

MINUTES OF THE 41st CADSTL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE GROVES ON 23rd NOVEMBER 2022

Apologies:

Alan Lucas

Thornton Hough, Overton, Heswall,

Present:

John Simpson, Sue Long, Andrew Cree, Alan Hewitt, Joan Lythgoe, Pam Kloezenman, Brymbo, Cheshire Oaks, Chester, Glan Aber, Hollies, Hoole, Hooton, Hoylake, Mold, Port Sunlight, Upton, Wrexham,

Absent:

Helsby, Tarvin, Kelsall, Malpas

MINUTES OF THE 2021 AGM:

These were accepted as read.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

John spoke of how good it was to be back with a full season of tennis after the Covid affected seasons. It was our first season with a Veterans Division, though more teams would be welcome, and we could consider expanding to add Ladies and Mixed.

This was our first year fully online, with Captains entering their own results. Inevitably there had been some early season issues, such as the entry of incomplete matches, which we have now addressed in our Rules revision. Many thanks to Mike Beckett and Pam for evolving the online system to deal with these issues.

Thanks once more to Malcolm Willars for managing the CADSTL web page.

(<https://cadstl.wixsite.com/cadstl>)

John informed the meeting of the LTA Meritorious Service Award received this year by Norman Nelson of Port Sunlight, for his longstanding commitment to tennis in the area.

This year the Cheshire LTA ran a Champions League for winners and runner ups of the tennis leagues throughout Cheshire, at which, in the mens, Hoole and Hollies represented CADSTL. Hoole beat Hollies in a closely fought semi-final and narrowly lost to Widnes in the final. In the Ladies we were represented by Mold and Brymbo. Brymbo reached the semi finals but lost to Hale. Amusingly, three of the teams to represent CADSTL were from outside Cheshire!

SECRETARY'S COMMENTS:

Andy noted that some Clubs sorted out their Captains (and contact details) very late last year, causing much late revision of the Captains lists. Please could clubs aim to sort this out earlier next season.

League entries for next season need to be submitted in good time, to avoid disappointment, as it looks as if all Leagues will be full next season, (first come, first served).

The intention is to have fixtures produced by mid March, which will allow ample time for any 'problem' fixtures to be resolved, so there should be minimal need for late requests for fixture changes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joan reported on a continued healthy financial situation, with received affiliation fees from 76 teams. The cost of engraving had increased, and we had purchased a new Shield for the Veterans League. Fees of £8 per team remain for next year.

FIXTURE SECRETARIES REPORTS:

Ladies Divisions – Sue congratulated the League winners, Mold, Wrexham and Thornton Hough. Most matches were played, although there were a few concessions, and Hooton struggled for players in Division 3. There had been a few early season issues and queries to sort, but having results entered by Captains worked well.

Mens and Veterans Divisions – Alan told the meeting the Leagues were all reasonably competitive, although there were clear winners in each, Hoole A, Heswall and Mold. He emphasised the importance of not conceding games, as the points deduction had affected the Division 1 relegation places. Better to turn out with a weaker team than concede!

The first season of Vets consisted of 5 teams and had been won by Hoole. There had been some good competitive tennis and it would be great to have a few more teams next year. A brief discussion ensued about the over 60 age limit.

Mixed Divisions- Pam reported that all but one match had been played this year, with the unplayed game from Division 3 having no effect on the league positions. Congratulations to the League winners Mold A, Chester B, and Port Sunlight. A special mention to Kathryn Rymer, from Mold, who won all 20 of her rubbers without dropping a set.

RULES AMENDMENTS

John informed the meeting that there had been a significant revision of the rules, mainly resulting from the new online results entry system and the need for some clarifications.

The rule amendments were agreed by the meeting, with no objections.

ELECTION OF OFFICIALS— members of the Committee agreed to serve for a further year and were re-elected.

AOB

Wrexham submitted a motion to alter the Mixed League matches to all Mixed rubbers.

An interesting discussion ensued, noting that this had been proposed by some clubs 15 years previously. A clear majority spoke in favour, and the motion was passed with 7 clubs in favour, 2 against and 3 abstentions.

Mike Shrimplin (Hollies) then proposed an amendment to Rule 7, which would allow players to play for a higher team twice and still be eligible for a lower team.

A lively debate ensued, at which it became clear most clubs thought this would help Captains get teams out on the due fixture date and reduce conceded matches.

The ranking of players was discussed but should not be needed.

The Committee agreed that the changes would be implemented for the 2023 season and we would see how they work.

The rules will be amended to take into account these two changes and be published on the CADSTL web site.

Presentation of Trophies

The League Winners Trophies were presented as follows:-

Ladies

Division 1	Mold
Division 2	Wrexham
Division 3	Thornton Hough

Mixed

Division 1	Mold
Division 2	Chester B
Division 3	Port Sunlight

Mens

Division 1	Hoole A
Division 2	Heswall
Division 3	Mold

Veterans Mens

Hoole

Photos of the Captains and teams receiving their Trophies were taken by Andy for inclusion on the CADSTL website.

The meeting concluded with the usual wine, cheese and biscuits.