

**MINUTES**  
**HAMBLEDEN TENNIS CLUB**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018 – 8 p.m.**

**1. Minutes of the 2017 AGM and matters arising**

These have been circulated and agreed.

**2. Chairman's Report**

Erna reported that it has been a very good year for the club. We had a very successful Great British Tennis open day in July with help from coach Kate Peel. The aim is to keep this going with support from the LTA. This year it was held as part of the social session on a Sunday morning with a focus on encouraging new adult members.

Membership numbers are almost the same as last year although we have slightly fewer junior members at the moment.

The top 2 reconditioned courts are still looking fairly good but the bottom court is in need of some minor repairs. This will be done when they are cleaned but we need to start thinking about resurfacing, especially the bottom court. We are researching astro turf as that seems to be the preferred option for many and is kinder on the body.

The pavilion has been well used this year by all the sports clubs and a number of other events. It has had a good spring clean.

Coaching – Chris Marshall is our head coach and his junior program is running very well. The Under 8s have won their tournament at Wooburn Green. He is supported by Kate, Mandy & Chris Roberts. He is now running his classes almost all year round but lights would help him and also allow the ladies & mens sessions to keep going for longer, or possibly all year around.

The Aegon teams, now TEAM TENNIS are still running but the U12s only

played 1 out of 4 matches. U14s played 4 out of 5 matches but lost all of them. At this age the bigger clubs now can field their top juniors and we struggle to field a team. The under 8s did very well. It was a 1 day tournament and they won Division 2. We had three ladies teams playing in Bucks and Oxfordshire leagues last winter and summer.

Results:-

Ladies 1: 6th in the Bucks winter league and 6th out of 8 in the summer.

Ladies 2: 3rd in the OLTA winter league and 5th in the summer in Division 7.

Supervets: 4th place in division 1 Bucks and should therefore remain in the top division.

We have entered a new mid-week Oxfordshire league this winter which takes the pressure of having to play so many matches on weekends. We are hoping more team members with children, who can't commit to weekends, will therefore be able to play. Erna thanked all our team captains: Helen Turner now replaced by Heather Symons, Diane King & Gillian Peplow for their hard work.

Club session attendance:

Wednesday evenings has been again, very successful and we will continue to keep this going, starting after the Easter holidays. We have continued the Wednesday sessions at 2pm during the winter and hope this will be supported too. Sunday mornings also continue to have at least a solid 4 if not 6 or 8. E mails are sent round 1 or 2 days before the sessions.

Social events:

We are planning Christmas drinks & mince pies on the 16<sup>th</sup> December; dinner at the Yew Tree on the 18<sup>th</sup> January and our usual events in Summer. We are also encouraging the social sessions with coffee /tea & biscuits on the 2nd Sunday of the month and we did the same for the Wednesday evening sessions with wine & nibbles.

The Burrows Farm Cup was great fun last year and won by Caroline Wilcock, Nigel Sutcliff and Erna Rubens. The ladies doubles was won by Thelma Hayton and Caroline Wilcock. Ness has planned a Xmas Ladies Tournament on 30th Nov.

Erna thanked all the members of the committee who work hard to keep the club running successfully.

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

Heather reported that our retained surplus is good. The Rebo wall was our main expenditure this year. This has been very popular and has attracted new members to the club. If we incur major expenditure in the future, for example the resurfacing of the courts, we will need to use some of the retained surplus and it may be necessary to raise the fees for one year or ask for voluntary contributions towards this. We have 140 members in total at the moment, but a number of these are juniors who at present pay only a £20 subscription fee. It is proposed that this is raised to £25.

#### **4. Election of Officers**

The following officers were nominated and elected:

Chair: Erna Rubens

Treasurer: Heather Symons

Secretary and Fixtures secretary: Diane King

Welfare Officer: Caroline Wilcock

Committee members: Nikki Bulteel, Caroline Chisholm

#### **5. Tennis plans for 2019**

Teams are entered this year in both the Bucks and Oxfordshire leagues (Ladies 1, Ladies midweek, Supervets midweek & Junior Team Tennis teams). We would like to be able to enter a men's team, possibly in the Aegon league, but need to find someone to take the lead on this.

Social sessions will continue on Sunday 10.30am, Wednesday 18.30 in summer; now 14.00 for winter, Ladies Friday 9.30am & Men's session Thursdays 18.00 in summer.)

Research for resurfacing courts is already under way and ongoing. Two options are currently being considered - Savannah Grass and Tiger Turf. Caroline Chisholm passed round samples of each of these surfaces. These need to be costed and we will be getting a quote for both. A decision needs to be made as to whether we should do the bottom court first and then the top courts, or all courts at the same time. Alex suggested forming a committee to look specifically at resurfacing and said that he would be happy to co-ordinate this. The aim is to be in a position to make a decision by the next AGM in 2019.

#### **6. Coaching update**

Chris, Kate and Mandy continue to coach both adults and juniors in the club. Kate is running some tennis workshops this year which are proving very successful.

#### **7. Social events for 2018/2019**

The following social events are planned:

- Xmas social session & Mince Pies, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018
- New Year's drinks & dinner at the Yew Tree, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018
- Wine & nibbles every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday evening (Summer)
- Coffee / Tea and biscuits every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Social session (Winter)
- Wimbledon social session during the Wimbledon fortnight
- Burrows Farm cup
- August Bank holiday tennis & brunch
- Ladies Christmas doubles tournament, 30<sup>th</sup> November
- Hambleden Ladies doubles tournament in summer

## **8. Any other business**

The new website has been very successful and can now be used for joining and renewal forms and for booking courts.

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Research into Floodlights has been brought forward to 2019. We need to look into this further and consult with the National Trust and the local community. It may make sense to do this at the same time as resurfacing the courts.

Tom Scruby proposed a vote of thanks to Erna and the committee.