



Hutton Rudby Tennis Club AGM
Thursday 28th February 2019

1. **Apologies** - Dave Macafee, Keith Hodgson, Sue Cosgrove, Alison Morton, John Coatsworth, Wilf Wilson.

Present: Pam Dodds, John Taylor, John Kitson, Paddy Morton, Simon Hill, Christine Devereux, Richard Smith, Claire Smith, Andy Bragg, Fiona Booth, Lisa Donaldson, Sue Bedford, Jane Simpson, Dolly Hannon.

2. **Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting**

Members requested minutes to be emailed out as they had not been available to all.

3. **Matters Arising**

TBC following circulation of minutes.

4. **Chairmans Report**

In Feb 2018 we struggled to get here due to the icy conditions but for the past couple of weeks we have been bathed in sunshine however today we seem to be back to winter!! People often attend AGM'S in trepidation in case they get 'lumbered' with a job, or voted onto a committee. However I feel the people who turn up are members who care about the Club and want to know how they can help it move forward, so good to see you all, thank you for coming along and offering your support.

The Club does not belong to the committee but the committee are there to work on behalf of the membership. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each member of the committee and any other members who volunteer to support the running of the Club, without these people we would not have such a successful Club.

Refurbishment

2018 saw the installation of the Floodlights and new meter's which now take both coins and tokens. I am sure you will all agree that this refurbishment of the Club along with the pavilion extension and the new courts makes it one of the best facilities for tennis in the area. However we must continue to maintain our facilities and consider work on the pavilion next to ensure that it stays in good repair.

The greater use of the facility has meant that we need to address the upkeep of the tennis section part of the pavilion. Please encourage all users that they need to leave the area ready for use by the next occupant.

LTA

We continue to be members of the LTA and this has required us to address their new Minimum Safe Guarding Standards:

- * Safeguarding
- * Diversity and Inclusion
- * Welfare Officer
- * Criminal Record Checks

All of the above information relating to our policies for the above can be found in the files in the kitchen or on the HRTC website.

Following the work setting these up we can say we are a 'British Tennis Registered Venue'. Thanks goes to Alison Morton who continues in the role of the Welfare Officer and has been proactive in pulling this together.

Thank you again to those members who have joined British Tennis and have 'Opted In' to allow the Club to be allocated Wimbledon Tickets. Last Year we received 11 pairs of tickets. This year we have managed to increase the number of members who have opted in, from 68 last year to 87 this year. This should see an increase in allocated tickets available to us. Please encourage all members to Join British Tennis now as this will give us a greater allocation of tickets when the Opt In window comes around again in September.

A number of us attended the Durham and Cleveland Regional British Tennis Awards evening in January at Sunderland Stadium of Light where we were being recognised for 3 awards:

Claire Smith as Coach of the Year – as our outreach coach who brings along many new faces to the Club

HRTC as Club of the Year – following the installation of the new floodlights and the development of the floodlit league

John Taylor for the Harry and David Meritorious Award for services to Tennis awarded by Durham and Cleveland LTA and the British Tennis Lifetime Achievement award which he won.

Coaching programme

Derek and Claire continue to maintain and grow their coaching numbers and Junior Club night for the very young children on a Sunday afternoon has been successful, thanks goes to Vicky Knox for pulling this together. However this needs more support from interested parents so please encourage them to get involved.

Junior Events

A number of junior events have taken place this year including Team Challenge, Team Tennis and friendlies. Thanks go to Claire for organising these. The HRTC championships took place with the younger children but the older children did not complete their matches. Junior engagement in competition remains a challenge which I hope we are about to resolve this coming year.

Adult Club Competitions

The Club Championships were organised by Dan Farman. The mixed competition was reinstated along with the men's and ladies singles and doubles. Unfortunately although there was an attempt to hold a finals day there were too many matches not played and too many people unavailable on the day. However the matches did get finished and the cups awarded appropriately. The Championships need to be looked at by the committee and a set of rules be drawn up to be followed before next season.

Adult Competitions and social events

We had a successful start of season tournament but did not hold an end of season one and no American tournaments took place. However with the installation of the new floodlights the Floodlit League helped by the mild winter has been a huge success with members having the opportunity to keep playing tennis throughout the winter months.

Both the Ceilidh, which was a new addition, and the Christmas Quiz were very successful and both good fundraisers. Thank you to all who got involved and organised them.

Adult Participation and Teams

Club Night and Squad are well attended thanks go to those volunteers who keep these going.

