

MINUTES OF THE 40th CADSTL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE GROVES ON 17th NOVEMBER 2021

Apologies:

Hollies, Thornton Hough, Kelsall, Malpas, Overton, Cheshire Oaks, Pam Kloezean, Malcolm Willars, Alan Lucas

Present:

John Simpson, Sue Long, Andrew Cree, Alan Hewitt, Joan Lythgoe
Brymbo, Chester, Glan Aber, Hoole, Hooton, Hoyle, Mold, Port Sunlight, Upton, Wrexham,

Absent:

Heswall, Tarvin, Helsby

MINUTES OF THE 2019 AGM:

These were accepted as read.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:

John introduced the Committee to the meeting for the benefit of new attendees. He thanked Malcolm Willars for continuing to manage the League web pages.

He informed the meeting of the difficulties we have faced over the past year and a half due to the Covid pandemic, both with the ever changing Covid rules, and because our League included teams from two nations with rules which frequently differed. The Committee held numerous 'Zoom' meetings discussing issues including whether or when we should start the league, play half a season, remove promotion/relegation, travel across borders, car sharing, vaccinations & social distancing. We also kept in touch with other Cheshire Leagues and through a leagues 'meetings' attended by JS & AC.

It was quite a challenge, but eventually we were able to start the league on time, hoping there was an appetite to carry on and play tennis.

The season started in the worse possible way, with an Upton player, Richard Wilding, falling ill during a match with Port Sunlight. He was taken to hospital by ambulance but sadly passed away soon after arrival. Our thoughts are with his family, and all at the Upton Tennis Club.

Thanks were sent to Mike Beckett for the setting up of the online results system aided by Pam who took the lead on this on behalf of the Committee. Overall feedback on this has been positive and we will continue with it.

We are also proposing a Seniors (over 60's) week day League for next season (a short discussion ensued on this which included the age limit, 'open' status of the League & the intention not to reduce participation in our existing Divisions).

FIXTURE SECRETARIES REPORTS:

Ladies Divisions – Sue reported that the Ladies divisions had run relatively smoothly, with just a few concessions by a small number of teams. One game had not been completed due to repeated poor weather, but would not have affected league placings.

Mold were Division 1 winners, Kelsall Division 2, and Wrexham Division 3.

Mens Divisions – Alan told the meeting that for the first time in his memory all 3 Division winners had scored over 100 points. Congratulations to all, especially Hollies B who won every match in

Division 3 and ended with 108 sets won & just 7 lost.

It had been a strange season in some ways, with rather too many concessions, one of which (in Division 2), had affected the promotion positions (Tarvin would have been promoted if not for a points deduction).

Division 2 was a particularly close League apart from the winners, with only 8 sets separating the runners up and the relegation places.

Mixed Divisions- Pam's reported (read by John) that the Mixed Leagues had worked out pretty well in the end despite the challenges posed by Covid. Most of the matches were played and Captains had been as accommodating as possible. The online results system was well received & processing results had been fairly straightforward, though it is better if Captains use the typed online scorecard version as handwritten scorecards can be difficult to read. Pam sent thanks for all the kind & helpful feedback and support received from Captains during this first year running the Mixed Leagues.

(The difficult issue involving Wrexham A & the good sportsmanship they showed was dealt with by John during the Trophy Presentations).

The suggestion of an over 60's Mixed League was well received, but there was a concern it might overstretch the pool of players and undermine existing teams.

Treasurers Report – Joan reported that the cancellation of the 2020 season due to Covid, after fees for the season had been paid, had resulted in a large yearly profit in 2020, which had now been counterbalanced by a broadly similar loss for 2021. Fees would remain at £8 per team for 2022 as the Balance Sheet for the League remained strong. Some clubs had already entered their teams and paid their fees for the 2022 season.

Joan requested that **where clubs pay their fees by BACS transfer, could they please reference the club name with the transfer.**

RULES AMENDMENTS

Andy informed the meeting that there had been some further updates to the League Rules as a result of issues that had arisen before and during this years' season. A revised version of the League Rules had been circulated to all Team Captains.

An amendment had been made to the requirement for after match refreshments, removing the requirement for the provision of teas.

The rule amendments were agreed by the meeting.

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

AOB

Online Results System

A discussion took place on how the League might further improve it's online match reporting systems to include players names etc, and allow direct input of results by Captains.

This will be taken forward by the Committee and discussed with Mike Beckett.

Presentation of Trophies

This began with a fair play award to Wrexham Tennis Club. Their Mixed A team had inadvertently twice played a player who had already played in a different Division of the Mixed Leagues for another Club. This mistake was reported to the League by Wendy Griffiths, and the subsequent points deduction cost them their position at the top of Division 1.

The League Winners Trophies were then presented as follows:-

Ladies

Division 1	Mold
Division 2	Kelsall
Division 3	Wrexham

Mixed

Division 1	Glan Aber
Division 2	Hoole B
Division 3	Helsby

Mens

Division 1	Hoylelake
Division 2	Wrexham A
Division 3	Hollies B

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

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