

Newbury & District Lawn Tennis Association



www.ndlta.org.uk

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

At St Georges Church, Andover Road, Wash Common, Newbury,
Large Meeting Room
RG14 7PN

Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7.30pm.

Present:

Liz Fidler: Chairman
Darren Blackwood Fixtures Secretary
Jackie Godwin Treasurer

Committee Members: Lynne Barton, Kendall Gordon, Graeme Coulam,
Apologies from Matthew Morton, Chris Mills, Lydia Berks

Club Representatives from: Hungerford Chris Dodd Kintbury Patricia Poyton
Woodland Jane Tucker & Carol Scearce Bucklebury Sarah Lewington
Pangbourne Louise Shearer

1. Apologies:

Helen Singleton. (Chieveley), Matthew Morton (Committee) Chris Mills (Committee), Phillip Brown (Hungerford)

2. Minutes of last AGM:

Held at St Georges Church, Andover Road, Wash Common, Newbury

All present agreed that these were a true reflection of the AGM 2023. Proposal carried. Liz Fidler duly signed AGM Minutes 2023 off.

3. Matters Arising:

Liz reported that Berkshire LTA is now well on the way to becoming a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation).

She also reported that Chris Mills (Cold Ash) joined the committee following the request for more committee members to come forward.

4. Chairman/Secretary's Report:

Liz informed the meeting of the sad passing away since the last AGM of Robin London who had served on the committee for many years, and that she had attended the funeral both as representative of NDLTA and as a friend.

Returning to procedural matters Liz reported that the committee had, in line with usual practice, met twice since the last AGM, once in March to agree summer League composition, and once in September to agree Winter League composition.

5. Fixture Secretary's Report:

Darren reported that the summer league season had proceeded largely without any significant issues arising and that in general the system was running very smoothly. He did however report one issue whereby two clubs in particular had been very tardy in posting match results, which created knock on problems for Darren in terms of the management of the nomination system, leading to unnecessary work on his part. It was noted that a strong reminder needed to go out to all clubs prior to the next summer season reminding them of the need to post matches promptly and also to inform Darren immediately of any changes in match dates that captains have agreed to.

In addition it was noted that this email should also remind clubs that there is not automatic promotion/demotion at the end of the season, but rather that there is a ranking system applied, with those clubs coming in the top two/bottom two places swapping ranking positions with teams in adjacent divisions (top one/bottom one between divs 1 and 2). Division placement for the following season is then determined by the new rankings and the number/composition of divisions of 6 teams and/or 5 teams determined by how many teams have entered overall. This means that it is not always the case that teams that have come second, or even first, will be promoted.

6. Treasurers Report:

Jackie circulated both income/expenditure and balance sheet figures. The former showed a surplus in the year of £346.29 essentially broadly in line with the prior year given that there are some yet to be incurred costs relating to the delayed Yorkshire Cup final.

The balance sheet surplus as at 30th September stood at £64443.62. As reported under AOB below, there was some discussion on what some of this surplus might be spent on. The accounts as presented were unanimously approved.

7. Election of officers:

Chairman/Secretary; Liz Fidler	All in favour. Proposal carried.
Treasurer: Jackie Godwin	All in favour. Proposal carried.
Fixtures Secretary: Darren Blackwood	All in favour. Proposal carried
Committee Members: Graeme Coulam, Kendall Gordon, Lydia Berks, Lynne Barton, Matt Morton, Patricia Poynton	All in favour. Proposal carried

8. Presentation of Cups and Certificates:

Cups and certificates were duly presented by Liz to Division winners and certificates to runner-ups. Those clubs not present that were due to be awarded trophies and certificates will be asked to collect them from Liz.

Note: Templates of the Certificates were not available this year so Liz enlisted the help of Millie Morgan (DL member) to create a new template, Liz Fidler created new templates for all the Divisions and Jackie Godwin found the coloured card and got them printed.

9. Any other business:

Potential use of surplus funds: Liz informed the meeting that she and Patricia Poynton are on Berks LTA Venue Support Committee that has been charged with considering how to support Clubs in West Berkshire and are setting aside an amount of grant money that clubs can bid for. She put forward the idea that NDLTA adds £3,000 of its current balance sheet surplus to this “grant pot”. Some discussion took place, and one of the points raised was concern that this would only be available to Berkshire clubs, leaving several NDLTA clubs unable to bid. Liz and Patricia are to get more information on the proposed scheme and bring this back to a committee meeting for further consideration of the whole matter. They will also look into whether Hants and Oxford LTA’s are running similar schemes.

Delayed Yorkshire Cup: Liz reported that, owing to the adverse weather in the autumn, the Yorkshire Cup final has been delayed until spring 2025 on a date yet to be scheduled.

Walking Tennis: There was some discussion about promotion of walking tennis. Lyn Barton indicated that Newbury were interested, and it was reported by Louise Shearer that walking tennis was already taking place at Pangbourne. Liz indicated she will liaise with Lyn re the contact at Berks LTA for a potential grant to support this activity.

Liz Fidler Chairman of NDLTA closed the AGM at 21.02pm

NDLTA: 13 November 2024