



**Minutes of a Meeting of the Tennis Committee
held on Monday 24th April 2017**

Present:

David Burditt	(Chairman)
Alex Hince	
Nicola Dearman	
Vanessa Walker	(Ladies Captain)
Alan Flitcroft	
Pippa Walker	(Liaison Director)

In Attendance:

Marc Newey	(Chief Executive)
Danny Sitton	(Tennis Director)
Peter Bradburn	(Course and Grounds Manager)
Paul Lindsay	(Racquets Manager)

Apologies: Catherine Michie, Daren Boner and Tim Webb.

Minutes from previous meeting:

Minutes of the meeting held on the 6 March 2017 were discussed and approved.

1 Review of action points:

Ladies Scholarship Players

Martha Sirotkina has joined the Club and is a great addition to the first team and section.

Poraflex Courts

Covers for the light stanchion on the centre posts on courts 4-10 and 15-18 have been installed.

Airhall Courts

DB – there is no currently available commercial solution to solve the bright sunshine reducing visibility on one side of the Airhall. It has been decided that the time and cost of designing a bespoke solution would be prohibitively expensive and so efforts to address this have been put on hold for the present.

LED Lighting

LED lighting is to be installed on courts 12-14 before the winter months in 2017 and the TC agreed these were the best courts to carry the works on first. LED lights are also saving the Club an estimated 30% on the electrics bill in comparison to the normal floodlight bulbs.

Bubble Communication & Surface Change

The TC discussed the options with costs and time lines on how all options should be considered. MN will investigate planning in June.

The TC also discussed the structure and light fittings, a steel structure would negate most issues with light fittings.

TC reiterated no works to the Bubble would happen in 2017.

DB and DS will get together to produce a display of new structure and surface. The TC will arrange a date to hold a presentation regarding the structure and surface after the Club AGM to help communication. MN to find best dates in June to work for TC.

DB/
DS

MN

2 Reports

a) Course and Grounds(PB)

All Outside Courts

Due to high winds the Air hall removal took place a week later than originally planned.

Renovation works to Smash and Synthetic courts have been completed in mid-April. Grass courts 25 to 28: new steps and tennis fencing will be completed late April. Grass Courts 19-24: weather depending will open on April 29th with 25-28 opening a week later.

DB asked if there is any such machinery that can speed the process of drying the grass courts to open them earlier for play in the morning?

PB explained the technical issues behind the dew and grass growth and how manual works are vital to the playability. No machinery would improve the opening times dramatically enough to consider the Club purchasing.

PB left the meeting

b) Men's Captain (DS in TW absence)

AEGON

1st team have won 2 from 3 matches and are on track to finish in the top 4 which would qualify them for the National Finals.

2nd team has won one from one match.

3rd team has won two from two matches.

c) Ladies Captain (VW report)

AEGON 1st team. Captain Natasha Marks

On 9th April a depleted 1st team (due to Jurate's injury) played their first match away at Putney on the hottest day of the year. 2 juniors played against a very tough opposition. Marta's singles lasted 3 hours and she lost a very close match and sadly we went on to lose all six matches.

Yesterday a stronger team took on the Wimbledon club at home. This was extremely close and after 3 hours was poised at 3 all after 6 matches. It went down to a tiebreak shoot out which Roehampton won. Very tense, but great to watch and really well played to Natasha, Marta, Rachel and Lily.

AEGON 2nd team. Captain Emily Gomme

The 2nd team have comfortably won 2 matches, beating Purley away on the 9th April, 4-2. Having finished the singles 3-1 up, they went into the doubles with the upper hand. One dubs was won on a champs tiebreak and we lost the other. Final score 4-2 to Roehampton. Then yesterday, we comfortably beat Westside away. 3 - 1 up after the singles with captain Emily Gomme and Susie Reid not dropping a game. On to the doubles which we won. Final score Roehampton 5 Westside 1.

The Surrey Leagues start next month with 3 teams competing in the main event and now 4 teams in the mid-week leagues. I think it's fair to say that there are more women wanting to play competitive tennis at the club and places in the lower teams are keenly sought after. We have another team keen to get involved in the LCL in the winter. This may or may not be possible depending on availability.

<p>VW is in the process of ordering a new team top for the ladies team players. Thanks to Danny and Adidas, the Roehampton ladies teams are about to look extremely smart.</p>	<p>VW/ DS</p>
<p>The TC discussed the Ladies Teams, London Club League and competition for places. The demand to play is high and VW and DS are watching results to make sure Teams are in the right leagues. ND also said to help provide Members with opportunities to play some could play Friendly Leagues.</p>	<p>VW/ DS</p>
<p>d) Tennis Director (DS) Club Champs – Dates for this year’s Club Champs will be Monday 15th May – Sunday 9th July. Entries are being accepted which includes a new Tier 1 and 2 Singles League knockout competition. DS/PL will make sure the BBQ is by courts for the day.</p> <p>Racket Cubed Outreach – This pilot has now finished and the full term programme will start this term. This provides tennis/maths tuition to local disadvantaged kids with the tennis taking place each Fri 1.30-3pm. DS intends to continue this programme on courts 15-18.</p> <p>New for Summer 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teenage Girls tennis course – Sunday’s 12-1pm with good numbers • Cardio tennis – every Wed 10.15-11am • New ‘pay and play’ session – each Sat 8.30-10am • Continuation of Parent/Infant sessions – every Wed 9.30-10am • Continuation of Junior night <p>e) Juniors DS informed that the junior programme is going well.</p> <p>f) Social NTR</p>	<p>DS/ PL</p>
<p>MN left the meeting to Chair Health Club Forum.</p> <p>g) Liaison Director (PW) The main focus of the Board meeting was on the development of the Health Club, which is currently on time and budget. Additional work has been approved to improve the layout of the Juice Bar, making it a more integral part of the new swimming pool area, and encouraging greater footfall. A Strategy Sub Committee (a sub-committee of the Board) has been set up with a brief to recommend improvements to a) facilities, b) brand management and member communication and c) funding arrangements for essential projects. As an example, the improvement of facilities (including the replacement of the tennis Bubble) will be part of an ‘estate-wide’ review of our current facilities and available space, so that project planning is integrated rather than done in isolation.</p>	

h) Vets

Mikaela Parker will Captain the ladies side of the Vets teams with Danny Gesua Captaining the mens.

3. AOB

DB – Mycourts upgrade to kiosk and members can now book 3 slots in a row. Other slight improvements are also being made; these increase efficiency at back of house and are transparent to Members.

Date of Next meeting - 12 June 2017 @ 6.30pm