Cleveland League the following teams have been represented:

Ladies x 2, Men's x3, Mixed x1, Vets x1, North East Winter League x1 captains will report later. This year we have submitted the same but with an additional Mixed Team.

It is important to understand what the vision is for playing in teams and that member's get the opportunity to play match tennis is they so wish. It is therefore necessary that we ensure there is a team for them to play in. This is to be discussed at committee along with captains ready for the new season.

A proposal has gone from the committee to the Cleveland League submitted by John Kitson to try to alleviate the problems with players playing for too many teams. It will go to the League AGM in March.

Final Comments and challenges

Rules of the Club and the Development Plan for the Club are now ready to be revisited and will be addressed by the Committee.

The use of Clubspark is free to us as members of the LTA for booking the courts. It started in its infancy a number of years ago when we piloted it. Thanks to Lisa Donaldson it is more widely available for the membership and with the increase in the use of court time more essential to book courts. A challenge for us all to ensure when we turn up at the Club we can get a court to play on.

The Website continues to be an area that we need to update and keep relevant and although we have only had it a few years it is ready for an overhaul. Keith has submitted a report to committee which will be discussed.

Grounds and Maintenance is a constant request at certain times of the year. Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help to trim trees etc. The Ash tree from the playground has successfully been removed and we are still hoping to replace the fencing at the back of court 1.

The rota of volunteers for the cleaning of the courts continues but we could still do with more on the list to take the lion share from those few that help.

Vice Chair Following my period of time out of action last year it highlighted the need for a Vice Chair this I hope we will be able to address with the new committee. I am in a position where at present I am unable to play tennis due to injury. I am willing to stand for one more year as Chair but I would like to feel as though I can hand my role over eventually.

Pam Dodds

5. Treasurers Report

Treasurers Report 2018 – Submitted by John Kitson.

1. Cash at year end. £19,912 with £15,475 within sinking fund. Future sinking fund contributions £9,000 pa.

2. Subscription income £13,959 plus winter membership £180. Only up 0.38% despite the increase in subscription rates. Winter membership up £60
3. Visitors Fees up 50% but this includes £46 from wedding so virtually static.
4. Lighting Fees up £300. 33% due to new lights with increased fees but also success of Winter League.
5. Fund Raising £760. Ceilidh made £555 and Christmas Quiz £204. We still await £50 refund from village hall.
6. Court Running Cost up £188 although of this £360 of this is in creditors owed to STM for April clean. Pavilion costs up but includes new door and kitchen alterations £635
7. Electricity up £163 (32%). New lights give more light but electricity consumption similar to old lights. There will be an increased consumption with increased use. Costs have been fixed for 3 years from 12th October.
8. Tennis Ball costs will increase to circa £4.20 per tin from £3.90. Only modest but our costs are based on £4 per tin.
9. No money was spent on Junior Trophies and the boards have not been updated
10. Lighting upgrade cost £19,779. Sinking Fund increase to £9k pa to cover court costs and lighting. This is below LTA recommendation so is really a minimum figure. Surplus income for the year is £4.2k which given the increased sinking fund is a positive improvement.
11. Thanks to Paul Butler who has again audited the accounts.

Accounts voted in and ratified.

PM questioned if match fees to be put up to cover increased cost of balls. **ACTION To be discussed at next committee meeting.**

6. Captains Reports

Mens A Team Report 2018 Season

The A team had a great season winning Div 3 and gaining promotion to Div 2

Played 12 Won 11 Lost 1 total points 103.5

Squad was picked from David McAfee, Mark Burns, Tim Puttick, Wilf Wilson, Dan Farman, Jason Honeyman and Andy Mason.

We used most of the B team players once during the season as cover which was greatly appreciated Very much looking forward to the challenge of playing Div 2 tennis this coming season.

Thanks to all for their contribution and commitment throughout the season.

Wilf Wilson

Mens B Team Report

The team played in Division 4 for the second year running finishing 4th with 72.5 points behind Yarm D who won with 84.5 points. A total of 11 players formed the team with Tim Smith contributing an impressive 27 points. We had three below par results loosing 9-0 to Yarm away but beating them 5-4 at home and we also dropped 6 points in our two games with Guisbrough who only won 24 points in all. A better performance in these matches may well have seen us challenging for promotion.

The players who supported the team were Tim Smith, Andy Cottrell, Richard Smith, Paddy Morton, Kieran Hodgson, Keith Hodgson, Alan Read, Daniel Walters, Owen Salvage, John Coatsworth and John Kitson

Ladies A Team

The Ladies A Team managed to stay up last season in division 1, Thank you Team, Everybody did very well, and despite been beaten quite a lot we all enjoyed the season. Alison Morton B Team captain and I managed to spread players between us quite well without match tying everybody, so thank you for your help Alison.

