

# NORTH SOMERSET TENNIS LEAGUE AGM MINUTES

7.30pm, Thursday 5th September 2019 at Winscombe Tennis Club

## 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The President, David Pottow, welcomed the Committee and all club representatives to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from:

Frances Ball - Woodland, Stuart Bannerman - North Somerset Academy, Victoria Vets

## 2. MINUTES

The 2018 AGM minutes were circulated prior to the meeting and accepted unanimously.

## 3. MATTERS ARISING

None

## 4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

See Appendix A

*Proposed: Brent Knoll*

*Seconded: Woodland*

## 5. SECRETARY'S REPORT

See Appendix B

*Proposed: Backwell*

*Seconded: Brent Knoll*

## 6. TREASURER'S REPORT

See Appendix C

*Proposed: Woodland*

*Seconded: Cheddar*

## 7. PROPOSED CHANGES:

The committee held a meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019 and the following rule changes were proposed....

Rule 4. Subscriptions shall be ~~£8~~ per team in both Winter and Summer Leagues, payable in full ~~at the~~ A.G.M. of the League. **Subscriptions not paid by 1st January may be trebled at the discretion of the Management Committee.**

Rule 4. Subscriptions shall be **set by the management committee and clubs will be notified in advance of the AGM. Payment must be made in full by the date of the AGM. Late payments may be subject to a late fee penalty or team withdrawal.**

*Proposed: Brent Knoll*

*Seconded: Cleeve*

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Rule 5. Each team shall consist of two pairs. Matches in the Summer League to consist of four rubbers, each pair to play both pairs of the opposing team. Winter League matches to comprise a Ladies Doubles, Mens Doubles and two Mixed Doubles.

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*Proposed: Brent Knoll*

*Seconded: Congresbury*

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Rule 6. Rubbers shall be the best of three sets. Standard L.T.A tie-break in operation in all three sets at 6 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.

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*Proposed: Congresbury*

*Seconded: Winscombe*

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Rule 9. Summer League matches shall start at 6.30pm prompt. Winter League start time by arrangement. If a pair is not ready 30 minutes after a scheduled start, they shall lose the first rubber, **the score being 6-0, 6-0**. If a team can only provide one pair (or three players in the Winter League), then they play and concede the first two rubbers **6-0, 6-0**, this preferably with prior notification to the other club, and only on a maximum of two occasions. If the second pair has not arrived and are ready to play by 8.00 pm. (Summer) or 90 minutes after the scheduled start time (Winter), the second rubber will be conceded. Veteran matches will play a Championship tie-break in the third set of both rubbers unless both Captains agree to play a full third set.

Rule 9. Summer League matches shall start at 6.30pm prompt. Winter League start time by arrangement. If a pair is not ready 30 minutes after a scheduled start, they shall lose the first rubber **but record the game score as 0-0, 0-0**. If a team can only provide one pair (or three players in the Winter League), then they play and concede the first two rubbers, recording the **game scores as 0-0, 0-0**, this preferably with prior notification to the other club, and only on a maximum of two occasions. If the second pair has not arrived and are ready to play by 8.00 pm. (Summer) or 90 minutes after the scheduled start time (Winter), the second rubber will be conceded. Veteran matches will play a Championship tie-break in the third set of both rubbers unless both Captains agree to play a full third set.

*Proposed change withdrawn*

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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 must 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 must 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.

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*Proposed: Brent Knoll*

*Seconded: Priory*

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Rule 15. Summer and Winter League results ~~to be sent by home clubs within 24 hours by First Class Mail.~~

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*Proposed: Brent Knoll*

*Seconded: Backwell*

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Rule 20. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in September ~~and 21 clear days notice shall be given by the Secretary.~~ At the meeting one member of each club in the league shall be allowed one vote.

Rule 20. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in ~~September, the date of which will be confirmed at the previous year's AGM. Any proposals to rule changes must be submitted in writing at least 21 days prior to the AGM.~~ At the meeting one member of each club in the league shall be allowed one vote.

*Proposed: Winscombe*

*Seconded: Cleeve*

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## PROPOSAL FROM WRINGTON LTC - NOT SUPPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE.

I am writing to ask if the committee will consider allowing more flexibility to the rule that players are 'tied' after 3 games.

Even a small change would help the situation, perhaps allowing an extra game before being tied or 2 in each half of the season.

Not supported so withdrawn.

