

LEEDS TENNIS LEAGUE

Minutes of the Autumn General Meeting

Held at Adel Tennis Club at 8pm on Monday 16th November 2009

Present 19 out of a possible 24 clubs were represented as follows -

Adel: G Bond, G Williams, J Micklethwaite

Alwoodley: S Harris, S Donaghy

Armley: J Pritchard

Bardsey: D Sivey

Boston Spa: N Slater, M Lindley

Chapel Allerton: S Smith, I Griffin, I Pastow, R Pastow, P Harris

David Lloyd: M Crump, S Shipley

Grove Hill: H Collins, L Ashworth, H Dove, C Cherry

Heaton: J Murphy, A Copland, S Murphy, J Haynes, A Haynes, G Trudgill

Horsforth: H West

Ilkley: C Wilkinson

JCCS: C Tatman

Pool: C Leggatt

Rawdon: S Bickerton

Roundhay: C Harper, L Bowman

St Chads: K Wignall, P Rice, J Ingle

Wakefield: D Burton, C Wainwright, S Bastow

Wetherby: T Wright

Whitkirk: K Sherburn, M Stearman

Committee: Graham Bond, Acting Chairman and Treasurer; Jill Ingle, Secretary; Penny Rice, Fixture Secretary; Chris Wilkinson, Mens; Susan Smith, Ladies; Janet Pritchard Mixed/Medley; Charlie Tatman, Juniors

Carnegie, Georgian, Kirkstall, North Leeds and Wakefield School of Tennis were not represented.

Graham Bond opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present. Thanks were expressed to Adel Tennis Club and Adel War Memorial Association for hosting the meeting free of charge. Graham introduced the committee to those present. Thanks were expressed to Janine Johnson who has stepped down as the Mixed/Medley co-ordinator. Janet Pritchard was welcome as her replacement. Thanks were also expressed to Ken Walker and St Chads Tennis Club for stepping in at the start of the year ensuring that the League was able to continue.

1. Apologies for Absence

The following apologies were received:

Adel: G Pedder; **Armley:** J Johnson; **Boston Spa:** M Wright; **Carnegie:** L Assioun; **Georgian Tennis Club;** **Horsforth:** J Bailey; **Kirkstall:** S Kwan; **JCCS:** D Brown; **Rawdon:** M Martindale, S Bickerton; **St Chads:** K Walker, J Smith; **Wetherby:** D Roche

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

It was noted that apologies for absence should have included Sally Harris, Alwoodley after which the minutes of the AGM held at Chapel Allerton Tennis Club on Monday 2nd March 2009 were accepted and approved.

Proposed by: Tony Wright, Wetherby; Seconded by: Hillary West, Horsforth.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Financial Report: An update of the League's financial position will be given under Any Other Business, together with a proposal on subscription rates for 2010.

3.2 Rules and Constitution: The committee position has stabilised.

No changes are currently proposed to the rules and constitution.

Should any matters arise subsequently these should be reported to Jill Ingle and brought for discussion at the AGM.

3.3 Election of Officers: The position of Acting Chairman and other vacant roles to be discussed under Point 6.

3.4 Singles League: Had not operated in 2009 as no-one had come forward to replace Paul Copley.

4. Report on Summer League 2009

4.1 Juniors: Charlie Tatman reported that the leagues had generally gone well.

Three teams withdrew at the start of the season and other clubs forfeited fixtures during the season due to insufficient players.

Charlie appealed for clubs to only enter teams if they can guarantee fulfilling fixtures.

Charlie also explained that as Tennis Development Officer for Leeds he is looking to develop a city wide competition for the 16+ age group to encourage them to stay in tennis and involved with their local clubs and teams.

He felt that all too often good juniors were lost to the sport.

4.2 Ladies: Sue Smith reported that all fixtures except one were completed and that results were advised promptly in most cases.

She reminded captains that fixtures should not be rearranged after the 30 April deadline, other than for bad weather when it is incumbent on the home team captain to offer 3 alternative dates.

She asked that captains be familiar with the rules prior to the start of the season; especially Rule 4.

Graham Bond then asked all players to be aware of the fair play charter as shown at the back of the handbook.

4.3 Mixed/Medley: Janet Pritchard was again introduced as the new section coordinator.

4.4 Mens: Chris Wilkinson reported that there had been lively competition across the 4 divisions.

He asked all clubs to be aware of the home date and start times of matches and appealed for email and phone contact details to be provided and updated during the season to ease communications.

