



**Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, 25th May 2021 at 19:30**

Present: Peter Tanner, Paul Flatman, Helen Robertson, Caroline Alcock, Graeme Jenner, Wendy Jenner, Angie Deacon, Roz Biddle, Chris Hurst, Mary Bruno, Tim Blackman, Jay Dungeni, Liz Dunham, Stuart Appelbe, Derek Coomber, Daniel Forero, Bernie Luff, Neal Aggarwal.

Apologies: Callum Brodie, Aga, Nigel.

Previous AGM Minutes reviewed and agreed.

Chairman's report: Paul thanked Karen Rook Welfare Officer and Committee
Thanked coaching team Tim and Nigel, for Covid safe practice during the last year, especially as we had no known Covid transmissions because of being on site at RPLTC.
Welcomed new members, 41 full time 2019, 64 in 2020, 70 signed up for 2021.
Established new court booking system 'pods'.
Working party to review rear fencing needing repair.
Social evening when permitted to also support on site club.

Membership report: Numbers steady 72 senior members, 10 left, 9 new members, 52 juniors, 10 associate parents.

Captain's Report: Winter season cut short, no report. Summer season, club has 2 men's, 2 women's and a mixed team for this year.

Junior coaching team report: Tim reported that Nigel (at level 3 coaching) and Jay with assistance from Lauren and Mary. Acknowledged a very challenging year. Now running Fridays 5:30 to 7pm, and Sundays.

52 junior members, aiming for 65 by end of year. The larger the number, the more courts required.
Sunday coaching girls 4-8; Saturday coaching red/orange and yellow up to 19 and 14 respectively.

To review option of a special Student rate. 4 elite players left for university.

Parent participation coaching with the children, new and unique and has accelerated improvement of levels.

Covid compliant Junior tournament to be held on Saturday, 11th September 2021
4 weeks August holiday camps for children arranged that do not require parents attending.

Significant time, effort and energy has gone into establishing the junior coaching tennis players.

Treasurer Report

Peter gave a breakdown of the 2020-year end accounts.

Income section

Subscriptions: Subs up £16k vs £14K, however, discounts given for the reduced 020 season membership.
Play and pay income: bowls club walking on tennis and some guests who hire courts.

Expenditure

Capitation fees: the same and will continue at £3628 per annum.

Tennis balls: via Tennis Nuts £1.13 per ball but fee for sale of old balls recoup to bring balls under £1 each. Ball usage up with pod system. Fees for balls may be considered at social evenings.

Junior coaching: well-funded and club contributes for Friday session.

Covid special payment made to coaching team to thank for the special circumstances we found ourselves in during the pandemic.

Website Maintenance: website licence fee for Wicks.

Other expenditure: Due to Covid, booking system required: cost for website development; web designer, and other expenditures i.e., New straps for all nets, fence repair, weed killer, engraving of cups, Covid sanitisers and wipes,

Floodlight exp: Flood lights payment to main club each month using meter reading.

Court Repairs/cleaning: court clearing September c£1400.

Balance Sheet

Bank and Cash: Balance healthy.

Sinking Fund: £3000 sink fund maintained.

Committee

It was confirmed that the current Committee be re-elected for another year.

- Chair Paul Flatman
- Treasurer Peter Tanner
- Secretary Caroline McCormack
- Match Secretary Helen Robertson
- Membership Secretary Caroline Alcock

AOB:

Complaint raised to Committee by Tim Blackman against Arun Bagga. In addition to responding to the complaint, Arun gave a lengthy response bringing in many other matters.

Response statement from Nigel read at the meeting by Chris Hurst: Tim believed the responses were a fierce attack on him and his reputation. All transcripts available if required.

Tim sets the rules, Nigel has autonomy to implement. Coaching balls the main crux of the matter.

Lessons booked and last-minute cancellation, no apology or explanation nor offer of payment made for cancellation.

Tim decided not to include Mr Bagga on Monday and Thursday sessions, later rescinded.

Parents are included in coaching with children; membership competitive and coaching ratio good; parents provide own balls.

Dissatisfaction with coaching session – yet others find it engaging and class growing. Group coaching designed for all.

Questioned our conduct and ability to reflect and standard of coaching.

Question of Tim's character over Covid handling and threat to report to LTA

Leadership question, Mr Bagga questioned language on What's App group; no covid transmissions as a result of playing at RPLTC. Ethical leadership called into question.

Referred to coaching being too business-like, no full understanding of time spent behind the scenes keeping club safe (cleaning, separation with pods, etc.)

Time and feedback given over the last year on Covid, thanked Mr Bagga for this at the time offered.

Believes Mr Bagga is trying to discredit us (Tim/Nigel) in wider community.

Investigation over 6 weeks, took legal and LTA advice. Complaint closed by Committee after investigation.

Tim's response: putting his side forward, advised all transcripts available if required; Mr Bagga offered his service at start of pandemic, Nigel & Tim put the policy in place with his assistance and he was thanked for his input at the time.

Tim lent Arun a music system for his daughter's birthday, on 20th Jan 2020 including lighting, for which he thanked Tim. You do a favour, you are thanked. Did not see the relevance to bring up again.

Alleged irresponsible behaviour handling Covid situation. At one point, LTA trying to re-start tennis to be played, but did not break or breach any rules. Tim spent a great deal of time at club, especially at start of Covid pandemic. Not just about the money, the tennis and club are everything, feels totally unfairly treated by Mr Bagga. Believes Mr Bagga is trying to sabotage, everyone has been affected by Covid, but being able to play tennis has been good for everyone's mental health and wellbeing – that is what coaching team want to achieve. Representation against Tim amounted to an excessive 6000-word document accusing of profiteering and being all about monetary matters also bringing forward many irrelevant matters, all present agreed the response was disproportionate in size and scope, failed to address the original complaint leaving the committee to spend a great deal of time and effort to bring the matter to a close, questioning the integrity of both the coaching team and committee. All present questioned why such an extreme reply to a small social tennis club.

Thank you came from the floor – Tim was reassured that members give him and coaching team 100% support. All members present felt it came across as scurrilous ranting and what you (Tim) have done for the club is amazing - bringing us from a failing club to where we are now.

Tim responded to thank the club members for their support.

Vote of confidence in Committee and Coaching team was called and fully supported by all present.

Bucks LTA solicitor £240 per hour should we called to go down this route. Disruption to club by a member. Relationship broken down in same place vs rest of members. To be added to club rules.

Motion – to update club complaints procedure.

Further questions asked following the AGM:

Ask groundsman (Chris?) to clear pollarded rubbish around the trees and behind court 4 of all debris accumulated over the years (where footballers relieve themselves during matches!!!!) We get little help from work force mainly doing our own 'thing' it would be nice to have tidy surroundings.

Apart from requesting we (the tennis section) take over the Bowls ladies changing room and incorporate it into the tennis facilities can't think of anything else at present ... but I will work on it!!

No further business the meeting closed at 21:15.