

Girton Tennis Club AGM (9th March 2017)

1. Members present

Andy Luff, Jessica Sims, Alan Franklin, Kevin Keeves, Mark Lawton, Lesley-Ann Parker, John Irwin, Victor Travieso, Mathew Boucher.

Apologies: Georgi Merev, Sally Thorpe, Bruce Parker, Daphne Randall, Rafi Blumenfeld, Margaret Pearce Higgins, Andy Bullett, Alan Richardson.

2. 2016 Minutes Accepted.

3. Matters Arising from 2016 Minutes

Court maintenance: The club has advised the Parish Council (PC) that they should be budgeting for regular maintenance to keep the courts in their current good order. This might include sweeping the surface, removing surface moss/growth, clearing weeds from around the edge gully and repairing the floodlights. To date any repair/maintenance seems to be tackled on an ad-hoc basis, as was the case for the recent repair to the floodlights. Committee members will continue to raise any maintenance issues with the PC as they arise.

4. Chairman's report

John thanked the committee for their hard work and support during 2016. Alan R's role in running the junior sessions on Friday evenings was particularly highlighted as it has encouraged youngsters to play with a resulting increase in our club membership. Maintaining our momentum in increasing membership is particularly important.

5. Treasurer's report

The club made a modest profit last year thanks to an increase in membership and tight control of costs. We were not able to enter the mixed team tennis tournament and this reduced expenditure on refreshments for matches. Court rental paid to the PC was £2,065 last year but will rise to £2,090 for our next membership year. It was agreed that Andy should offer a £200 MUGA usage donation for last year as we had managed to make an operating profit again. The accounts were approved by the Chairman.

6. Appointment of Officers

The following were proposed, seconded and accepted:

Alan Franklin – Secretary

Kevin Keeves – Membership Secretary

Andy Luff – Treasurer

Committee Members: Alan Richardson, Rafi Blumenfeld, Mark Lawton, Jessica Sims, Lesley-Ann Parker, John Irwin, Victor Travieso, Bruce Parker, Mathew Boucher.

Team Captains: Men – Mark Lawton (Andy Luff agreed to be Vice Captain)

7. Membership

Last season we had 97 members as compared to 73 the previous year. Increases in all fees had enabled the club to operate with a modest profit. With increases in court usage and club room rental costs it will be necessary to increase our charges by a small amount again even if membership numbers remain steady. It was agreed the £5 early payment discount will still apply and fees for 2017/2018, before early payment discount, will be:

Single £63

Junior £27

Family £120

8. GTC Rules

No changes were proposed.

9. Project: Coaching

A previous survey of the membership indicated that 25 adults and 19 juniors would welcome the opportunity to have some coaching. Although we were unable to secure the services of a coach last season, it is still considered as something that would be of interest to both existing and new members.

It was agreed that we would aim to find a coach to be present on five or six Friday evenings (club nights) leading up to Wimbledon. The coach would be present for the whole 2 hours and offer advice and coaching to those playing or waiting to play. This might be funded from a CambsLTA grant (if it links into increased over 35's membership) but otherwise would be covered from club reserves. John/Jess agreed to seek a suitable coach and Jess/Victor agreed to try and put a grant application together before the 19th March deadline. John & Jess are due to attend the local LTA AGM on the 15th March to collect contacts and ideas for coaching and grants.

Alan R will co-ordinate the Friday junior sessions again with help from Victor.

10. AOB

The Xmas 2017 dinner date was discussed as John suggested a Friday evening (club night) might be more popular than the normal Saturday. Kevin to canvas those who regularly attend and choose a suitable date around 2nd December at the Crown, Girton – subject to availability.

It was agreed that we should support the Village Feast and open the courts to the public on Sat 8th July. Kevin reminded those present that we need plenty of members helping during that afternoon.

It was agreed that we would have a 'tidy-up' session around the courts before the match season starts again. Keven to organise.

It was agreed that we would continue to publicise the club and new membership via the Co-Op notice board and Girton Parish News. Alan F to action. It was also agreed that Alan R should also talk to the PC about moving our club notice board to the car-park side of the Pavilion. If this can be done, Jess and John will produce a club mission statement (based on our constitution – see web site) and also put some attractive words together to encourage more community interest.

Kevin agreed to research when the club was founded as we may be getting close to our 50th year – and time to celebrate in some manner.

11. Next Meetings

No dates were set although the 2018 AGM will be in March.
Meeting at 'The George', Girton closed at 21.15

A committee meeting followed the AGM and John Irwin was unanimously re-elected as Club Chairman. Dates for future committee meetings to be agreed as required.