

# Minutes of a Meeting of the Tennis Committee held on Monday 12 November 2018

**Present:** 

Alex Hince (Chairman)

Andrew Wakely

Victoria Stephens

Puk Kroijer

David Burditt (Liaison Director)

In Attendance:

Marc Newey (Chief Executive)

Peter Bradburn (Course and Grounds Manager)

Danny Sitton (Racquets Director)
Paul Lindsay (Racquets Manager)

**Apologies:** Catherine Michie, Nicola Dearman

Alan Flitcroft & Jan Menneken

### Minutes from previous meeting:

Minutes of the meeting held on the 17 Sept 2018 and Annual Meeting Minutes on 8 October 2018 were discussed and approved.

AH – Are the honours boards being moved?

MN – Yes, the new ones are being made and current ones are currently being updated. Once updated they will then be moved around the Club from the current positions.

PB – the fence shading for the surrounds of courts 7 & 8 as requested at the AGM has been ordered as higher fence shading for courts 4-6.

AH raised concern regarding the promotion of the Annual Tennis Meeting to encourage more attendance.

The TC discussed ideas to promote the meeting and possibly make it more of a celebration. TC will think about the format for the 2019 meeting and agreed to add a notice to Mycourts in advance. Also agreed to keep to a weekday evening meeting.

#### 2 Reports

# a) Course and Grounds (PB)

## **Outside Courts**

Due to the vast amounts of leaves falling the cleaning/removal of leaves from the courts is proving challenging and the grounds team are trying to keep on top of this. Leaves are blown into piles each morning and collected the same day, yet this does not always mean court playing surfaces are clear from leaves all day. Logistically the team are trying to balance timing to carry out this task and the impact on members.

PL/

TM

PB

TC

AH – The scorers on the net posts have disappeared on some courts.	DS/
PB/DS to look at fixing and possible buying more robust ones.	РВ

DB – The bench on court 4 is coming apart. PB to arrange repair.

PB

#### **Bubble Re-development / ITC**

The new Indoor Tennis Centre (ITC) completion date is on track and works are progressing well. The flooring and materials are been delivered this week. One issue is the lighting cable that runs from reception to the ITC where the lights could be switched on from has been cut and can't be traced. Investigations are ongoing to try find the cable to link back up again and alternative solutions are also being considered.

Official handover date is 30<sup>th</sup> November and hope to have Member use from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

# c) Men's Captain (JM)

NTR

# d) Ladies Captain (CM)

NTR

# e) Tennis Director (DS)

Indoor Courts from Nov 2018 – We are presently alternating Airhall bookings between group coaching and general bookings for the weekday daytime slots. When the Indoor Tennis Centre (ITC) opens, DS will continue to allocate courts in the same way as before with group coaching being situated in the Airhall and general bookings in the ITC.

Indoor Private Lessons – DS intends to continue with the existing process for using indoor courts for private lessons – this permits vacant indoor courts to be booked up to one hour before start of lesson. However, DS would propose that we make a slightly different provision for early morning private lessons. Would the Tennis Committee agree to indoor courts being booked by coaches after 6pm if the lesson is scheduled for a court slot up to 8.30am the following morning? DS would stipulate that at least one indoor court must always remain

vacant in case a Member wanted to make a late indoor booking.

TC agreed.

DS

**ITC Grand Opening** – The possibility of running a 'Pro Am' event in early 2019 to act as an fitting official opening for ITC has been confirmed for 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019 from 2pm to 5pm.

MN has arranged guest Professionals and a Q&A for the event. Details and discussions are ongoing.

MN

**Block Bookings** – The indoor 'block booking' process which usually operates from October will resume from January and we will shortly be inviting Members to sign up for the ballot. Unless informed otherwise, we will operate 'block bookings' in the same way as last winter.

DS

#### TC agreed

Holidays Camps – this year, the junior camps (which include 2 hours of tennis) that operate during the school holidays have continued to grow under the fantastic leadership of Ana Leal. DS pleased to report that we have accommodated approximately 200 different children this year (which does not include those booked on dedicated tennis camps). In addition to the multisport holiday camps, we ran a tennis performance camp during the recent half-term break which was a success and we will plan more of these for 2019.

**No shows** – during the winter period, DS will only adopt the 'three no-shows and then booking suspension' policy on the indoor courts (as opposed to including the outdoor courts). Since the Airhall was installed, no Member has failed to 'check in' more than once so there is no major issue with no-shows at present.

# f) Vets (DS)

NTR

# g) Juniors (DS)

When the ITC opens, we will have one of the three courts isolated with a divider (court one which will be overlooked by the viewing balcony). This raises the possibility of running our Mini Red sessions indoors without worrying about the balls straying onto adjacent courts. In the winter, our 3-8 years currently have weekend sessions on the Mini Tennis courts (behind the squash courts) and parents have frequently requested an indoor option for the weekends during the winter months. We are currently fully subscribed for

weekend Mini Tennis (Sat 10-12.30pm and Sun 9.30-12noon) and if there was the option of bringing these sessions indoors, we would have scope to accommodate more children. Would the Tennis Committee consider allowing this court to be used for Mini Red coaching on weekend mornings? Mini Red Tennis, midweek sessions (Mon and Tues 4-6.15pm) are already indoor – traditionally, the busier weekend morning sessions have been outside which is fine except for the winter months. The cold and wet days are not suitable to coach young children

TC discussed in detail the pros and cons for both adult and junior members and the provision currently being offered.

It was agreed to trial just the Sunday morning for the January to March term to accommodate the juniors indoors, on court 1 with a dividing net.

DS to also investigate other non-peak times where new Mini groups could be set up and use the ITC.

DS

DS

## h) Social

NTR

# i) Liaison Director (DB)

All covered in bubble re-development discussion.

Club development wise 2019 will be a quiet year with the only planned work being the overflow car par in Rosslyn Park taking place. The works need to be carried out on the Club's land and finished by May 2019 ready for the grass court season with Rosslyn Park side works taking place from May when their playing season finishes through to the end of August.

AW – How many extra car parking space will this create? MN –up to 64.

# 3. Masterplan

The Masterplan (version 4) is being discussed with the Committee Representatives this week for feedback to the Board on the conceptual plans. Once the Committee reps have seen this and the Board has received feedback it will then be sent out to the Membership in December for further feedback for the Board to approve in January.

#### 4. AOB

DS informed the TC he will be leaving his role at the Club to take a position at Hurlingham Club.

The TC, whilst sad to loss DS, congratulated him on this appointment and role.

AW – How do we go about recruiting?

MN – Will look at roles and how the Club wants to move forward with all the good work DS has done. TC will be heavily involved, and their input will be requested, in the recruitment process as last time.

DS last working day at Club will be 24 Jan.

PL to provide AH with draft dates for Tennis Committee meetings in 2019

Date of Next meeting 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 @ 5:45pm

PL

