

SOUTHBOURNE TENNIS CLUB

MINUTES OF THE 52nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CLUB

Held in the Club House on Monday 17th October 2016 prior to the Company AGM and chaired by the Chairman Keith Mitchell.

The Chairman welcomed all attending. The Chairman stated that he would like to start by talking about the Extra Mile Award. Whilst there were the regular helpers who do so much for the Club and were previous winners of the award such as John Woodham, Jenny Hawkes and Paul Cornfield and Brenda Woodham, the Committee unfortunately could not think of any adults this year that justified winning the Award. Hopefully this might motivate members for next year. The Chairman stated however that there were two junior members who help out a lot at the Club, particularly with the disability groups and do an amazing job. This year's Extra Mile Award goes to Sarah Males and Dimitri Antoniou. The Chairman thanked them both for their commitment to the Club.

Present: Keith Mitchell took the chair and 31 other members were present.

1. APOLOGIES

57 members attended the meeting with apologies from Chris Lane, Susanne Grainger, Celia B

2. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 29^h October 2015.

The minutes were approved unanimously

3. TO RECEIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS

a) Chairman

Doesn't time fly when you are having fun!!

Its 5 years since taking on the job as chair and a lot seems to have happened during that time.

With the help of a great team of committee members I think we have made good progress.

I thought I would look at the statement I made for the election and see how things had gone. So enclosed is an outline of what I was hoping to achieve in that first year.

- Improve communication with the members - Hopefully the communication between the committee and members has set at about the right level. We have tried to keep you up to date with what is going on and tried to involve you in the important decisions about the club. The regular updates you have received are partly information giving and partly trying to get your feedback and your views on the club. We have also conducted a junior questionnaire which has led to changes and improvements in the junior club programme.
- Re surface the top courts by April - As you can see the courts are finished although a little late. Hopefully you will all agree that one of the key benefits of being a member of a tennis club is having great courts to play on. We now have some of the best courts in Dorset. Having resurfaced the courts we are now short of money but I think this is outweighed by the danger of us becoming a 3 court club.
- Provide an online booking system for the club - The online booking system is now working well and seems to be popular with most members. It has been very useful during the club championships to know which courts are available for matches. For anyone without internet access the coaches are happy to book courts for you.
- Wi-Fi installation - in the club has also proved popular with parents and members being able to bring their laptops to the club to work while they are waiting for their children.

- The web site - has also been completely modernised and is now kept up to date regularly. This work would not have been possible without the hours of work that Zoltan has put in over the past few months. A big thank you to him for all his hard work.
- Increase the number of fun and team players tournaments - There have been regular fun and team players tournaments taking place throughout the year. These have proved very popular with the fun tournaments in particular getting well over 20 people playing. Thank you very much to Jackie and Jill for all their hard work in arranging these events.
- Run an enhanced coaching programme for all levels of ability - I am very pleased to report that Dave Sanger took up the running of the coaching programme. Whilst it is still early days for this initiative the progress so far has been very encouraging. The amount and variety of coaching has improved and there will be some significant cost savings to the club. I know that Dave is always keen to hear from members if they have any new ideas or requests. Thank you to Dave and his team for the services they provide.
- Refurbish the ladies changing rooms - This is one area of work which has not been completed. The reason for this is that we have put in for a large grant to refurbish both changing rooms and add disabled facilities. It did not seem sensible to work on the ladies changing rooms if there was a possibility of a complete refurb of the whole area.
- Arrange more social events - We have held a Christmas party, quiz evening, charity race night and a skittles evening. All of these events have been very successful and enjoyed by members. I would still like to see more social events so if you have any ideas please let one of the committee members know.
- Encourage more members to volunteer - Besides the committee we have a few members who are a great asset to the club and who give a great deal of time to generally helping. I won't name all of them now but they know who they are. We still need more volunteers so please think hard and see if you are able to give an hour once in a while to the club. I am keen to continue with an award which was first presented last year 'The Extra Mile award'. This will be presented to someone who has given outstanding service to the club over a number of years.
- Enhance our work with local schools to get more junior members - We already carry out a lot of work with most of our feeder junior schools. This work continues to do well and the number of junior members now exceeds where we were at the end of March last year. The club has run inter school competitions which have brought in more members. This work is now being extended into the senior schools and meetings have been held with Avonbourne and Portchester Schools which has resulted in the club running sessions at the schools and 6th formers being offered sessions on a Wednesday Afternoon at the club.

Well that was year one and things seemed to go quite well. Over the next four years the following happened.

