

Minutes of the Lisvane (CAC) Tennis Club AGM

20 November 2023

Present

Clive Bolton, Mike Salter, Jim Allen, Quentin Jones, Mike Shipman, Tony Symons Hicks, Simon Stokes, Tracy Atwood, Julie Piper, Cath Symons Hicks, Andrew Reid-Jones, Emma Reid-Jones, Victoria Morgan, Tony Nash, Julia Thomas, Alex Welch, Cath Lynn, Paula Jones, Robbie Jones

Apologies

Juliette Sherrard, Chris Heiberg, Kate Jowett, Jeremy Camilleri, Valerie McBroom, Simon Howe, Davinia Payne, Suzanne Compton, Terry Compton, Mererid Velios, Helen Riley, Carol Stokes, Gareth Thomas, Geraint Richards

Minutes of last AGM

Jim Allen proposed, Tony Nash seconded – approved

Finance – Tony Nash, Treasurer

The projected 2023/2024 finances were discussed (appended)

A few points were discussed:

Wind up the 100 club – we only have seven members in the 100 club. The AGM agreed to wind it up with refunds back to the supporters. Many thanks to all members who have supported the 100 club over the years.

Noted the Easyfundraising portal which allows people to raise money for the club via their online shopping – Amazon, Sainsburys and many other companies. We've raised a few hundred pounds over the years doing this.

Some members queried about possible resurfacing of courts 4/5 and planning on for that. Discussed that we're still paying off the loan so no major change of surface can happen.

Another member queried what type of flood lights we have. 4/5 are halogen. Courts 1-3 are LED.

Membership – Jules Thomas

Membership stands at 242 to date this year compared to 278 last year.

Breakdown of our membership

60% male

70% adults

Interestingly, in year 6 and below the male to female ratio is 50:50 but in the junior membership we have 76% males to 24% females.

So this year we've attracted equal numbers of males and females to year six and below but quite a few more males than females are in the junior section

Safeguarding - Emma Reid-Jones

I am the Welfare and Safeguarding officer for Lisvane Tennis Club. I am DBS checked. I hold level 1 and 2 safeguarding certificates with the LTA and also hold level 2 and 3 Excellence in Safeguarding with the Baptist Union which covers both children and vulnerable adults.

Following a conviction at Wrexham Tennis Club the LTA and Tennis Wales have made Safeguarding a priority. Every club in the UK will be having a Safeguarding audit to ensure they are complying with LTA/Tennis Wales policies and procedures.

An audit pass is necessary for our ongoing authorisation with the LTA.

We had our audit in September.

The audit looked for minimum standards to be met in several areas:

- Have an appointed suitably trained Welfare officer
- Have club policies and Procedures on notice boards and online
- Ensure as a club we respect Diversity and inclusion
- Carry out annual Venue risk assessment
- Ensure our physical environment is safe

The welfare and safety of our young people remains a priority for the club and is the responsibility of all members. If you have any concerns please contact me or the LTA using their "Reporting a Concern" form on their website.

As an unmanned club in a remote area the auditor was extremely concerned that unsupervised children may be at risk and we therefore ask that aside from coaching sessions parents or a parent nominated individual should supervise their children at all times.

If you have any questions regarding Safeguarding or the audit process please feel free to chat with me when I'm at the club or email me on: emmareidjones@aol.com

House and grounds – Clive Bolton

The last 13 months since our AGM in October 2022 has not been without incident.

Courts 4/5 flooding. Many of you might remember the downpours of last January, and the flooding of courts 4 and 5 and the motorway underpass. This was caused by the stream that runs parallel to the bridlepath overflowing as a result of a partially blocked pipe that takes the stream into the motorway bank. We now keep a regular eye on this and unblock it as necessary.

Courts 1-3 maintenance. As is now the norm, we carry out weekly maintenance on the courts clearing the leaves, debris and working around the edges with the weeds and moss, also collecting the sand, sieving it and recycling as required. During the year we have carried out two deep brushes with the tractor and heavy brush. Thank to everyone who helped me and Kath in Jun and October. WE also recently had a floodlight replaced on court 2.

In addition to the court maintenance, a number of other activities have taken place during this period.

Clubhouse

During the summer we tried to get a painter to paint the balcony/balustrade but they were all booked up. So now we have obtained quotes and selected a painter who will do the work in the spring of next year. We will also replace the handrail on the balustrade. Given that the Clubhouse and wooden balcony is over 20 years old we are getting a structural survey of the balcony carried out. I can reassure members that there are no obvious issues but for peace of mind we are undertaking the survey as member safety is paramount. This will allow us to identify any issues early and get them addressed, thereby potentially saving money in the long run.

Trees

During last year we sold off some of the wood that had resulted from cutting down the trees last year. The funds have gone into the club.

Car park

The ongoing creation of potholes in the carpark has been made particularly bad this year with heavy traffic coming through from Transport for Wales and its subcontractors. Agreement has been reached with TfW for it to fill in the potholes and repair the wall adjacent to court 2.

