

Minutes of a Meeting of the Tennis Committee held on Tuesday 26th November 2019

Present:

Andrew Wakely (Chairman)

Puk Kroijer

Lily Brown

Jan Menneken (Men's Captain)
David Burditt (Liaison Director)

In Attendance:

Marc Newey (Chief Executive)

Peter Bradburn (Course and Grounds Manager)

Nik Snapes (Tennis Manager)
Dan Lott (Racquets Director)

1. Apologies: Alan Flitcroft, Victoria Stephens, Alessandro Noce, Catherine Michie 2. Minutes from previous meeting: ALL Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th October were discussed and approved. DB Mycourts now has ability to give cancelled court alerts on specific courts. Update has been done and to put up as screen shot on large monitor next to reception. AW as Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and LB and AN as new Committee members. 3. Reports a) Course and Grounds (PB) ITC PB – Leak in ITC court 3 from roof has been fixed externally and seems to have worked. ITC deadline for snagging coming up so any issues need to be brought forward before 9th December. DB mentioned main door not closing properly. This has been flagged and sent to PB relevant parties. PB – Will explore possibility of purchasing a mobile UV light to help grass growth over tennis courts, croquet lawns and golf greens. This will aid growth and help us maintain grass throughout the year. **Courts 15 - 18** DL DL – Has enquired about visiting Royal Berkshire TC as they have the new poroflex courts that drain better. DL to take AW and other TC members to visit, play on and be informed on porosity levels etc by Proflex the installation company with a view to replace 15 - 18 surface in the next two years. 11-14 DB MN- Members have noticed that the light levels in the airhall seem to be getting worse over the years. DB has investigated other options of lighting with Luminance Pro. Adding more external light does not seem to be an option as 30% of it will be reflected resulting in wasted energy and will disturb surrounding area. At present only 70% of the light is getting through. DB noted that best solution would be to light internally with floodlights that can be raised and lowered within the structure. A simulation will be set up to see if this would give us the desired lighting levels. DB to come back with more information when this has MN/ happened. DB/ DL

MN – Airhall life span of 7 years is coming to end. We are due a replacement in 2021 and will explore one with greater transparency but it must meet planning approval.

JM- sunlight in the daytime can be distracting in the airhall also.

DB – current planning states that airhall would need to be transparent.

b) Men's Captain (JM)

I have not much to add to Nik's excellent report in the Roehampton Recorder (replicated below in case you missed it):

Individual successes October has been a busy month of achievements for Roehampton Club players ... Joe Salisbury has had a good run in October making the quarter final of the Shanghai Masters followed by making the final of the ATP 250 in Antwerp and Winning the ATP 500 in Vienna. Joe also made this must-see, ATP World Tour shot of the month: https://bit.ly/JoeSalisbury or https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=dZnPwCZYxig The following results have taken Joe and his partner Rajeev Ram's world doubles team ranking to number six for 2019 with one tournament remaining. If they match the number of points of the pairs just below them in the final tournament then they will finish top eight and qualify for the end-of-year ATP finals at the O2 later this month. You can follow Joe's progress either by watching on Amazon Prime or on the ATP website here https://bit.ly/Follow-Joe or https://www. atptour.com/en/scores/current/paris/352/ draws?matchType=doubles Anton Matusevich has won his first pro-series title in Madrid. 18-year-old Anton, who started competing full time on the men's circuit in July after reaching number eleven in the world in the junior game, has made a fantastic start and the title will take Anton into the 600's when the rankings are released next week. Arthur Fery – Ranked Top 60 in the world junior Arthur played his first men's pro-series events where he managed to beat a top 500 ATP player and make the last 16 of a 25k tournament to get his first ATP points and ranking. Lloyd Glasspool is finishing his year on the American challenger and pro-circuit. He picked up the Oklahoma \$25,000 doubles title in his first week followed by a narrow 3-set singles loss in the Las Vegas £100k to a player ranked inside the top 150 in the world.

Joe lost a very very close match in the group matches to go thru to the semi-final of the ATP dubs final. Two points away, and those were make-able points! Oh well, fantastic year and a great achievement for Joe and Rajeev. Joe is off to Florida soon to train in the LTA training camp and then he is in the squad for the ATP team championships in January down under.

Surrey League and National Club League Teams

The Surrey Winter leagues have started. The 2nd team is struggling with participation for Surrey league matches and we are planning changes for the next seasons (Summer and

JM/N S Winter). The plan is to stop the 2nd team (which is really the 1st team of Roe Club) and instead focus on the National knockout club competitions in the various age groups and have a 4th Team tennis team (National Club League). The lower division Surrey league teams (captained by Duncan Jones and Joerg Alting) will remain unaffected.

JM - 3 teams in the Surrey League at present. 2nds, 3rds, 4ths. We should take 2^{nd} team out as none of players seem interested in the Surrey League. Would rather play team tennis event with singles as well as doubles. Therefore, suggested we enter a 3^{rd} and 4^{th} team tennis team next year.

