

AGM Minutes for Newick Tennis Club **held 9th April 2025 in the Clubhouse Blind Lane**

Jenny Smerdon welcomed all to the 2025 AGM

Present:- Chair, Jenny Smerdon, Treasurer Linda Whitworth, Secretary, Hilary Bryan and 15 others present.

1) Apologies

Liz Tobitt, Rachel Townsend, Willi Robertson, Margaret Tutt, Malcolm Young and Teresa Wenban

2) Secretary's report of previous AGM – 17th April 2024

The report was read, adopted and signed by the Chair as a true record

Proposed by: Richard Pledger Seconded by: Gill Hemsley

3) Treasurer's report for 2024/25

On website and copy given to those present.

Linda highlighted a few points within the report and accounts.

- As can be seen income is down but subscriptions are up
- Walking tennis is proving popular and added to the subscriptions, ie £60 yearly or pay £3 as you play.
- Lighting not used as much this year
- Lindfield continue to play on a Thursday evening September to May with regular payments and lighting tokens paid by BACS
- Upkeep of courts rises each year
- Leaflet drop encouraged some additional subs
- LTA loan of £2400 is ongoing paying £600 every 6 months

Jenny thanked Linda for her financial report and Willi Robertson for auditing the accounts.

4) Chair's report for 2024/25

Thank you all for your continued support.

The Club continues to grow in numbers which is great news.

We have continued to field two Ladies and one Mens team in the Sussex League. Three Ladies and three men in the Horam League playing Ladies, Mens and Mixed Doubles.

Wednesday Club night is well attended and thanks to Hilary for making sure the first Wednesday in the month is a tasty event by providing a lovely spread of refreshments.

Thanks to Hilary Blackburn, Françoise and Sue for setting up our Social Media Profile on Newick Talk and successfully promoting the club through a leaflet drop to Newick, Chailey, Isfield and Fletching residents

We have our own 'T' shirt and Logo provided by the Incredible Design Company at Piltdown. Shirts can be purchased with the logo or you can take your own T' shirt to be printed.

A new initiative, **Walking Tennis** was introduced on a Wednesday morning and has proved to be very popular with 16+ members. Play takes place with an Orange ball which is allowed to bounce twice. Scoring is the same. Members enjoy an hour of tennis followed by a social coffee and cake. Thanks to Liz for organising this.

We had a successful BBQ and tennis day at the beginning of September and thanks to Sue for organising this.

The toilet renovations were completed in the summer and have made a huge difference to the club house. Thanks again to Malcolm, Liz and Rachel for seeing the project through to completion.

Two tennis pictures brighten up the walls and thanks to Françoise who spied them at the Horam Club.

We had a light clean of the courts in November and the repainting will take place late Spring 2025.

WhatsApp groups are continuing to work well.

Juniors A small group of juniors from Chailey and Newick colts started playing on a Monday eve 5-6pm in October. Coaching for Juniors continues on Saturday mornings and Wednesday after school at Newick Primary School.

Ladies coaching continues to thrive on a Tuesday morning 8.45 - 9.45am. Thanks to Kyria, she's brilliant!

Safeguarding: Courtney and I met with the Sussex Safeguarding Officer and she was happy with what we are doing. Thank you to Courtney for checking the Defibrillator and for his Role as Safeguarding Officer for the Club

5) Juniors' coaching (Le Tennis).

Chair welcomed Tim Cottingham.

Tennis continues to flourish at Newick School on a Wednesday and at the Club on a Saturday morning, although numbers fluctuate on a Saturday as there is competition from football on the Recreation Ground.

Three coaches come to Newick including one who does the ladies coaching. Cardio Tennis has been introduced at Maresfield Club.

Tim is In contact with Headway regarding a six-week course of soft tennis for the clients who are interested. Coaching is available for walking tennis.

Chair thanked Tim who then had to leave.

6) Sussex and Horam League results

2023/24	Position	Summer 2024	Winter 2024/25
Men	3 rd	W2, L4, D1	W3, L2, D1
Ladies 1 (Div 8)	4 th	W2, L3, D1	W4, D2
Ladies 2 (Div 10)	5 th	W1, L3, D2	W1, L2, D4

Horam League 2025 starts Monday 28th April Last year we came 5th).
Hilary Blackburn to organise the Ladies and Jenny to organise the men.

7) Subscription:- 2025/26 payments due 1st May 2025

It was agreed that Subscriptions should be increased ie: Adults £145, Couples £250, