

Wiltshire Squash Rackets Association
Minutes of the AGM - Wednesday 9th September 2009
Venue: The Wellington Pub, Marlborough, 7:30pm

Present	Mike Stannard	(Chairman)
	Clive Morgan	(Treasurer)
	Derek Bray	(Winter League Secretary)
	Neil Marshman	(Summer League Secretary)
	Dean Watkins	(Junior coordinator)
	Mike Hyland	(Member/Minutes)

Club Representatives	Kevin Jones	Nightingale
	Jim Conway	Trowbridge

Apologies	Stefan Smith	
	Howard Wilson	(Secretary)
	Richard Holdway	(Marking/Ref. Rep)
	Nigel Rowe	
	Neville Buckle	
	Simon Lucas	

Handouts	Treasurer's Report	Clive Morgan
	Accounts for 2008/09	Clive Morgan

Following introductions and apologies, Mike Stannard led the meeting with the following agenda.

1. Previous AGM Minutes

Acceptance of the previous minutes was proposed by MH and seconded by DB.

2. Presentation/Adoption of accounts

CM presented the Treasurers Report and accounts (attached). The accounts were adopted for 2008/09. In 08/09 the registration fees were increased to £5pp for 3 or more games - as a result the income this year was less than the previous year. We agreed, therefore, that fees would be discussed as an AOB item.

3. Election of the Management Committee

None of the committee expressed a wish to give up their post and with no challenge to any of the existing positions the committee remains the same. However, NM requested some help with the Summer League and DB agreed to help by collecting and publishing results - NM would continue to prepare the fixtures list and set-up the Summer League for next year. DW agreed to remain as Junior Co-ordinator for the time being but is discussing with a possible replacement or someone to share the load.

4. Annual Reports

i. Junior Branch

DW had managed to raise £1000 from Swindon Borough Council(SBC) in 08/09 (in the name of Wiltshire Squash) but specifically for using in the Swindon Borough - there were tight requirements by the SBC on how that money was to be spent and

DW complied with those requirements to spend that money to a plan. These were coaching fees and equipment costs aimed at youngsters within the Borough. Dean has again, this year, raised the same amount but this time as a specific club (Wessex) rather than Wiltshire Squash and would be specifically aimed at Teenagers. Dean stressed that these funds were available in other councils and boroughs across the county and encouraged clubs to apply for their part of the world. He now has a 'standard' template that can be used - contact DW if interested.

MS congratulated Neil Marshman - Neil is now a licensed Level 2 Coach - one of only 3 in the county (fully licensed).

ii. **Summary of League Activity**

a. **Winter League**

DB reported that last year's leagues ran OK. Next Gen 2 dropped-out last year which caused a problem with fixtures. He is still awaiting final entry numbers for the 2009/10 season but hopes that it will once again be 4 divisions with 6 teams in each. Leagues to start in w/c 28th September 2009.

b. **Summer League**

Just 8 teams entered. No issues reported but next year would like some help to make sure the results are reported more regularly. The Ed Mainwaring Cup was won by DA against Wessex in a tight final.

iii. **Summary of Tournaments**

a. **Mens Senior Closed (Nightingale)**

- Winner Simon White from Paul Clark, Plate Dave Ridgeway
- 31 Entries

b. **Mens O35 Closed (Oasis)**

- Winner Julian Beckett from Paul Clark, Plate Mike Hyland
- 16 Entries

c. **Mens O45 Closed (Wessex)**

- Winner Paul Clark from Gary Preston, Plate Mike Hyland
- 12 Entries

d. **Doubles Closed (Wessex)**

- To be played 10th Oct 09
- ? pairs

It was another good year for the closed tournaments with entry numbers showing a slight increase in the Seniors event. The move of the doubles tournament to October was a popular one and has been retained for 09. Entry fees discussed in AOB.

iv. **Summary of Inter-County Activity**

a. **Mens Seniors - not represented**

b. **Mens O35 - Nigel Rowe**

- Stage 1 – Division 2 C - (1) Devon, (2) Cornwall, (3) Wiltshire
- Stage 2 – Division 2 B - (1) Oxfordshire, (2) Hertfordshire, (3) Wiltshire

c. **Mens O45 - Dean Watkins**

- Stage 1 – Division 1 South A - (1) Wiltshire, (2) Devon, (3) Dorset, (4) Wiltshire

- Stage 2 – not represented
- d. **Mens O50 - Clive Morgan**
 - Stage 1 - (1) Middlesex, (2) Warwickshire, (3) Wiltshire
 - Stage 2 – there was no stage 2
- v. **Other Events**
 - a. **Markers Course**

MS reported that there was a Markers course held last year at the Oasis.
CM reported that there will be one next month (October) at Marlborough. CM to email details.

