



Hill & Valley LTC AGM

Friday 18th November 2022 at 7.00pm

Seven Tuns, Chedworth

1. Chairman's welcome and report (Robert Baker)

A very warm welcome to you all, thank you so much for coming to join us tonight; we are aiming to keep the emphasis on the social side for this annual meeting, along with a few pertinent matters to do with the running of your club thrown in! An especially warm welcome to our new club members and to those who are here for the first time!

The club is managed by volunteers, both those on the committee and the many kind people who volunteer with events, leagues, ladder and various tournaments: may I thank:

Graham Stock Welfare & safeguarding officer, as well as court maintenance & general Mr Fix-it. Graham also leads our annual LTA Registration process that underpins the integrity of the club management. Thank you also for leading the CVT and the John Robson tournaments.

Zarah Barter Club Secretary who manages the meeting minutes and actions and is responsible for the effective management of the Limited Company.

Leila Lodwick Club Treasurer, responsible for financial management, the bank account and annual reports – and seeing our bills get paid! Sadly, Leila is stepping down after three years in the role due to mounting work and family commitments. Leila has been a rock during the difficult disrupted years over the Covid lockdowns and is handing over her role to Zarah – subject to your approval later this evening.

Caroline Baker Membership secretary, liaising with members over many, many matters: the Clubspark website, welcoming new joiners, interfacing with Tom Wyman and David Ayala over coaching. Marketing the clubs' activities and promoting events, and so much more, including the Saturday afternoon Mixed Social sessions, and Monday's 'Pop-up-and-play'

Hilary Swan Ladies Team coach and for leading the drills & 'rusty returners' groups, and not least helping the new Mens Team with their Glos league administration! And, of course, last weekend's crazy Alison Stock Scottish event!

Yvonne Winward Running the doubles ladders – and remaining supremely patient with players inertia & lack of commitment to match timetables!

Claire Watson & Hisae Hollingsworth Running the Stroud Mixed Winter League team with help from Hisae Hollingsworth.

Helen Owen Ladies over 60's winter league team captain

Linda Seaton Fixtures for summer ladies league & booking courts, kindly agreed to continue next year.



John Boughey

Running the Mens Night sessions – an all year-round commitment which brings so much enjoyable tennis to us blokes, & keeps us from getting above ourselves when receiving your serve!

Dee Greatorex

Running the Ladies Thursday Tennis; leading the catering effort for the summer tournament.

Club Financial situation & 2023 subscription proposal

Under Club Treasurer Leila's watchful eye, I am glad to say the club remains in a sound financial position and a small surplus has been made in the last year. You will remember we have cleaned and re-painted the courts last spring costing about £5,500. Other cost items include hedge cutting, grass cutting and utilities; and we have to set aside an annual contribution to the sinking fund to ensure we are in a position to re-surface courts – most likely in 2030 at a likely cost of between £30,000 and £40,000. Overall income is up as we have been successful in attracting increased membership and our annual Coln Valley Summer Tournament continues to make a contribution to funds.

So now to the difficult balancing act – on the plus side the club remains soundly financed for the moment, but it would be neglectful if the committee did not make provision for future – likely considerable increase – in costs, especially the re-surfacing. The general ethos is that we wish to remain a low membership cost club (significantly lower than local alternatives), and we wish to cultivate young children's tennis, support the village school and have favourable terms for families. In the last three years we have either held subscriptions with no change, in 2020 & 2021, or made a 3% increase in current year. You'll all be only too aware of the rate of cost inflation in the wider economy, and rest assured we are suggesting something below the 10 to 11% circulating. Our proposal is for a 6% rise in subscriptions which puts £4 on Adult and £10 on Family memberships. Obviously, this will be reviewed this time next year to ensure we remain on track, but we hope you find this acceptable.

Housing Development Adjacent to Tennis Courts

Planning in Principle was granted by CDC for up to three houses in 2020 during Covid lockdown. Working together with representatives of our Parish Council, Chedworth Society and the Village Hall Committee, we have submitted objections to the application at all stages of the process and I spoke at the CDC planning committee meeting in September 2021. Technical Details stages went to Appeal and were rejected on a minor technicality, only to be re-submitted in September this year. Unfortunately, there is no reason now why CDC should not pass the plans despite very considerable numbers of objections from across the Chedworth village community. I'd like to thank Charles Hutton Potts of the Village Hall committee, Martin Harrison of Chedworth Society and Bella Heathcote Amery who as a Chedworth Parish Councillor all of whom campaigned energetically against the development. I guess we can expect work to start sometime in 2023 and we can now only hope that the impact on the club will be minimal.