*Proposed: Brent Knoll*

*Seconded: Winscombe*

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## **8. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND OTHER OFFICERS**

President: David Pottow  
Acting Chairman: David Pottow

*Proposed: Woodland*      *Seconded: Brent Knoll*

Secretary: Jenny Purcell  
Treasurer: Carole Carter  
Vice Chair: Carole Carter

*Proposed: Priory*      *Seconded: Winscombe*

Committee: Philip Hunt (Winscombe)  
(Web) Chris Wilson (Victoria)

*Proposed: Priory*      *Seconded: Woodland*

(on block) John Barrington (Trull)  
Charlie Hart (Lympsham)  
Steve Toovey (Victoria)

*Proposed: Backwell*      *Seconded: Wrington*

## **9. RESIGNATIONS AND NEW APPLICATIONS**

### Withdrawn:

|                   |                |        |             |
|-------------------|----------------|--------|-------------|
| Team: Minehead B  | League: Vets   | Winter | Division: 2 |
| Team: Wedmore B   | League: Vets   | Winter | Division: 2 |
| Team: Winscombe C | League: Mixed  | Winter | Division: 7 |
| Team: Wedmore F*  | League: Ladies | Summer | Division: 7 |

\*entered but didn't play the 18/19 season

### New Applications:

|                       |                |        |               |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------|---------------|
| Team: Bridgwater C    | League: Mixed  | Winter | Division: 7   |
| Team: Lympsham D      | League: Mixed  | Winter | Division: 7   |
| Team: Woodland D      | League: Mixed  | Winter | Division: 7   |
| Team: Taunton A       | League: Vets   | Winter | Division: 2   |
| Team: Congresbury C   | League: Mens   | Summer | Division: 8B  |
| Team: N.Som Academy B | League: Mens   | Summer | Division: 8B  |
| Team: Woodland D      | League: Ladies | Summer | Division: TBA |

## **10. COMPOSITION OF LEAGUES FOR 2018-19**

Divisions 8A & 8B Introduced into Men's Summer League with 5 teams in each. Division 8 in the Mixed Winter League consists of 7 teams opposed to 6 as all other divisions.

## **11. AOB**

Phil Hunt and Chris Wilson demonstrated how to use the new LTA software for recording results and producing tables and answered various questions put to them.

It was advised that away teams should confirm the results entered by the home team.

It was also advised that approx. three members per club should act as administrators for the site rather than providing numerous members with the login details.

Everyone was notified that the individual club passwords **MUST NOT BE CHANGED**.

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Winscombe put forward the idea of offering hot food before the AGM in future for a charge. This idea split the room by a show of hands. It was suggested that tea and biscuits would be welcomed and agreed that both options would be looked into in time for the 2020 AGM.

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JL Hagger of Congresbury said they are entering a men's C team into the Summer 2020 league but don't have enough courts to accommodate this. He explained they were looking to build further court/s and asked if anyone could offer help or share their experience with regards to grants or the renting of courts in the interim.

## **12. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES**

Trophies were presented to the winners by David Pottow.

The meeting closed at 8.49pm

## Appendix A

### **NSTL CHAIRMAN REPORT 2019**

Firstly, may I thank all clubs and the committee for their understanding following the sudden death of Peter just before last year's AGM. We had our meeting as promised, in October, and I was persuaded to continue in the Chair at least for the year ahead.

This last year has certainly been less traumatic with no really difficult problems for the Committee to deal with. Looking back over past reports I found not very much seems to have changed. We had reasonable weather for the Winter programme with one exception, in the summer, not many disruptions to completing the matches. The usual problems with card completions, posting, wrong details are still relevant and with the coming of online reporting it will be more important to ensure mistakes are not made. More about that later.

With the Summer Ladies League final tables I would congratulate Victoria A team with finishing top of Division 3 with a maximum total of 100 points. This does not happen very often so it is extremely commendable - now good luck next year in Division 2.

Whilst on matches can I comment on the Veteran's League. Len May our earlier Chairman promoted this in 1999 with the intention of giving older members of clubs the opportunity of match play as they were unable to be chosen for the Winter League teams. It has now become the norm to play the same members in both Winter League teams and in the veterans team. Originally the age limit was 45 and now 50 and I wonder if we should increase the age limit to 60. Please give it some thought and let the Committee know your feelings in due course.

May I take this opportunity to thank the Committee for their work during the year, in particular, to Jenny and Philip who take all the flack when you get things wrong. Also to thank the Winscombe Club for the use of this room for our meeting. I hope this may continue for the future.

