

EARDISLEY TENNIS CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at 7.30pm on 8th. February 2011 in the clubhouse

Present:

Emma Bowen, Jo Jones, Norma and Daisy Bishop, Alastair Ross, Charles Probert, John Reeves, Julian Williams, Peter Bishop, Richard Evans, Simon Maynard.

Apologies:

Jan Baker, Margaret Parker, Mike Hawthorne, Janet Parry, Pearl Taylor, Pat Lane, Annie Rees, Ryan Nicholas, Anne Rampton, Steve Barnett, Nicky Harper, Val Hall.

Minutes of last AGM:

Simon proposed, Richard seconded, that the committee approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 17th. February 2010. They were duly adopted and signed off by the chair.

Chair's Report

The chair reported that:

- Membership fees topped over £6k for the first time,
- The sport England grant of £3700 had been mainly spent on equipment.
- Our teams had a successful season last year,
- Our two star juniors, Adam Bowen and Will Haines had been competing successfully,
- Our club had been allocated 21 pairs of Wimbledon tickets last year, (thanks to Annie Rees for managing the process),
- The clubhouse had been decorated, (thanks to Richard Evans and his team),
- No grants currently available for our club to apply for,
- LTA affiliation fees down from around £1k to £200 this year, (the money from this to be used to develop skills/coaching etc., within the club).

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer reported against the accounts that:

- Income was up,
- Expenditure up. However this was mainly for equipment covered by the Sport England grant,
- Electricity similar to last year at £295. (The treasurer explained that he had recently switched suppliers to get a better deal).

As a result the surplus was similar to the previous year allowing the club to build up its sink fund against future expenditure with no major spends anticipated currently.

Alastair rounded off his reports by thanking all the committee members for their support in the last year.

Match Report's

Briefly:

- Emma reported that the ladies B team came third in their division and the ladies A won theirs and will be going up this season. Because the division in which the ladies A will be playing this season, they will need three pairs to compete, it had been decided not to run the B team. Dr Penny has agreed to the use of their private court for the ladies A team home matches.
- Simon reported that the men's B and C team competed in the same division last year with the C team winning and gaining promotion! The men's A team won division six and will move up this season.

- Winter league matches had been interrupted by weather and the lack of enthusiasm, from other teams participating. Julian felt that it was unlikely that this series of matches would take place next year.

Coach's Report

Steve Barnett reported to the meeting as follows, (he was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting):

Summer 2010 coaching was good with the help from funding the club received. The Holiday courses were a great success as the funding allowed an extremely discounted rate for members. The club were able to get a few more junior members from this.

The autumn/ winter of this year has been hard due to the poor weather and subsequently numbers have dropped during the Thursday junior coaching. This has been the same all over the county and is an issue we are trying to sort. We offered free coaching during the last term yet this did not help attract anymore players, so price doesn't seem to be a deterrent. Unfortunately a lot of parents don't give any feedback to why they do not continue coming to coaching so it is hard for us to help provide a better service to suit all. This term we have gone down to only 1 hour of junior coaching on Thursday evening with 7 players attending.

I have started early schools promotion to help boost players/ members for the spring and summer term and I am currently coaching at Almeley and Eardisley Primary schools. This is also necessary to cover the hours I have lost during the junior coaching at the club.

Adult coaching is non-existent at the moment due to very low demand but I would be grateful for any ideas members have to start adult coaching this year.

The Adult tournament run recently was a great success with 18 members taking part on the Sunday and a huge thanks to all that helped to promote the event. I would love to continue running these events more frequently if the demand is there.

Ideas for 2011

- Junior competitions could be an idea to attract more juniors to play and come back to coaching but costs will need to be taken into consideration before I can confirm events.
- More promotion within the local schools so that more children have a taste of tennis.
- A junior tennis fun day during school holidays is another idea to help promote the junior programme but also for current members to enjoy.

As some people are aware I am leaving Tennis Hereford to join the Army this year but do not know exact details when I am leaving. My replacement is being decided/ trained and I will help the transition as easy as possible for both the club and the coach. I will put as much effort as possible to help improve coaching at the club right up until I leave so nobody will lose out of coaching at the club.

Committee

Julian, seconded by Richard, proposed that the committee was re-elected en block. This was duly agreed and all committee members who are officers continue in their previous roles.

Subscriptions for the new season.

Alastair introduced to the meeting the subject of subs for this year. He felt that they should remain the same this season and that we could, probably, review every other year. Charles proposed that they remain the same and John seconded.

Any other business:

Visitors fees

A discussion took place regarding the levels of visitors fees to be levied. It was agreed that they would remain at the current levels.

Membership

Norma suggested that, as in the past, any potential new members be offered the opportunity to join before April at the annual rate, thus getting over one month free. Daisy proposed that this be adopted and John seconded the motion.

Royal wedding

Norma advised the meeting that she had been invited by the local WI to attend a meeting to discuss what Eardisley might do, as a celebration, on the day of the upcoming royal wedding. She felt it was good PR for us to be involved and promised to keep the committee informed.

“OUT”

A member has suggested that our newsletter might change its title name to ETC to reflect our clubs name. The meeting was in general agreement with this and suggested that it might even change annually.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.