

NORTH SOMERSET TENNIS LEAGUE AGM MINUTES

Thursday 6th September 2018 at Winscombe Tennis Club

1. The President, David Pottow, welcomed Carole Carter, Jenny Purcell, the Committee and all club representatives to the meeting. No apologies for absence were received.
2. Everyone stood for a minute's silence in memory of Pete Hucker.
3. MINUTES: The AGM 2017 minutes were circulated prior to the meeting and accepted unanimously.
4. MATTERS ARISING: None.
5. David explained what had happened over the Summer season where Wedmore A Mens team and Bridgwater A Mens team both forged a match card when the match hadn't actually been played in order to watch England in their World Cup Football match which fell on a Monday evening. A formal apology was received by both Clubs (Appendix A). David explained that both teams have been relegated from Division 1 into Division 3 for the Summer 2019 season.
6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Due to the sudden passing of our Chairman, Pete Hucker, no Chairman's report was given.

David provided details of Pete Hucker's funeral.

11.00am, Saturday 6th October, St Lawrence's, Wick St Lawrence, BS22 7YP

7. SECRETARY'S REPORT: (Appendix B). Accepted unanimously.
8. TREASURER'S REPORT: (Appendix C). Accepted unanimously.

David reinforced Jenny and Carole's comments with regards to ensuring the score cards are completed fully and correctly this season.

9. PROPOSED CHANGES:

The committee proposed the following rule changes:

Rule 3.

The Management Committee shall be convened by the secretary and will meet whenever necessary to ensure the smooth running of the League. **Their decision, once made, is final.**

Rule 22

All **clubs** must confirm membership in writing **14** days prior to the AGM, **confirming the number of teams they are entering.** New teams wishing to apply for membership must also apply in writing **14** days prior to the AGM at which meeting a vote will be taken. Winter League contacts must be submitted to the Secretary in writing **14** days prior to the AGM.

RULE 23 - DELETE

~~23. The League Secretary's duties to be on a rota basis. A club failing to comply will be expelled from the league and the next named club will undertake the duties. Any club so expelled may re-apply for membership but must fill the position of Secretary in their first year of re-election.~~

Proposed: Brent Knoll

Seconded: Avenue

10. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND OTHER OFFICERS

David Pottow proposed that due to the circumstances the committee should be kept as is to allow for more time to consider proposals for a new Chairman and Vice Chairman.

President: David Pottow
Chairman:
Secretary: Jenny Purcell
Treasurer: Carole Carter
Committee: Charlie Hart (Lympsham)
(on block) Philip Hunt (Winscombe)
John Barrington (Trull)
Nathan Walker (Wrington)
Christine Leach (Weston)

11. RESIGNATIONS AND NEW APPLICATIONS

Withdrawn: none

New Applications:

Team: Victoria B	Division: 7	League:	Winter
Team: Wedmore B	Division: Vets 2	League:	Winter
Team: Victoria C	Division: Ladies 7	League:	Summer
Team: Avenue D	Division: Mens 8	League:	Summer

Agreed Unanimously

12. COMPOSITION OF LEAGUES FOR 2018-19

No changes

13. AOB

- a) David Pottow explained that the NSTL Privacy Policy had been emailed to all clubs.
- b) The Hon Sec of Bridgwater LTC proposed the following three changes in writing prior to the meeting:

1. The consideration of a championship tie break for both rubbers, make a championship tie break compulsory in the second rubber if the rubber starts after 8.30pm or return to finish matches at the end of the season or to split points.

Following general discussion it was agreed Rule 6 would change as follows:

RULE 6

Rubbers shall be the best of three sets. Standard L.T.A tie-break in operation in all three sets at all. A Championship Tie Break i.e. the first to 10 points with a margin of 2 points may only be played instead of the third set of the second round of rubbers. **If the third set of the second rubber starts after 9.30pm then a Championship Tie Break must be played unless it is agreed by both captains to play a full set.** The score is recorded as 1 set (1 game to 0). This is only intended to help complete a match, if floodlights are about to be cut off due to time, or adverse weather conditions.