There followed a discussion on the level of marking in the county and a desire by the committee to make sure that all players have access to a markers course and attend on a regular basis. As a start it was agreed that we would like the Referee's Representative (RH) to hold a list (to be published) of attendees and their attendance date - action: MS to talk to RH.
- vi. **Proposals for next season**
 - i. **Tournaments**
 - a. **Seniors Closed**
 - 16/17 Jan. 2010
 - Dean Watkins to Organise
 - Venue: Nightingale
 - b. **O35 Closed**
 - 13/14 Mar. 2010
 - Mike Hyland to Organise
 - Venue: TBA subject to prices from Marl and Wessex.)
 - c. **O45 Closed**
 - 24/25 Apr. 2010
 - Clive Morgan and Jim Conway to Organise
 - Venue: Trowbridge
 - d. **Doubles Closed**
 - 10 Oct. 2009
 - Organiser Howard Wilson
 - Venue: Wessex
 - ii. **Inter-County Teams**
 - **O35**
 - Captain: Nigel Rowe
 - 7/8 Nov '09 and Stage 2 - 20/21 Feb '10
 - a. **O45**
 - Captain: Dean Watkins
 - 28/29 Nov '09 and Stage 2 - 30/31 Jan '10
 - b. **O50**
 - Captain: Clive Morgan
 - 17/18 Oct '09 and Stage 2 - 9/10 Jan '10
 - iii. **Player Registration Proposal**

There was a proposal last year by NM around registrations. It was agreed that NM would check registrations vs appearances. The consensus was that there were a number of breaches of the rule (pay-up if 3 or more appearances). There is agreement that an online database needs to be kept but nobody is volunteering to run it.
- vii. **A.O.B.**
 - It was agreed that the Licensed Coach CRB fee (£48) would be paid for by the Wilts SRA.

- a. MH reported that Highworth Rec were keen to host a squash team in the county leagues. They would possibly be prepared to offer block booking discounts and some BOGOF courts. Please pass on this information.
- b. There was agreement that we need to make sure that players are up-to-date with rules and rule changes. DB suggested that we can send out email updates on this based around the features in Squash Player magazine. action: MH and DB to organise.
- c. There was a discussion around player on-court behaviour (esp. toward markers). the incident last season emphasised that the procedure put in place if effective. There should be some further encouragement on the website - Action MH/DB. MH raised the issue of consistency of markers. AGM agreed to adopting a common sense policy with suitable warnings.
- d. The committee agreed to keep the existing player/team registration fee by DB to now enforce the 3 game rule. To be reviewed at next committee meeting in Jan '10 - NM to monitor.
- e. DW suggested that £5 is too cheap for the tournament entry fee. The committee agreed to keep the fee at £5 for this season but inform entrants that next year (10/11) it will double to £10.
- f. KJ Suggested a change in the Winter League format - teams of 4 rather than 5 and the advantages that come with that. The committee agreed and this has been discussed previously over the years. The target would be from Jan '10 onwards. Actions: MH to put a vote on the website; DB to ask team captains.
- g. The Summer League format was discussed. We have agreed to a change. Next summer (2010) will see teams of 4 players playing all singles in a competitive manor (ie. captains will not pre-arrange suitable players). To satisfy the doubles players there will be two doubles individual events (where your partner is chosen out of a hat). One will be at Nightingale on Christmas eve (MS/KJ to organise) and the other will be in June at Trowbridge (JC to organise) - these will sit alongside the Doubles Closed in October. DB also suggested a partnered Doubles Ladder to run through the summer. DB/MH to gauge interest from both the website and the entry forms for next Summer.
- h. There was a very brief discussion around adopting par scoring - voted out.
- i. DW reported that dialogue with England Squash remained very difficult - partly because we are so remote from 'the south-west' region.
- j. No action has been taken over the notion of a 'Brian Hanson' trophy. The suggestion was the Handicap cup. Action: MH to talk to Kerry Lewis.
- k. It was agreed that there would be two sections to the 'coaches' page on the website - Licensed coaches (there are only 3) and 'license lapsed'. Action MH.