

Hampshire Squash and Racketball Association
Minutes of A.G.M. held at Winchester LT&SC on 2nd July 2009

Present

Chris Wilson (CW),	Chair
Tim Lane (TL)	Treasurer
David Law (DL)	County Secretary/League organiser
Wayne Burns (WB)	Racketball
Jacqui Kinder (JK)	Minute/Secretary
Simon Walker (SW)	Juniors
Bash Kara (BK)	Coaching
Fraser Liversage (FS)	England Squash South East Area Manager
Devan Kandiah (DK)	Project Officer
Mark Millard (MM)	Incoming League organiser
Paddy May (PM)	Refereeing/Marking

Representatives from following clubs:

Abshot, Alton Ladies, Alverstoke, Avenue, Beechdown, Cannons (Portsmouth), Chichester, David Lloyd (Southampton), Fair Oak, Fawley Ladies, Five Rivers, Hamble, Havant, LA Fitness, Lee, Navy, Petersfield, Portsmouth Squash, Riverpark, Romsey S.C., Seacourt, Southampton University, Totton, Trojans, Whitchurch, Winchester, Wykeham,

1. Apologies

Stuart Summers (SS) Men's Captain

2. Minutes of last A.G.M. Meeting.

Agreed.

3., Matters arising

CW opened the meeting. Thanked Officers for Reports. Thanked Hants volunteers, outside the committee, also Ronnie Bull. Simon Walker was thanked for continuing as Junior rep. Elvin Booth was thanked for arranging and managing the Hants Knockout Cup. Inter County captains were also included for their help during the past season.

CW raised the question regarding funding of the County teams. He noted that players, having the honour of representing their country in the Home Internationals (Masters) have to pay all their expenses and take holiday from their work allocated holiday leave. This year players in the England teams had to purchase a team kit, which was mandatory, otherwise they could not take part. The question raised was: Should the County teams fund themselves. To be discussed in Committee.

4. Treasurer's Report

TL Report and accounts submitted Approved by Auditors. No changes made.

TL reported on the serious stage of the finances and reserves are low (see submitted Accounts) Income is down over £2000 from last year. If League registration fees are paid from last year and previous year, accounts would improve but Hants Squash need new additional sources of income such as sponsorship and fund raising events. Rebates from ESR were discussed: at present 12.5% but why not higher say 50% as the County Associations do much more for the Clubs than 12.5%? Savings made this year were: No Handbook and limiting expenses to Guernsey players.

Questions and replies from the Reps. and Committee. **John Clarke (JC) (Abshot)** suggested the Committee chase the offending clubs for non payment of fees. **TL** agreed it may have to be done. **JC** also asked if Hants were considering increasing their fees for the Leagues. **DL** replied No and said that Hants is one of the highest in the country. **TL** County players should not have free shirts. **JC** **ESR** should review membership and other fees to clubs. **FL** looking into it. **MM** stated that at present no fees were collected from Racketball Leagues. **Richard Freemantle** This could be a source of income. **TL** Committee does not organise leagues. **WB** Racketball players are squash players. **Rep from Lee on Solent** felt the Committee should do more in advertising. **CW** none of the committee are experts in advertising and promotions and invited any interested parties to put their names forward. No one accepted. **SW** has gained sponsorship to cover the cost of shirts for Juniors but the monies are not vast. **Webmaster** can program the Web site to accept advertising.

5. Secretary's Report

DL submitted report

Lack of women on committee – Volunteers requested.

Captains /organisers – volunteers required to organise inter-county teams.

Vacant committee posts need filling

ESR membership requirement for Hants Leagues.

6. League Secretary's Report.

DL Report submitted

Premier League Winners. Mens – Winchester. Ladies - Winchester. Vets - Trojans

Elvin Booth thanked for running the KO Cup competitions.

New bespoke fixtures program, written by Andrew Smith of Trojans had made fixture generation easier.

Enhancement to enable Silkwebs to import into LMS had only just been written therefore fixtures will not be published until end of July.

3 clubs (5 teams) lost from Leagues, but no significant reduction in number of teams participating in coming season.

New score cards printed – No requirement for either team to sent to League Sec but results to be placed on LMS within 48 hours. Instructions given. Ranking not required on cards.

PAR scoring to be discussed later in the meeting.

7. Events

CW Results given for the County Closed and Inter County Championships. **DL** received offer from Andy Heyes to run Ladies team. **DL to contact Andy**. Closing date 3/7/09. If no one comes forward no teams will be entered. (2 ladies teams last season)

8. Juniors

SW Report submitted

9. Racketball

WB, Report submitted

Entries required for season starting September. LMS does not include leagues, due to differences of seasons and numbers in teams from squash. LMS system will be made ready in the future.

