

## YOUNG MEMBER FORUM MEETING

5<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**In attendance:** Simon Baker, Esther Van De Pette, Stuart Reeks, Dan Lott, Issy Simpson, Hannah Mason, Max Lawaczeck, Debora Drago and Carolyn Ward (minutes)

**Apologies:** Marc Newey, Ricky Pharo, Nikki Clark, Oliver Milton, Emma Powell, Olivia Huxtable, Peter Crocombe, Dani Huleatt, Vitalii Sanduliac, Helen Bolt, Tom Groom and Patrick McPhillips

### 1. Welcome

*Apologies were noted.*

### 2. Minutes and matters arising – 24/2/26

*SB went through the minutes and action points from the last meeting.*

FEB25/07: Booths in the bandstand and Reading room – idea to be raised again at House Committee due to phone call complaints – **Complete.**

DD informed the Forum that the phone booth had been ordered and there was a lead time of 10 weeks.

Have received costings for the Bandstand and are looking to upgrade that room, looking at splitting the space between a professional working area and a teen hangout area. OM is looking at getting the right balance.

It was noted that the Polo Room is available for phone calls. The current take up is 4 – 5 regulars who use this room when available.

HM asked if they could have more plug sockets in the workspace in the reading room.

DD explained that they have explored getting more sockets and she has spoken to the Maintenance team who will look at providing extension leads for the Reading Room and Polo Room.

SEPT25/01: Look at buying a screen – Screen to be rented from 13<sup>th</sup> May until end of July – **Complete.**

DL explained that the Screen will arrive 13<sup>th</sup> May and will take a couple of days to set up. They have not bought a screen because of the issue of taking down and storing it.

SEPT25/02: Polo Room use on Mondays and Fridays to be promoted – In Progress (will be promoted in the Top Ten email to Members and next month's Recorder) – **Complete.**

SEPT25/03: MN to cost up the Bandstand for one booth and go back to the House Committee for consideration – **Complete.**

SEPT25/04: OM to ask for the Smoking Policy to be tabled on the House Agenda and feedback to the YMF – **Carry Forward.**

It was noted that current policy restricts smoking to designated areas, the Visitors Carpark and front of the Clubhouse.

Young Member Forum debated whether there should be another smoking zone to attract members and guests who want smoking areas for socialising, like they have at Hurlingham or should we discourage smoking in more keeping with a Health Club image.

YMF did not think it would be appropriate for there to be a smoking zone under the Terrace, especially as the new play area is there. Possible zone could be the other side of wall in the alcove by croquet lawn 4.

**Action: DD will take back to the House Committee for a policy review.**

SEPT25/05: Bar Age Policy (allowing 12 – 16-year-olds in the bar) - MN will review and come back to the whole membership with clarification – Trial has been extended to June – **Closed.**

FEB26/01: Any ideas from a young member perspective on how to improve the facilities at the Club to be passed to OM/DD so they can be raised at the House Committee – **Ongoing.**

FEB26/02: HB to upload to the website pictures of the steak night / bistro evening to encourage younger members to book – **Complete.**

FEB26/03: DL to send out a Racquets round up to the younger membership – **Carry Forward.**

DL explained that he has not specifically set up anything for the younger membership and believes that the best way forward is to build up the Tennis WhatsApp group rather than having one specifically for the under 35s.

It was noted that there is a QR code for sign up or there is a link available on the website for members wishing to receive information regarding upcoming tennis tournaments and events. DL will also message members to inform them if the tennis courts are closed and the Young Member Forum debated if instead everyone was sent general messages if a tennis community could be set up with sub-groups by age/interest.

SB advised that they are doing some work to improve the IT digital journey and Member experience and are down to the final two companies who will help them to create a Club app but will look for a short-term solution until the app is ready.

YMF **agreed** that there should be 1 Tennis WhatsApp group, to be used for standard messages and to also promote tennis matches etc.

**Action: SB will look to see if he can add community groups.**

The Young Member Forum suggested that if there are any upcoming Tennis events advertised in the Recorder that there are reminders sent 2 days before the event as well.

**The minutes from the 24<sup>th</sup> February meeting were approved.**

### **3. Health Club**

*Update given by Stuart Reeks.*

#### Gym Equipment Upgrade Plans

SR advised that the current Technogym lease expires December 2026. Ricky recently met with other suppliers at a trade show in Germany. SR is looking at creating a small working group to visit each supplier that has been recommended, will go to their sites/head office.

