

Longthorpe Lawn Tennis Club Committee Meeting

Monday 24th August 2020, 7.00 pm via Zoom

Present: Angie Axe (AA), Jason Burgess(JB), Toni Butcher(TB), Clare Major(CM) Mike Glover(MG), Jean-Pierre Lamy(JPL), Keith Maderios(KM), Shirley Short(SS), Ken Wappat(KW)

1. **Apologies** – none
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** -Accepted as correct.
3. **Matters arising** – JB thought that members seem to be happy with the website and Clubspark with positive feedback generally, although there are some issues with some members having difficulties with booking courts on certain devices. A 'Welcome page' is being created to link new members joining the club with club information, rules and regulations etc. Tuition on Clubspark may be provided if needed by Sally Leeds. Chris Holmes was requested to remove historical club emails from his server to the club's 1&1 IONOS account servers. This has been completed and we do not have any remaining systems with Chris Holmes and we thank him for his services over the past few years. Included in the handover, is the £12 monthly 1&1 charge for the domain name plus utilisation of the 5 email addresses (which are part of the club's account package)for committee post holders.
Club sessions have been well attended and enjoyed by members. No change will be made to the current timetable. 4 courts will be in use for Saturday & Sundays and 2 courts for Tuesday and Thursday
4. **Chairman's report** -JB was pleased with the progress we have been making as a club and thanked the committee accordingly. It was suggested that flexibility with 'Coaching Only members' regarding the 'whites clothing' rules. We agreed that this could include players from other clubs wearing coloured kit but these players should be encouraged to join as full members ultimately. KM has relinquished the responsibility for tennis balls to Scott Murray. Thank you Keith and welcome to Scott. JB thought court 2 which had to be closed due to dirt rising up on it during the flash flood over the weekend could possibly be reinstated. KW advised that it required cleaning and remedial work before use.
5. **Treasurer's report** –TB informed that the Community account at present stands at £2782.55 and the Rate reward Account at £47930.17. She explained that she has managed to retrieve the £3289.11(minus £41 fees) from the Clubspark Go cardless account where it had been sitting. This was because she was unaware that there were 2 parts to the payment account to which you had to register. The Stripe part takes all the fees unless you pay by Direct debit which goes to the Go cardless account. She has now rectified the situation by registering with Go cardless.
6. **Membership update**- CM informed that several members were asking if we were going to continue our past offer of membership reduction on a quarterly basis or to have a yearly annualised fee. We are aware that our increased membership is due in part to other local tennis clubs not being able to accommodate their members for various reasons as a result of the pandemic. Clubspark has enabled us to make access and availability to the club much easier. Current reduction in fees is due to the lockdown when we were shut for several months. Following discussions it was decided that we return to full fees in the next financial year/1st May 2021? Quarterly reductions if it can be

achieved with Clubspark. A reminder to renew membership can be sent automatically via Clubspark.

A discussion about capping the membership number then ensued. JB would like to let the numbers increase more than present numbers because he is aware that some of the new members may return to their previous club next year when things improve regarding Covid. Others were concerned that if we oversubscribe, we may find that members will have difficulty in booking courts, which will put them off. A compromise for the moment was agreed to cap membership at 145.

7. **Website/publicity**- MG- the old website is now defunct and Facebook entries is mainly done by the coaches. New website appears to be doing well.
8. **Juniors/Welfare** -AA started juniors club session last Friday and an email reminder has been sent out to members. I2C has appointed a new coach who will be starting next week.
The Championship tournament is doing well . Everyone is very appreciative of AA organising it. JPL wondered whether there is any need for a Ladies over 65s as they are included in the over 45s. This maybe explored next year.
9. **Social events** -KM informed that Ray McDonald has invited LLTC to join Peterborough City in their charity fund raising event in September for Sue Ryder Thorpe Hall Hospice. The committee acknowledge that it is a good course to support and one which we supported last year. However, under present Covid conditions, it was felt that we would continue to donate independently and not via a tournament. It is felt that adherence to social distancing may be difficult in a big social event. Therefore, the committee will look for another way to support the charity this year.
10. **League update**-JPL- H&P leagues cancellation confirmed.
- 11.**Hall committee report** -KW
- Village Hall opening implications will require us to keep our current restrictions of keeping the door closed between the club and the hall. We should knock before entering toilets.
12. **A.O.B**
- Joint article in Peterborough local magazine with LLTC and Bowls club has been proposed. They are doing an article on each postal code of Peterborough highlighting important information. JB has spoken to them about LLTC, its history and what we are about, in conjunction with the Bowls club.

- Courts 1&2 cleaning/refresh. Replay the court management company is visiting tomorrow to assess the courts and maintenance work required. KW says they will also be looking at the roots on courts 1&2. On 14th September, when the dirt has settled down on courts 3&4, they will have a straight forward clean. In November they will re-sand courts 1&2.
KW suggested that we asked for volunteers to help clean up court 2 so that we can open it for the weekend. JB will send out a request for help from members.

13. Date of next meeting – Monday 28th September 2020 at 7.00pm

(AGM notice by 8th October for AGM on thursday 29th October)