

# Squash Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday 17th June 2019 - 7.30pm

**Attendees:** John Cross, Philip Black, John Sawyer, Tina Fuselli, Paul Mayo, Mark Williams, Phil Rushworth, Geoff Chapman, Raja Ram

**Apologies:** Rolf Buhler, Clare Baker, Nicola Sands

**Attendee:** Mark Adkins (Club Duty/Assistant Manager)

**Guest attendee for development of Courts 5 & 6:** Hossam Elgarhy

## Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> May were approved.

## Development of Courts 5 & 6

The Committee reviewed a draft document entitled “WRFC Squash Courts 5&6 Area Redevelopment”. Hossam presented ideas for development of courts 5 and 6.

The Committee were in general agreement with the broad design (remove old changing room, glass back courts, multi-purpose open space behind courts, sound proofing etc).

The Committee asked Hossam to consider internalising the fire escape staircase and allowing access to it from gym so they could access the space behinds courts 5 & 6. Hossam confirmed this would be achievable within the designs.

The Committee recognised that ideas around revenue generating activities would need to be developed further to ensure value for money - to ensure that any monies outlaid would be recovered in a reasonable payback period from additional revenues.

Action: Clare and Mark A to start to compile a list of potential sources of revenue for the new space.

Action: Mark A and Serge to also explore grant funding to support the development. This has been identified as an opportunity which hasn't fully been explored before.

Hossam was asked to provide a ball park figure as an indication. He suggested a budget in the region of £100k (including VAT). This would exclude court refurbishment which would instead

be carried out by a specialist contractor. Hossam estimated in the region of 5 months to do the work. Should go ahead eventually be achieved then pricing could be structured in a way as to build in discounts for ancillary work such as maintenance & repairs. The Committee reminded Hossam that there would be a competitive tender process before we get to this stage.

Action: Hossam was asked to provide an indicative quote and some high level details.

Action: VAT - Geoff confirmed club VAT registered. Phil agreed to look into VAT status and confirm recoverability of development costs.

## Squash over view

Phil and Tina gave an update:

*Squash events calendar:* Phil took the Committee through the squash season calendar for the remainder of 2019.

*Junior Squash tournament:* Tina mentioned that she was approached for the club to host Junior Gold tournament again in February 2020, during half term, running from Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Tina will also be running the junior Bronze tournament the weekend beforehand which will be a great warm up to the following week. Dates work well and occur over a normally quiet time for the club, and won't affect league matches as cycles will most likely run Dec 16th-Feb 2nd(7 weeks), Feb 3rd- Feb March 22nd (7 weeks). Committee agreed this was a good idea and asked Tina to progress arrangements.

Action: Committee asked to consider whether the rates charged should be the same as this year

*League cycles:* Tina confirmed league software generally working OK however some follow up required with software providers as the Squash Levels rankings were not updating for recent league cycles.

Action: Tina has since followed up with Squash Levels and the issue is now resolved

Action: Tina also agreed to extend the current Racketball league cycle to mid-July.

Action: John asked Tina to tidy up the news page removing out of date information.

*Ladies event / Neil Desai Junior event - 7 September:* Events arranged. Huge participation expected in junior event.

*Nick Matthew (RECENT WORLD NUMBER ONE!!!) masterclass:* Phil updated that we are close to securing a Nick Matthew masterclass for November 23<sup>rd</sup>. This was greeted with excitement and is expected to be extremely popular. It is expected that Nick will be at the club for 4-6 hours.

Action: Phil to follow up, finalise, get into calendar and then plan publicity

*Social team:* Lewis Crabtree is stepping down and is looking to hand over. Successor currently being finalised.

### **Handicap comp - 22nd June**

Phil asked the Committee to encourage participation - 20 participants confirmed. Handicaps will be based on league placings or squash levels ranking. Participants are guaranteed at least 4 round robin games, with the winners & some runners up progressing to the knockout out stages. There will be cash prizes awarded to the top 3 players. Food will follow the prize giving including a curry & a beer! Some of the entry fee will also go towards our two chosen club charities, The Neil Desai Foundation & the Anders Foundation.

### **Update on board meeting**

John updated from the Board meeting. Our sponsorship agreement with Dunlop was well received.

### **Maintenance cycle**

The Committee discussed a number of maintenance issues. Fixing of toilets will be a large job as the pipes under the floor have collapsed. A communication will be going out to members to inform them of the works. Soap dispensers in showers need to be filled more quickly. Ventilation in court 6 needs fixing - balls have gone into mechanism and affected it. Roof leak onto court 2 in need of urgent attention. The Committee requested that maintenance jobs be prioritised and organised. A schedule be developed.

Action: Mark A agreed to follow up on soap dispensers.

Action: Mark A agreed to provide an initial template/draft of a maintenance plan. This will need to be developed.

Action: The club's underlying ledgers do not split out historic maintenance costs. John agreed to ask Jackie to try and isolate these costs from other records.

### **Finance sub committee update**

*Management information:* Geoff confirmed that he is trying to arrange a meeting with the external accountants to help understand how the financial data reconciles. John mentioned that a similar issue was discussed at the Board. It is recognised that Legend does not align with Sage. Next steps Neil and Jackie to speak to the external accountants about aligning these different sources and await for the outcome of this discussion. Geoff also reminded the

Committee that the confusion over the Wimbledon Cup finances was due to the timing of income and expenditure items.

*Court bookings:* Management to send communication to all squash players about paying for bookings. For the person making the booking to name both players where known. Otherwise to confirm the 2nd player when entering the club to play. Otherwise will end up funding the court and will have to recover half of fees from opponent.

*Wimbledon cup:* Date now agreed and event registered with England Squash. Initial decisions made on prize fund. Dunlop sponsorship expected to yield results. Geoff shared his reconciliation of the results from 2019.

Action: Phil Black to review and prepare budget for 2019 event.

Action: Geoff asked to review the budget for 2019 event.

### **LED lighting**

Proposal tabled by Mark and John at the Board for courts 5 and 6 with the energy saving quickly outweighing the initial investment. This has been approved.

### **AOB**

Squash photos still to be taken for some members.

Next meeting agreed for July 15.