NS - We will also pull the 18 and under boys' and girls' team from the Surrey League and give them the opportunity if good enough to play in the new team tennis teams.

JM – We could then also enter some vets' knockout competitions as well.

LB – Could we also enter interclub next year as we missed the chance last year?

TC – agreed with JM and NS suggestions as above and a new National 4th team will be introduced.

Block Bookings

JM – Why do we have block bookings, seems to be the same people who get them and when it's so tough to book indoor courts surely this shouldn't be the case?

TC – discussed the principle of block bookings and agreed to readdress this at the next meeting when all the Committee was present.

c) Ladies' Captain (CM)

Roehampton Club now has a huge number of teams in the ladies' section, both midweek and weekends. I would like to thank all captains for their hard work in organising fixtures and recruiting for matches as well as the players for making themselves available.

National Premier league (Winter) -

The Club has entered a Ladies' team and our 1st team has got off to an excellent start, beating Southampton Uni 4-0 and drawing 2-2 with the Solent.

Surrey league -

1st team - division 2 - captain Sophie Cockell

The 1st team have played just one match, losing 4-0 to Byfleet. The next match will be Sunday 1st December v St George's.

2nd team - division 5 - captains Annabel Gomme and Katie Hiatt The 2nd team have drawn their only match of the league, 2-2 v David Lloyd Woking. The next match will be 1st December v Walton. CM

CM

3rd team - division 8 - captain Vanessa Walker The 3rd team posted a 4-0-win v Godalming and a draw v West Surrey. They sit 2nd in the division, playing Sheen next on 15th December. Midweek Surrey league 1st team - division 5 Captain Natalie Lindsay The 1st team lost their opening match 1-3 to sheen. They play Westside next on 20th December. 2nd team - division 8 Captain Sue Burns The 2nd team sit 3rd in the division after a 4-0 win over Magdalen Park. The next match is 20th December v Pensford. 3rd team - division 10 Captain Susan Stewart The 3rd team will play their first match on 20th December v Westside Ladies indoor club league 1st team The 1 st team sit 3rd in division 1 have won one and lost two matches NS 2nd team Lie 4th in division 2 after 2 matches - beating Campden hill and losing to riverside 3rd team Sit 4th after 3 losses to Campden hill, Notting hill and riverside NS d) Tennis Manager's Report (NS) **Adult Teams** Men's 1 and Ladies 1 have had 1 win and 1 loss in the first two fixtures of national doubles league. We have stronger teams for the December fixture and if we get NS good teams out over the season, we will still be on track to make national finals. - We are looking forward to hosting the celebrating 2019 tennis night on 28th November. We have arranged for team photos for those teams that won their respective leagues, organised banners for the ITC for winning teams and unbeaten players and invited the entire tennis membership to attend the event. We hope this is a successful as it something we would like to run on an annual basis. It is important that we try and record some of the great tennis achievements both individually and NS/D as a Club for the future as well as making all Members competing feel important and 1 part of the same club community. - The new members such as Valentina and Jessica Dhome-Cassanova have both being playing for the Club and have won 3 out of 4 in the national doubles league. - I have put all new members of team level into the team whatsapp group to help them NS meet the other members of a similar standard. - The pro-players Joe, Arthur, Lloyd and Anton had a very successful end of season and

this was communicated to all Members in the Recorder. I will continue to do this on

a monthly basis along with team updates, junior successes, a practice drill and any upcoming events etc.

Junior Tennis

- The junior national league has been running since September with 7 out of 9 team qualified for the knock out stages. We have 1 team that has one match remaining that may also qualify.
- We are running a junior tennis party for the juniors on 30th November which is a similar theme to the adult event where we will celebrate the team and individual successes of the juniors and thank all the captains and parents that have helped over the course of the year.
- Course renewals will start for January from Jan 1st with the early bird reduction continuing to encourage members to sign up early so we can plan in advance and reduce any court wastage especially in the first few weeks of Jan. We are over 400 at present and we expect to see a small reduction in seasonal change but nothing major.
- The LTA have changed competition age to year of birth rather than 6-month academic year which means that there is a lot of movement in groups this January.
- We have rotated some of the private tuition requests for Saturdays into Chris and Paul's slots as the first 12-week term has come to an end and the new one begins in January. It has been much better received from a Member perspective as we can now inform enquiring members that there are lessons available in the next term.
 The 45 min slots have also allowed a greater quantity of Members to be taught.

Board Liaison

DB – Spoke with Mycourts about adding padel to booking system. DL to arrange meeting with Miles with DB, NS to go through all issues and upgrades.

DB – Masterplan all going ahead. Although quiet year in terms of development with only padel planned next year. Architects have been selected for Clubhouse and Pro Shop development schemes to be worked up in 2020.

e) Racquets Director (DL)

Tennis Teams

Roehampton Club Men's and Ladies 1st teams are competing in the National Premier League over the winter. If we qualify for the finals, they will be held in Leeds in March 2020. All other teams have been entered in the Wilson Winter Surrey League. We have also entered a mixed team knockout competition that Mark Young is captaining. The London Club Midweek league has restarted with some new captains. Ali Jacobs has taken over the

DL/N S

DL

DL

Division 1 side, Sue Burns had been made captain of the newly formed 2nd team and Emily Monson remains the captain for the division 3 team.

