

YORKSHIRE SQUASH

THE YORKSHIRE SQUASH & RACKETBALL ASSOCIATION

www.yorkshiresquash.com

President – Dr. Assem Allam

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 6.00 PM ON TUESDAY 7 MAY 2019 AT PONTEFRACT SQUASH CLUB

PRESENT: Matt Stephenson (Chairman), Peter Keen, Mike Clemson, Billy Hawes (part), Mike Robinson and Richard Antcliff

APOLOGIES: received from Gill Choyce, Nicky Horn, Mark Shipley and Steve Ridge

RESIGNATION: Robert Field

CHAIRMANS REMARKS: Congratulations were recorded to the Yorkshire Inter-County Womens Team for winning the Inter-County Championships, and the Men's team for retaining its place in the Premier division. Also to the Junior teams who, according to the ES website, had won four titles and been runners-up in four more, making Yorkshire the most successful county

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Billy reported on the arrangements for the County Championships. It was felt that the poor entry was due in part to the postponement from the original date, and that we should revert to the January date allocated by England Squash next year. Mike reported on the arrangements for Yorkshire Squash Day, aimed at encouraging players and officials from around the county to call in on the Saturday of the Championships. This would include a meeting between Andy Murray (iProsports) and available Committee members to discuss next season's T shirts

SELBY SQUASH CLUB

Derek Norris had reported that the squash courts were in danger of closure. Mike had offered the support of Yorkshire Squash in fighting this

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FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) Peter reported that he had allocated about £1k so far in developmental grants and was in discussion with a further 20 or so venues about financial support
- (b) Peter was arranging for trials of Soccersquash at various types of venue, Leisure Centres, Schools and Universities being the prime targets. A number of clubs had also expressed interest, and the involvement of professional footballers was also being explored
- (c) Peter reported that the University of Birmingham was installing Inter-Active squash and that Adam Toes (East Riding of Yorkshire Council) had expressed interest with reference to Hornsea Leisure Centre, currently being refurbished
- (d) Peter's up to date financial report was noted with thanks. Peter had had a meeting with the new Auditor (Jackie Anderson) to discuss auditing arrangements in July. Peter intending to continue with his current financial systems until he ceased to be Treasurer, when his successor could introduce on line systems

ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

- (a) MikeR reported that the website had been reinstated following a change in the website provider, and that he was attempting to resolve problems with the Yorkshire headed emails. A further change of website provider might be required
- (b) The Googledrive repository would soon be available, and it was proposed that every volunteer carrying out a role on behalf of Yorkshire Squash should put details on the repository of how relevant information held by them could be accessed in the event of their non-availability at short or no notice (such as Marc Thomas' withdrawal). A guidance note would be circulated shortly to Committee members and Volunteers
- (c) MikeR reported that he would continue to issue newsletters monthly or when material was available. Content and size was still being considered
- (d) The Calendar of Events had been reviewed to avoid duplication with other Calendars (eg HJSA) and putting a link to them instead. The aim was to include all dates of YS activities and the dates of other activities (eg National Coaches Week) for which YS could consider what action might be appropriate
- (e) Mike Dale's willingness to receive and forward items of interest to his Media outlets was noted and appreciated

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STRATEGIC AIMS

- (a) It was agreed that we should seek to maintain our current level of competitive activity in the Yorkshire League, County Senior/Masters and Junior Championships, teams in all categories of the Inter-County Championships, and Junior Development competitions such as the Northern Cup and the Ridings Tournament. Also that we should encourage venues in the county to enter national events such as the National Clubs Championships and various Schools tournaments
- (b) Progress was being made in supporting and promoting Coaching and Refereeing in the county. It was agreed that we should draw up provisional training programmes for Coaches and Referees for inclusion in the Calendar of Events for 2019-20, to be considered at the July meeting
- (c) A paper from MikeC on Promotion of Squash through contacts with venues was considered. It was noted that most activity in terms of involvement in local leagues and availability of coaching is focussed on the traditional clubs, and it was agreed there is a need to encourage the formation of squash clubs made up of players in the other kinds of venue. It was also noted that different types of venues (Leisure Centres, Schools, Defence establishments and Universities) would require different approaches to reflect their different situations. Consideration would be given at the next meeting as to how this activity could be resourced, including using the rebate from England Squash to pay one or more Development workers, and augmenting this with a County Levy, although this would need discussion at the AGM

OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Matt and Peter would be attending the ES Council meeting in Hull on 23 May, when voting would take place for three new ES Board members from seven nominees
- (b) It was noted that publicity had been circulated to venues and other contacts in the county about supporting the British Open and Masters Championships taking place at Hull University from 20-26 May
- (c) Jayne Robinson had arranged for members of squash clubs to obtain discounted entry to Pontefract Races on 10 June, which would have a sports theme. She would provide further details for circulation
- (d) It was agreed that the stock of surplus T shirts should be disposed of in any way

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possible, including offering them free to members of our Women's teams. Peter would circulate a stock list

(e) Peter was exploring sources of mini-squash equipment in conjunction with Matt

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 16 July, and would focus on drawing up a budget and programme of activity in 2019-20 related to the promotion of our three strategic aims, and planning for the AGM due to be held in September

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm

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