

EXETER AND DISTRICT TENNIS LEAGUE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 6 February 2019 at 7.00 pm at Buckerell Lodge

MINUTES

The AGM was attended by approximately 36 people, including representatives of all but 6 clubs, and members of the Committee and Roger Wilkins (President). Andy Malcolm welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Sidford TC, Rosemary Browne (Committee Member)

2. Minutes of AGM on Wednesday 7 February 2018

The minutes were agreed unanimously and signed by the Chairman, Andy Malcolm. There were no matters arising.

3. Presentation of Trophies

The trophies for the 2018 summer league were presented by Andy Malcolm. He congratulated all the winners and thanked everyone who played in the league. He wished all clubs and their players a good and enjoyable season.

Trophy winners for Summer League 2018

Division	Men	Ladies
1	Budleigh Salterton A	Torquay A
2	Dawlish A	Lympstone A
3	Victoria Park C	Newton Abbot A
4	Exeter G & C Club B	Sampford Peverell A
5	Victoria Park D	David Lloyd B
6	Sidmouth A	Willand
7	Seaton B	
8	Exeter G & C Club E	

4. Chairman's report

Andy Malcolm read his report (Annex 1).

5. Treasurer's report and confirmation of fees

Catriona Batty circulated her report in advance of the meeting. She proposed that the summer league fees go up from £7 to £8 per team and winter league fees remain at £5 per team. Catriona Batty proposed, seconded by Newton St Cyres, agreed unanimously.

6. Match Secretary's report

Maureen Sowerby read her report. All matches, except one, were completed by 30th September. Late scorecards are still an issue and captains won't be reminded this year and there will be a two

point fine. Maureen will always respond to emails and tries to update website every day. Registration forms must be sent in before 7th April. Fixtures will be published on website within next few days. Club contacts should make sure the captains have the fixtures. After the start of the season arranged matches can be brought forward but not back. Players should be asked if they want to play before registering them, one club registered all their ladies! Maureen has tried to avoid bank holiday Mondays. Clubs should download the final fixture list which will be published on the website from 7th April. Maureen thanked everyone for their support during the year and hopes they have a good season this year. On behalf of the league, Andy Malcolm thanked Maureen for her hard work and said they couldn't run the summer league without her.

7. Composition of divisions for 2019

Maureen Sowerby published the suggested composition of divisions on the website prior to the meeting.

Mens: There are three new teams in Div 8, Lypstone, Tiverton B and Crediton. Andy Malcolm welcomed Crediton to the summer league. Two teams have been moved up to equal the divisions. Newton Abbot B will reapply next year. Maureen Sowerby proposed that the suggested composition of divisions remain, Peter Clarke seconded and it was agreed unanimously.

Ladies: There is one new team in Div 6, Willand B. Teams have been moved two up two down according to the rules. Exmouth B, Torquay C and Torquay D have withdrawn from Div 5. Teign Valley B and Exeter Golf & Country Club D will have to apply to enter their teams next year as they withdrew after the fixtures were arranged last season. Maureen Sowerby proposed that the suggested composition of divisions remain, Peter Clarke seconded and it was agreed unanimously.

8. Proposals for changes to rules

The following rule changes and rewording proposed by the committee were circulated in advance of the meeting.

Rule 10 – Summer League Registration date fixed as 7th April

10 The League subscriptions shall be decided at each Annual General Meeting, payable to the Treasurer not later than the Registration date ~~set out in rule 18~~ of 7th April for the summer league.

The above wording in red was proposed by Andy Malcolm, seconded by Steve Rattlidge and agreed unanimously.

Rule 14(d) - rewritten to make it clearer. Replace current rule 14(d) by

d) 1) Teams failing to raise four **eligible** players for two matches during the season shall be relegated by one Division and teams in the lowest Division must apply for re-election the following season.

2) Teams failing to raise four **eligible** players for three matches or more during the season, or withdrawing from the league after playing a match, will have all their results expunged and **must apply for re-election the next year to join the bottom division. They will be counted as a relegated team for promotion and relegation purposes**

The above wording in red was proposed by Peter Clarke, seconded by Phil Plummer and agreed unanimously.