2. Membership Secretary report (Caroline Baker)

The membership has continued to grow over the last two years and our current membership to date is 213 which is a record and is up on last year's 207. The last time we were close to these numbers was back in 2009 with 191 and 2011 with 172. The amount of Adults is the same as last year, although we have had a drop in men and a rise in ladies, however our main growth has been with the Juniors which is up 30% this is mainly as a result of the Junior coaching programme, as they take advantage of the 15% reduced fee as a member.

The breakdown is as follows:

Adult 125, Student (18-23) 13, Youth (10-17) 36, Junior (U10) 39

Female: Ladies 72 Student 5 Youth 11 Junior 13

Male: Men 53 Student 8 Youth 25 Junior 26

It is wonderful to see more people playing tennis and enjoying our club. Although this is a very healthy growth, it is really important for the future of the club to try and attract more younger members. Many of our those who play regularly are either approaching 60 or over 60 and whilst most are fit, the risk of injury becomes more likely as we get older which makes it harder for getting teams together to play in any of the Leagues. So please do help to spread the word and encourage your friends to come and give the club a try, you can attend any 3 sessions before having to join.

Our junior membership has grown to a total of 69 which is wonderful to see. Since the club's inception in 1986 the Club has had the coaching and encouragement of young players at the forefront of its ethos and has always offered junior tennis for non-members. We have children attending sessions from Chedworth and surrounding villages who are both members and non-members.

Our club sessions for adult members have been well attended although do vary from week to week, and we appreciate those who Robert mentioned earlier who give up their time to run them, Monday Men's night, Ladies on Thursdays and the Mixed doubles on Saturdays. The new Pop Up & Play on Mondays has been a nice opportunity to socialise after playing while supporting the village Pop Up café.

Benefits for members

Well Human Physio at Far Peaks near Northleach and D&J Sports give members a 10% discount, as does East Glos club's sport shop (please ask me for a voucher).

Wimbledon Tickets

If you would like to be in the LTA Advantage draw for tickets, please make sure our club is showing as your venue by logging in [HERE](#). You will soon be prompted by the LTA via email to opt in if you want to be in the draw. There is an additional draw for those who also volunteer for the club.

Easy Fundraising is a great way for the club to receive some extra funds, click [HERE](#), there is also a link on the home page of the website with all the info, when you shop online the retailer donates to the club, the amounts vary for each retailer it is particularly good when using price comparison sites for insurance or things like AA membership as they can pay out larger sums anything up to £10. Anyone can do this you don't have to be a member so please encourage your friends and family to sign up to help the club.

We will soon be planning our activities for next year and would really welcome any suggestions or offers of help with this. Do get in touch with me if you need any more info on anything that I have mentioned.

Thank you to all our members for their support and looking forward to a healthy year ahead.



3. Coaching (Caroline Baker)

I took this role on from Chrissie Kenning after she stepped down last year.

David Ayala joined us 18 months ago and is running an active Junior programme for 4-18yr olds with after school coaching on Wednesdays in term time and Fun camps during half terms and holidays and he continues with his one-to-one coaching for both juniors and adults. This winter term has seen a drop in attendance which tends to occur in the winter months, unfortunately because the pre-school has moved from the village hall to beside the school the children have to now be brought up by parents previously the school brought them up when taking other children to after school care which was run by the pre-school. In addition, David provides coaching sessions for both the school and pre-school which the club supports by providing the courts free of charge and making a financial contribution to the school from the Allison Stock Fund which is needed even more since the recent cutbacks.

For the adults – Hilary continues her popular Tuesday rusty returner/beginner and Friday intermediate/advanced sessions during term time.

Tom Wyman's monthly Saturday coaching clinics have continued for all levels and have been well attended. Although the Juniors sessions had to be dropped as the children had too many other conflicting sports fixtures so the numbers were too low sadly. At the beginning of the year Tom ran extra team training sessions for the Ladies Team and the newly reformed Mens team and we will look to start these again in January.

As a small club I think we are very fortunate for the quality and range of the coaching that we have on offer and would like to thank David, Hilary and Tom for the time and effort they give to the club.

