

Tennis Committee AGM Minutes 2022 held on 12th January at 7:30pm

Invitation sent out to all tennis members on 3rd January.

Attended by Barry Flicker, Chris Pennington, Sue Stott, Michelle Rutter, Matt Olczak, Jon Rycroft, Peter Cornelius, Liz Bell

Chaired by Tim Cartwright

Apologies received from Al Macintosh, Kai Kin and Judie Yung, Gail Dixon-Smith, Cath Jones

Actions from the meeting to be sent out separately.

1) Confirmation that individuals are happy to continue on the committee

All committee members with the exception of Chris Pennington are happy to stay on for another year. Chris was thanked for her many years of contribution. Socialising is at the heart of Victoria Park – it is hoped that another member will be able to stand in as social secretary to ensure the tradition of gatherings, parties and social events continues! Lance Cresswell will be joining the committee as finance assistant to the treasurer.

2) Agreement on membership categories / fees for 2022

The chair's proposal that membership categories and fees stay the same for 2022 was accepted by the committee. 10% discount will be applicable for those members renewing prior to April 1st.

A tennis committee meeting will be held shortly after this date to decide on the suitability of allowing waiting list prospective members to join.

Family members will be urged to fully register all players so that an accurate figure of active members can be more easily gained. Information on club activities and events will be more noticeably listed on the website and front window of the club house. A link to this information will be sent out to all renewing members.

3) Nominations of Honorary Membership

The chair's proposal that Joan Bolden, Barry Flicker and Matt Olczak be nominated for one year's honorary membership was accepted by the committee.

Matt has worked tirelessly setting up and maintaining the ClubSpark administration platform, Barry has been at the forefront of ensuring the club's COVID risk assessment is adhered to, and Joan spent almost twenty years captaining the ladies B team.

4) COVID update / review

The committee agreed to keep the current club risk assessment as it is – though it is hoped that, depending on COVID regulations, the next committee meeting may be able to reduce clubhouse restrictions and increase the amount and type of social event allowed.

5) Timing of LED lighting replacement / court surface renewal

The committee would like to propose going ahead with court resurfacing this year. The existing surface is now approximately 16 years old (the expected lifespan was 8-12 years). £12,000 was paid three years ago for court surface repair and repainting (mainly because of clubhouse refurbishment cost concerns). Although it was hoped that this would prolong the courts' life by up to 5 years, drainage issues have become an increasing problem and the usability of the courts is becoming severely affected by adverse weather.

The committee proposes a feasibility / options study, followed by a quotes review process, followed by the tendering of work to be carried out in September of this year. The LTA advises that £15,000 – 20,000 per court should be put aside for resurfacing courts with a macadam finish – it may be that this amount increases because of any drainage remediation work or changes to court surface that are deemed necessary / favourable. The club has been putting money aside every year for this purpose. Members should be advised that courts may be out of action for between 2-4 weeks depending on work required.

Two quotes have so far been obtained for LED retrofitting. No formal planning is required – though current planning restrictions will need to be adhered to. Quotes range from £25,000 to £35,000. Payback based on saved electricity of between 5 and 10 years. Current bulbs will need to be changed within the next two years in any case. The committee agreed that work on court resurfacing should be prioritised and light enhancement work carried out based on remaining finance available.

6) Any other matters

Pete Smiley kindly carried out a Defibrillator communication / awareness session for committee members. Two further sessions for members will be offered in the coming weeks.

All members of the tennis committee meeting are to be DBS checked. Al Macintosh, our safeguarding officer, is now the club's nominated ID verifier. All tennis coaches are DBS checked – these certificates have been forwarded to Al.

The committee agreed with Pete Smiley's proposal that a trial be carried out where summer league results for men's division one and two are updated to the LTA website. Pete has agreed to input the scores. The proposal will be discussed at the Exeter and District League AGM.

Jon Rycroft informed the committee that a member has agreed to loan the club her automated tennis ball machine for a trial period. More discussion will be had on how we regulate the use of this coaching / practice aid.