

**Hampton-In-Arden Sports Club
(Tennis Section)
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on
13th November 2008**

Present

The following 11 members signed the attendance sheet: Steve Ray, Ian Poole, Geoff Redfern, Gill Lewis, Wayman Morris, Judith Williams, Georgie Stanley, Rosalia Eccleston, Jayne Barnes, Kathy Hunt and Chris Barnes.

1/ Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Jane Hodge, Carol Grant, Joanne Ray, Tony Eccleston, Daniel Eccleston and Carla Eccleston.

2/ Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes were proposed and seconded as a true and accurate record by Geoff Redfern and Wayman Morris. All present voted in favour of acceptance and the Chairman duly signed them.

3/ Matters Arising

The following matters arising were noted from the 2007 AGM minutes:

- TV curtains – these have been replaced with blinds so there is no longer an issue with curtains being drawn.
- Dustbin on the court – this now has a lid on it.
- First Aid box – this is now located below the defibrillator in the foyer so all members can access it easily.

4/ Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented members with his report for the year (see Appendix 1). Highlights of the year were winning the prestigious award for Warwickshire Club of the Year, promotion of the Mens first team into the Premier division, promotion for the Mens 2nd team and Ladies first team and the gaining of Clubmark status. The report was proposed and seconded by Gill Lewis and Jayne Barnes. All present voted in favour of acceptance.

The meeting thanked Steve for his report and the whole of the committee for their work during the year.

5/ Junior Section and Coaching Report

The junior section report for the year (see Appendix 2) was presented to the meeting as part of the Chairman's report. Steve Ray thanked Ian Poole for his hard work during the year.

6/ Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report for the year including the analysis of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 October 2008 (see Appendix 3) was presented to the meeting as part of the Chairman's report. Steve Ray thanked Carol Grant for her hard work during the year.

Subscription fee income increased by £1,268 from £12,069 to £13,337. Membership increased by 5% from 198 to 207. Adult members (including 18-25's) increased from 102 to 105. Junior members increased from 96 to 102.

The total contribution including fund raising activities increased by £1,371 from £13,204 to £14,575.

- Fund raising activities generated £5,360 compared to £4,246 in 2006/07. There was no expenditure in the year on the court improvement project. The main fund raising events were the ASICS Arden 9 Road Race held in June and the £1,000 prize for winning the WALTA club iof the year.
- Funds generated from the operation of the tennis section increased by £257 from £8,958 to £9,215.

The sinking fund contribution remained at £5,000 per annum and although the total value of the sinking fund at 30th April 2008 of £41,800 had not been ring fenced by the Sports Club, the Board of Directors continue to recognise the requirement to invest in the sporting facilities.

Further information is given in the Chairman's statement.

The report was proposed and seconded by Gill Lewis and Jayne Barnes as part of the Chairman's Report. All present voted in favour of acceptance.

The meeting thanked Carol for her report.

7/ Election of Officers and Committee

No new nominations had been received and the existing officers were all re-elected as proposed by Rosalia Eccleston and Judith Williams as follows:

Chairman – Steve Ray

Secretary – Chris Barnes

Treasurer – Carol Grant

Committee member – Geoff Redfern

8/ Issues raised by the Membership (having previously been received in writing by the Secretary.)

The meeting was advised that there had been no pre-notified questions.

9/ Any other Business

The following matters were raised for the committee to look into:

- Car parking on a Thursday can be a problem. Can this be raised with the Sports Club Directors?
- Are there any plans to provide lighting on the pathway to the railway station?
- Can a brush be provided for the courts?
- The outside door which leads past the changing rooms is often open which is insecure for the ladies changing room.

No further business was raised and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8-30pm.

Appendix 1
AGM – 13 November 2008
Chairman's Report

Introduction

The year started with the Club being awarded the accolade of Warwickshire LTA Club of the Year and we finished the year well by achieving Club Mark status! During the summer the Men's 1st and 2nd teams and the Ladies 1st team all achieved promotion and, in spite of the declining standard of the courts, the record level of membership achieved last year has further increased from 198 members to 207; 105 adults and 102 juniors. This is the 10th successive year of growth and it is great to see that such a large proportion of the tennis membership live in the village. The section continues to make a valuable contribution to the Sports Club and we remain one of the highest ratios of 'number of members per court' in the County.

