

## **Minutes of Tennis Section AGM held on March 30<sup>th</sup> 2017 @ 7pm**

### 1. Welcome & Apologies GF

Apologies: Julie & Peter Arnot, Keith and Wendy Palmer, Anne Sheldon, Alison Knights.

Attendees: G. Fretwell, R Butler, M.& K. Watling, S. Bryson, C Gebhard, K. Sutton, P & G Sheldrake, W. Hicks, V Penn, M. Lipscombe, R. Garrod, H. Langton, P. Morter, A. Hall, T. Cookson, J. Fisher, D. Young, A Hutchison, B. Cowley, A Yorke, P. Cadier.

### 2. Minutes of 2016 AGM

Unanimously passed as correct with MW proposing, KS seconding.

### 3. Chairman's Report GF

4 key objectives were outlined for last year:-

\*Raising the tennis membership to 520. 552 actually achieved as of the AGM.

\*Maintain the facilities and playing standards. These are good with ongoing plans to replace the netting in the indoor centre, deal with the root problem on the astro courts.

\* Achieve a good financial surplus for the club after costs. This was £36K, so achieved.

\*Grow the participation through more offers for both members and visitors. The Ebat partnership has increased court usage also.

Next year's objectives include:-

Further growth in membership to 575.

Extension of tennis activities both for members and external partnerships.

Team tennis is flourishing under the leadership of RB and WH. With summer, Floodlit and Winter League teams ISC has up to 130 members playing competitively.

Thanks were numerous, the committee, AY, PC, Ebat, coaches both at ISC and the Park.

TC asked and was told that profits from tournaments goes to club funds.

### 4. Business Report AY

2016 ended as a strong year for ISC after a slow start, with the budget expectations likely to be met. Numerous changes were made mid-year with a restructuring of the coaching and management roles, a new partnership with the Elena Baltacha Foundation, Ipswich Borough Council, the Tennis Foundation, The LTA and Suffolk Sport.

Tennis nationally has declined and the club is tackling this through its new community focus and improve programmes. The EBF has worked well with ISC and provide expertise in schools. This in turn has created the opportunity to acquire new members, seeking to join the ISC coaching programme. Open days in the second half of last year proved successful with an increase in membership.

However there is still a need to improve the member journey with a full programme of tennis activity for all. More work needs to done in the area of adult social tennis, with more planned events.

Community wise, ISC has taken positive steps with disability tennis, including VI, wheelchair and tennis for autism. There has been significant growth in the numbers attending with disabilities. ISC has been awarded several grants including funding for tennis specific wheelchairs. Grants remain open to ISC to support the community improvements to access and participation.

AY thanked the numerous volunteers that make various activities happen and enable the improvements. Volunteers support the various disability sessions, help with facilities, dome dismantling, Open Days and GBTW events. Thanks also to the office staff who provide various tennis administration duties, including box leagues, posters, open days, Wimbledon tickets, GBTW, Club Spark management etc.

ISC has significantly raised its profile in the last 18 months and is well thought of by the following governing bodies; LTA, Suffolk Sport, Suffolk Disability Sport, Community Grant Bodies, IBC, SCC. A success attributed to all those involved in tennis at ISC.

Comment [G1]:

## 5. Club Captains Reports RB/WH

4 mens, 3 ladies and 4 mixed teams currently compete in the Floodlit and summer leagues. These play during the week. There are also teams in both mens and ladies winter leagues. These involve one pair and play at weekends. Thanks to all the team captains for making it possible. Juniors have supported teams and are pleased to have the opportunity to help out. Parents are thanked for their taxi services!

At the time there were 3 divisional winners for the Floodlit season, with second placed promotions for several others, results pending. The 2016 summer league saw L1 crowned Div. 1 champions. Congratulations to MC Tweedy and team.

Thanks were given H Langton for his long services to making club fixtures, to K Flewitt for his services to the mens veteran tennis and B Cowley for 24 years of captaincy..

Summer fixtures start in May.

## 6. Committee Nominations and Election of Officers for 2017

Chair- Karen Watling

Vice Chair- Rob Butler

Treasurer- Mike Watling

Secretary- Pippa Sheldrake

Club Captains- Rob Butler and Wendy Hicks

Committee- Sara Bryson, Keith Palmer, Kevin Sutton, Colin Gebhard with more to be co-opted. Ray White resigned.

All positions were duly elected unanimously at the meeting.

7. AOB

\* Karen Watling, incoming chair delivered her aims:-

To increase playing member numbers, adult and junior.

To fundraise in order to improve facilities.

To communicate with members via a newsletter. HL suggested pictures of team captains, team lists and results could be shared.

\*BTM membership to become 4 tier.

\* MW can place information in the EADT on a Friday using his connection with the LTA.

\* BBQ and team practise on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

\* Club Championships start in May with finals on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September.

Meeting ended at 8.10pm.