

North Somerset Tennis League AGM Minutes

Thursday 11th September 2014, 7.30pm at Winscombe Tennis Club

David Pottow welcomed Len May, President, and representatives from all of the 21 clubs in the League.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Peter Hucker.
- 2. Minutes:** Minutes had been circulated to all clubs prior to the meeting and were unanimously accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Victoria.

Seconded: Wedmore

- 3. Matters arising:** None.
- 4. Chairman's Report:** David said it had been a good year despite the bad weather and all fixtures had been completed.

He congratulated all the Champions for the season's competition:

Ladies: Cheddar A Men: Wells A (Summer League)

Winter: Clevedon A Vets: Wedmore A (Winter League)

He said the committee were concerned with conduct on court with regards to bad attitude and the use of unacceptable language. This will be discussed further under proposed changes.

Although there is still room for improvement, the completion and posting of score cards has been better so please keep this up!

Club Contact details must be current and kept up to date. People have not received details of the meeting because of this.

If games are conceded score cards must still be posted.

12 Clubs had to be chased this year as they had not sent in their Club Details Form along with their cheques by the 1st September.

He thanked the Committee and his wife, Jane, for all their help.

- 5. Secretary's Report:** Christine Leach (Weston) said her role had been made easy due to the contribution made this year by David Pottow. She said he has helped with the continuity of the role and made it very straight forward for her.

Christine said about a third of the fixtures were sent to her late and a third were also in the wrong format which made the amalgamation of fixtures an arduous task.

- 6. Treasurer's Report/Subscriptions:** Carole Carter said there is a £190.15 surplus and in view of this she recommended the league fees stay the same. The interest paid on the NSTL account is still shy of 1% using the Barclays 10 Day Notice Savings Account but it is the best rate currently available. Carole said the accounts are available for anyone to view if they so wish and she also thanked David and Philip for their help.

The accounts were accepted.

Proposed: Wrington

Seconded: Clevedon

7. Proposed Changes:

a) Code of Conduct

Following recent unacceptable behaviour on court it was agreed that a code of conduct will be available to view on the homepage of the NSTL website. There will also be a paragraph that states if any individuals do not follow the code of conduct they could be reported to the NSTL committee.

Proposed: Avenue

Seconded: Wedmore

b) Changes Regarding Conceded Matches

This year 12 matches have been conceded which resulted in one team getting 20 points without playing a match. Therefore it was decided that Rule 17 would be enforced for the coming season.

If a team concedes two matches in one season they will be withdrawn from the division for the remainder of the season and all points, either won by them or won against them, will be removed. The team will then be relegated to the division below where possible. For teams conceding only one game, the 10-0 result still stands.

Proposed: Wrington

Seconded: Woodland

8. Election of Chairman and Committee: David Pottow is stepping down as Chairman after 14 years. He said he was proud when he was first asked to be Chairman and wanted to share some history highlights.

He said the league started in 1968 with just four clubs, Clevedon, Congresbury, Yatton and Herbert Gardens and two of them still play, Clevedon and Congresbury. He said Weston Atlantic then joined the league and they all paid one pound and ten shillings to play. In 1973 the League had 30 mixed team who all paid £4 and currently we have 21 Clubs, 144 Teams at £5 each.

He said that times have moved on from doing everything manually yet even now with the help of computers we still use the score card system.

He said there was one moment when he felt his time as Chairman had come to an end and that was when he turned up for a presentation evening but had no shields to present. The shields had been stored in a black sack in his garage and unfortunately when it came to bin day he had put the shields out for collection with the rest of his rubbish! His efforts to retrieve the shields from the Council were to no avail but despite this he was re-elected for Chairman the following year!

He said his two predecessors, Mr Helen (Wilf) and Len May, had both been Chairman for 14 years and so it was fitting that he step down at this time and he was happy to leave the League in good standing. He thanked everyone.

President: Len May is stepping down as President and took over from David Pottow for the election of the new President. He thanked and congratulated David and Jane and thanked the committee and club contacts for all the work they do.

David Pottow is to be the new President.

Proposed: Len May

Seconded: Carole Carter

Chairman

David Pottow took over the meeting for the election of the new Chairman.

Peter Hucker

Proposed: Brent Knoll

Seconded: Weston

John Barrington

Proposed: Minehead

Seconded: Trull

David Pottow spoke on Peter Hucker's behalf as he was not present at the meeting and said he has worked behind the scenes for many years.

John Barrington (Trull) said he was already Chairman of Yeovil & District League and felt he could bring a lot to the position including a new way of recording results instantly online through Tournament Software where more information could be viewed and could also allow for eight teams per division rather than the current six. Carole Carter (Treasurer) queried the cost of the software and John explained it would be approx. £1.80 per team, per season, cheaper than the current cost of a stamp to post the score cards each week.

John would also introduce a knockout cup competition which could be played across the divisions and could also possibly combine with another league.

A vote was undertaken and Peter Hucker was elected as Chairman.

Vice Chairman: To be proposed by Peter Hucker

Treasurer: Carole Carter *Proposed: Wrington* *Seconded: Weston*

The new **Secretary** was introduced as Jenny Purcell from Woodland.

The **Committee members** remain as before and were voted in en block:
Charlie Hart (Lympsham). Nathan Walker (Wrington). Philip Hunt (Winscombe)

Proposed: Avenue *Seconded: Clevedon*

With the addition of:

Christine Leach: *Proposed: Congresbury* *Seconded: Wrington*
John Barrington: *Proposed: Victoria* *Seconded: Woodland*

David Pottow is standing down from the committee and both Christine and John wanted to take his place so it was agreed that they would both join the committee.

9. Resignations and New Applications for the League: There have been 5 resignations and the divisions have been reshuffled in view of this.

10. Composition of Leagues for 2014-2015 The Summer League fixtures will be published on the website by the beginning of December. Clubs are asked to view the fixtures and if there are any queries or withdrawals to let Philip Hunt know by the end of January 2015.

11. Any Other Business: Mobile Phones should not be used on court where at all possible.

12. Presentation of Trophies: Divisions Winners trophies were presented to representatives of the winning clubs.

A presentation was also made to David and Jane Pottow to say thank you.

Signed

(Chairman)

Date: