

**Wiltshire Squash Rackets Association**  
**Minutes of the AGM - Wednesday 25th September 2010**  
**Venue: The Wellington Arms, Marlborough, 7:30pm**

Present	Mike Stannard	(Chairman)
	Clive Morgan	(Treasurer)
	Howard Wilson	(Secretary)
	Neil Marshman	(Summer League Secretary)
	Richard Holdway	(Marking/Ref. Rep)
	Dean Watkins	(Junior coordinator)
	Mike Hyland	(Member/Minutes)

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Club Representatives	Brian Brock	Oasis
	Richard Elsdon	Trowbridge
	Stefan Smith	Devizes
	Chris Hardy	Devizes
	Adrian Kinder	Marlborough
	Alex Freedman	Marlborough
	Paul Faulkner	South Marston

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Apologies	Mike Flory	
	Derek Bray	(Winter League Secretary)
	Nigel Rowe	
	Robert Dalboth	

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Handouts	Treasurer's Report	Clive Morgan
	Accounts for 2009/10	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 DW and seconded by CM.

**2. Presentation/Adoption of accounts**

CM presented the Treasurers Report and accounts (attached). HW asked about the level of Inter-County costs and CM explained the current agreed levels of remuneration for travel and accommodation. BB asked what benefits clubs receive from the ESR rebate (12.5% of the affiliation fees paid by the individual clubs) and it was explained that this goes towards the current priority of getting more qualified coaches in the county. Adoption of the account proposed by MH and seconded by NM.

**3. Election of the Management Committee**

There was no challenge to any of the existing positions and, with the exception of DW, none of the existing committee expressed a wish to give up their post. DW and MS agreed to speak to PF with a view to him taking over this post.

#### 4. Annual Reports

##### i. Junior Branch

DW reported that junior squash is really taking off around the county with regular coaching session now being provided by Paul Faulkner and Rob Grant at the Oasis, Neil Marshman at the Wessex and South Marston, Rich Holdway and Mark McGuinness at Trowbridge.

Two tournaments have already been arranged for the coming season. The South Marston open – over two weekends in October for under 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 age groups and the Wiltshire Junior open in April 2011 for under 13, 15, 17, 19 age groups. Currently trying to sort out a Wiltshire closed and, as part of their national sponsorship, Dunlop has provided 5 main prizes and 5 runners up prizes.

BB is arranging a Level 1 course in the Swindon area in the very near future and already has 10 takers. Anyone else wishing to join should contact BB direct. There is an urgent need for this as Adam Giles is now going out to the schools to encourage juniors to play squash and the extra coaches will be necessary if this really takes off.

##### ii. Summary of League Activity

###### a. Winter League

DB currently has 18 teams entered but MS and RH confirmed that there will be second teams from Blunsdon and Trowbridge and BB is trying to encourage a team from South Marston. There was much discussion about the composition of the leagues with an appeal from CH, and echoed by others at the meeting, that the leagues be kept to even numbers wherever possible. CH explained that they have worked hard on recruiting enough team players to enter two teams from Devizes this year and the last thing they need is to kill this enthusiasm by having extra weeks without fixtures. MS suggested that, if necessary, perhaps Division 1 has an odd number in order to keep the other divisions even. Other suggestions that came from this discussion included starting the season earlier and and/or ending later and perhaps moving the break in the season from Christmas to the end of January. This will be passed back to DB for review.

BB raised the issue of teams that are left out of pocket by opponents that cancel a match at late notice. Everyone agreed that the first priority must be to encourage teams to play the fixture even if they only have 3 or 4 players and DB will be asked to remind captains of this prior to the start of the season.

It was decided that when a late cancellation occurs, 50% of any unavoidable costs should be borne by defaulting team if notice is given between 24hrs and 72hrs before the match. If less than that 24hrs notice is give the defaulting team will be liable for the full cost. In cases where the home team cancels they will be liable to pay the away teams subs. If the defaulting team refuses to pay the matter will be referred to the Management Committee whose ultimate sanction will be to ban the team/players from all Wiltshire events.

###### b. Summer League

There was a slightly different format this year with the doubles match being dropped. 12 teams entered and played 9 games each followed by semi-

finals and final. Congratulations to Chippenham who beat Trowbridge in the final.

There were mixed views on the loss of the doubles but it would appear that the majority would like to see it re-introduced next year.

MS raised the issue of PAR scoring and the fact that, whether we like it or not, we will eventually have to move to using this format in our county league fixtures and suggested that it could be trialled in next year's Summer League.

### iii. **Summary of Tournaments**

- a. **Mens Senior Closed (Nightingale)**
  - Winner Simon White from Adam Giles, Plate Dave Ridgeway
  - 32 Entries
- b. **Mens O35 Closed (Wessex)**
  - Winner Paul Clark from Julian Beckett, Plate Mark Burrell
  - 16 Entries
- c. **Mens O45 Closed (Trowbridge)**
  - Winner Paul Clark from Nick Hewins, Plate Graham Gough
  - ? Entries
- d. **Doubles Closed (Wessex)**
  - Winners – Ade Warren & Tess Healey, Runners-up – Adam Giles and Antony Dennington
  - Plate – Mike Hyland & Paul Clark
  - Entries – 12 pairs

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

- a. **Mens Seniors - not represented**
- b. **Mens O35 - Nigel Rowe**
  - Stage 1 – Division 2D - (1) Wilts, (2) Worcs, (3) Shrops
  - Stage 2 – Division 2B - (1) Hampshire, (2) Wiltshire(promoted), (3) Sussex (4) Worcs
- c. **Mens O45 - Dean Watkins**
  - Stage 1 – Division 1A - (1) Hampshire, (2) Somerset, (3) Wiltshire, (4) Cornwall
  - Stage 2 – Division 2A - (1) Hampshire, (2) Wiltshire(promoted), (3) Gloucs (4) Herefordshire
- d. **Mens O50 - Clive Morgan**
  - Stage 1 - Division 1B (1) Wiltshire (Promoted), (2) Avon, (3) Worcestershire
  - Stage 2 – Division 1 Promotion (1) Avon, (2) Norfolk (3) Suffolk (4) Wiltshire

### v. **Proposals for next season**

#### i. **Tournaments**

- a. **Seniors Closed**
  - 15/16 Jan. 2011
  - Dean Watkins to Organise
  - Venue: TBC
- b. **O35 Closed**
  - 12/13 Mar. 2011
  - Mike Hyland to Organise
  - Venue: TBC

- c. **O45 Closed**
  - TBC
  - TBC
  - Venue: TBC
- d. **Doubles Closed**
  - 02 Oct. 2011
  - Organiser Howard Wilson
  - Venue: Wessex

It was agreed that the decision about the venues is to be delayed until after the annual meeting at Marlborough when CM will hopefully determine whether this could be a viable venue in the coming season. A date for the Over 45 tournament will be agreed when full info about available venues is known. CM will investigate the possibility of running an Over 50 tournament although there is concern that it may impact upon the entry levels for the Over 45 event.

ii. **Inter-County Teams**

- . **Mens Senior**
  - Captain: Paul Clark
  - Stage 1 13/14 Nov 2010 and Stage 2 - 19/20 Feb 2011
- a. **O35**
  - Captain: Nigel Rowe
  - Stage 1 - 6/7 Nov 2010 and Stage 2 - 26/27 Mar 2011
- b. **O45**
  - Captain: Dean Watkins
  - Stage 1 - 27/28 Nov 2011 and Stage 2 - 29/30 Jan 2011
- c. **O50**
  - Captain: Clive Morgan
  - Stage 1 - 16/17 Oct 2011 and Stage 2 - 22/23 Jan 2011

MS expressed concern over the re-introduction of the Mens Senior team this season after the problems, and resultant fines in previous years. HW explained to the meeting that the committee had agreed by majority decision to take up Paul Clark's offer to run the team this year. At the same time it was also agreed that the committee keep in much closer contact with all team captains to ensure that they do not feel isolated if there are any problems.

vi. **A.O.B.**

- . BB gave details of the individual handicap competition that he would like to run. There was plenty of enthusiasm for the proposal, as it will mean more squash being played! The only issue might be fitting it into the calendar but one suggestion was that perhaps it could take place between the end of the winter league and the start of the summer league. BB will move it forward.
- a. MS pointed out that there will be 5 new Level 2 coaches from September/October who were part funded by Wilts SRA and as part of this agreement they will be expected to assist with local coaching where possible. MS has also checked with ES&R and they do not keep coaches records for more than 5-7 years. He would like to see Wilts SRA hold a record of all coaches operating in the county with details of their level, CRB and insurance.
- b. MS is trying to arrange a sponsor for score sheets that would be used by all the clubs in the Wiltshire League and would have full details of Rule 12 (Interference) on the reverse.

- c. NM raised the issue of player behaviour, which seems to have improved but is still not to the level that we would like to see. It was agreed that DB should re-iterate the instructions about behaviour to all captains in his pre-season communication.