Rule 18 New condition added – September to be used for postponed matches only and Registration date fixed as April 7th; also Match Secretary should be copied in for offer of dates on postponement.

Rule 18) Paragraph 1 -Dates of league matches shall be arranged before the Registration date of April 7th, or the team's first match, whichever is the earlier. **Matches may only be arranged in September if postponed during the season.** Notification to be sent to the Match Secretary, on the form provided, **within 24 hours of April 7th or before the team's first match**, whichever is the earlier. **There will be a 2 point fine for any registration forms received after this date. Registration date to be set by the committee and announced at the AGM.**

Paragraph 3 In the case of bad weather, the Home team must, within five days, inform the Match Secretary of the postponement and offer the opponents **(informing the Match Secretary)** at least three alternative dates, which must be in different weeks, but not including dates upon which the Away team already has an Exeter & District League match fixed for the rearranged match. The opposing team must agree a date within two weeks of the postponement and the Match Secretary notified of the new date by the Home team. If dates are not offered or agreed within the above time span, then the offending team will be fined 2 points. In the event of the match never being re-arranged, the offending team will forfeit the match and rule 29 will apply and the fine increased to 4 points. If the circumstances are considered exceptional, a written appeal must be made. This will be considered by the Executive Committee, whose decision is final.

The above wording in red was proposed by Peter Clarke, seconded by Ottery St Mary and agreed unanimously.

Rule 23 (e) split into 23 (e) & 23 (f)- Reworded to clarify when players can be re-registered and when transferred

Rule 23 e) Before a club has played its first match **if they decide a player has been registered for the wrong team, that player may be re-registered to another team without penalty.**

Rule 23 f) **Once the club has played its first match** should they decide a player has been registered for too high a team **on the registration form**, that player may be transferred to a team below provided that:

- (i) He/she has not played more than twice for the higher team.
- (ii) The higher team have played at least three matches, but have not completed their fixtures for the season.
- (iii) Where fewer than four players remain in the higher team another player is registered in his/her place.
- ~~(iv) The player has not yet played a match for any team.~~

The Match Secretary must be informed of the transfer before the player plays for the lower team. A transferred player may not play for a higher team during the current season.

Current Rule 23f) renumbered 23g)

The above wording in red was proposed by Lymptstone, seconded by Peter Clarke and agreed unanimously.

Rule 24 amended to clarify difference between ineligible and unregistered players

24) a) The Match Secretary shall report to the Executive Committee every case of a team playing an unregistered ~~or an ineligible~~ player in a League fixture. The offending team shall forfeit the League points scored by that player and his/her partner, the points being awarded to the opposing team. The offending team shall also be fined 2 points.

b) ~~If an ineligible player is played the match is conceded as in Rule 29b) iii) & iv) below.~~

The above wording in red was proposed by Joan Bowden, seconded by Peter Clarke and agreed unanimously.

Rule 29(b) —add rule (iv) if both teams offend.

29b) (i) A player being unable to continue due to injury or other unavoidable cause. If one or more members of one of the participating teams are not able to commence play within 30 minutes of the appointed starting time, the offending team ~~or teams~~ will forfeit one set for each affected rubber. If play does not commence within 60 minutes of the appointed starting time, the affected rubber(s) will be forfeited.

(ii) The match will be forfeited if any player(s) is (are) not available to play either 60 minutes after the appointed start time or by the time that the first rubber has been completed, whichever is the later.

(iii) Failure of a team ~~or teams~~ to fulfil a fixture, due to the non-arrival of one or more members or by failing to comply with Rule 18 in respect of postponed fixtures shall result in the non-offending team being awarded the match 8-0, sets being scored 6-0. In addition the offending team shall be fined 4 points for the first such occurrence of the season, 8 points for the second.

