

## Aylesbury Squash and Racketball Club

### Minutes of Squash Section Committee meeting 7.00pm 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**Present :** Jamie Morgado (Chm), Fraser Mathews, Oli Field, Darren Franklin, David Tattam, Dan Kerr, Bonnie Doe, Dan Robinson, David Evans, Julia Foster, John Gilmour, Maxine Major (guest)

**Apologies :** David Evans, Aidan Turnbull

1. Minutes of Committee meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> May
  - *Approved for distribution*
2. Minutes of Committee meeting 8<sup>th</sup> June
  - *Approved for distribution*
3. Actions brought forward from Committee meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> May (subordinated to responsibility areas below – prefixed B/F)
  - *Covered below*
4. Structure
  - B/F JM to present pros and cons to the group  
*JM has held a number of meetings with the main committee and the sports club to gauge support or otherwise for the motion to split. Main committee have expressed mixed feelings over the future of their roles. Sports club understand the reasons for the proposals. EGM has therefore been announced for July 9<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm. JM has subsequently held further meeting with JP and RW, who have presented their proposals for actioning the split should it be passed. This has been issued to the committee. JM will be available for two Q&A sessions at the club, (i) Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>, and (ii) Saturday July 1<sup>st</sup>, ahead of the EGM.*
5. Committee
  - B/F Committee members to submit 2 line bio together with photo to BD who can then pull together a ‘meet the committee’ sheet for mailing / inclusion on the noticeboard)  
*Covered in 13a Social Media / Comms below*
6. Facilities
  - a) B/F - Glass doors- JM is meeting with the fitters on 26<sup>th</sup> May to discuss. Noted that the club is withholding 50% of the cost at present.
    - *Fitters have been back and filled gaps around the doors as best they can, given that the court walls aren't perfectly straight. Club will now pay the remaining 50%. No action*
    - *It was commented that the door on court 4 can be hard to open. OF and DK have volunteered to have a look at it. C/F to next meeting (OF/DK)*
  - b) B/F – Court Walls plaster on courts 3 and 4. Door fitters should be able to remedy this. JM to cover with DE offline
    - *Recommendation is that committing to further expenditure be deferred until after the EGM. C/F to next meeting (JM/DE)*

- c) B/F - Door lock to men's changing rooms- JM to speak to ST and Paul regarding Doorflow and installation
- *JM will get access to Doorflow and liaise with ST who will then fit the lock. C/F to next meeting (JM)*
- d) B/F Access door to courts is being propped open. Can it be unlocked at peak times or have a relocking timer to allow access to the water fountain? JM to look into with ST/MM regarding timing delays on Doorflow and access during events
- *Door is still being propped open. After discussion it was felt the main reason for members leaving the door propped open is to access the water fountain outside the bar during squash matches. It would therefore make sense to install an additional water fountain in the corridor immediately leading from the door. Action: JM to look into installation of additional water fountain. To be revisited after EGM. C/F to next meeting (JM)*
- e) B/F Issues with access to ladies changing room during matches. JM to speak to MM/ST
- *JF found a temporary workaround using a t-shirt. For a more permanent solution the options were i) leaving a master key in the lock during matches (rejected due to risk of it going missing) and ii) setting up temporary fobs. Action: MM will look into setting up the fobs. C/F to next meeting (MM)*
- f) B/F DE to supply whiteboard supplier details to JM
- *Chris Gaskell has kindly supplied new whiteboards for use outside courts 2, 3 and 4. Paul Rickard has helpfully put them up. No action*
- g) B/F Removal of whiteboards outside courts 1 and 2 – MM and OF offered to help move
- *MM has now moved these. No action*
- h) B/F Lighting between car park and clubhouse. JM to raise with main committee
- *The light at the car park end of the drive has been replaced, but it's still very dark at the clubhouse end. Action: To be revisited after EGM. C/F to next meeting (JM)*
- i) *JM suggested that shelves outside courts for drinks would be more useful and look tidier. All agreed. Action : JM to revisit following EGM. C/F to next meeting (JM)*
- j) *JM suggested that instead of A4/A3 documents, a smaller number of larger posters or other media would look better. Example being replacing the court number signs with frosted signs on the court doors. All agreed. Action : JM to revisit following EGM (JM)*
- k) *JF mentioned that the fans on courts 3 and 4 aren't working, and asked who should be notified. MM mentioned that she should be first point of contact and then can pass onto ST as necessary. Action : MM to pass on comment on fans to ST (MM)*

## 8. Teams / MMM

- a) B/F Can we send out an email with the next leagues asking for anyone interested in playing for teams to connect with DR? **Action: DR** to draft message, DF to include on next leagues notifications. **C/F** to next meeting **(DR/DF)**
- b) Ladies - JF mentioned that Bucks are looking to have 4 in a team next season, over 3 divisions. This could mean having two teams playing on a Monday night, although presumably one would be home, one would be away. OF confirmed he would only need two courts for coaching due to losing players to the teams. **Action:** JF and OF to take offline to agree best, after JF has spoken to Bucks **(JF / OF)**
- c) JM suggested 'come down and play' sessions for members interested in playing for teams e.g. clubnight Sundays. **Action:** DR to review Sunday morning training and consider the target audience for any communication on it e.g. how do we accommodate juniors who might be interested? **(DR)**
- d) MMM access to be granted to DR and JF who can then plan and book courts for team matches **(JM)**

