

Tavistock Tennis Club

Committee Meeting 9/6/22

Present: Lyndon Clark (Chair/Safeguarding), Dave Martin (Secretary), Julie Wigmore (Social), Christian Jenkins (House), Andy Wing (Treasurer), Hilary Picton (Ladies Captain), Inga Ziemina (Coach), Wendy George (Membership)

Apologies: Pete Rodgers, Nick Hill (Juniors), Rhys Dunford (Coach), Richard Hendin (Trustee)

Agenda:

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting (3rd May) were approved. **DM** will now pass them to RH for publication.

Membership Offer to Ukrainian Refugees

It was reported that there had been a good response from members to the request for rackets and equipment. This has meant that 16 people had been able to take part in a recent playing session with IZ reporting being able to coach some of them.

Admin Access to TTC website and Facebook etc

The subject had been raised initially by NH in an emailed request, ie *can it be known who the admin users are for Facebook and Instagram and if possible additional people are admin. I think we need to make more use of social media and to get details of events on the sites quicker and more often, eg the Open Day has been posted on Facebook once, but should be repeated closer to the event.* This was discussed and generally agreed by the committee. **CJ** will liaise with NH, RH and MB to ascertain how this may be achieved including ensuring consistency across the various social media sites Facebook, Instagram, Twitter etc.

Court Resurfacing

The work on Courts 1 & 2 had now started. Preparatory cleaning work to Courts 7 & 8 will begin next week.

PR (via prior email) reported also that due to delays an increased cost of £2.5K would likely be charged to us. The committee agreed that this amount extra would be acceptable and the work should still go ahead. **PR** will formally ask Tavistock Council for their contribution towards this.

Floodlights Upgrade

CJ reported that he had contacted 5 companies for quotations. One had so far replied :- to upgrade existing lights (to LEDs) c£26/27K + VAT, and for new lighting to Courts 1,2,3 c£33.5K + VAT. The committee agreed that for cost and environmental reasons the upgrade was necessary and **PR** (via prior email) will discuss crowdfunding with RH. Moreover CJ reported that a grant of c£25K may be available from the LTA for the new lighting installation. There was a short discussion regarding the need for more floodlights but the committee generally agreed that the investment would be good for the club in the long-term.

House

The clubhouse front door is still a problem and as yet unresolved by the installers (Orchard). CJ reported that he had been nagging Orchard to resolve the issues and the committee agreed that he should, if necessary, threaten them with legal action if they continue to ignore us.

A discussion followed regarding clubhouse cleaning. HP reported that the cleaner(s) had recently visited but the work carried out was both insufficient and poorly done. As this was a situation that had existed for some time (and had been the subject of discussion with the cleaner) the committee agreed that **CJ** should terminate the current contract and instead contact Lisa Hackney who has indicated that she would be prepared to take on the work.

The faulty floodlight is still to be repaired. CJ has obtained the necessary parts, but the electrician has yet to inform CJ as to when he can carry out the work.

As an aside (actually later in the meeting) HP noted the poor quality of some of the net centre tapes, and also that they cannot be secured to the ground. **CJ** will effect the necessary repairs.

Treasurer

PR reported (via prior email) that despite much telephone time, negotiations were continuing with TSB regarding the authorization of signatories. Hopefully the matter can and will be resolved soon.

AW reported (actually later in the meeting) that he had now acquired a card payment machine for club use. It will be stored in a secure place within the clubhouse.

New Scoreboards

The committee discussed the desirability of obtaining good quality and easily used and understood scoreboards that may be easily set up and stored securely. These would be of benefit to all those who regularly attend to watch league and tournament matches, and may encourage others to do so as well. HP has already circulated details of a brand currently available and **LC** will pursue this with an investigation and then hopefully a recommendation for purchase by the club.

Buildings Insurance

RH reported (via prior email) that AW and PR had now put the insurance in place and paid the premium.

Juniors

NH's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was duly noted with many thanks for organizing an obviously successful mini tournament on 15th May.

