

## West End Lawn Tennis AGM 10.11.2018

Attendees Colin, Tara, Hollie, Ben Birtwistle, Bill Thomas, Ian Manson, Amanda Barclay, Norma Buchanan, Hannah Lord, Beth McNicol, Romana Hunter, Christine Grieg, Ged Reilly Snr, Ricky Harrison Snr & Jnr, Glynn Semple, Johnny Reeve, Fabian Haut

Apologies- Ron and Sheila Macwalter, Neil Roberts, Dorothy Proctor, Bruce Kerr, Ged Reilly Jnr, Stewart Reid

**2017 Minutes**- these were approved

## Presidents Report - Annual summary- Amanda

2018 has been a year of both challenges and changes at West End. It is really heartening that the club is now in a positive and energised position for next season. This year the club has seen its membership increase, welcomed back the Abertay Students and Colin has exciting updates around coaching.

The big focus remains "Hitting wall & court renewal 2020" The cost of renewal will be £45k. The sinking fund is about 2/3 of the way there. The club's income is the membership fees, so external funding will help the club renew the surface sooner. Hannah has done an amazing job exploring funding sources and making applications-and will update later in the agenda on successes and progress. However the focus for the committee next year will be funding, sourcing and planning this project. With the committee the club has am confident this can be achieved.

There were some bumps in the road, earlier this year with the coaching earlier due to PVG certifications not being available. To compound matters Stuart gave notice as his job involves longer periods offshore he was looking to exit tennis coaching. Stuart was committed to not leaving the club in the lurch, so the efforts of Stuart, Mike, Ged Jnr and Bruce and the Birtwistles to keep a "work round" coaching program going over the season are appreciated. It is worth mentioning that Stuart began coaching at West End in 2008 just after the courts were renewed. Junior membership was in a low place. That the club now has such a healthy and talented junior membership, some of whom have gone on to take their coaching qualifications is great legacy to leave so thank you Stuart and Mike and wish them all the best. To the future- coaching is absolutely at the heart of the club. Colin headed up a sub -committee to recruit a new coach for West End. The process was carried out in a rigorous and professional way. They have done a superb job getting the very best coach for the club. The new coach comes with fantastic references, fresh ideas and loads of enthusiasm. They are going to energise and invigorate the club and we are really looking forward to what will be an exciting new chapter for West End.

Club Life has been busy – Glynn and Ricky ran the Great British Tennis Weekend event and the Wimbledon Tournament were much enjoyed. Ricky has encouraged people to come along to the Tuesday night social tennis, which Ricky organised- these evenings have been buzzing and Rick has also done a great job promoting the club on social media. Bruce ran the club championships very smoothly assisted by Ged and Ricky. Finals day was a great success and special mention to Holly for making crepes on the day

In other news the LTA has implemented new standards around safeguarding, welfare and inclusion. The club is lucky to have Ged who as a welfare officer ensures the club meets these standards which are fully endorsed by the committee and allow the club to operate as an LTA registered venue

So will finish by thanking the committee, the volunteers and the members for making 2018 another good year at West End.

**Welfare Report** - Update on recent changes to Venue management for the Club - Welfare Officer - Ged Reilly Snr.

Ged Snr advised there have been several changes in the standards- he has had to take an additional standalone PVG, over and above that required for his teaching. He has undergone face to face training and is up to date now for next 2 years – Ged Jnr has also obtained his PVG (apologies submitted as attending LTA Level 2 Coaching training)

# Treasurers Report- Treasurer Bill Thomas

Accounts presented to August 18 – (copy attached final page)

£35.kk in cashbook and £29467 in Sinking fund plus will receive £2k from Abertay for court hire. So anticipate £8k can go in sinking fund -dependent on 2019 membership. Guy Mitchell audited accounts saving the club £900 and saved £500 on social tennis thanks to Ricky running this this year. Virgin account does not give great interest – will investigate Nationwide Business Account Lighting is in profit due to an influx on token money and will just break even on lighting. The donations received for hitting wall are shown in main account. Next year will look to replace nets.