## 9. Leagues

- a) B/F – DF to write up New Member Pack, based on ladies new joiner guide and liaise with MM for issuing to new members
  - *1<sup>st</sup> draft emailed and Whatsapp'd out to committee. **Action:** Suggested additions / changes to be sent to DF by 4<sup>th</sup> July. **C/F** to next meeting **(ALL)***
- b) B/F - Reminder to go out with the next leagues; 'How to leave the leagues during month'
  - *DF issued email out with June leagues. Hard copy can be supplied for the noticeboard if required. **No action***
- c) B/F - League rules – refresh and reissue / display. DF to draft including withdrawing to avoid relegation then applying to rejoin a higher league
  - **C/F** to next meeting **(DF)**
- d) *JM mentioned that SD would be happy for us to reinstate awarding the top scorer / performer in the leagues each month. **Action :** DF to check with SD as to award – bottle of wine / £10 bar credit etc. Also which leagues it applies to **(DF)***

## 10. Ladies

- a) JF looking to arrange a friendly with Wendover and possibly Homer Green, followed by an exhibition between Chloe and Katie Maliff. Asked if it's possible to pay them for their time. **Actions: (i) JM** to look onto payment possibility, **(ii) JF** to suggest dates, possibly August

- b) JF gave an update on the ladies section. Currently about 25 ladies across the mixed and ladies leagues. Considering another push in September. **No action**

#### 11. Juniors

- a) B/F - Junior Leagues - U14's in leagues; OF will write up communication regarding expected court etiquette and pass to MM for issuing to parents
  - *OF awaiting meeting with Bucks, who will send guidance through once they've written it up. Once received we can review our guidance on expectations of juniors, opponents, and supervision. C/F to next meeting (OF)*
- b) Coaching – SD may not be able help consistently from September, and RF hasn't attended for a couple of weeks. A couple of members with kids and who have demonstrated some organisational skills have been suggested and may be approached to see if they're interested. **No action**

#### 12. Safeguarding

- a) B/F - 'Safeguarding' rules; JG and JF to meet county chair and SO. Need clarification for next season for U14's and U19's playing in adult teams and leagues. JG to chase Bucks Squash again for a response
  - *See response to 11.a C/F to next meeting (JG)*
- b) *JG expressed concerns over juniors playing each other without any evident supervision. Action: JG to look into what other clubs are doing around safeguarding of juniors playing each other. C/F to next meeting (JG)*

#### 13. Social Media / Comms

- a) *B/F BD to collate bios and pictures for 'Meet the Committee' sheet for mailing / inclusion on noticeboard. OF would like a group photo for junior coaching*
  - *Most members have supplied bios and photos, still waiting for a couple. C/F to next meeting (All / BD)*

#### 14. Events / Social

- a) B/F Exhibition – Sat 22nd July. Details on number of tickets and prices purchased pre covid. Date of ticket sales. Committee member required to attend meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May and feedback detail to BD for communication
  - *Complete. BD issued excellent comms and tickets have been made available on MMM. Small number of tickets remaining. No action*
- b) B/F Committee nominations for exhibition – members to submit nominations to JM/DF by June 9<sup>th</sup>. Top 2 to be put to vote alongside main committee recommendation.
  - *Complete. Oli and Josh Gasson were put forward against Alex Inskip, who won a narrow vote. No action*
- c) Social / events calendar. Events team to compile list of possible events. DT, AT, DK, FM to hold separate meeting and present at next meeting

- *DT talked through Excel sheet with draft events calendar, with possible events including squash quiz nights, Squashtv events, chairman's cup. An event was suggested for August, possibly a red dot challenge? **Actions: (i)** Events team to check dates for August event **(DT, DK, FM, AT)**, **(ii)** FM to set up Google calendar for the events and grant access to OF, DR, JF to populate with coaching and team matches, and BD who can then pick up comms details from it **(FM) C/F** to next meeting **(DT/FM/AT/DK)***
- d) Use of monitor in the bar area to display event calendar
  - *To be revisited once social / events calendar is prepared. **C/F** to next meeting **(DT/DK/FM/AT)***

15. AOB

- a) *B/F Continued instances of players not changing their footwear before going on court are being reported, with one culprit being identified and spoken to and reacting confrontationally. It's not limited to Pay and Players. Solutions suggested included putting into the T&Cs, including in a membership pack for new members. All agreed to monitor and raise the issue as they encounter it. **C/F** to next meeting **(All)***
- b) *JM requested a list of all sponsorship arrangements with any reciprocal benefits, and donations. **Action: DE** to provide **(DE)***
- c) *JM requested monthly statistics on member numbers and demographics (how many, new members, court access etc). **Action: MM** to provide monthly **(MM)***
- d) *JM asked for suggestions for inclusion in the next newsletter, examples being the proposed Wendover event, team results etc. **Action: Suggestions** to be sent to JM **(All)***
- e) *Question raised as to whether we should start charging for court cancellations. Consensus was that cancellations less than 24 hours before the court time should be charged, at the full court cost. Decision taken to monitor cancellations for next couple of months, and perhaps start charging from September (new season). **Action: C/F** to next meeting **(MM)***
- f) *Question raised as to whether Pay & Play bookings should be restricted to outside peak hours. **Action: MM** to look into the typical times P&P courts are being booked and feedback **(MM)***
- g) *DF mentioned possibility of promoting wheelchair squash / racketball. Deferred until disabled access is improved. **No action***

16. Date of next meeting

- *To be confirmed following EGM*

17. Close