so it will not be necessary to implement an increase at the moment.</p> <p>The cost of balls used at match practice is £1k and the £5 pp paid in March by those attending match practice (towards balls and floodlights) only raised £275. To cover the shortfall, it was proposed that the match practice fee should be increased to £20pp in 2023. This will be communicated to the membership at the AGM.</p>	<p>AGi</p>
<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Monday 12 September 2022 @ 7.30pm</p>	