10. Coaching

BK Report submitted

SW requested details of coaching courses.

FL Level 2 (2 courses) – Wallingham Surrey & Newbury Berks. No bursaries for level 1.

Racketball coaches can gain a certificate which applies to L1 can be converted (£80 per day)

Mike Harris to send criteria (Mini squads) to the Committee.

11. Refereeing

PM Report submitted.

Courses next year – clubs to inform **PM**. Clubs to provide venue.

County grade refs. required. Will help with grading and matches for L3.

WB Enquired about courses for Racketball. **FL** demand will lead to refereeing courses in the future. At present squash courses are being adjusted for Racketball.

Volunteers thanked.

I disciplinary issue,

DL 2 free courses to be run. Clubs to contact **PM**. **CW** Other areas covered on courses: Conduct rules & First Aid. More markers required.

12.ESR Area Manager

FL thanked the committee for all their hard work and acknowledged that without the help of such volunteers squash and racketball simply wouldn't happen as it does in Hampshire. Please continue to support the committee and consider volunteering. Hampshire are the largest county in SE Region, 192 courts over 65 sites of which 36 affiliate to ES&R. Hampshire are "cooking" - they're doing really well in all that they organise and achieve.

FL gave a few facts and figures about squash nationally and explained how ESR are funded by Sport England (SpE) and that this funding occurs in four year periods, the current period ends in June 2013. In return for continued funding, SpE demand that certain targets are met

FL is looking for/inviting 20 clubs in our region [Oxon, Bucks, Berks & Hants] to help him hit the targets over the 4 years and thereby secure funding beyond 2013 - these clubs he will call "Partner Clubs". The targets for "Partner clubs" will be around "New participants" and "Satisfaction"

- New participants - (if he gets 20 partners) the target will be 22 new participants each year for each of the partner clubs - they complete a simple form and may be new club members or people attending taster sessions.
- Satisfaction - will be measured as an increase in the frequency players play. If this increases it correlates to the fact they're "happy" with the sport, the club and its facilities. This will involve a survey every 6 months, which **FL** will send out. It will require a "day zero" base-line survey; so as we can prove the subsequent increase. We'll need 23 players/year increasing the number of times they play to at least twice a week

In return - **FL** will be supporting the club with a mixture of benefits, such as: priority use of Simon Retter (development coach), supply equipment to help with programmes such as MiniSquash or Racketball, subsidise coach education programmes and perhaps even supply some cash. There won't be bucket loads of money and each club's requirements are bound to be different - therefore meetings will be arranged to decide and agree upon what each club would receive

FL stressed that the "Partner Club" idea does not mean that other affiliated clubs will be ignored. **FL** invited all attending to take a business card and to consider becoming a Partner Club.

13. Amendments to constitution (See annex A)

- (1) Change of title of Association. Proposed by Committee. Carried unanimously.
- (2) Amendment to section 5.6 proposed by Committee. Carried unanimously.

14. Proposed changes to League rules – Annex B

- (1) Additional to Rule 5.3 Proposed by Committee.
- (2) Amendment to above proposed by Trojans. Seconded by Nuffield Heath.. Change to 21days. Voting by members elected to change to 14 days. Carried unanimously.
- (3) Addition to Rule 7.1. Proposed by Lee-on-Solent. Seconded by Committee. Penalty void match. Carried unanimously.
- (4) New Rule 7 proposed by Committee. Discussed by reps. Many issues raised. Failed.
- (5) Amendment to rule 6.3 Proposed by Committee. Carried unanimously.

15. Other notified business

PAR scoring. Document from ESR circulated. Hampshire County need to look at PAR. Inter County and Sanctioned tournaments? Not Veterans.

Views of reps. Shorter games. Juniors moving to Seniors could cause confusion on scoring. Not lower leagues premier division only. With the progression of PAR games will be the norm.

WB RB Shorter game (PAR 15) but could play 7 games instead of best of 5 or point a game (PAR 11) Scoring up to 15 would be accepted by majority. **DL** Hants need to decide. Knockout Cup, try it for next year?

Fixture cards and score cards to be distributed at this meeting.

16. Election of Officers – Annex C

All elected. Unanimously carried.

Simon Walker to carry on as Junior Rep. Proposed and seconded. Carried unanimously.

17. Presentation of trophies.