A few fixtures needed to be rearranged but these had generally gone well. He asked that results cards were sent in promptly to avoid the need for these to be chased, stressing that the coordinators were all volunteers.

- 4.5** The committee were asked to take into account the dates of England's fixtures in the 2010 World Cup when generating next summer's fixtures.
- 4.6** A vote of thanks was then expressed to the committee and all the volunteers involved who had helped to keep the league afloat.

5. Winter League Update

Carol Cherry reported that the league had expanded with 3 new teams entering this year.

- 5.1** Two divisions of 8 teams drawn at random had been created.
- 5.2** After Christmas the top 4 teams from each will form Division 1 and the bottom 4 teams will form Division 2 thereby better matching standards.
New fixtures will be generated with each team playing a total of 14 matches.
There will be a trophy for the winners of Division 1.
- 5.3** Initial teething problems have been sorted and results are being reported by email.
Carol will input the results onto the website, once she has been trained in how to do this.
- 5.4** She noted that any further expansion of the league at LMU was limited due to court space.
Charlie Tatman commented that JCCS may be able to provide additional court space or be an alternative venue.
It was agreed that options should be explored further.
- 5.5** Carol also reported that LMU have indicated fees would increase for 2010-11.

6. Officers for 2010

Graham Bond again stressed that the league was run by a team of volunteers and appealed for help going forward, especially for the section coordinators so that replacements were readily available and holiday cover provided.

- 6.1** In particular the Mens section needed support. Chris Wilkinson reported that he had been happy to step into the role but would be equally happy to step down.
Charlie Tatman advised that Dwight Brown may be able to share the role, looking after Divisions 3 and 4.
- 6.2** Graham advised that whilst he was happy to continue as Acting Chairman he wished to step down from the role of Treasurer.
He also felt it advisable to appoint an honorary Auditor to review the accounts.
The role of Deputy Chairman had also become vacant following the resignation of Janine Johnson.
Volunteers for these roles were sought.
Graham particularly appealed to representatives from David Lloyd to come forward noting that they were the only major club in the area not to provide assistance in running the league.
- 6.3** The Singles league did not operate in 2009 due to lack of volunteers to run it.
Charlie Tatman reported that he would be willing to resurrect this again in 2010.
He encouraged anyone interested in singles to speak to him after the meeting.
It would be open to men and lady players and consideration would also be given to the inclusion of 17 and 18 year olds.

7. Presentation of trophies and medals

Graham Bond and the section coordinators presented the awards to

Junior U16: Wakefield

Junior U14: Heaton

Junior U12: Chapel Allerton

Fair Play Trophy: Rawdon

Ladies Division 1: Horsforth

Ladies Division 2: St Chads

Mixed Division 1: Chapel Allerton

Mixed Division 2: Roundhay

Medley: St Chads

Mens Division 1: Ilkley A

Mens Division 2: Alwoodley

Mens Division 3: Wakefield A

Mens Division 4: Georgian

All players were congratulated on successful seasons.

8. Any Other Business:

8.1 Finance: Graham Bond reported funds of £4.2k in the bank but with two major costs outstanding namely court charges from LMU for the 2009-10 season and the administrative charge from Leeds City Council for handbook production, due in spring 2010.

8.2 Graham also reported that areas for development are the website and software for fixture generation. Options are to be explored through the YLTA.
With this in mind Graham proposed a 5% increase in subscriptions across all leagues, noting that the Winter League needs to be self financing.

The proposal was seconded by David Burton, Wakefield and carried unanimously by the meeting.

8.3 AGM: The Annual General Meeting of the League is to be held on 1 March 2010 at 8pm at Armley Tennis Club.

Chapel Allerton would be an alternate venue if required.

8.4 Juniors: Charlie Tatman sought feedback on a proposal to create a separate end of season "Masters" event for the top 8 junior teams in each age group.

This would be an indoor daylong event at JCCS with matches being played in the usual format.

Presentations of all Junior trophies and awards would be made at this event.

The suggestion was well received and Charlie will develop the proposal further.

It was felt important to set the date at the start of the season and a Saturday or Sunday in early September were considered appropriate thus avoiding school and bank holidays.

There were no further matters arising.

Graham thanked those present for attending and the meeting closed at 9.15pm