- Coaching programme for all levels of ability - The coaching programme continues to go well and expand. The amount and variety of coaching has improved. I know that Dave is always keen to hear from members if they have any new ideas or requests. Thank you to Dave and his team for the services they provide.
- We have satellite clubs running all year now with St Peters School, Bournemouth School for Girls and Victoria Special School.
- Girls' tennis - This is going well and we have a popular girls group running on a Friday afternoon. The numbers of girls attending the junior club is increasing. We also run a satellite club at Bournemouth School for Girls and a girls group at St Peters School.
- Expand our inclusive disability programme - Whilst our disability programme is excellent and has been recognised both locally and nationally the real measure of an inclusive club is when members with disabilities are welcomed to all club sessions. With this in mind I am very pleased to report that two of our members with learning disabilities have played in the Monday morning club session and also the Wednesday evening club session. Thank you to members who have been so welcoming.
- Improve changing rooms - Hopefully you are pleased with changes to the changing rooms. We were fortunate to get a grant for the work to be carried out and because of prudent management we were able to complete other work at the same time eg. New windows, club house decoration and security cameras.
- Extend and tidy the patio area - As you can see this work is nearly complete and with a bit of luck and good weather should be finished within the next couple of weeks.
- Re do entrance to the club - This is now finished and I hope you are pleased with the outcome.

- Set up a sinking fund - £45,000 set aside for this and plans to add a minimum of £10,000 each year from now on.

With the help of a fantastic committee hopefully you will agree that a lot has changed over the past five years. I would like to thank the committee for all their help and support over that time. I believe the club is in a good place at the moment and also think we have the best committee we have ever had.

I would like to wish the new chair the very best and I am sure you will all give them all the support they need.

Can I also thank you the members for your kind words over the past five years and in particular your comments over the last few weeks. I look forward to having a bit more time to now play some tennis with you!!

b) Treasurer

I am pleased to be present to present the accounts and my report for the year ended March 2016. My report covers the financial period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016. As such it ignores any financial transactions after the 31 March 2016 or prior to 1 April 2015.

So during this financial year what has happened:

- Very little has had to be done to the clubhouse or the tennis courts during the year in question other than maintaining and cleaning (shown as repairs rather than clubhouse improvements);
- Disability programme goes from strength to strength. This is reflected in the level of funding that we receive through both third party organisations and our own fund raising efforts. As at the balance sheet date the sum of £7,242.
- Sinking fund. As a committee we are committed to building a surplus of funds which will allow major expenditure to occur without the need of significant funding from third parties or from fund raising. As some of you are aware this was an issue for the club a few years ago. As Keith has set out in his report this fund currently stands at £45,000 (up from £25,000) but the intention is to continue to build on this. This is greatly helped by a strong membership.

So has anything else happened, well lots not necessarily anything more significant from a financial perspective. As we move forward we hope that the Clubspark programme will help us manage not only our membership but also our resource (ie the tennis courts) better. I hope that this will see a financial dividend over time.

We have a vibrant and active club which supports a whole range of activities and makes the financial operation of the club a lot easier. If things are happening it is much easier to get funding or new members that if there was no one here so I thank you all. Finally can I thank Keith , Jane, Helen and the rest of the committee in assisting with me with my roles and making my job much easier.

b) Head Coach

It has been another very successful year for Southbourne Tennis Club and the coaches.

This year we have continued to grow and develop our Disability Tennis Programme and Girls and community Tennis Programme. This has continued to give the opportunity to people who may not been able to access the sport. Southbourne Tennis Club has become a leader in disability tennis in the county and the country. We won Club of the Year for the third year running and we won Regional Disability programme of the year. We have been part of the Davis Cup Legacy tennis programme and have 20 new players from this initiative. We have been highlighted by the LTA for our tournament programme and how well this works.

The main aim of the coaching is still to be more pro-active and provide a better facility for tennis coaching at the club and in the county. We have seen record high numbers on our coaching programme often with children playing in more than one group each week.

A big thanks to Zoltan, Matt, Ray, Mitch, Elliott, Shuei, Dan, Keith Mitchell, Adam Spicer, Sarah Stout, Llana Hodgson, Sarah Males, Laura Phillips, Dimitri Antonio, Jenny Hawkes who all help with the disability at the club. More volunteers are always welcome.

This report details more news from the rest of the year.

Junior Competition Results

Junior Teams in Summer Leagues

- U8 Mixed Team finished 3rd in the County.
- U9 Mixed Team finished 4th in their box in County Division 1.
- U10 Boys finished 4th.
- U12 Boys Team were finished 3rd in the County Division.
- U14 Boys were runners up in County Division 1.
- Mens Team qualified for the regional league.

U14 Road to Wimbledon Club Competition

- Boys Winner: James Johnson Runner up: Sam Neale.
- Girls Winner: Emily Pardy Runner up: Emilie Castagna

U14 Road to Wimbledon County Competition

- James and Emily both were winners in the County finals and both qualified to play at Wimbledon.