Grounds

As most of you know we now employ Kath Thomas to do much of the grounds maintenance. She has been doing a fantastic job and thoroughly enjoys the work particularly the gardening aspects. She has created some nice flower beds, making the club a much more welcoming sight.

Cardiff Athletic Club representative – Jim Allen

Jim gave a quick update regarding us being the tennis section of the Cardiff Athletic Club, alongside the hockey, bowls, cricket and rugby sections.

We are well respected by CAC as we don't need lots of investment.

CAC has just reached their 100th anniversary and also the bowls club celebrated their centenary too.

Jim then went on to discuss the plans to develop Cardiff Arms Park. He outlined that there had been some detailed plans developed and currently CAC is going through the

stages of working out the potential investors for the development of the ground which will always retain being able to play rugby in the arms park.

This will be postponed to the end of 2028 because of the Euros championships.

Another update was that Cardiff rugby/Cardiff blues are in the process of selling a 100% sale to an investor. We're meeting with those people as well. And they have a potential of being an investor in the plans.

Club Captain – Alex Welch

Teams

Summer 2023

Men's 1 narrowly missed out on promotion by a point, despite having the best game win ratio of Division 5.

Ladies 1 narrowly missed out and placed third in Division 4 east.

Ladies 2 placed third in Division 5 east despite beating division champions Bridgend at home and 2nd place Radyr both home and away.

The reality is that all of the teams are in very competitive leagues and most if not all sides can beat each other on any given day. Squad/team consistency and strength of available numbers is vital and something we are all working to improve.

The box leagues are helping with this.

Winter 2023/24

Men's 1 – Div 10

The weather has beaten us and we have only played one match – a competitive loss vs Usk 1.

Men's 2 – Div 12

Competing well in mid-table having used 12 players so far and the commitment to use more before the system is finishes. Tough division to join as shown with the inclusion of David Lloyd 2 who compete in the premier in the summer.

Note both men's sides have recently joined the winter league which is reflected in terms of low division placing.

Ladies 1 – Div 5

Struggling a bit, but with some competitive games. Currently bottom of the league approaching the mid-way point.

Mixed 1 – Div 3

Competing really well in a highly competitive league, currently mid table having used 10 players so far.

Ladies senior – Div 5

Currently top of the league with 3 wins out of 4.

Juniors

U14 boys team entered and competing well.

U18 boys – two teams entered – currently top and bottom of the league.

Club championships

Continues to grow and the format is becoming more and more ingrained on LTC member psyche. This year we had around 1790 page his, circa 80 entrants, with the men's draw having a top 16 seeded group and three rounds just to get to the quarter final. The mixed had an incredible 26 pairs.

Summary

Men's singles: 64 entries, winner Nick Proctor

Ladies singles – 16 entries, winner Eliza Morgan

Men's doubles – 32 entries, winners Diluka and Tony SH

Ladies doubles – 16 entries, winners Eliza and Victoria

Mixed doubles – 32 entries, winners Will Craddock and Erin Piper.

Box leagues

Going well with plenty of uptake and the divisions have started to equalise with some great competitive games.

107 playing singles

76 playing doubles (some of the singles players playing doubles)

Reminder that the current round of matches end this Saturday (25th).

Suggestions, or if you want to join in, please get in touch.

Coaching

Junior coaching – going well. Nearly up to the 80 aimed for in the programme.

Social – Cath Lynn

The highlights for the year for 22/23 have been:

- Several mixed social afternoon sessions with tea and cake. These have been well attended and enjoyed. These afternoons are purely for social and not fundraising.
- Fun run and BBQ – this was our main fundraiser this year and with the added bonus of the card machine this year raised more than ever. A big thank you to all those who helped out. A last minute change in cooking plans resulted in us paying for a chef this year which was just as well as there were more runners this year too.
- Thank you to Jules Thomas who has arranged two very fun table tennis evenings.

Unfortunately last year's Christmas party was not well attended so it was decided to maybe make this a bi-annual event. The night itself, although smaller numbers, was great fun and many shapes were made on the dance floor.

A Christmas mixer is in the planning for a Sunday afternoon of mince pies and mulled wine.

I have enjoyed my time on the social committee and thank you for all your support whether it be making cakes or chopping onions or simply turning up.

I'm handing the mantle over to someone else this year.

Committee members

The following committee members were proposed and seconded with no other nominations.

Chair	Cath Lynn
Vice chair	Victoria Morgan
Treasurer	Tony Nash
Secretary	Cath Symons Hicks
Welfare/safeguarding officer	Emma Reid-Jones
Membership secretary	Jules Thomas
House and grounds	Clive Bolton
CAC rep	Jim Allen
Club captain	Alex Welch
Committee member (social secretary)	Juliette Sherrard
Committee member	Tracy Attwood

AOB

We haven't awarded a Chairman's cup for three years. But this year we are awarding it to someone who has made a massive contribution to the club over the past year.

Her enthusiasm for tennis is unbounded.

She has been instrumental in setting up mixed sessions for round robin play, and managing the mixed team.

She is pretty much always playing tennis at the club. Has been known to play a team tennis match and then hop over to a social match.

She's brilliant. So we award it to Chris Heiberg this year.