

ISC Tennis AGM
Tuesday 22 April 2014
6.30pm

Apologies: Tip Flory, Keith Flewitt, Mike Watling

Attendance: Paul Sheldrake (PS) (Chair), Graham Fretwell (GF), Geoff Sheldrake (GS), Pippa Sheldrake (PipS), Neville Reeder (NR), Keith Palmer (KP), Wendy Palmer (WP), Robert Butler (WP), Vanessa Penn (VP), Hugo Langton (HL), Kevin Sutton (KS), Pascale Cadier (PC), Andy Yorke (AY), Brenda Cowley (BC)

Minutes:

PS Opened the meeting and welcomed all and thanked everyone for coming, all members tonight will have a pack with the main paperwork.
No matters arising from previous AGM.

PS Chairman's Report - highlighted the recent plight of Elena Baltacha and expressed his personal wishes to Elena in her fight / battle with cancer. The Club would keep an open door for her return and members also have been expressing their sincere wishes. It's been a challenging year, but on the whole we have come through reasonably well. The tennis section is supported by a management team for the various tasks including Wimbledon tickets, budgets; membership etc and we all work to drive tennis at the Club, this is different to smaller Clubs.

I must say a few words about Chris Daynes, who has done a fantastic job and is very popular with the members and committees. Also our new development coach Toby Bawden has been brought in to address the development programme issue, this area should be far more active and be a much larger part of our programme. Toby has settled in well and helping us to start achieving the targets set out in our 3-5 year plan.

Sally Pearson, the LTA development officer is based here permanently at ISC at the moment and helping support the key objectives for the parks and development programme, I would like to thank her for this support.

GF advised the room that getting teams out has been a challenge – Tip Flory has done a great job on the ladies side.

Despite this ISC is doing very well and we have 11 summer teams of 6 players, our winter sides have all done very well in their respective teams and we continue to field the largest number of teams in the local leagues.

We also run junior teams in the local adult leagues thanks to Robert Butler, this has gone down well to date.

Courts 4-6 are not in great condition and these courts could do with investment.

We now run Club play on Sunday morning and thanks to those members who have given time to help organise these sessions. We continue to run 3 sessions for members per week as Saturday afternoon has picked up, we have to continue to monitor all sessions so that courts aren't wasted.

PS You mentioned about teams getting smaller for summer, is this going to happen?

GF/HL Went on to explain to all members that 3 pairs may be reduced to 2 for the summer matches, a number of Clubs are struggling to get players. A number of Clubs have raised this for consideration; also smaller Clubs have issues with lack of floodlit courts. GF confirmed this hasn't been decided for the summer 2014 season but may be considered for 2015.

HL Club play on Tuesday has struggled with 8 max on most evenings. AY suggested Club play may benefit from a system similar to the one introduced by Alec Livingstone for Friday evening squash night.

PS The planning for the dome continues, the first stage was blocked due to complaints raised to the planning committee. We have resubmitted via the planning inspectorate and we should hear the final decision shortly – this will be subject to funding from the LTA, the funding will then have to meet LTA business targets. The courts 4-6 are on hold until we hear a decision on this.

PS introduced Chris Daynes.

CD advised Toby Bawden has now come on board and doing a good job to support Chris's role as Tennis Manager. Toby has just re-launched a new timetable including the kids fun session on Saturday morning, new sessions in the week and internal Match Play sessions, new schools programmes/visits including Henley School. New Adult beginners and improvers and a new cardio programme. This area needed a focus and this is being done.

Mini Tennis National Launch in schools being planned at the Club.

Confident in the new look coaching side

On the Academy side – 7 National Matrix players (Top 16 in respective age groups), lots of good juniors coming through and we also have high expectations for these players. Josh Stokes recently won grade 2 National tournament and finished No1 in UK for his age group. Maddie McLoughlen won a grade 2 event and also is doing well top 3-4 in her age group. Isobel Eaton reaches national final in Scotland – also doing very well and invited to National training camps. Justice Hall came 3rd in a National event and now attending Mat National training camps. Travis Ireland finished top 16 in leader board and doing well. Ashley Hale reached top 16 in the National Leaders board and plays in 2 National grade 2 events over the winter. A number of other players are also doing well at Regional level and many more at County Level.

Coaches are now looking at Adult trips abroad for tennis training.

CD is working on the funding and whilst there are some changes at the LTA we do hope to see significant performance funding return to the Club.

Coaches 'train the coaches scheme' is well supported and going well – thanks to all

GS Has the EBAT programme suffered and are we supporting?

CD We have seen EBAT coaches in La Manga and offered our support in any way we can to help with their programme and will continue to offer help and forge links.

PS Thanks CD for his hard work.

GF conducted the nominations for Chairman. With no nominations made other than PS willing to stay on for another year. GF nominated Paul Sheldrake, seconded by Robert Butler. Show of hands - majority in favour item carried.

PS As new Chairman happy to continue to support but any other nominations would be happy to set aside.

Moving to the Vice Chairman role – Paul Sheldrake nominated GF and Keith Palmer seconded. Majority show of hand in favour item carried.

Item revisited – Committee members re-elected on mass, PS read out full committee list. Voting - GS nominated all members on block, seconded by GF. Majority show of hands item carried forward. The committee however will also look to bring in new volunteers.

PS Wimbledon ticket draw ongoing, and elected to trial this online with the LTA changes. AY – A number of Clubs haven't run an online evening as all BTM members are eligible, meaning over 1000 could have been in the original draw. In previous years members had to attend to win.

TB highlighted that on May 17th 2014 the LTA are running the Great British Tennis Weekend. ISC and SLTA also promoting the first of the 4 event series. This is a national campaign organised by the LTA.

GF Reminded the room there is a team practice event this Friday, thanks to Robert Butler raising some sponsorship. This has helped pay for a free BBQ for the team members attending on the evening.

CD 1st June 2014 the Club is holding a new event to promote local competitive team tennis - The Batian Cup. The event should be a fun day to watch and participate please come along – winners go to National Finals.

GF – Club Champs? PipS We have conducted a survey and looking at the feedback, but will be advertising asap.

PS any AOB from the floor. GF Nothing recorded from the floor.

PS Thanks to you all for your fantastic support.

Actions:

- **To decide on court 4-6 facility development once bubble project comes to an end**
- **To recruit new members for the tennis committee**

- **To finalise Club Championship dates**