David Pottow

## **Appendix B**

### **NSTL SECRETARY REPORT 2019**

Hi Everyone,

I'll start with the moaning! It's been a trying year for me. I feel I spend a lot of my time trying to make life easier for everyone but I'm not sure this is always the case.

For instance, I initiated the North Somerset Calendar a couple of years ago now which has all the significant dates from now until next year's AGM on it, however I received so many emails asking me when the Summer fixtures would be published and between what dates the Summer league would run. All this information was already on the calendar which had been emailed out to all clubs 7 month previous and had also been available to view on the NSTL website for the last 6 months.

I had countless emails and there were also comments when I was playing in my own matches, asking when the tables would be updated. I don't have any access to the NSTL website and so I have absolutely nothing to do with updating the results and tables. However, I'm hoping I'll be spared this for the coming season now that you will be able to submit your own results online where the tables should update automatically. Phil is going to tell you all about that later.

I will take this opportunity though, to tell you all now, that I am not an administrator of the new website and so any queries relating to the submission of results, rearranging of games or updating of tables must all go to Phil and Chris please.

I will be sending out the spreadsheet template for your Winter fixtures when I get home this evening so please fill this out and return it to me as soon as possible but by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September at the very latest. Again, this deadline is on the calendar.

The same club had their fixtures in late again last year. That's two years in a row now so I'll be naming and shaming if it happens a third time.

There were only 4 discrepancies last year, which was so much better, thank you.

If there are any discrepancies this year around start times, I will take the time stated by the home team so you will need to refer to the fixtures published at the end of this month rather than your own please, in case there are any changes.

There seemed to be a problem with the excel spreadsheet template that you put your fixtures into. The majority of clubs sent them back in the same format without a problem but there were half a dozen clubs who sent their fixtures back to me as a PDF or jpeg file which meant I had to retype them all. One club didn't bother entering any start times and another typed into the spreadsheet instead of using the dropdown lists. If you have a problem with the spreadsheet, please find someone in your club who has an up-to-date version of Microsoft Office who can help you please.

Despite all my moaning I am really excited to see how the next year pans out with the new LTA results website. I hope it makes things easier and far more efficient for all of us.

I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work and support with an extra special thanks going to David for coming out of retirement to help us through another year and the lovely Carole for trying to keep me sane.

Lastly, I have a date for your diary! Next year's AGM will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, so that's something for you all to look forward to!

Thank you.

Jenny Purcell  
NSTL Secretary



## Appendix C

### **NSTL TREASURER REPORT 2019**

Firstly my thanks and a special mention must go to David Pottow who has taken the reins as our Chair this past year after the sad loss of Pete Hucker. He has led another successful year of tennis for us all and we as the NSTL must be thankful to have his experience guiding us again throughout the year.

Also thank you Jenny, because without her we do not have continuity for the Secretary role. Sometimes it can be a thankless task, but I am sure all clubs will respect that we run pretty much on the willingness of people to want this league to continue for us all to play competitive tennis. 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 we have 21 clubs & 145 teams. And yet in spite of all our experience, brainpower and phones with calculators we cannot always complete cards properly.

That brings me nicely to the fact that some of you will have noticed, or your treasurers will, that we have increased the fees this year to allow for the fact the we wish to go 'online' for our results. This you may remember was put forward last year & approved. Phil & Chris have been working for us to enable this to be a reality this coming year. We will be charged by the LTA per team for this facility & we have increased the team entry £2.00 to cover this fee. Hey what a joy for Phil no more incorrect cards! Well he can hope. Just as a note a fee for each team makes sure that clubs with less teams are not penalised.

This still represents excellent value for all of our clubs to play competitive tennis all year round, and you will not have to pay to print & post cards etc.

Coming to the accounts I would mention, as you will see from the copy you all have in your envelopes, show a small profit of £52 for the year ended July 2019. 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 in 2017 we increased team entry fees to £8 per team which has enabled this break even result. The additional £2 online fee will not affect our accounts generally as it will mostly be paid to the LTA.

As you will see from the figures, our Barclays account was closed in October 2018 as agreed at the last AGM & although I have made a few enquiries, interest is still a rare thing on club or society accounts. Who knows maybe our new Prime Minister will change that! Dream on Carole I think.

**In conclusion;-**

With the permission of the Chair I am requesting acceptance of the NSTL accounts for the Year ended July 2019.

Thank you

**Carole Carter**

**Honorary Treasurer NSTL**