



Minutes of Committee Meeting – 18th October 2023

Present:

Marcus Binning (MB) – Chair, Karen Peters (KP) - Membership Secretary, Jenny Berger (JB) -Secretary, Chris Ovenden – Head Coach (HC), Jane Sharples (JS) – Treasurer, John Church (JC)

Apologies: Rachel Richardson (RR)

1. Matters arising from previous meeting

Specific actions relating to main agenda items are incorporated under relevant sections.

- MB/JB to put up record sheet for defibrillator checks

2. Head Coach's report (CO)

- Coaching programme re started at the beginning of September with regular weekly groups commencing after summer holidays. Each group has run apart from the Tuesday evening which saw players go to university. Friday Shiplake Primary after school club has continued for another term keeping a nice strong link with the local school. Saturday morning adult doubles drills fully booked now. Will give any other players option of playing 10-11 am instead which will also run as a doubles drills session.
- Summer camps ran well with us able to run a session most days. October HT it seems so far a lot of people are away, so likely just two days. Decision on cancelling courts will be made Friday.
- New shed working very well thank you, will get some shelves put in eventually and some signs to help tidy it up. CO had 2 extra keys made for additional coaches.
- Club championships went well from Junior perspective as well. Parents and children all giving good feedback.
- CO has sent JB/RR, details of coaches DBS/Accreditation etc for club registration.
- Nomination for Sandra Greenslade Most Improved - Georgina Gubbins
- **Action CO: Print and laminate new signs for front display, assistant coaches noticeboard.**
- **CO to provide tub of old balls in clubhouse for junior use**

3. Treasurer report (JS)

- Update of revenue and expenditure YTD shows a positive position despite significant one off charges for the year
- Forecast expenditure should be less than income allowing for a transfer of some additional

funds to the deposit account, estimate c. £5k although final position on electricity still unclear as SSE billing is bewildering. Nevertheless a substantial credit of £5,297 very welcome as well as a reduction in the insurance premium

- New nets, plates and shed have been purchased but no further anticipated court maintenance costs this financial year
- Income now being generated from CO Coaching - £1,281 owed to the club to 30th September 2023 with additional estimated income of c. £850
- **Action JS: Allocate all Stripe revenue to appropriate subs categories**
- **Action CO: To provide credit/invoice for this years income**

4. Membership (KP)

Total of 278 members - 164 adult, 91 junior, 16 student, 7 complimentary.

5. Website (MB)

- Going well. No major issues to report – currently a minor glitch with members unable to cancel courts
- Tech support on content would be useful -vacancy to be advertised in newsletter. KP to ask HP if he is interested.
- **Action MB: Resolve technical issue with court cancellations.**

6. Championship and Finals Day

- All went well despite the rain -and a good report was printed in the Henely Standard.

7. Health and Safety and Facilities

- Waiting for a volunteer for H&S officer -post to be advertised in newsletter
- MB to speak to Pete R about net heights
- Court cleaning to be scheduled in spring before main season and after autumn leaves/winter
- Club house had a deep clean organised by JS -looks great.
- Clubhouse needs some minor work for facelift -consider allocating budget for this in 2024 if income allows
- MB organised a very successful groundforce day with volunteers from members.
- Gazebo's worked well for finals day
- Memorial Hall need to remove asbestos from garage which to be safe needs tennis club to be closed whilst removal occurs. Date will be agreed with Hall committee.

8. Welfare and Policies

- RR has now completed online Welfare Officer Safeguarding update course (due mid-Nov 2023) this is valid for 2 years.
- There are a lot of club policy and form templates on the LTA webdie -RR asked which are essential and appropriate for our Club

- **Action JB/RR: To review and agree.**
- **Action JB: To find LTA code of conduct and provide link for STSC website**

9. A.O.B.

- Autumn social meal – Nov 16th -Sarah Blomfield is project managing -tickets now on sale
- Matt Thomas asked if Cricket without Boundaries could have the old tennis balls- this was unanimously agreed
- JS to check if NW received cheque for charity
- Ladies Teams -There has been some tension over Ladies Berks Team using Ladies Oxfordshire C Team players for matches. This means some players are getting lots of matches and new players are not getting any. Berkshire Teams are intended for new players and those with less match experience to have the opportunity to participate in club matches. Team squads are selected by all the Captains at the beginning of the season and players should then play in those squads for that season. Team captains should play in the teams they captain. Only in exceptional circumstances where no other players are available should players, play matches for both leagues.
- There has also been an issue of players wanting to play for different teams. Teams are decided at the start of each season and the names registered with LTA league organisers. All players should have the opportunity to be considered for other Teams at the start of each season. - captains should offer trials for those wanting to be considered for higher/other teams at the start of the season. Captains jointly decide Team selection. Players are allocated to the Team squad for the whole season unless requested by their team captains -with joint agreement from both teams -for a player to play up for a higher/other team if that team is short on players.
- Nikki Botterill is the overall Ladies Team captain and is best placed to resolve inter-team disagreements. She issued an email at the start of the season outlining the squads so all players should know which squad they belong to.
- **Action: MB to ask Nikki to discuss the issues with the Team captains involved.**
- Shiplake College have requested use of the courts on Monday afternoon- unanimously agreed
- CO asked if we could consider a new category of member for adults accompanying juniors to enable juniors to practice -but adults don't want to play. The meeting couldn't see how this would be policed to stop people joining and then playing as members – it won't be progressed for the time being.

Date and location of next meeting: Thursday 14th December 7.30 pm, Baskerville Arms, Lower Shiplake for Xmas drink/meal