Tennis facilities

As I have said before, ultimately the success of any sports club will be determined by the quality of the sports facilities on offer. The existing court surfaces, the floodlighting and perimeter fencing are now all in very poor condition!

With regard to the court replacement project, it has taken a long time to get to where we are but we are almost in touching distance of realising our objective. The Club recently received an offer of funding from the LTA and we are in the process of assessing the conditionality of their funding package of grants & loans. We have also received funding pledges from the Fentham Trust and Lillie Johnson Trust to go with numerous internal fundraising projects that have raised almost £28,000. The main funding element that we are waiting on is a decision from the National Sports Foundation under their Sports Match funding program. This decision is expected in early December.

At the same time, having already been through the tendering process to cost the project once, we are currently going through a re-tendering process. This information is expected over the next few days and the expectation is that the costs may have come down – one of the benefits of the recession!

It is recognised that, given the condition of the existing courts, the project is becoming increasingly time critical. Our plan is to get the new courts built and ready for action by the start of the 2009 season. As an interim step, we will arrange another sweeping and tidy up of the courts as soon as possible.

The project has absorbed considerable time from all of the committee members but, in particular, Chris Barnes and John Eccleston have shown tremendous drive and energy to this cause and the Club will be greatly indebted to them when the project is complete!

Senior and Junior Committee

A lot of the work carried out within the tennis section is initiated through either the Senior or Junior Committees and I would like to place on record (hopefully on behalf of the whole membership) my thanks for the efforts that each and every committee member puts into the Club. Without people who are prepared to do this, clubs such as Hampton would not survive in the long term.

More help is always needed! Even if formally being on a committee is not for you, then maybe you could manage a particular function or organise a social event! We would all like things to be done better and quicker, however, there is only so much that a few volunteers can do! Two great examples of this type of support are John Eccleston, who is not even a tennis member, and Wayman Morris who has been a great help to the Senior Committee over the last 12 months.

Web site

Our web site and our e-mail capability remains the envy of many clubs with special thanks to John Cable for his continued efforts. John quietly goes about his business and is often refreshing and revamping the site. The site is a valuable source of information and contains a number of tennis-related links. I would encourage you all to go and take a look....

Adult team tennis

The Club runs 6 adult teams; 3 men's teams and 3 ladies teams playing in the Coventry & District League. It has again been a great season for the men with both the 1st and 2nd teams getting promoted. In the case of the 1st team this gets them to the Premier Division, a remarkable achievement for a Club of our size. The men's 3rd team only narrowly missed out on promotion with their destiny being decided on the very last day of the season.

The ladies also enjoyed success with the 1st team winning promotion as champions of their Division. The 2nd team maintained their status and the 3rd team did increase the competitive playing opportunities to more ladies, including some of our older junior girls. Those that played achieved some impressive results and, whilst there are some good young men coming through, there is an excellent group of teenage girls coming through that bodes well for the future!

The teams are indebted to their respective captains who have to cope with the frustrations week in, week out of making sure that four registered players turn up in the right place at the right time for every match. It is helpful to rotate the responsibilities as captain, therefore any volunteers for 2009 would be greatly appreciated!

Adult social tennis

Club sessions continue to be very well attended throughout the year although inevitably numbers do drop off at some during the winter months. The maxi tennis event held in early spring was again enjoyed by a large part of the membership, with the considerable improvement of avoiding matches on consecutive weekends.

Junior tennis

Last year Ian Poole had just joined us as Head Coach from David Lloyd Solihull. Whilst we were confident that we had selected the right person, there is always a risk associated with changes in personnel. Any concerns were completed misplaced as Ian has settled in superbly and the standard of coaching has noticeably improved. As well as improved quality, the quantity has also increased with more coaching hours being delivered to more children.

Tournament successes

The Club's U16 junior champions for 2008 were Emily Hodge and Jacob Pratt. The Club's U12 champions were Emily McLaughlin and Jamie Turpin. Our mini orange champion was Miles Goodworth and the mini red winner was Lexi Bouvier.

Hampton's recent successes in the annual Solihull Schools Girls Championships have been maintained with Emily Hodge winning at U13 (in spite of competition from Solihull Arden / Blossomfield members).