Events

The following was reported by the given individuals:

- JW: The French Open tournament had been a success with 25 people taking part. The proceeds are in the clubhouse locker.
- JW: The next such event will be the Wimbledon tournament. Organising of it will now proceed. New Ukrainian members will be offered free entry.
- The Open Day. IZ reported that she had met and agreed plans with RD. However, she stressed that much more publicity needs to be given to it and, quickly, since the numbers so far agreeing to attend are very low.
- JW: BBQ and US Open Tournament – nothing in particular as yet to report

- PR reported (via prior email) that Claudine Sparks thought it was now a little late to organize such an event.
- JW: The annual dinner is already booked, with deposit paid, at the Bedford Hotel. Mike Prout is available and keen to help with the organization.
- JW: Tennis festival 17th June. Organisation is mainly down to RD and is progressing satisfactorily.
- JW: Club Finals day. Nothing in particular to organize as yet.

Membership

WG had provided a comprehensive report on membership numbers, renewals, non-renewals, clubspark communications, subscription rates etc with the following points discussed:

- Further court time has been allocated to new Ukrainian members next week.
- There is concern that there are a number of people who have not renewed their membership and yet may still be using the club facilities, particularly the courts. It was agreed that **CJ** would change the combinations of the padlocks, apart from Courts 7 & 8, this coming Sunday evening, to prevent access to non-members.
- WG stressed how important it was to promptly and appropriately greet prospective new members. She will liaise with IZ accordingly.
- A simplified pro-rata subscription rate has now been set up, as agreed with PR.
- WG suggested that a promotional membership package could be setup for the Open Day. This could be included within the publicity for the event.
- What is the policy regarding parents (who are non-members) playing with their children (who are members). Should they pay for court time? If so how much and by what mechanism? A discussion followed and it was decided that parents should pay the appropriate visitors fee by placing payment in provided envelopes into the clubhouse locker. This method was not considered ideal but after much deliberation it was decided that it was the best for the moment until a better one could be devised.
- WG urged the committee to keep the website up to date and suggested for committee consideration that the Open Day should be prominently publicized on the front/home page with IZ's poster. The committee decided that all active members will be emailed with a request to volunteer and/or take part with friends invited too.

Coaching

Many of the coaching topics had already been discussed. But in addition it was agreed that it was now too late to produce a banner for the Open Day. Also IZ added a point regarding the Summer Camp that is being organized for Aug 1-5th. She is very keen to get some older junior members to help with coaching. This would enable her to take on larger groups and also maybe set some youngsters on a path of training to become coaches themselves.

Club Tournaments

HP confirmed her willingness to organize the summer knockout tournaments. Entries will close on June 18th and prompts to enter will be emailed to members.

Ladies Captain Report

HP reported a general problem with member availability for matches but despite that the 'A' team are holding their own in a very strong division. The 'B' team are currently 3rd in their division with

possibly a chance for promotion. And the 'C' team are struggling near the bottom of their division, but should hopefully avoid demotion.

In the Mixed Knockout competition Tavistock beat Plymstock and meet Mannamead next.

Competition Ladders

RH reported (by prior email) that the starter and intermediate ladder competitions were in place and running well with 25 participants in the intermediate. He suggested starting the open ladder the week after the Club tournaments have completed, to which there was general agreement.

Amendment to Constitution

There was a brief discussion of the proposed amendment to the club constitution regarding composition of the committee, as drafted by Mike Prout. But the committee agreed that a full discussion be postponed until the next meeting (**DM**).

AOB

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Date of next meeting: Thursday 7th July 2022, 7:15pm in the clubhouse.

Key to initials:

AW - Andy Wing (Treasurer)
DM - Dave Martin (Secretary)
HP - Hilary Picton (Ladies Captain)
IZ - Inga Ziemina (Coach)
JW - Julie Wigmore (Social)
LC - Lyndon Clark (Safeguarding)
MB – Mike Baker (PR)
NH - Nick Hill (Juniors)
PR - Pete Rodgers (Chair)
RD – Rhys Dunford (Coach)
RH - Richard Hendin (Trustee)
WG – Wendy George