Proposed: Lymsham Seconded: Backwell

2. Could at least one member of a host team be at the club to greet visitors from 6.15pm in the Summer league?

David Pottow responded to this by saying matches should commence promptly at 6.30pm. Players should be arriving at 6.15pm to warm up ready to start at 6.30pm. Instead of everyone warming up together and waiting for their last teammate to arrive, the first pairing available to play should start their match.

3. We request a discussion surrounding the offering of 3 dates rather than 2 and over a 3 week period rather than 2 when matches have to be rearranged.

After discussion it was agreed that a three week period is unnecessary but it was proposed that three dates could be offered within a two week period. This went to a vote and was opposed 10 votes to 5 votes so it was agreed that the rule wouldn't change with regards to the number of dates and time period offered, but that the wording of the rule needed clarification as follows.

Rule 11.

All matches to be postponed only because of bad weather conditions or because the courts are unfit to play. Postponed **Summer** matches must be played within 14 days of the original fixture at the convenience of the home club. The Home Side is to offer two dates and these dates are to be on different days of the week. A new date for a postponed Winter League match should be fixed, although not necessarily played, within 14 days of the original fixture and the League Secretary notified. **Again, the home side are required to offer two dates and these dates are to be on different days of the week.** If a club cannot field a side on an agreed date, the match shall be forfeited 10-0. The home club should send in a Result Card in the normal way, recording that the match was conceded or a walkover. All Winter League matches to be completed by 31st March. Clubs should aim to play five matches by 31st December.

Agreed Unanimously

- c) David Pottow raised the issue of Winter league tennis taking place solely on a Sunday morning after letters have been received from Woodland, Wells and Wedmore in favour of this and Lympsham against.

After lengthy general discussion it was apparent that making it Sundays only would mean many teams would have to withdraw from the league as they would not be able to raise a team or would not have the courts available to play on. It was argued that many clubs struggle to raise teams on weekday evenings throughout the Winter also and so may also need to withdraw.

It was agreed that all clubs would try their very best to accommodate teams by being as flexible as possible as the whole point of the NSTL is not to forfeit matches but to play competitive tennis.

- d) Chris Wilson of Victoria suggested we should look into the LTA software where, if adopted, we could input our results online. It was agreed by a show of hands that this is the route the majority of clubs would like to take and so David Pottow asked if it could be left with Phil Hunt and the Committee to look into it to see what it entails.