# Fundraising and Membership Report - Membership & Fund Raising Convener Hannah

		2018		2017		2016
Adult	43	£6695	40		50	
Family	6	£1860	3		8	
Student / Unemployed	3.	£ 250	7		6	
U18	10	£ 650	10		16	
U12	11	£ 420	6		20	
U8	22	£ 300	6		27	
Weekday	9	£ 855	9		9	
Honorary	4	0 3	6		6	
Winter	0		0		19	
Total	114 paid	£11,030	83 paid.	£9,558	164 paid.	£12,321
Gender split ( F:M)	50:74	40%:60%	not record	led	60:104.	36%:64%
Summary	40% increase from 2017. Better gender split. No winter members.		50% decrease since 2016.		11% increase from 2015 (148 members in 2015)	

Hannah Lord

# Membership

Membership is moving in right direction after previous years dip. Membership has increased 50% to 114. The Adult membership is approximately the same, Family Membership doubled which is good as is a big income; Weekday – remains constant with a loyal week day membership. The biggest increase was in Under 8 members from 6 to 22; Under 12's increased from 6 to 11 and Under 18 remains at 10

There have been no 2018 Winter memberships so far but hope to entice Abertay students to take these discounted memberships up. The gender split is important -particularly for funding applications. The club needs to be open to all and accessible, particularly as girls tend to play less sport than boys. The current gender split at the club is 60:40 boys to girls. It would be good to increase and encourage both more female and Winter members, but overall the picture is very optimistic for next season.

# **Fund Raising**

1. Hitting Wall:

£5,339 + £275 delivery - £450 = £5,164 negotiated with Craig Mitchell from Doe Sport and Callum Milne from "No more Digging" Raised £1,500, so £3664 outstanding Cost:

18/20 survey responders (89%) felt a hitting wall would benefit the club Need:

Positive Results: £1000 from Northwood Trust

£ 500 from Leng Foundation

Awaiting results: Michelin - decision expected soon

Al Maktourn College Community Fund

Negative results: Robertson Trust

Alexander Moncur Trust Weir Charitable Trust

NCR

Carnegie Fund The Rotary Club RJ Larg

## Applications still to be made:

Aldi Scottish Sport Fund

## 2. General Club Support

£200 received from Springfield to sponsor Club Championships 2018 £200 offers by Springfield to sponsor costs of Club Membership Cards 2019

Easy Fundraising £18.62 paid (need to raise > £15 /month. Have raised £73.06 but this has been lost as not > £15/month). To be added to any fund.

# 3. Court Re-surfacing

Cost: £52,432. (£48,694 + £8,738 VAT)

Funds: £31,000 in bank. (60%)

Mini evaluation survey.

# 20 responders

15 (75%) think courts would benefit from being re-surfaced, 15 feel it would improve safety; 11 would play more often and more widely across the year as a result; 14 felt it would make them more likely to recommend the club to others; 10 that it would increase the likelihood of them rejoining; 19 chose winter months for the work to be done, 1 chose September;

Have applied to:

Pending: Landtrust as part of SEPA for £21,000 - phone discussion and pre-

proposal form submitted

Negative: Gannochy Foundation

Applications still to be made: National Lottery Awards for All - drafted

Sports Facilities Fund (Sports Scotland) Local businesses to sponsor a court each?

#### Summary

Active forward momentum with fundraising.

Three initiatives: Courts surfaces, hitting wall and general club support

Need more members to join Easy Fundraising, especially in run up to Xmas and much on-line purchasing

Hope to engage other businesses in supporting the Club

Very much dependent on Lottery/ Sports Scotland / Landtrust for support of Court re- surfacing.