The juniors are competing in the Junior Team trophy with teams in the under 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 categories.

Mojjo

The mojo camera system was installed on court 1 of the ITC in October. Member feedback has been very positive with lots of Members using it. I did a demonstration for Danny Gesua's group who all seemed to want to try it out, and I will continue to advertise it and make myself available to show members who are interested. I am currently waiting to hear back from Mojjo to see if they can add the best of 15 game format to it so members can use it to analysis their league matches.

DL/N S

DL

Tennis Course Bookings

The group lessons this term will finish on the 15th December. All tennis course bookings will open on 1st December. The early bird discount will end on the 29th December. The lessons will start on Monday 6th January 2020. I would like to thank the Committee for the use of the ITC court 1 for juniors on a Saturday morning. This has worked well for the younger children now the weather is turning colder. Parents have been able to watch the session from the viewing balcony and it's been efficient for the coaches as they can access the mini nets and equipment easily.

Team Success Party

Nik and I will be hosting a party for all Roehampton Club teams to celebrate a successful year on court on the 28^{th} November. We have invited all winning teams to come at 6pm and have a photo taken in the ITC.

NS / DL

18 -35's Social Tennis

To help increase the participation for this age group I have started a social night on Monday at 7:30pm till 9pm. I have over 60 players on the mailing list and around 20 regular players.

LTA Venue Registration

I have now completed the process of registering the club with the LTA for the coming year. This allows us to be affiliated with the LTA and qualifies us for a range of benefits, the main one being the Wimbledon Ballot. Members will have until the 14th February 2020 to opt in and be entered in the draw. This year the tennis team will hold a social event to reveal the ballot winners. Details will be confirmed early next year.

PL

Christmas Tournaments and Events

I will be running various Christmas sessions in December around the current programme: -

7th December 1pm to 3pm - Christmas Parent and Child Tournament

9th December 7:30pm to 9pm – 18 – 35's Christmas Social Tournament

12th December 1:30pm to 3:30pm – Vets Matchplay Christmas Tournament

19th December 9am to 11am – Ladies Christmas Morning

Padel:

Planning application has been submitted (w/c 11/11) for 2 Padel Courts and a Mini tennis court. The application includes a canopy cover over 1 Padel court and floodlighting on all 3 courts. Part of the planning application includes potential use of the facilities for a Rackets Cubed after school programme.

Rackets Cubed

The Friday 1:30 – 3pm tennis session continues to run with the winter provision of the Airhall for the Tennis. The 2020 Charity Fundraiser will be held at Roehampton Club and combine both Squash and Tennis on the same day as well as a large gala dinner. **Save the date:** 20/6/20. The Charity has been awarded a large scaling grant and will be looking to add 20 more sites over the next 12/18 months.

UK and Ireland CTC Event

Roehampton will host the UK Centenary Clubs Challenge event on the 22nd August 2020. This will comprise of other Centenary clubs coming to the club to compete. Followed by dinner and dancing in the evening.

AOB

DL – Indoor courts continue to be a problem with many members not able to get a court. Tennis team has thought about a way to relieve the pressure.

Option

- All indoor courts booking go to 60 minutes max. The league changes to best of 13 games with sudden death deuce. At 7-7 in games a 7-point tie break is played.
- + more chances of getting more games played inside resulting in more complete league results. Accurate promotions and relegations.
- + Stops certain members/families monopolising courts.
- + no court time wasted with matches finishing early leaving empty court.
- + free up court time for members wanting indoor courts

AW – agrees this would free up more court time for other Members. However, the doubles seem short going to 15 games so not sure we should do this with doubles.

PL

DL

TC- agreed to trial this in the New Year. But only for singles and only in the ITC. The airhall would remain 90 min booking slots. Doubles league scoring will remain 15 games. All block booking would also go to 60mins from January.

DL – late cancellations and no shows still an issue. Members get very frustrated when courts are released close to booking time. Members are booking courts to secure court and then cancelling if they can't find a game.

AW – agreed this needs to be addressed.

DL – suggested 24-hour cancellation policy. If a Member cancels within that time, they receive a warning then a ban for booking indoor courts.

TC – agreed that 24 hours was too long, 12 hours more reasonable.

AW – Suggested if court cancelled within 12 hours or a no show then a Member would get a yellow warning asking them not to do it again. If it does happen again within 30 days, they would receive amber warning resulting in a 1 week booking ban. If it was to happen for a third time within 30 days, it would be a red and a 30-day booking ban for indoor courts.

The Committee agreed that the issue needed addressing quickly and agreed to roll this policy out over the next few weeks.

Date of next meeting

5th February 2020 - all to attend please to discuss Block bookings.