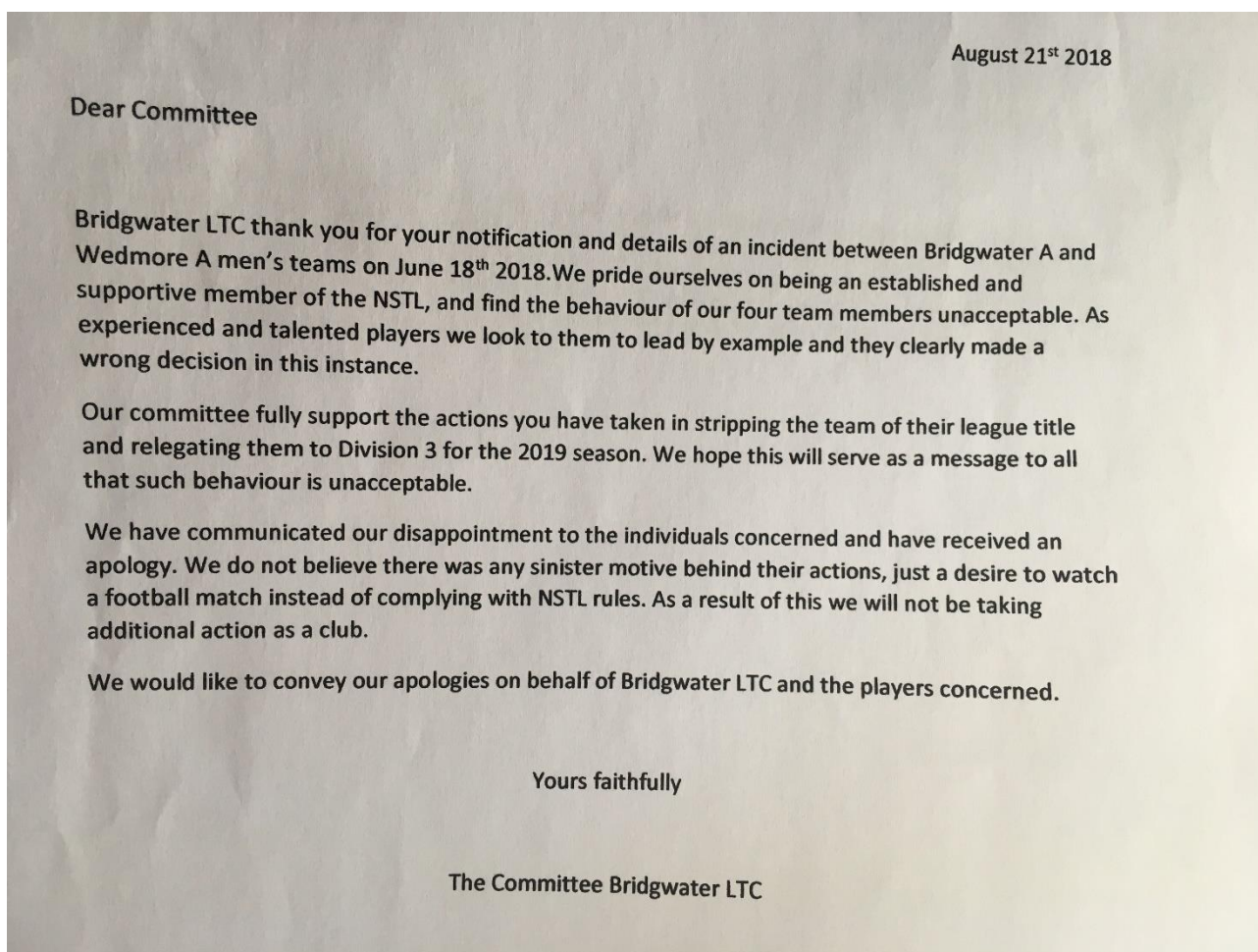
14. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

Trophies were presented to all division winners by Jane Pottow.

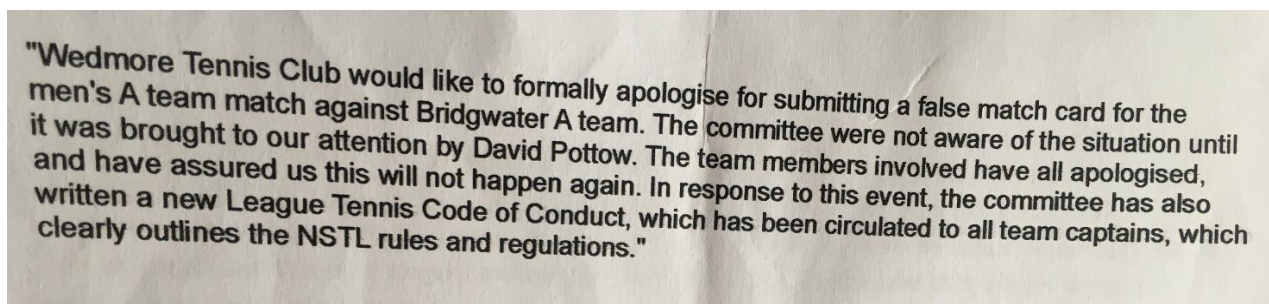
The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Appendix A

Bridgwater Apology:



Wedmore Apology:



APPENDIX B

NSTL SECRETARY REPORT 2018

Hi Everyone,

I've got a lot of the same moans as last year I'm sorry to say so I'll keep it brief to avoid sounding like a stuck record.

I will be sending out the spreadsheet template when I get home this evening so please fill this out and return it to me as soon as possible but by Friday 21st September at the very latest please.