4. Welfare Officer/Safeguarding summary (Graham Stock)

With all that is going on around the country these days we have to be very mindful in the club to try and prevent, or resolve, incidents such as accidents, bullying and inappropriate communications, etc. To do this we are always vigilant and review club procedures on an annual basis, particularly at club registration time. We also rely on our members to report their observations so that we may resolve them before they become a big issue.

The Welfare in our tennis club encompasses the wellbeing of members, visitors and the facilities too. So, when I report that we had a few accidents this year, it is not restricted to the players on court but a visitor was treated too. They are recorded in the accident book so that we have a record of what happened, and the injury treated. From this we discuss in committee the need for action. So, the front steps to the clubhouse have been improved with a tread to improve grip and a yellow line to indicate each step. If anyone use items from the First Aid kits, can you please inform the committee so that we can replenished them from our stock.

As we approach the Winter period, I would like to bring to your attention that conditions under foot will be changing as the temperature falls to zero. You should check the condition of the courts every time you go to play on them so that you are all confident for your safety. This applies to the car park and approaching the courts.



5. Events / Teams Tennis reports (Hilary Swan, Helen Owen, Hisae Hollingsworth, Yvonne Winward, Graham Stock)

Ladies' Dunlop Summer League 2022 (Hilary Swan, Captain)

A truly amazing season; we knew it would be tough going up into Division 1 and so it was surreal when we won both our first two matches 4-0! Then reality hit and we lost the next two 1-3 and 0-4 both home and away to a very strong Bredon team. They went on to comfortably top the league and will be promoted back up to the Premier Division next season. However, after those two losses we somehow managed to remain undefeated and secured the runners-up position.

I should like to thank the entire squad of 10 players for their time and commitment, they should all be immensely proud of producing some fantastic tennis. Last year I said we would need to work hard to give some of the bigger clubs a 'run for their money', well we certainly did that and more!

Allison Stock / Fun Mixed Doubles Event 12.11.22 (Hilary Swan)

So once again I had to put my 'thinking cap' on and come up with another different format to celebrate the wholehearted contribution Allison gave to the Club. I chose a fun mixed doubles 'Swop Around' Tournament. There were two teams The MacDonalds and The Campbells each consisting of 5 mixed doubles pairs. Matches were 10 minutes in duration, with couples trying to win as many tie-break points for their team. Each player playing with a different partner from their team hence the 'swop around'! To remember Allison and her Scottish heritage, individuals were asked to wear some tartan. There were some fantastic outfits and the prize for the best dressed female went to Trish King and best male went to Judy (Nigel) Barlow! Some of the tennis was 'outstanding' and the victors were eventually The Campbells. A Scottish themed sports quiz was won by Justine and Martyn. The event concluded by everyone thoroughly enjoying hot dogs and other Scottish related snacks plus an obligatory 'wee dram' or two! Angie and Nigel, Caroline and Robert must be thanked particularly for making the whole gathering such a fun and relaxed occasion.

Ladies Over 60's League (Helen Owen)

The Over 60s mighty 11 women players continued to surprise and delight throughout the Winter 2021/22 season. Up against some tough teams from Painswick, Cam and Dursley, Cerney Lakes and East Glos 'B', the girls battled hard to create opportunities, improving their doubles court craft at every opportunity.

The season ended with a superb sprint finish, winning the last 3 matches 8-0, with 4 of our ladies in the top 10 of the 50 competing players. A victim of our own success means in this 2022/23 season, we are now competing in Div 1 of 5 Divisions. Huge challenges ahead I suspect... but so far, we have Won 1 and Lost 1.

Many thanks to the girls, who always compete with such a tremendous spirit and to Hilary for her enthusiastic endeavour on Friday mornings to get us thinking, moving and striking!

Stroud Winter Mixed Doubles Sunday League (Hisae Hollingsworth)

Our Mixed Doubles team ended the 2021-2022 Winter Season in second position in Division Two, jointly held on total points with Cirencester's C team - although we narrowly beat them on the total number of games won! A fantastic achievement, well done to all who played.



10 men and 8 ladies played for the team last season and the games were very enjoyable. The 2022-23 season started in September and runs until end April next year. Hisae is now running the team for us. This year male players seem to be thinner on the ground than the ladies, so gentlemen, don't be backwards in coming forwards as we need you!