~~(iv) If neither team has four eligible players able to play within 60 minutes of the scheduled start time, no points will be awarded for the match and both teams shall be fined as above.~~

The above wording in red was proposed by Peter Clarke, seconded by Exmouth and agreed unanimously.

9. Election of Officers and Committee

The following Officers and Committee Members are willing to stand again in their current posts. They were voted in en bloc. Proposed by Sidmouth, seconded by EGCC and their re-election was unanimously agreed. Anyone wishing to join the committee should contact Andy Malcolm.

Chairman: Andy Malcolm

Hon Treasurer: Catriona Batty

Hon General Secretary: Nicki Keele

Match Secretary: Maureen Sowerby

Winter Match Secretary: Rosemary Browne

Committee: Joan Bolden, Peter Clarke, Steve Rattlidge and Trevor Blatchford

10. Devon LTA report

Andy Malcolm read his report (Annex 2). The league is affiliated to the Devon LTA.

11. Any other business

- James Temple (Exeter Golf and Country Club) is once again running two pre-season graded tournaments on Sunday 31st March. The ladies event is from 10.00 am - 2.00 pm and the men's event is from 3.00 pm - 7.00 pm. Leaflets were handed out at the meeting and more information is on the EDTL website. Andy Malcolm thanked James for the facilities and running the tournament. Club contacts were asked to encourage their players to enter.

- Exmouth TC are holding a Coleman Cup Tournament on 14 June, any ladies are welcome to take part, lunch is included. Details will be on the EDTL website.
- Bovey Tracey TC are proud to announce their club has a new pavilion.

Roger Wilkins (President) thanked the committee for all the years they have committed to running the league. He said it is a very well run league and all players should feel privileged to play in it.

Andy Malcolm thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished all clubs a successful season.

The meeting closed at 8.01 pm.

7.02.19

ANNEX 1

Chairman's Report

This past summer was a good one for the league with very few postponements due to the weather. However, there was a certain amount of disruption due to the success of the England football team. The number of teams entered in the league has fallen slightly. There was some disruption in the Men's league where a number of teams withdrew from division 8 during the season. I must thank the committee for their efforts over the year. Hopefully we can continue running the league so that the maximum number of players get enjoyment from playing the game while abiding by the rules.

We've had no major issues during the year relating to matches.

We had an incident brought to our attention and after discussion the player involved has been banned from the league for 2 years.

We do have some requests of team captains to allow for smoother running of the league –

Summer scorecards – scans and pictures are acceptable as long as there is no colour border around the scorecard and the scans are legible (scan should be black on white not grey on grey). Any scorecards not meeting these criteria will be treated as incomplete and subject to a fine.

Whatever happens I hope you all have a happy year on court and off it.

Andy Malcolm

ANNEX 2

Devon LTA Repot

This is the annual report about the activity of Devon LTA and our part therein.

The county office has seen a change in personnel with our full time administrator, Chris Bawden, retiring but her responsibilities being taken over by a part time replacement administrator (Debbie Freeman) and a new part-time Competitions co-ordinator (Jemima Morris). We still have a performance coordinator (Will McNally) who is driving the new junior county landscape on behalf of the county.

Also, the county made a small loss of £3,000 this year, due to the extra expenses involved in paying the new staff during a handover period to ensure a smooth transition.

Wimbledon tickets. Once again the number of tickets will be based on the number of opted-in members. You need to remember that members must opt-in each year, it does not automatically roll over to the next year. If your members are having problems registering online, try the LTA helpline on 020 8487 7000. Remember the deadline date is February 22nd

The county appreciates the effort made by clubs to meet the new welfare officer and Safeguarding requirements for registration. In the county, two small, one court clubs decided not to re-register and 2 clubs missed the deadline but are working towards completing the process. Please remember that this will continue in the future and that it's not just a tick box exercise but should be engrained into the clubs culture. Be aware that clubs will be audited to check on compliance with the regulations.

Changes are coming for clubs regarding coaches. Only accredited coaches can be working at a club. BE AWARE.

Andy Malcolm