Unfortunately because we are in division 1 some ladies are put off and do not feel they want to play at that level, so if we did end up in division 2 this could also be a positive outcome. So this summer we will just go out and enjoy ourselves.

Susan Cosgrove

Captain's Report – Ladies B team

The Ladies B team played in Division 4, and we finished the season 3rd in the division, winning 6 out of 10 of our matches. The top 3 teams all finished reasonably close on points. I think we had more success this year by trying to field a regular team and pairings, and plan to continue with this strategy next season.

Thanks to all the ladies who played, offered to play or were persuaded to play! It was great to have that support and enthusiasm. Hopefully this year we can continue to build on what we achieved, enjoy ourselves and aim for the dizzy heights of division 3!

Thanks to Sue Cosgrove for her support, and we will continue to work together this season to maximise success for both teams.

Alison Morton

Vets Team

We have an enthusiastic squad of players keen to maintain competitive tennis through the winter months and were fortunate this season not to have to postpone or cancel any matches. As the Vets league expanded to include 9 teams this year, for the first time it was split into 2 Divisions. Hutton Rudby was unfortunately placed in the first Division where we had to contend with the likes of Yarm A, New Blackwell and Great Ayton so we enjoyed some tough matches but only managed to draw one.

Dolly Hannon

North East Winter League

We again entered a team in the NEWL. There were 8 teams in our group and we did well to finish 2nd, winning 6 of our 7 matches. We then went onto the knockout stage for overall 2nd place, getting an away draw to Beverley Park in Whitley Bay.... but unfortunately we lost that one.

I hope everyone enjoyed the matches and thanks to all that played.

2018 Mixed Team Report

Thank you; to everybody who played in the team this year. We didn't have many games where we fielded the same team twice. Despite this we comfortably held our place in Division 2. Additionally, I do not remember any occasions when I struggled to find players willing to play. Thus indicating strength in depth that I hope will ensure we can run 2 teams successfully this year.

John Coatsworth

7. Juniors Report

There are over 100 juniors taking part in weekly coaching with either Claire or Derek. Junior club for 9 & unders took place on Sunday's between April and October, an additional chance for mini tennis players to get involved in games and points.

Teams were entered into the North East league last summer at 8&under, 9&under, 10&u and 12&u, with the 9&unders winning their league.

Informal Team Challenge events offered older junior players the chance to compete in a friendly environment and both boys and girls took part in events in Hutton Rudby, Great Ayton and Guisborough.

Some 10&under girls have been playing in the North East GB Girls programme, a series of girls only competitions and festivals.

Claire Smith

8. Election of Officers & Committee

Standing down:

Richard Smith – League Liason Officer

Lisa Donaldson – Communications Officer. (Will continue as Club spark leader not on committee).

Elected to committee:

Claire Smith – Club Development Officer (Proposed by SH, seconded by CD)

Fiona Booth – Committee Member (proposed by LD, seconded by SB)

9. Club Competitions - Presentations

Conratulations were given to all club championship winners this year. Presentations made to :

Ladies Singles: C. Devereux, **Ladies Doubles:** C. Devereux & J. Cooper, **Mixed Doubles:** C.

Devereux & A. Mason, **Mens Singles** D. Macafee, **Mens Doubles:** M. Burns & D. Macafee, **Craig**

Trophy: V. Knox & P.Morton.

10. AOB

Membership/ Subscription fees 2019/20.

A proposal for new membership/subscription fees for 2019/20 were submitted to the AGM. Some changes and amendments were suggested by members. These amendments were carried in a vote, 9 in favour.

New subscription rates proposed:

Family £160; Joint £149; Adult £99; Young Adult Under 25 £50; Student £45; Junior Over 9 £45;

Junior Under 9 £23; Country £30; Social £5; Ceiling £210.

ACTION New fees to be ratified by committee at next meeting.

Court Usage Records: Lisa Donaldson questioned if court users still need to fill in recording sheets.

AGM agreed to continue at present. **ACTION** Paddy Morton to send out reminder to membership to continue recording usage.

Club Competitions and Social Events

It was suggested by some attendees that there was a lack of club competition and social events in the calendar last year, particularly the American tournaments. This was noted by the chair who responded that the response and sign up for these events had been poor 2 years ago. It was suggested it was because it was a charity events and £6 entry instead of £3. **ACTION** Committee to consider in 2019/20 calendar of events at 11/03/19 Committee meeting.

Paddy Morton

Club Secretary