

Minutes of ND LTC AGM 24 September 2023

1. Report from the Chair

Zac summed up a year of great progress. We have laid two new artificial grass courts, installed LED floodlights, renewed the bar floor and also brought in sponsorship which should allow further improvements to the clubhouse. He thanked all those who have volunteered and helped to make lots of great tennis and social activity happen.

2. Financial report and accounts (year ending 31st March 2023)

Olivia summed up the essential good health of the club's finances. Reported subscriptions income was up due to no Covid closure-related rebates this year and because we raised subscription fees slightly. There has been a large increase in electricity costs due to higher prices but mainly because we had a long overdue meter reading! We continue to benefit from zero rates from Southwark Council.

We recorded an overall surplus of £3k which is good for a non profit organisation especially considering the amount of work done this year.

3. Adoption of accounts

The attendees voted unanimously to adopt the accounts.

4. Election of Officers

Zac noted that Linda Irwin and Mike Almond would like to change roles on the Committee and that four new people (Becky Tyers, Sean Haggerty, Jackie Blackler and Enatina Stamati) had stepped up to fill open roles.

The following new members of the committee were proposed, seconded and accepted:

Secretary: Linda Irwin (proposed by Keith Ball, seconded by Mike Almond)
Community Liaison: Sean Haggerty (proposed by Olivia Paterson, seconded by Andy Carter)
Juniors Rep: Enatina Stamati (proposed by Matt Cowie, seconded by Zac Campbell)
Members Rep: Becky Tyers (proposed by Mike Almond, seconded by Ian Hirst)
Grounds and Facilities: Mike Almond (proposed by Ian Hirst, seconded by Jo Morris)
Welfare Officer: Jackie Blackler (proposed by Yen Lin Chong, seconded by Becky Tyers)

The rest of the Committee was re-elected and thanks expressed for their hard work on behalf of the club.

Welcome and thank you to all of you for stepping up to help.

5. Approval of minutes of AGM on 10 July 2022

These were approved.

6. AOB

A question was raised about alcohol licensing and whether we should have one. It was noted that as long as the facility is only open to members and their guests then we are fine as we are. If we do stage a wider event then we can always apply for an events license.

It was mentioned that the exit had been blocked due to a recent children's party in the hall which could have been a fire risk. Ian agreed to update the events document to reflect this.

Olivia noted that the fire alarm is due to be fixed on 25 September.

ACTION: Olivia and Ian to check our insurance for fire coverage.

The perennial issue of increasing membership was raised yet again. We have 240 adult full members, 60 off peak adult members and 162 juniors. LTA guidance suggests that 60 members per court is a good number and we are 25% above this in adult members alone. We have 300 people on the waiting list. Turnover is around 60 people per year. Andy noted that many people on the waiting list turn down the chance of off peak membership to wait for full membership.

Rather than increasing membership it was felt that allowing more access to our club to the more disadvantaged in our community would be a great idea. Sean as our new Community Liaison Officer would be working on this going forward.

Social sessions were discussed again and how to encourage more people to attend. It was felt that social sessions are a great part of our club and everyone wants to see this thrive. Becky as our new Member's Rep will take a forward a survey in the next few months which will garner views from members on this and a range of other topics.

A question was raised on whether a particular individual should have free membership for past work done at the club. The Committee agreed to discuss this at a future Committee meeting.

Feedback on court usage and all other aspects of the club is always welcome and will always be reviewed by the committee. Speak to a committee member or email at northdulwichtennis@yahoo.com or suggestionsndltc@gmail.com.

Thanks to everyone who made the effort to attend the AGM.

In attendance

Zac Campbell
Andy Carter
Yen Lin Chong
Lisa Muten
Matt Cowie
Kirsty Sanders
Becky Tyers
Mike Almond
Olivia Paterson
Jo Morris
Sean Haggerty
Gerry Atwell
Grace Conacher
Jackie Blackler
Keith Ball
Lucy Pickles
Ian Hirst
Peter Wright
Harold Freeman
Ben Howell
Laura Ansell