



Minutes of the AGM of Stonehaven Tennis Club

Monday 11th March 7pm, Club House

Ron Young (Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies: Dale Harris, Janet Owen, Pam Shand, Jenny Munro, Simon Warner
There were 18 members in Attendance.

Fergus Hermiston approved the Minutes from the last AGM, seconded by Corrie Ling.

Chairman's Report

Membership:

STC has a healthy membership with around 220 - 230 members, a high percentage of which are junior members. There are around 60 – 70 non-members regularly attending classes which takes our participation figures up to around 300. It is an STC priority to attract new members as the club has the capacity for 300 - 320 members. Therefore we have introduced some new membership categories to make it attractive for parents of junior members to purchase a joint membership.

Stewart Aitken continues to administrate the membership and was thanked for his time and efforts.

Membership fees have risen this year in line with inflation. For example, the adult membership price has risen from £165 to £168.

The Club will be switching over to the LTA Clubspark payment system for this year's membership payments. We have already piloted the system with payments for our junior squad classes. Clubspark uses Strip Payment system which processes the payments and deducts an administration fee before transferring the remainder into the Club's bank account. It is foreseen that the fees by Stripe will be off-set against club admin costs as it is getting increasingly difficult to separate membership payments from coaching income. In due course the club will investigate the on-line booking module that is available via Clubspark.

Membership Fees 2019:

Membership Category	Definition	Fee
Adult	Aged 19 to 59*	£ 168
Junior	Under 12 - 18*, and not in full-time work	£ 67
Child (1)	Aged 8 – 11*	£ 33
Child (2)	Under 8* (This allows a non-member parent to play with child at off-peak times subject to court availability.)	£ 17
Concession	60+*, Registered disabled, First time membership of a tennis club	£ 118
Family	Includes 2 adults and all dependent children who qualify under Junior/Child/Child U8 categories	£ 300
One Parent & Child(ren)	Includes 1 adult and all dependent children who qualify under Junior/Child/Child U8 categories	£ 180
One Parent & Child(ren) – FIRST TIME PARENT MEMBER	Includes 1 adult and all dependent children who qualify under Junior/Child/Child U8 categories	£ 118
One Parent & One Child	Includes 1 adult and One Child who qualifies under Junior/Child/Child U8 categories	£ 168
One Parent & One Child – FIRST TIME PARENT MEMBER	Includes 1 adult and One Child who qualifies under Junior/Child/Child U8 categories	£ 100
Student	Matriculation card required as proof	£ 67
Living Away Membership	Main residence is 50 miles or over away from Stonehaven.	£ 40
Honorary	As decided by club committee	

Mini Tennis

Kirsteen McIver continues in the role of Mini Tennis Coordinator. Kirsteen was thanked for her time and efforts in the onerous task of co-ordinating classes with around 170-190 juniors attending.

Administration

This year there has been a change in the LTA Registration process with Safeguarding measures at the forefront. A number of Safeguarding policies have been introduced by the LTA and STC are committed to ensuring that these policies are adhered to. Christian Kirkwood is the Welfare Officer and will now be supported by Fiona Findlay in this role.

Facilities:

Grounds –

Dale Harris stepped down from the board of Trustees this year. Ron Young and Stuart Alexander both represent the tennis club on the board of Trustees. Stuart is also involved with the Stonehaven Town Partnership. There are six user seats and 3 Councillors' on the board. The Constitution is being updated and will likely go before the Court of Session in Edinburgh. The Grounds are applying for Charitable Status. This will enable them to access more funding opportunities.

Lights –

A planning application has been submitted to the Council to extend the use of the floodlights on courts 4 & 5 to include April and October. The restrictions were put in place by the Planning department with caravan users in consideration. The Recreation Grounds have spoken to the caravan users and all of the users were in support of the extension to use the lights. This now needs to be formalised and put in writing. The application will go before full Council.

Surfaces -

The court surfaces are in relatively good condition for their age and the club have ring fenced monies for their replacement when the time comes

Social Activities:

Social Activities are well attended and the introduction of What's App groups has helped with communication and raising participation

Teams:

The teams performed well in the leagues last year. The Men's A Team defended its Division 1 championship title again and the B Team was promoted to Division 1. Team matches will start again in April. NESLTA had raised an issue that Stonehaven matches had been stopped on occasions because they were

running over the 10pm restriction. Best efforts should be made to get play started promptly especially when three teams are at home.

