

Minutes of NDLTC AGM 6th October 2024

1. Apologies : Philippa Millward, Steve French, Gerry Atwell, Andrew Baldwin, Lisa Muten & Maish Ernst.

2. Approval of minutes from the AGM Sept. 24th 2023. The minutes were approved by the assembled members. It should be noted that a member (in absentia) would like it on record that the minutes are an inaccurate representation of what this member said at last year's AGM regarding a matter she raised.

3. Chairperson's report. After welcoming the attendees Zac reported that the previous year had fewer challenges than previous years. There have been lovely social events including quiz nights & more to come over the winter months such as the upcoming cheile. The club tournament was very successful, coaching both adult & children is growing & there are plans to introduce a coach at some social sessions to make it more inclusive & balanced (more details to come). The grounds are coming along nicely & we are progressing with plans for the clubhouse re-development pending more fundraising. We are grateful to DKK for some sponsorship money but we will be looking for new funding opportunities to resurface the bottom courts & continue the clubhouse renovations (thanks to Catherine for legal advice). We are grateful to Steve (Butterworth) for help & advice in our negotiations with the proposed JAGS development next door. Zac thanked the members who responded to the recent player survey & also thanked the committee members who made all of the above possible. Helen was welcomed as a new member of the committee as Welfare Officer. Special thanks to Laura for all her years of service as Webmaster, she is leaving the committee but will continue to assist Enatina in the Junior Rep. role.

4. Financial report & accounts. In Olivia's absence Keith presented the financial report for the past year ending March 2024. The Accounts were pretty much in a 'steady as she goes' state. Surplus for the year was £17K compared with £3K in 2022/23. Most of this extra was from sponsorship income of £10K. Subscriptions were up £5K and Electricity was down £4K, latter partly due to new LED lights. Despite higher surplus Cash was down £4K, mainly due to increase in 24/25 subscriptions paid last March via credit card; these go via Stripe with a delay in transfer to the club - hence Debtors now £10K higher.

5. Adoption of accounts. The attendees voted unanimously to adopt the accounts.

6. Election of committee. There was only one vacant role, that of Welfare Officer and Helen Freeman was elected. Proposed by Linda Irwin, seconded by Zac Campbell.

The following committee members were re-elected.

	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
Chair: Zac Campbell	Linda	Adrian
Treasurer: Olivia Patterson	Linda	Mike
Secretary: Linda Irwin	Zac	Andy C
Membership: Andy Carter	Zac	Keith
Social Secretary: Ian Hirst	Linda	Helen
Junior Representative: Enatina Stamati	Matt	Mike
Grounds & Facilities : Mike Almond	Mark	Andy P
Tennis Manager: Jo Morris	Zac	Linda
Community Liaison Officer: Sean Haggerty	Linda	Ian
Members Representative: Becky Tyers	Ian	Andy P

Development: On hold pending redefining of role

Head Coach & Website: Matt Cowie (co-opted)

LTA liaison & club ball supplies: Keith Ball (co-opted)

7. AOB. A query was raised about how players can get refunds if play is impossible due to adverse weather. Currently courts must be cancelled 4 hours before play starts to get a refund automatically on Mycourts. Any player who wishes a refund for cancellations after the 4 hour window may email Matt or Olivia. This will be sent out to the membership in the upcoming newsletter & the website cancellation policy will be updated.

More information was asked on JAGS rebuilding project. Zac said that he, Andy (Carter), Mike & Steve (Butterworth) were communicating with JAGS. To summarize the 2 houses adjacent to the club will be knocked down to build a new school. Of concern to us is the loss of the trees & a new hard play area for the children close to us (increased noise levels). We are negotiating an extended lease with Dulwich Estates for a further 30 years (25 years in the present lease) but there are conditions eg, we must have plans for club development. As mentioned in Zac's report we are progressing with this.

A member asked when the results of the recent player survey will be distributed to the general membership. Unfortunately Becky was unable to make the meeting but she has summarised the findings for the committee & hopefully they will be sent out shortly via email and hard copy.

A question was asked why we are not using the computerised login system which is in the clubhouse (initially not used due to Covid). At a previous committee meeting it was decided not to use this system as there didn't seem to be any issues by not using it. There were many comments both for the system and against it (not all players go into the clubhouse) so it will be discussed again at the next committee meeting. A suggestion was made that team captains should be able to book & cancel team games. Further discussion required on this. Much discussion was generated on players not cancelling courts if not needed or cancelling too late so the room was reminded to consider others & if a court is cancelled at late notice to *Whats App* people on **AFT**. Players can also sign up for cancelled court alerts by email.

Concern was raised about the clubhouse insurance, if it was valid since we don't use the intruder alarm. Zac to look into this.

Questions were asked about the resurfacing of the lower courts, the response was that this will take priority over the clubhouse development. Mike explained that we have maintenance contracts for the care of the courts. This led to the issue of leaves & sycamore seeds falling on the courts. All members are asked to use the blower to clear the courts before play (brushes may be used on the lower courts but not suitable for the top courts).

A new member said that there were some things about the club she wasn't aware of eg, the leaf blower. All new members receive an information email on joining but it would be helpful to put things like how & when to use the leaf blower in a newsletter (email & hard copy). Hitting partners & tours of the club are organised by Andy (Membership Secretary) & others for new members. It was noted that some members only come to play & get upset if asked to use the leaf blower or brush prior to their game. Suggestions were made to have more notices around the club esp. about removing the leaves, a notice near the leaf blower with instructions & adding a second battery for the machine.

A question was asked about the keys for opening the bar. These are kept in the coach's room but not accessible to everyone. Ian has a *WhatsApp* group for organising a rota to run the bar esp. at social sessions.

One player reported that he had broken 2 racquet strings using the ball machine so a discussion took place regarding the quality of the balls used & the setting of the machine as to how hard the balls were ejected. The slinger machine uses heavy top spin so this is likely to be the reason, lowering the speed of the ball machine should help.

A question was asked about the sponsorship logos & how long they will be around the courts. For discussion at the next committee meeting.

Attendees :

Ross Cornish
Keith Ball
Kirsty Sanders
Shirley Escott
Linda Irwin
Zac Campbell
Adrian Richmond
Nigel Flay
Mike Almond
Andy Cox
Helen Freeman
Harold Freeman
Andy Price
Matt Waller
Luke Collins
Pete Chinn
Simon Tricker
Ian Hirst
Lucy Pickles
Mark Rusher
Wei Sun
Matt Cowie
Vathani Waran
Sean Haggerty
Yen Lin Chong
Jack Galloway

Thank you to all who made the effort to attend the AGM.

Please contact me (lindairwin6@hotmail.co.uk) if you have any issues regarding the minutes.

Feel free at any time to contact a member of the committee or email

northdulwichtennis@yahoo.com or suggestionsndltc@gmail.com