In the adult tournament finals Jane Hodge was crowned Ladies Singles champion and Ian Poole demonstrated that he can "walk the walk" by winning the Men's final. A full list of the winners and runners up is available on the web site.

Finance

Although individual subscription fees were frozen (for the 2nd successive year), in aggregate they were at their highest ever level reflecting the increased membership numbers. Total fees at £13,337 were up £1,268 on 2007.

Other costs increased by £1,010. The start of season newsletter was properly printed this year at a cost of £280, maintenance costs of the floodlighting were up by £140 and affiliation fees were £261 higher reflecting the higher membership numbers as well as an increase in the LTA affiliation fee per member. The costs of the Club clothing of £274 included the logo charge of £76 that can be used for future clothing and outstanding cheques to be collected of £115. Tennis ball costs and Miscellaneous costs are both up on the prior year but this is more due to the costs in 2007 being lower than normal.

Prior to the benefit of any fundraising, the contribution to the Sports Club is £9,215 up from £8,958 last year.

Social events & Fund raising

Yet again, there have been some very successful events held in the year.

The Arden 9 mile race continues to grow and this year £2,772 was raised. The feedback from the serious runners is that they love the course and the event. We are grateful to the hard work from John Eccleston who helped the experienced pair of Chris Barnes and Gavin Davies who is not even a Sports Club member (although Gavin's son Oliver is a junior member). The help of the marshals (several of whom were non-tennis members) was also a significant part of making it such a successful day.

The season-opening quiz night raised £237 - thanks again to Julie Williamson and Geoff Redfern. The Get Wrecked party raised £406 - thanks to Tania Mascord, Jenny Roberts and Geoff Redfern. The Play Tennis / Open day made a small profit of £128 and the juniors collected £50 of donations. In addition Barston Fete donated £500 towards the project and there was a profit from the Tennis Dinner of £267.

The award of Warwickshire LTA Club of the Year is sponsored by the Bank of Ireland to the tune of £1,000 and this prize has been grouped with the income from fundraising which totalled £5,360 for the year. Yet again a tremendous effort! The aggregate amount of fundraising towards the new courts is now almost £28,000.

It is extremely important that as many tennis members as possible attend these events in order that the successes continue in the future. The people mentioned above, the Committees and several other helpers put in wonderful contributions to the tennis section and the Sports Club as a whole. I appreciate that it is not possible to attend all of the events all of the time but please support wherever you can.

Final thoughts

There have been some great positives from the year but the delivery of improved facilities is time critical as the existing facilities continue to deteriorate. We should get a decision from the National Sports Foundation before the year end, with the LTA documentation and the re-tendering process being completed over the next few weeks. The NSF decision is clearly a big driver in deciding on the final specification of the new courts, but we are close to the fundraising "finishing line" thus enabling us to get on with the build phase as soon as possible in 2009. Please be patient and supportive - we are nearly there!

Steve Ray
Chairman 2007/08

Appendix 2
AGM – 13 November 2008
Junior Section Report

2008/09 was a great year for juniors at Hampton thanks to hard work put in by Head Coach Ian Poole and his team of assistants. Ian expanded and improved the coaching programme using a more structured approach. So a big thank you to Ian and his team and also to parents, volunteers and of course our juniors who have helped to make the junior section so successful!

2008/09 highlights

- More coaching hours were delivered to more children – there are now more group coaching sessions available – 25 as opposed to 16 a year ago. These take place on every day of the week during term time, except Sunday. There were also tennis camps during school holidays.
- Performance squads were introduced for red, orange and green mini tennis players.
- The number of junior members increased from 96 to 102.
- The number of school links was increased from 3 to 5 schools.
- Juniors participated in mini tennis local leagues and external one day tournaments.
- Older juniors played in with adults and competed in some adult league teams.
- Teenagers were retained and girls-only coaching groups were held. These aspects of our junior programme are particularly encouraged by the LTA.
- Juniors entered external competitions, for example, 14 children entered the North Warwickshire Junior Doubles Leagues. Ria Barnes and Emily Hodge were runners up in the Under 14 girls section of this competition. Emily also became the Solihull Schools under 13s champion for 2008.
- Competitively fought annual Junior Club Singles Tournaments. The winners are shown in a previous article.
- Special events were attended:
 - 20 primary school aged girls attended “Pink Day” at the DFS Ladies Classic at Edgbaston including a “fun” session at the tennis factory. The girls received special pink T shirts.
 - Several juniors took part in LTA talent spotting invitation-only events.
- Play Tennis and Hockey Day in May was great fun and extremely well attended.
- Older juniors helped with coaching including experience for those undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh award.
- Several friendly matches were held against other clubs.
- A pizza and tennis night for older juniors in September was extremely well attended.