So far this season we have lost our first match - which was against Cirencester on their synthetic clay courts – lovely to play on but we are not used to them, so they definitely had the home advantage; and we have yet to complete the 6 November match versus Painswick when rain stopped play. However, we have great hopes for the rest of the season once we get into our stride!

If there is anyone who would like the chance to play competitive tennis on a Sunday over the winter months, please contact Hisae at hisaeuh@yahoo.co.uk

Mixed Doubles Ladder (Yvonne Winward)

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Mixed Doubles ladder. We had 8 pairs in this round which ran over the summer. It was great to see some new pairings and some old pairings.

Admittedly, scheduling matches seemed more challenging this summer -- with the world re-opening after COVID, people had fuller diaries (more travel, etc) as well as there were a couple injuries (not from the ladder matches just to clarify and reassure).

That said, in total there were 27 matches - so still decent and well done everyone. Top tip for anyone in the future -- those who played the most ended up with the higher points. Not only do you have to be excellent on the court, but it helps if you happen to be great at the scheduling of less matches!

The results of the ladder are as follows. The runner ups - we had a tie: The Barlows (Angie/Nigel) and the Winwards (Yvonne/Charlie). And as for the winners --- drum roll -- the Cup goes to the Robert Baker and Leila Lodwick who were undefeated in the 6 matches they played. Congratulations - thank you for showing us the way Club Treasurer and Chairman!

We will be taking a break on the Mixed Doubles ladder until January and kick off a new round then.

We started a Ladies doubles ladder and although 5 pairs signed up only 2 matches were played, if anyone is interested in trying to get this going again next year please let me know hvladder@gmail.com

John Robson Rose Bowl Tournament (Graham Stock)

12 payers took part this year in an American Doubles format with much fun during the Round Robin stage. In the end there was an amazing final between Pamela Lowe / Nigel Barlow against Angie Kaye / Charles Hutton-Potts. The eventual winners were Angie Kaye and Charles Hutton-Potts 6-4.

Men's League (Graham Stock)

This year saw the men back in action in the Gloucestershire League starting in Division 6B and ending up 2nd to Winchcombe. With new team members gaining their first "caps" we have great hopes for the future. We shall progress to Div 5 next year, "Onwards and Upwards" shall be our motto!



Coln Valley Tournament (Graham Stock)

It was another successful day, having 64 entries, played on eight private courts in the morning and the eight in the afternoon. The day itself began with registration and coffee at our courts before the exodus to the generously given private courts around the Coln Valley area. All the players returned for lunch in the Village Hall where a great selection of salads to accompany the salmon and chicken dishes all provided by Clair Booth. There was a wonderful raffle at lunchtime with prizes donated by local people and companies. It was good to see our members involved with helping with teas/coffees, baking cakes and making puddings so that players and spectators were well provided for right to the end.

The final of course, played on our own newly painted courts, was watched and cheered from around the perimeter of the courts and, as always, we saw some excellent play as the sun set.

The winners were: -

Speke Cup Winners: Mia Smith and Adam Swan

Scott-Smith Salver Winners: Kattie Ballard and Paul Harris

Well done to all (especially to Caroline Baker) for organising and assisting a great CVT this year and we will aim to do even better next year!

6. Apologies

Apologies received: Richard Isaac, Charles Hutton Potts, Yvonne & Charlie Winward, Claire Watson, Jane & Martin Spooner, Jack Heathcoat-Amory, Annabel & Neil Belcher, TJ & Seran Glanfield, Rohan Blacker, Heather Robson, Amelia Robbins, Sue Francis, Sue Sharman, Matthew Irving, Simon Lanyon, Sarah Calder.

7. Adoption of 2021 AGM minutes

You may have seen on invitation a link to 2021 AGM minutes. The minutes were proposed to be accepted by Hilary Swan and seconded by Moira Tremaine.

8. Election of Officers 2022/23

All attendees in favour and accepted the proposed officers:

- Chairman: Robert Baker
- Membership Secretary: Caroline Baker
- Welfare Officer: Graham Stock
- Treasurer: Zarah Barter (Leila Lodwick standing down): proposed by Caroline Baker; seconded by Trish King
- Secretary: Justine Barnes: proposed by Zarah Barter; seconded by Stephen Scott-Smith



9. Treasurer's Report 2022 and approval of the Annual Financial Statement (Leila Lodwick)

Income

The financial statements show that the club made a surplus for the year of £1,546 compared with a surplus of just under £13,174 last year. The lower surplus this year is due to the generous legacy payment of £25,000 we received in the prior year from the estate of Allison Stock. Membership fees make up the largest chunk of income at £9,610 for the year and these are up 19% on prior year. This is primarily due to the increase in members as we only raised our fees for 2022 by 3% last year.