Last year only one club had their fixtures in late, but several clubs still had discrepancies with start times, wrong dates and home and away fixtures the wrong way around. Please make a final check with your opposition this evening ensuring you both have the same information. Please also be extra careful when inputting this information into your spreadsheets.

If I do need to email you highlighting any discrepancies in the next couple of weeks, you must confirm with your opposition before replying to me. It's no help whatsoever if I get two emails back both confirming that your own version is correct. It just results in me having to send more emails saying exactly the same thing and asking you to check again.

In my email tonight you'll also have a copy of the Winter contacts so will you please double check your club's information on this and notify me of any updates by Friday the 21st as well please.

I know a couple of you had problems with the form this year and I'm sorry for that. It seems some people could complete it without a problem, but others found a field or two not working but hopefully I've sorted this out now. One club is still using the form from 2016. Can I ask you not to do this please as we now need you to sign the bottom of the form to say you have the permission of your contacts to provide their details which only the 2018 form allows for. Also, the same will apply for the Summer Season. You will need to update your Summer Contacts by the 31st March and again you will need to sign the bottom of your form stating you have your contacts permission please.

On behalf of Phil can I remind you all to fill in your scorecards carefully not forgetting to state the division the card relates to.

We had the suggestion of adding Phil's home address to the NSTL website as if people need to print off additional scorecards from the site throughout the season, the ones on there don't have Phil's address on the reverse. Phil's not particularly keen on this idea so may I suggest that at your first game of the season you take a photograph of both sides of the card, so you have Phil's address to hand should you need it.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work over what has been a difficult year and to say how very sorry I am that Pete isn't here so I can thank him for all the support he's given me as well. He's sorely missed.

Jenny Purcell
NSTL Secretary

APPENDIX C

NSTL Treasurers Report AGM September 2018

Firstly, my thanks and a special heartfelt mention must go to Pete Hucker who as our Chair led another successful year of tennis for us all and the NSTL will be a much emptier place without him. Pete headed the committee well and we shall miss his presence amongst us all. He will be a hard act to follow.

Just as a note we will on behalf of the League be making a donation to the family's chosen charity, The Great Western Air Ambulance, in his memory. David will give you details of the funeral later. Last year we agreed to the appointment of a permanent Fixture Secretary, which I am sure you will agree has made such a difference the last couple of years, thank you Jenny, you have again done a great job for us all. Especially in difficult circumstances for us this year. I must also thank David Pottow for his valuable assistance to both Jenny & myself in the last week or so preparing for this AGM.

I also want to thank Philip & say we are lucky to have his services, he manages/hosts the website, all our fixtures & results cards, not a mean feat, when you think how many clubs & teams we have. And we still never seem to get them 100% correct ! So come on Guys, give Phil a break.! Thank you Philip.

With regards to the accounts I would mention, as you will see from the copy you all have in your envelopes, show a loss for the year ended July 2018. I have all the documentation with me if anyone would like to see. They have again been audited by Liz Ricketts (Accountant) for us. I understand that we do not need to 'make a profit' on our accounts but I felt that we do need to maintain a break even status and therefore as agreed at AGM last year we increased team entry fees to £8 per team with this new season just starting as you will be aware.

This still represents excellent value for all of our clubs to play competitive tennis all year round. I will yet again comment about the lack of interest on the two accounts we hold now. You must be fed up with this old chestnut but I have again tried to see what is available to clubs & societies, but unless we are prepared to pay a monthly account fee of £5 we have to accept that this is still not the climate for earning interest. We have not received any interest since January 2017. It was agreed at our last committee meeting that we close our Barclays 10 day a/c as we no longer receive any interest, unless the balance reaches £10,000 & if ever that happened we can reconsider our deposit options. Our a/c will be solely with Lloyds.

In conclusion;-

With the permission of the Chair I am requesting acceptance of the NSTL accounts for the Year ended July 2018.

Thank you

Carole Carter
Honorary Treasurer NSTL