

## Woking Squash Racquets Club

### Committee Meeting

14<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017

Attending:

Jackie Thorogood (JT)

Kerryn Bartlett (KB)

Stewart Perry (SP)

Mark Watts (MW)

James Dyer (JD)

Jez Foulsham (JF)

David Domett (DD)

#### Reminder of Club Mission Statement:

To support the **growth** of squash by offering members an **inclusive** and **friendly** club providing **excellent facilities** promoting **participation** and support to players of all ages and abilities who **enjoy** competitive and recreational squash at an **affordable** level

**Growth:** We MUST support the growth of squash for the future of the sport, this word encapsulates the need to develop young players, invest in coaching, it also takes account of our obligation to ensure that membership numbers are appropriate etc.

**Inclusive:** means ALL abilities, ethnicities; giving all members the same opportunity to participate in whichever way they prefer, whether this is team squash, leagues, friendlies or just social engagement.

**Friendly:** We should welcome members and guests and fulfil a role that promotes a club culture and the social/community benefits of membership. We should engage with new members

**Excellent Facilities:** We should aim to have great courts, a well-stocked bar, clean and safe environment. We cannot compete with multi-sport clubs with high membership on facilities, but we can ensure that we invest when we need to protect, maintain and invest in our facilities within the constraints of our funds.

**Participation:** This covers, court usage (for squash and Racquetball). We should make it easy for members to book courts, incentivising them to book and use the facilities including the bar and bar area. Team squash, club nights, leagues and other events that promote participation should carefully balance against the need to protect social squash.

**Enjoy:** Members and guests should see membership as essential annual expenditure and become ambassadors, promoting the club through their passion for the club and the sport.

**Affordable:** Membership costs, bar prices and team tariffs should be competitive and set at a level to allow investment that helps the club to meet the obligations set out in the mission statement

**Actions / Decisions agreed:**

**GROWTH / PARTICIPATION**

**Tournaments**

Next year the tournaments should be back to the normal time – May. Suggestion to have separate racquetball tournament at a different time. Debrief in Nov following these tournaments and decide on format going forward

**No Shows and late cancellations**

Agreed and implemented an outline of rules which has been circulated to members – this is consistent with our current bye-law 8 which already provides for penalties for consistent offenders.

Now gone live with the new penalty system

**New Committee Members required**

After many years on the Committee, both Freddie and Graham have now stood down

Many thanks to both of them for all they have done for the Club;

SP has taken over as Membership Secretary

DD is now Vice Chair

**AGM was held Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Oct 7.30.**

The minutes have been uploaded to the website

### **Horsell Market Participation**

Attendance at the Horsell Christmas market on 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec has been agreed - £25 for a stand, gazebo, chairs. We will use the leaflets left from last year. Note gone to members to see who else keen to participate. Aim is to attract new members – particularly off peak

### **Social Events**

JF to organise Christmas Walking Tour on 15<sup>th</sup> Dec

### **Ladies Team / New lady members**

We currently have no ladies team

Suggestion to pay for one or two high level lady players. May then get a new ladies team.

Plan to be devised for the attraction of new members

Sukhy / Jackie have run a 4-week racketball course on Friday mornings to attract beginner, off peak ladies. 9 ladies attended. A further course to be offered in Jan

Referral fee for introducing new members – re promote this to encourage referrals. £20 bar vouchers. / £10 off peak

A meeting has been arranged with a local print company to discuss designing and printing some welcome packs for new members

### **Junior members**

Chris Bartlett asked a question about the committees view re the junior section and should we invest more time / money into this? He suggested that other clubs have a larger junior section. The committee will discuss our vision for the junior section and if we have any available resources to invest in this, at the next committee meeting

A meeting is being held next Tuesday (21<sup>st</sup> Nov) by SSRA at West Byfleet to discuss the development of squash in Surrey. Kerryn and Sukhy will be attending on our behalf. Suggest we wait for his update before proceeding further.

### **Club Night**

It was raised that sometimes club night members did not always make new members welcome. It was discussed that new members could attend 7.30 – 9pm. Possibly have a member's club night after 9pm for doubles. Beginners club night Sunday to be discussed. Also, the possibility of a Friday am club morning.

## **Teams**

A question was raised at the AGM as to whether we should drop the Men's team down to 3 as court availability is an issue. It was agreed that we should prioritise to get a ladies team for next season. Made a change to the court times so not so many being used for matches. Free up Thursdays if we make changes to club night. Vintage 1 and Racketball to play on Fridays.

## **Welfare Officer**

Mark – DBS checked. Got details of NSPC course. To advertise Mark as point of contact for juniors

## **Team shirts for the winter season**

1<sup>st</sup> team having specific shirts with the sponsorship on them. They must wear the sponsors shirts in team matches

Offer non-branded shirts for all members to buy. Encourage teams to wear

## **Defib**

Refresher First Aid and Defib course was organised by JT and offered to all members. 12 members attended.

MW to update the First Aid Kits

## **FACILITIES/OUTSTANDING MAINTENANCE**

JD investigating and obtaining quotes for (also see attached quote):

- New front door– been in touch with 2 door companies. Now looking into commercial door companies – anthracite grey / glass panel. JD to chase
- Ceilings also need to be cleaned / patched / painting – James to sort himself
- Outside fire escape door to be painted
- Water fountain for front entrance hall for plumbed in solution. Bottle filler only - £178 for plumbing. Need to research on the actual fountain. Put by under stairs small cupboard. To investigate – email quote this week. Poss. second-hand fountain – JD to source
- Courtmasters and other banner to be removed from Dec. and put new sponsors banners up. JD to get another independent quote for removal of current banners on courts.
- Hedges to cut back – source quote.
- change rusty electric box / fan– SP/JD
- Get new small board for upstairs (like the ones downstairs)
- Renew paper towel dispenser in men's changing room

- New hairdryer for ladies changing room
- Heating – thermostat replaced tonight. Need to replace TRVs. £800. James to get 2<sup>nd</sup> quote, also boilers need the annual gas check and service
- Come up with an annual maintenance list
- Light switch in under stairs cupboard needs fixing

**Courts**

All been re-laid and new glass balustrades on courts 1 and 2

**Lease**

Only 23 years left on lease.

Our land and the cricket club owned by Horsell Sports Ground Association (our Landlord). Mathew Glazier being invited to attend the club to get him on side. Aim to acquire some for the land and extend the lease. Need to find out the parent company of Horsell Sports Ground or the decision maker or are they a registered independent charity – FL – asap – can we buy the Freehold?

JD/FL established that Woking council own our neighbouring land

Lesley Phillips / David Bromley has been contacted to find out the background / owners of the club. Having an AGM and they will come back to MW – FL may attend

Freddie spoke to Council must keep verges green so won't allow parking – unless there is a compelling case that club can't function without them.

Can we get access right from Arthurs Bridge road? Could we get more parking at the back or negotiate the triangle at the back of part of the cricket ground? Possibility of a shared car park with the cricket club.

Arrange meeting with the council

**Bar area**

Subgroup re bar area project –to discuss and bring to committee

CCTV sign to be put up outside club	
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**Affordable / Finances**

**Sponsorship**

GGR to run the sponsorship - £2250 to be paid per year, over 3 years

**Coffee Machine**

Leigh Martin asked again about having a coffee machine at the club and it was agreed this would be investigated. – decided to serve and sell tea, coffee behind bar. Buy little milk sachets – MW reply to Leigh

Next Meeting: **Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Dec**