As in previous years the other main income line comes from running the Coln Valley Tournament in June where we made a surplus of around £2,500. We also made a surplus of £215 from our friendly tournament with Fairford tennis club and the John Robson doubles tournament run in September. The money raised from these events helps us contribute to the Allison Stock fund which is our charitable fund set up to support tennis in the community.

Finally on the income side, we received £92 from recycling used tennis balls so just my usual plea to recycle any old tennis balls in the bin provided by the club house.

Expenditure

Direct costs have mostly remained in line with prior years. The main variances are:

- Maintenance costs are higher this year as we had the courts repainted at a cost of £5,360. Other items included within maintenance this year were £1,500 for hedge cutting and £1,275 for grass cutting.
- Increase in Stripe, Go Cardless and SumUp fees – this is due to the increase in the number of transactions made through Stripe, Go Cardless and SumUp including for coaching. The fees for payments made in respect of the Coln Valley Tournament ('CVT') have been included in calculation of the CVT surplus.
- We allocated £4,000 to our sinking fund in respect of 2022 which is higher than last year due to inflation in costs. The sinking fund allows us to build up reserves to pay for large items such as floodlights and court resurfacing.

Finally, we have donated £1,500 to the Allison Stock Fund and £300 to local churches, the latter coming out of the Coln Valley Tournament profit.

Balance Sheet

The year-end bank balances totalled £44,678 and we had just over £2,000 of creditors, which includes the £1,500 donation to the Allison Stock Fund, the £300 to the churches along with some operating expenses relating to the year.

Of the reserves £15,000 is the balance remaining of the Allison Stock legacy and £19,724 relates to the sinking fund which, having made a large payment out for floodlights last year, we are building back up again. We have done a 10-year forecast as we predict the next large investment will be the court resurfacing around 2030 which we estimate will cost at least £30,000 so it is important to build up funds to ensure the club is able to do this when the time comes.

Next year

Given the rise in interest rates in recent months we will also be looking to place some of our funds in an interest-bearing account.



In terms of membership fees, the general ethos is that we wish to remain a low membership cost club (significantly lower than local alternatives), and we wish to cultivate young children's tennis, support the village school and have favourable terms for families. In the last three years we have either held subscriptions with no change (2020 & 2021) or made a 3% increase (2022). Whilst inflation is currently around 10-11% our proposal is for a 6% rise in subscriptions which puts £4 on Adult and £10 on Family memberships. This will be reviewed this time next year to ensure we remain on track.

In summary, we have had another good year, and we are in a healthy financial position moving forwards. I will be stepping down this year and Zarah Barter will be taking up this role. If you have any questions, please get in touch with treasurer.hillandvalleyltc@gmail.com.

All attendees in favour and agreed the adoption of accounts: proposed by Graham Stock; seconded by Tim Brocklebank-Fowler.

10. Agree proposed membership fees for 2023

Proposed fair increase of fees by 6% (less than current CPI & RPI).

Membership costs next year would be £75 for single, £148 joint, £165 family, £36 student, £29 youth, and £18 for junior membership.

All attendees in favour and agreed the adoption of membership fees for 2022-23: proposed by Stephen Scott-Smith; seconded by Trish King.

11. AOB

Vanessa Baron asked whether the club had looked to become a Charity; Caroline Baker replied to say that this had been previously considered and that Charles Hutton-Potts had looked in to it but it was felt at the time to be quite complicated to achieve and no one on the committee had the time to take it forward, however, if someone was willing to help with this then it would be worth looking into again.

Trish King mentioned the Easy Fundraising app was a good and very easy way to help raise funds for the club; Caroline said this was on the home page of the website and she would send a link for the app to all members in due course.

Robert Baker said there were still money in the Allison Stock Legacy fund that can used for further club improvements; ideas so far that have been discussed were for a practice wall and benches for spectators outside of the courts to the right of the entrance gate into the bank area.

With no further business, the meeting ended at 9.30pm.

Signed by Chairman, Robert Baker.....

Date