Junior Club Sessions - Saturday Morning 10am – 11.30am & Monday Night 6-7.30pm

- Aims of session: To keep children active for 1.5 hours. Improve knowledge and skills of tennis by competition and fun games. Ultimately the sessions are fun and challenging.
- Objectives: Due to large quantity of children in the groups the session is divided into groups of similar ages/standards. There has been a high of about 30 children turning up on Monday evenings. We are constantly looking for help from unpaid assistants either parents or intermediate juniors. Ultimately juniors will be able to progress from the Improvers group to the Intermediate group, from the Intermediates into Junior Teams, from Junior Teams into Senior Club Sessions (with approval from Coaches and Committee), from Senior Club session to play in Senior Matches for the club.
- A special thanks to Matt Sanger, Dan Gilbert and Mitch Bentley for their assistance and help in many of these Junior sessions.

Adult Groups

- These groups are based around standard. These are open to all members to help improve their tennis skills and knowledge. Each group will on average have no more than 6 adults per coach.
- There are currently around 50 adults taking part in these groups ranging from beginners, improver to advanced and from 18 – 90.
- Aims: Improve standard of adults, Improvement of knowledge of performance factors, which involves technique, tactics, mental and physical parts of tennis. To improve competition in club. Improves standard of tennis being played and will lead to more players involved in the club and coaching programme.
- Objectives: Progress players into club sessions, into teams and into club tournament.
- There has been a steady increase of adults playing more regularly and enjoying their tennis.

Junior Squads

- These groups are based around standard and age. These are open to all junior members to help improve their tennis skills and knowledge. Each group will on average have no more than 6 children per coach.
- There are currently around 50 children taking part in these invitational squads ranging from junior improver to junior performance.
- Aims: Improve standard of children aiming at Club to County standard if not higher. Improvement of knowledge of performance factors which involves technique, tactics, mental and physical parts of tennis. To improve competition in club. Improves standard of tennis being played and will lead to more performance players involved in the club coaching programme.
- Objectives: Progress players into junior teams and ultimately into Senior Club play and teams.
- There has been a steady increase of juniors with LTA ratings who want to play in club matches and individual tournaments.

Mini Tennis Programme

- We have been hard at work increasing the number of children under 10 participating in Club coaching sessions and in Mini tennis events. This has also aided in strengthening our links with St Katherine's School, St Peters & Christchurch Infants & Junior Schools & Priory Primary School, Corpus Christi and Stourfield.
- The number of children participating in the mini tennis programme has increased and we have a strong base of children playing at the club. All of these sessions are going well. We have been regularly holding mini tennis competitions and will look to continue this.
- Mini Tennis Performance - In addition to the extra Mini Tennis sessions Performance Squads have been set up at each stage of Mini Tennis to give talented children additional tennis sessions each week.
- Mini Tennis Holiday Camps - In addition to the Mini Tennis sessions we hold camps for under 10's over the school holidays. These have been very successful especially over the summer holidays where we have had a 20-30 children attending most of the individual sessions.

Cardio Tennis Programme

- We have been working hard in increasing the number of people taking part in cardio tennis. We have raised money for Charity and Children in need charity through cardio tennis. We currently hold the UK record for number of participants taking part of cardio tennis at one time. We also aim to use cardio tennis to get more girls playing sport and tennis in general.

Disability Tennis Programme

- We have also been hard at work increasing the number of disability sessions that are available at the club. We have seen over 100 people a week attend coaching at the club. We are working hard with many disability groups and schools in order to offer tennis to the community and promote tennis for all.
- We have worked closely with local charity and organisations such as 3 Adult day centres. We are working with a Visually impaired group. We have also been working with Linwood School and Victoria School. We have set up a weekly club at Victoria School and we have funding from the Tennis foundation to run Victoria as a Disability tennis hub.
- We have also started up a wheelchair session and currently have 6 attendees. Our learning disability session on a sat is going from strength to strength.
- We have also worked with some of the local schools that have students with disabilities.

Girls Tennis Programme

- We have set up a girls only sessions on a Friday at 5pm for girls ages 10 and over at a reduced rate of £3, we have a regular number of between 10 – 16 girls attending. We also had a project to expand tennis opportunities for girls at Schools, local guides groups and youth clubs. We had over 60 Girls playing

tennis during the summer. We have a Girls club running with Bournemouth School for Girls and St Peters with over 20 Girls attending.

