Melrose Waverley Tennis Club

Committee Meeting

MINUTES of the meeting held on Monday 14 August 2023

at the MWTC Clubhouse

Attendance:

Glen Gordon (President), Mike Miller (Vice President), Leslie Young (Treasurer), Sophie MacBrayne (Membership) Will Grieve, Mac Brown

1. President's Welcome

Glen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Alison, Lorna, Rachel and Gemma.

3. Matters arising

The date for Tennis Borders to use the courts for the junior autumn league final has been brought forward a week to Saturday 23rd September. All three courts are booked for this from 1pm to 4pm.

Sophie has updated the notice board notices outside the clubhouse. These include a QR code which guests can scan to take them directly to the court booking page.

4. Reports: Treasurer, Membership, Juniors, Coaching

Leslie presented his Treasurer's report which is appended to these minutes. The club has been registered with Scottish Power as a business and a full year of meter readings showed the annual electricity spend as £3,094.

Sophie presented her Membership Secretary report which is appended to these minutes.

5. Confined Tournament

Tennis Borders have been in touch with Glen about a meeting in advance of the Confined. Glen will go back to Eddie Brogan on this and Mac will also attend a meeting.

Mac and Will are dealing with sponsorship. It was discussed that in future years, other clubs might be asked to get sponsorship as well as/instead of Melrose; this task does not only need to be Melrose's responsibility as host club. We do not want to approach local businesses multiple times a year to sponsor events, particularly where they are already generous in sponsoring the club's Christmas draw.

Leslie will take meter readings for electricity use throughout the tournament which Tennis Borders will cover. Tennis Borders are paying c£350 for court hire.

6. Club championships

Glen confirmed that the club championships are running to schedule at this stage. Glen will send round an email to participants updating on progress with the draws. Courts have been booked for finals day.

7. SBC Waste Collection / Recycling

Following a member request, a recycling basket has been put in the clubhouse. We will trial how members emptying this goes for a period.

Sophie has been in touch with Scottish Borders Council about recycling collection/getting a recycling wheelie bin for the club. The Council have advised that this service is not included as part of the business rates and that businesses (including sports clubs registered as charities) need to pay to have both their general waste and recycling collected.

The cost for a recycling contract with SBC for 6 months (assuming it is only required during the club's busier months) would be £55.90. The general waste collection works in a slightly different way; the club would need to purchase a roll of refuse sacks and then as and when these were full, they could be put out for collection. The cost for 13 general waste collection sacks is £38.48 or for 52 general waste sacks it is £153.92. SBC thought the collection point would be next to Provender.

It was agreed that it would be sensible to do the recycling contract in the summer months and for the club to buy 13 general refuse sacks. Sophie will take this forward with SBC.

3. Tennis Scotland Open Court

Sophie had a call with Jack Ganley (Participation and Development Manager at Tennis Scotland for Tayside and Dumfries/Galloway). Tennis Scotland have some remaining funding (c£250 per club) to run their Open Court programme. The key part of this is that club members are trained up as disability 'activators' and help out club coaches to adapt coaching sessions to be fully accessible depending on a participant's disability. Activators do not need to be formally trained as coaches but would need PVGs. The Tennis Scotland funding would be used to pay the Activator an hourly-rate and fund a PVG.

Jack could run an activator's training session at Melrose depending on interest, and suggested other Borders clubs might also like to join. The Club would get a bag of free equipment/aids for use in sessions.

Sophie will pick up with Ian on this in the first instance and Jess as safeguarding/welfare officer. An email could then go out to club members to gauge interest.

8. Any other business

The pickleball court/LED lighting were discussed again. A decision on a project should be taken before the AGM.

Leslie has received a letter from the TV licensing board. Leslie has responded to note the club does not need a license.

Leslie will make sure the auditor is aware that the year-end date has changed to December.

Andrew Panter has kindly been repairing the ball machine. He is awaiting delivery of a particular screw but the ball machine is useable with care, taking particular care not to scrape the machine along the courts but to tip it and use the wheels. An email should be sent to members informing them of this.

The railing at the front of the clubhouse is unstable. Will and Mac are going to contact McLeish joiners about fixing this.

It was agreed that a small plaque reading 'In Memory of Kathleen Dun BEM' should be added to the trophy cabinet. Glen will arrange this.

It was discussed whether Thursday Club night needs to be defined (I.e., if you are going down on a Thursday night, should you be expected to mix in). It was agreed there is no need to do this at this time.

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be Monday 2 October.