Grand Prix:

The annual STC Grand Prix will run over the weekends of 16-17th & 22-24th March. This year there were 37 entries in the Men's competition and 4 in the Ladies.

Ron concluded the report by thanking the Committee and 'everyone' involved in the Club's progress, for their hard work and support in 2018/19

Treasurers Report

Report attached.

Evelyn Patterson (Treasurer) prepared the accounts but was not present at the meeting. Evelyn has stepped down from the role after 6 years of service. Ron commended Evelyn for her time and dedication in the role over the years and wanted it noted that the Club would be eternally grateful for her efforts. Due to the time commitment and the money involved, the Committee have decided to make the Treasurer role a paid position and have recruited Carol Spence who is a qualified book keeper.

Ron presented the accounts and noted that income was around the same as the previous year (excluding the funding from the Beer Festival). Significant purchases were made for Club House improvements including hot water, tables and chairs, painting and outside planters. Everyone has agreed that the clubhouse has been greatly improved.

Questions raised are bullet pointed below:

- Fencing – quote has been received for replacing fencing on court 1-3. A Funding application was made to Tesco Bags and works are pending the outcome of the application (May/June)
- Sponsor Free Area – a discussion was had over whether the grounds should remain a sponsor free area or not. It was noted that the Club may benefit from sponsorship in the future. Of those present in the meeting there was one objection to sponsorship advertising on the grounds.

Election of Management Committee

The following members were elected after being proposed and seconded:

Chairperson: Ron Young
Vice Chairperson: Stewart Aitken
Committee Secretary: Andrew Jack
Men's Team Rep: Patrick Young / Guillaume Hermann
Ladies Team Rep: Christina Kirkwood
Junior Players Rep: Simon Warner
Junior Social Rep: Hannah Anderson
Social Players / Club Facilities Rep: Ben Juffermans
Recreation Grounds Rep: Ron Young / Stuart Alexander
Treasurer: Carol Spence

Election of Non-official posts:

Team Selectors; Men: Patrick Young/ Guillaume Hermann Ladies: Christina Kirkwood (Bruce/Fergus)
NESTLA Rep: covered within Committee
Child Protection: Christina Kirkwood
Ball Convener: Fergus Hermiston (Yellow), Bruce McIver (Red, Orange, Green)
Website: Heidi Blanksma / Kirsteen McIver
Adult Social Events Coordinator: unfilled
Junior Social Events Coordinator: Hannah Anderson
Membership Coordinator: Stewart Aitken
Club Development Officer: Heidi Blanksma
Mini-tennis Coordinator: Kirsteen McIver
Paybox: Vacant

Indoor Facilities

Ron presented to the meeting the plans for an indoor tennis centre and described the history of how the project has evolved. Tennis Scotland(TS) and Sportscotland(Ss) have a £15m funding programme for indoor facilities in Scotland. STC submitted a Note of Interest in the funding programme and were given approval to proceed to a Stage 1 Application which was submitted last week. There were 26 Noted Interests of which 12 proceeded to Stage 1. Andrew Jack has coordinated the application which comprises Business Plan, Architect drawings, Tennis Network Plan. Initial costings suggest that a grant

(part interest free loan) of £1.2m could be achievable with the Club to source funding for the remaining £500K cost of the project.

A meeting with the Planning Department is scheduled for 12th March to outline the project to the Council.

The following bullet points were discussed and summarized below:

- The Recreation Grounds land is for the people of the town – How does a Tennis Network Plan feature in this? The grounds are for the people of the Town but the usage cannot be exclusive to the town's folk and never has been.
- Is it critical that the Recreation Grounds gains Charitable Status? This would open doors to other sources of funding that only Charities can apply for.
- Size, height and location? A full presentation of the plans will be made following further meetings with the Council and TS / Ss
- Risk to building close to the sea? Engineering and planning will address these issues. Currently no other sites are options.
- Parking – links to Eco project to reduce transport
- Engaging the community (including non tennis players) with nationally recognized health and wellbeing initiatives

Those present at the meeting applauded the project and overwhelmingly agreed with and fully supported the plans for an indoor tennis centre.

AOCB:

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