

TRING TENNIS CLUB



Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th September at 8pm

Present: Kirstie Campbell, Sheena Cogger, Pat Collins, Barbara Davies, Peter Dickenson, Sarah Painter, Julie Hoskins, Nigel Kippax, Ken Tavener, Breda Tunnell, Julie Turner, and June Mordey (from 830pm) Also present: Andy Criddle

1. Apologies

- Received from Kate Bowyer, Len Tunnell

2. Approval of minutes of previous meeting held 11th June 07.

- Approved.

3. Matters Arising

- None

4. Treasurer's Report

- Balance in Alliance & Leicester is healthy.

5. Membership Secretary's report

- Full members 156; Midweek 26; Intermediate 18; Student/Uni 9; 18/21 4; Country 2; Social 10; Life Members 10 including 5 players; VPs 8; Juniors 154 and under 10, 66 (49 paying members).
- KC to ensure midweek posters are displayed to encourage more midweek members.
- Request for a refund received from a midweek member advising she could no longer play tennis due to ill health. This was agreed by the committee in view of the length of her membership and the reason for leaving. NK reiterated that there is no set policy on refund of fees and each case would be decided individual merit. *JT to do letter.*

Website feedback

- Website up and running but still in development stage. More links to be added and photos. *NK to continue development.*
- JH reported that Raf Mercurio would be interested in sponsorship of the site. Berko sports had also been approached. *NK to contact/co-ordinate.*
- LTA need to be contacted to arrange either deletion of old site or re-direct to new. *NK to action.*
- Tring Information, Herts Direct and Herts LTA have all been advised of new website.

6. Club Tournament 2008

- For 2008 members to be asked on entry form to vote for either 3rd set championship tiebreak or full 3rd set. This would then be adopted for 2008.
- Following some lively discussion it was agreed that the Tournament for 2008 would be run as before in all events and it was proposed there would be an additional drawn or handicap event in mixed doubles to encourage more members to take part and to give everyone more matches. The first rounds and up to semi finals would be on a set day(s) and the final to be played on Finals Day. There would no longer be a mixed plate. *PD to draw up full proposal to be sent to all members via email/website to ask for opinion of members.*

8. Court Maintenance

- Courts 1 & 2 will not be resurfaced in September 2007 this will now happen in 2008. Cost estimated to be £15-£18,000 dependent upon work required.
- PD asked about the possibility of carpet courts. After lively discussion it was agreed that this is a very complex issue requiring research and report not only on initial outlay but the maintenance and practicality of any new surface. There would not be sufficient time to do this and present it to members at the next AGM. In order to ascertain if there is any interest from members in having new court surfaces a ballot would be introduced via the website and email. *JT/NK to co-ordinate.*

9. Coaching

- Junior groups currently being sorted out for late September start.
- BD asked the committee to approve sponsored coaching for some juniors. This was voted on and carried unanimously. BD then explained that the £3000 would be used to provide squad coaching for older boys for one hour; older girls would have an extra joint session and the younger players would get contributions towards individual lessons. Any excess would be put towards taking the juniors to a major tournament such as Wimbledon or Davis Cup tie.

- Coaches need to attend courses on a regular basis to retain their LTA licence. BD proposed that the club contribute towards this on a pro rata basis calculated on the amount of time spent coaching for the club. This was agreed. *KT to calculate rates and make single payment each year.*
- BD requested that lines be painted on courts 5 & 6 to represent the orange court size for junior coaching. This would benefit the coaching staff and be safer than using temporary lines. This was put to the vote and carried by 4 votes to 3. BD and NK did not vote but indicated they were in favour, the remainder of the committee abstained. *Costs to be obtained. BD/LT*

10. Development Sub Committee – Andy Criddle

- AC outlined his role and how in seeking to find development opportunities for Tring LTC it had developed into Tring Sports Forum, which has representatives from 13 clubs in and around Tring and has a common aim of developing Sports facilities in Tring for the benefit of existing members and the community as a whole. See Appendix 1.
- AC reported that as a result of a survey sent to all participating clubs which identified that all were predicting a need for extra space and facilities over the next 5 to 10 years with a 27% average increase in membership predicted the forum was actively looking for land available for expansion. Tring Town council had been approached and have amended their 10 year plan to include Sports development and have given their backing to the Forum's activities. Herts County Council is also to be lobbied through talks and presentations. *AC to keep the committee informed of any developments. JT to add AC to minute circulation list and AC to attend meetings when appropriate.*
- AC advised all clubs identified parking as an issue. In order to obtain Council support for extra parking all clubs need to adopt "Green Travel Plans". Essentially encourage members to car share, walk or cycle. *Website and Newsletter to feature this. JT/NK*
- AC encouraged the club to identify where funding could be useful for example in the painting of lines on court 5 & 6 or Junior Coaching. Herts Sports Trust has small amounts available and AC could help in approaching them. The committee also need to nominate a person to liase with the ILEX Trust with a view to obtaining sponsorship for Junior Coaching which others clubs were benefiting from. *Agenda item next meeting.*

11. Clubmark

- Due to lack of time this was not discussed in full. JT confirmed that this was a requirement for LTA funding and was part of Sport England National Campaign aimed at all clubs and while we may not benefit directly from LTA funding at present it was clear that for future LTA accreditation and support it would be required. KT raised a concern that the constitution might need to be changed. It was agreed that the LTA resource pack be applied for. AC confirmed that the Rugby Club had already obtained Clubmark Status and would be willing to share their documentation much of which is generic. BD also advised that Amanda Hopgood would be willing to assist. *JT/BD to take forward and present to November meeting. AC to provide information from Rugby Club when available.*

12. Christmas Social not discussed

13. 2008 Committee not discussed

14. Teams not discussed

15. AOB

- NK requested SP and PD to decide which balls they required for matches and to advise KT. SC reconfirmed that ADL was sponsored by Wilson and they requested that clubs used Wilson balls for these matches. *Action SP/PD.*
- NK was reminded about Quiz night he was due to arrange on the 6th October. *Action NK.*
- JT requested committee decide on dates for Midweek open day and Club Open day in order to get this advertised on "I Love Tring Calendar" -Thursday 15th March Midweek Open Day and Saturday 29th March Club Open Day. *JT to advise dates and ensure c/f to calendar of events for 2008.*
- Vote of thanks to AC for attending and all the work he is putting in.
- In view of time items 12 13 and 14 were not discussed and will be dealt with separately or next meeting.

16. Next Meeting

- 26th November 2007 at 8pm.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10pm.