Goals for 2009/10:

- All juniors to be ‘British Tennis’ members with recorded results for LTA sanctioned tournaments and local club matches. Please see a previous article for more details of ‘British Tennis’.
- More juniors competing internally and externally, including local leagues and external tournaments.
- Provision of tournament plans for individuals.
- More juniors playing in adult club tournaments and league teams.
- Retention of the older juniors and keeping them interested in tennis.

Jayne Barnes
13 November 2008

Appendix 3
Analysis of Income and Expenditure 1 Nov 2007 to 31 Oct 2008

	2007/08 £	2006/07 £	2005/06 £	2004/05 £	2003/04 £
<u>Subscription fees</u>	13,337	12,069	11,479	10,363	10,485
Coaching					
Coaching income				2,464	5,425
Coaching fees / equipment				(2,164)	(4,486)
	0	0	0	300	939
<u>Social events</u>				9	40
<u>Grants</u>					
Funds received			670		476
Application of funds			(670)	(275)	0
Funds not yet applied				275	(476)
	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Other costs</u>					
Maintenance & repairs	(1,260)	(1,120)	(734)	(724)	(156)
League / affiliation fees	(1,389)	(1,128)	(1,107)	(1,066)	(1,014)
Tennis balls	(568)	(444)	(670)	(553)	(594)
Trophies / tournament prizes	(39)	(319)	(237)	(364)	(56)
Clothing	(274)				
Printing costs	(280)				
Miscellaneous	(312)	(100)	(331)	(41)	(342)
	(4,122)	(3,112)	(3,078)	(2,748)	(2,162)
<u>Wimbledon tickets</u>					
Income	1,848	1,514	1,650	1,166	1,260
Costs	(1,848)	(1,514)	(1,650)	(1,166)	(1,260)
	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Contribution pre fundraising</u>	9,215	8,958	8,401	7,924	9,302
<u>Income from Fundraising</u>	5,360	4,246	5,505	4,116	8,743
<u>Spent on facility improvement</u>					
Lighting Survey				(470)	
Planning Costs				(800)	
	14,575	13,204	13,906	10,770	18,045
<u>Utilisation of Contribution</u>					
Transferred to "Sinking Fund"	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Net funds raised	5,360	4,246	5,505	2,846	8,743
Contribution to Sports Club	4,215	3,958	3,401	2,924	4,302
	14,575	13,204	13,906	10,770	18,045

Note: Balance on Sinking Fund at 30 April 2008 was £41,800

<u>Income from Fundraising</u>	<u>Total raised</u>					
Arden 9 Mile Race	10,526	2,772	2,743	2,273	1,490	1,248
Auction of Promises	4,463	0	0	0	0	4,463
Blues Nights	4,216	0	0	1,590	626	2,000
The Big Racket	2,183	0	736	0	1,448	0
Quiz Nights	1,111	237	273	267	0	335
Sundry donations	1,058	50	0	870	139	0
WLTA Club of the Year prize	1,000	1,000	0	0	0	0
Play Tennis Day	696	128	99	140	148	180
Annual Dinner	690	267	293	0	130	0
Barston Fete donation	500	500	0	0	0	0
Get Wrecked Party	406	406	0	0	0	0
Wine Sales	379	0	0	89	108	183
Arden 9 Mile Children's Race	195	0	102	93	0	0
Cheese & Wine	106	0	0	106	0	0
Karaoke Evening	105	0	0	0	0	105
Wimbledon Barbeque	76	0	0	0	0	76
Wimbledon Draw	75	0	0	0	0	75
Miscellaneous	186	0	0	78	29	79
Total	27,971	5,360	4,246	5,505	4,116	8,743