Hannah Lord

There are 3 projects that require funding, the court resurface, the hitting wall and general club improvements. Court resurfacing will cost £48k +£9k vat. The club is already 60% of the way with the sinking fund. Having a sinking fund is very important as grant applications require that the club raises at least 50% of any project cost. Hannah had conducted a survey to assess the need for the courts to be resurfaced and 75% indicated this would benefit the club. An application was made to Gannochy Trust who helped with the previous court replacement. A lengthy application form was completed, as advised which took considerable time. They replied almost by return advising they no longer support capital projects out with Perth, which was disappointing. However, there are other applications to be made and these are being worked through. Fabian advised Helen Haut had been successful in applying to the National lottery and could offer some helpful suggestions on what to include.

The hitting wall- Hannah has already secured £1500 towards the £5.3K cost of purchase. 89% of survey respondents thought this would benefit the club. Hannah has also negotiated a £450 discount via Doe Sports and No More Digging on the installation. If anyone wants to see what is being proposed – please ask Hannah. An application to Michelin is pending and the feedback is Michelin are taking a more holistic view to community projects in light of recent bad news.

For the club support –applications will be made to the Aldi Scottish sport fund club. Hannah arranged a £200 donation from Springfield Housing used for the Club Championships costs and has obtained a further donation for 2019 membership cards. These will carry the Springfield branding. All members are asked to register with Easy Fundraising which is a cashback site for charities. It is very easy and you can buy your Gas /Electric and any online Christmas purchases simply by going via the Easy Fundraising site. This generates 0.5 to 3% to WETC. It needs to raise £15 /mth. to generate the cashback so a concerted effort is requested in the run up to Xmas

# West End Tennis – AGM Update

#### Grounds and Maintenance

Started of the season with the following:

- Spring clean of club house and grounds.
- · Power brush, algae treatment and deep clean to courts ready for the season.
- Assessment of nets agreed they would be satisfactory for the season.
- Fencing checked still secure (balls staying safely in courts).
- Lighting checked all still fully operational.
- Trees were cut down and overgrown shrubs removed from area between club and the flats.
- Removal of Graffiti from the green gate.
- Nicol Foggie continues to do an excellent job with the grass cutting etc.
- Beth and her team continue to ensure the beds are well maintained and looking great, many thanks to all who quietly continue with this.

#### End of season:

 Courts have had algae treatment and have been power brushed and deep cleaned to see us through the winter season.

# Coaching Recruitment

- Colin, Tara and Bruce met with Mike Kolacz from Tennis Scotland to write Advert.
- Feedback was asked for from the committee and a sub-committee was created to take this
  forward.
- Bill , suggested to add Fabian to the interview panel , as a member and parent.
- Recruitment panel: Colin, Ian, Fabian and Amanda.
- Advert placed on LTA website and 8 applicants for the role. A strict criteria was applied to each application and 4 were selected for interview.
- Interview and short coaching sessions were run by each interviewee and feedback from those involved reviewed in conjunction with interview.
- Excellent applicants, however the best applicant was Jake Ganley and he has been offered and accepted the role of Head Coach for WETC.
- Jack is from Bristol, he is level 3 accredited+ and has loads of experience and more importantly huge enthusiasm to be fully involved in WETC.
- Starting 7th Dec, all courses are already on Clubspark and I have put him in touch with Stewart Reid to discuss equipment etc.
- Looking to run a meet the coach one night that week, with mulled wine, mince pies and maybe a few balls could be hit!!! Hoping Ricky may pull this together for club.
- Keen to run sessions, cardio, games nights, individual and group lessons at all levels
- Keen to get those keen to do level 1 coaching started and support.
- Keen to develop youngsters and adults as well as those just wanting to enjoy fun tennis.
- Update on website this week to update those not here today.

Colin, Tara, Mike Kolacz and Bruce created the advert. Bill suggested Fabian to the subcommittee given his coaching knowledge. There were 8 applicants from afield as Valencia, Leamington Spa and these were short listed to 4. The interview format was an interview and a coaching session, and the LTA were impressed at the club using this practical element in the interview process. Glynn suggested members could support Jack by taking lessons and Xmas lesson packages are a good gift idea. It was queried how much it cost to train as coach- Ged advised £250 for Level 1 and can claim back 50% provided requisite volunteering then completed at home club.