Youth Tennis Programme

- We also had a project to expand tennis opportunities for teenagers at Schools, local scout groups and youth clubs which went really well with over 90 participants from local secondary schools and local beaver groups. We have an after school club running with St Peters with over 15 Boys attending.

c) Vice Chairman

Nothing to report but wanted to thank Keith for all his hard work and enthusiasm which has helped make the club what it is today.

d) Membership Secretary

At the end of the club year 31 May 2016 membership was:

- 192 Adults (33 new during year)
- 71 Juniors (23 new during year)

At renewal time in June we retained a high number of Adult members, losing only 43, and a good number of Junior members, losing 28. Main reasons for not rejoining were 'not using enough' and 'injuries'.

Membership of adults and juniors has steadily increased since and at present membership is as follows:

- 178 Adults (including 21 new this year)
- 60 Juniors (including 12 new this year)

This is slightly better than at same time last year!

CLUBSPARK - This is working well and is proving to be a very efficient way of managing and maintaining membership records – enabling easy sharing of information between committee members and facilitating contact with members. It provides a simple way for new members to join and for existing members to book courts.

A reminder to all members that this system only works for everyone if members keep their details updated on Clubspark – in particular email addresses! Thank you.

e) Match Secretary

A huge thank you to all the captains which is not an easy job and we are grateful for the players who committed to their teams:

Ladies – Cleo, Jill, Celia and Cleo

Mens – James, Owain, Nigel and Dave

Mixed – Kirsty and Lloyd

Highlights of the year

Ladies 1 – Champions in Winter, 2nd this summer

Ladies vets – Champions this summer

Mens Vets - 2nd in winter, 3rd this summer

Mixed 1 – promoted to div 1 in winter and summer

Mens and Ladies Hants and IOW – both promoted to div 1

If anyone is interested in being involved in the fixtures please let me know. The next seasons are arranged in February and I would like to thank Keith and his excellent chairmanship and support.

f) Social Secretary

Summary:

Have been involved in organising the social side of our internal tournaments for mini red/orange/green members. These are fun tournaments to introduce younger children to competitive tennis and include quizzes and food afterwards. There's now a lovely group of younger children developing a real sense of team spirit. It's been great to see plenty of girls taking part too.

We have held two fun doubles tournaments during the Sunday morning club session. I am still new to running these and hoping to improve on the format each time. The social afterwards is always good fun. A number of members enjoyed an evening meal at Abdul's restaurant as part of the Ralph Beatty tournament. Many thanks to Keith for helping organise this.

Big thank you also to Chris Stephens for running the Quiz Night as part of the Spring Open in April. It's been great to be able to provide catering during the Southbourne Open in August, both two Great British Tennis Weekends in May and July plus a number of other tournaments. Many many thanks to all the kind volunteers who give up their time to help out in the kitchen and on the BBQ and also to all those who have donated cakes. I really couldn't do this without you all. If anyone is interested in getting involved, you are always welcome.

Team Kit – almost there with the second order which is for adult team players. Big thank you to Martin Cavey and Chorus Accounting for their incredibly generous sponsorship.

Upcoming news:

- Sarah to complete a Food Hygiene Certificate so we have a current one for the club.
- Planning the following events in the coming weeks:
- Fun doubles 'wooden racket' tournament – date TBC. Would be great to see more ladies attend so we can play more mixed doubles.
- Bowling evening at Bowlplex in Parkstone – date TBC but probably a Friday evening in the New Year.
- Involved in helping with the Christmas parties for the mini, junior and learning disability members alongside the coaches.
- Also in the process of compiling a survey to gain an idea of what members like about the club and what is working well and also to get suggestions for what can be improved on plus any ideas for social events members would like the club to host. Watch this space...
- I send out emails fairly regularly. If anyone isn't receiving these, please check your spam folders and if there's nothing there (the last one was last week regarding the Club Championships Final weekend) please let me know.
- Finally - please remember to put the Christmas party in your diary! Saturday, 26 November. Tickets available this evening!

4. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st March 2016.

The accounts were approved by all.

5. TO AGREE FEES

It was proposed to keep the membership fees at the same rate, agreed unanimously. Membership limit to remain at £195.00.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

All committee members stood down. Nominations were proposed, seconded and received by:

Susanne Grainger Chairwoman

Martin Cavey Treasurer

Helen Henshaw Match Secretary

David Sanger Club Captain

Adam Spicer Hon Secretary

Jane Carter Membership Secretary

Don Greaves Maintenance and H&S Coordinator

Zoltan Horvath Committee Member

All re-elections and changes were agreed unanimously.

7. AOB

- Richard Henshaw and the committee thanked Keith Mitchell for all his amazing work during his time as Chair.

8. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT AGM

The date of the next AGM is to be confirmed.

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Adam Spicer, Honorary Secretary

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Dated

.....
Keith Mitchell, Signed as a true record by Chairman

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Dated