SR explained that Technogym are quick to sell new equipment but anything that needs to be fixed / upgraded they are a bit slow to resolve. Lead time for parts is an issue as they are based in Italy, so it takes weeks for stuff to arrive. It was noted that Virgin Active have signed a 25 year lease with Technogym and are now trying to exit that deal.

Spin Bikes and TG Ride bikes have been upgraded; these are on a separate lease for another 2 years.

#### Health Club Activities and Programs

Hyrox events – December competition planned (replay and doubles). Will get a certain number of tickets for the Club. Two classes available, Monday 10am and Saturday 11am on outdoor lawn. Classes can be booked via ESP and if anyone is interested in the December event to speak to either Lucy or Ricky.

Outdoor Gym – Now open and supervised by a gym instructor, there is no need to book. Gym is available Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9am – 12pm.

Monday – Thursday, 4pm – 6.30pm.

Weekend: Saturday 2pm – 5pm and Sunday 10am – 1pm, also available for Juniors.

Went live 1<sup>st</sup> May and will run throughout the Summer, will be advertised in the Recorder and posters.

Gym challenges for 125 – In April did a step challenge, In May – how many classes you can attend, mini challenges and prizes. In June – number of challenges based round 125.

Sound Bath Classes – once a month on a Sunday at 5pm in Studio 1. Next classes, 10<sup>th</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> June. Could look to do more but it depends on the availability of the instructor.

New body composition scanner on trial – screen is smaller for privacy. Links to GP systems for medical integration.

Young Member Forum asked if this could be integrated into the quarterly PT assessments. SR agreed that it could be and to book through Ricky.

**Action MAY26/01: Stuart to speak to the rep to see what other brands are available.**

#### Swimming and Water Activities

125 Adult swim gala vs Hurlingham 17<sup>th</sup> June. Social event with trophy presentation. Adult swim coaching Monday/Wednesday 7pm – book through ESP. Sue Wilson is looking at swim fit classes and technique sessions, she is a keen river swimmer and will be looking to do a lake event.

Plunge Pool – busy and down to 8 degrees, induction required and the wearing of a yellow band which notifies the lifeguard on duty that the member has been inducted.

HM suggested a cold-water course / Wim Hoff style breathing workshop or maybe a Reformer class and the cold plunge afterwards with drinks afterwards.

**Action MAY26/02: HM to send SR details for a course that is a mix of breathing and plunge.**

#### **4. Food & Beverage / Social Events**

*DD gave a quick update to YMF.*

A lot of things happening in May, they have finished wine tasting and will be adding 2 more wines. They will be introducing a 125 celebration English sparkling wine that will be sold in small bottles.

They will be launching happy hour from 5pm – 6pm, 2 for 1 cocktails / beers. Small bowls of snacks will be available with an additional supplement of £2 for top ups.

Outdoor service expansion – Piazza and Terrace both operational. Pizza oven open pool side with a buzzer delivery system, which will be advertised in the next few days.

DD was asked if members could use their member card to pay for drinks outside by the screen so they can use their levy. DD confirmed that the new tablets are an updated version which includes the functionality needed for members to use their membership cards when ordering food and drinks.

Upcoming events – Call my Bluff, 24<sup>th</sup> September and 2<sup>nd</sup> October.  
Russell Cooke Digital Assets Workshop – 9<sup>th</sup> September.

IS asked if there could be more community get togethers across different playing sports, maybe a pub quiz once per month on a Friday but for under 35s. DD explained that they have tried this in the past, but attendance was low but now they have the new rooms this might be more of an appealing place to be.

DD was asked if 10 tickets could be held, or a table reserved for young members for the curry & quiz nights and for call my bluff event.

**Action MAY26/03: YMF members to submit ideas and different themes that would attract younger members to the Club, based on a minimum number of 20 people.**

EDVP asked the YMF if they have purchased tickets for the 125 Summer Party.

YMF members have not purchased tickets and felt they were too expensive, possibly would have purchased them if they were half the price. Also felt that the music on offer were aimed at an older audience.

DD explained that they have contacted suppliers to help subsidise the event and at the moment 50+ demographic has signed up for the event.

HM didn't think every event needed to include younger members, it is ok to aim at general membership and not any specific demographics.

It was noted that younger members may be interested in attending the Racquets Club nights, free to come and there are drinks afterwards. IGC will also attract younger people and they will show the World Cup on the big screen so can organise drinks before the match.

YMF thought the food was great, team and service.

DD explained that Kevin became Head Chef January 2025, and his focus has been delivering high quality whilst keeping to budget.