# Captains Report and Club Nights- Ricky, Romana, Ged Snr.

Ricky delivered Gents report on behalf of Neil who had submitted his apologies. Neil extended thanks to all players who had done a great job this season. There had been some changes to Gents team due to injuries but thanks to those who stepped in to cover. Johnny advised that the older juniors were also stepping in to adult teams to great effect. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Team had points deducted as fielded a player from first team – however another club fielded their coach......

The comment was made that if league continues with 4 sets – it becomes critical that players play proper seedings. Clarification to be made via the committee to Tayside Tennis AGM re consistency. Fabian proposed Captain for next year should be the Coach.

Romana advised Ladies came 2nd Div. 3 so will be promoted. The weather had been kind and have a good pool of players. The ladies are encouraged to join Tuesday club nights for mixed doubles practice. Re the change to the league format – feedback had been 6 sets from younger players and 4 sets from the senior players. Romana will stand down as Ladies Captain and Jean has agreed to take on this role.

#### Results

Gents- First Team 5<sup>th</sup> in Div. 1; Second Team 2<sup>nd</sup> in Div. 4 and will go up to Div. 3; Third Team 3<sup>RD</sup> in Div. 5 will go down to Div. 6. The Juniors came 3<sup>rd</sup> in Super league; 5<sup>th</sup> in Div. 2. For the HV 1<sup>st</sup> team came 4<sup>th</sup> in Div. 3 will remain as is, 2<sup>nd</sup> team came 2<sup>nd</sup> Div. 5 so will go up

Social Events - Update on 2018 events and Tuesday Nights - 2019 plans- Ricky

Ricky advised that the Tuesday nights and Tournament events had been great! A New Year's tournament was suggested. Glynn has had work commitments this year but for next year (especially with new Coach's input)it is hoped that the more tournaments that are run, the better as these bring players on and along.

# **Committee Updates**

Directors continuing are Bill Thomas(Treasurer) Hannah Lord (Fundraising and Membership Convener) Ian Manson (Club Governance) Amanda Barclay (President)

Committee continuing are Ricky Harrison(Social), Ged Reilly Snr.(Welfare Officer)Tara and Colin Birtwistle (Grounds Convener) who will also become Directors; Ged Reilly Jnr.(Junior Representative) Bruce Kerr (Tournament Director)

Standing down Romana Hunter and Neil Roberts – committee and Directors

Approved Norma and Fabian

Romana and Neil have been Ladies and Gents Captain respectively for many years. Both intimated they wish to stand down. Romana has been Ladies Captain, Director and all-round club stalwart for over 20 years. Next year Romana will become a Granny twice over -so is taking a well-deserved step back. Likewise, Neil has been Gents Captain and Director. With a young daughter, works commitments and living in Fife Neil has decided this is the time to pass the Captains baton on, Roman and Neil are much respected and held in high regard by the teams, the leagues and the Tayside Tennis community. The club would like to thank them both for their great contribution to the club.

(Post meeting update Glynn Semple had previously advised due to work commitments, to stand down from committee but happy to be co-opted as required to work with Ricky on tournaments).

# АОВ

Request for new scoreboards 2019 (cost £49.99 upwards) received from Norma. There was discussion about what sort will be suitable. Agreed new scoreboards would make viewing more meaningful for spectators during matches and club Championships and will decide in New Year.

Meeting concluded 1302

West End Lawn Tennis Club
Cash Book Summary 2016-47: 17- 18.

# VIRGIN SANNGS - SINCING FUND

<sup>1 £915</sup> unpaid league fees for 2018 will come off 2018-19 accounts
2 includes remainder payment to Chris Smith (Tayside Racquets) for 2017 clubnights; none in 2018
3 A surplus of tokens over Dcottish Hydro billing due to rolling over of token money
4 Grant Mitchell audited the accounts as a favour to the club, saving -£900
5 Amounts raised by Hannah for hitting wall etc
6 Surplus of miscellaneous items, including funds from open day, championships etc.