## 5. Sports

### Racquets update

*DL gave a brief update on the upcoming events.*

- Tennis grass courts open this weekend.
- 125 event: Racquet Club Night and exhibition.
- Member Guest Day – 4<sup>th</sup> July, free to bring guest.
- Big Screen will arrive 13<sup>th</sup> May, looking at the configuration, will be some tables and director chairs.
- Hosting National Premier League over the Bank Holiday, pro-level of tennis being played on the grass courts, with the final Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May. Drinks will be available from the Van by the Piazza.
- Club Championships finals 20<sup>th</sup> June (Adults) and 21<sup>st</sup> June (Juniors).
- Court improvements – new gates for courts 17 – 18 and air handling unit for courts 7 – 10 to fix heating issues.
- Pickleball still going strong, Thursdays and Friday afternoon 12 – 4pm.
- Padel guest policy – change in policy, now only 1 guest per member.

DL advised that he could do some ad-hoc tournaments, Sunday afternoon / evening when the courts are quiet and suggested he launches this early June after 5pm on a Sunday. DL cannot guarantee that he or someone else will be around to oversee these events so young members will need to cancel the courts that he blocks if not being used.

**Action MAY26/04: DL to block book 3 courts from early June after 5pm on a Sunday for a Young Members tournament.**

#### Golf update

- SB advised that the 125 golf events are underway.
- IGC project is progressing and will be open February 2027.
- Looking at programming some events in IGC especially in winter months.
- Netting on 1<sup>st</sup> tee, will remove gates.
- Box Golf unit has been installed and will be used for coaching purposes, have leased for 1 year but looking to extend and keep for the junior programme.

SB explained that it is difficult to run events by age as more about ability. They could look to do a 9 hole event in the evening followed by social afterwards.

IS said it would be good if they could do a 6 or 9 hole competition as they have the three majors coming up and this could be watched in the bar afterwards.

#### **6. Masterplan 2035 update / Board updates**

SB explained that the key projects were the IGC and applying for 5 padel courts with canopies.

Health Club – Would like to expand this area, looking at reconfiguring the reception area so they can fit in another studio, but this would not be for another 5 years.

New CEO will start end of June and do a handover with Marc.

AGM – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June, will be moved to a Sunday the following year to encourage more members to attend that have families, members do need to be 35+ as you need to hold shares in order to vote. Looking to do electronic voting in the future.

#### **7. AOB**

YMF were reminded that there are free 125 gifts available to collect from reception.

#### **8. Date of next meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2026.**

### Action Summary

| No.       | DATE    | ACTIONS   | BY     | STATUS        |
|-----------|---------|---|--------|---------------|
| FEB25/07  | 12/2/25 | Booths in the Bandstand and Reading room – idea to be raised again at House Committee due to phone call complaints.   | OM     | Complete      |
| SEPT25/02 | 9/9/25  | Polo Room to be promoted – will be promoted in the Top Ten email to Members and next month's Recorder.  | HB     | Complete      |
| SEPT25/03 | 9/9/25  | MN to cost up the Bandstand for one booth and go back to the House Committee for consideration.   | MN     | Complete      |
| SEPT25/04 | 9/9/25  | OM to ask for the Smoking Policy to be tabled on the House Agenda and feedback to the YMF. <b>DD will take back to the House Committee for a policy review.</b> | OM     | Carry Forward |
| FEB26/01  | 24/2/26 | Any ideas from a young member perspective on how to improve the facilities at the Club to be passed to OM so they can be raised at the House Committee.         | YMF/OM | Ongoing       |
| FEB26/02  | 24/2/26 | HB to upload to the website pictures of the steak night / bistro evening to encourage younger members to book.  | HB     | Complete      |
| FEB26/03  | 24/2/26 | DL to send out a Racquets round up to the younger membership. <b>SB will look to see if he can add community groups.</b>  | DL     | Carry Forward |
| MAY26/01  | 5/5/26  | <b>Body composition scanner – Stuart to speak to the rep to see what other brands are available.</b>  | SR     |               |
| MAY26/02  | 5/5/26  | <b>HM to send SR details for a course that is a mix of breathing and plunge.</b>  | HM     |               |
| MAY26/03  | 5/5/26  | <b>YMF members to submit ideas and different themes that would attract younger members to the Club, based on a minimum number of 20 people.</b>                 | YMF    |               |
| MAY26/04  | 5/5/26  | <b>DL to block book 3 courts from early June after 5pm on a Sunday for a Young Members tournament.</b>  | DL     |               |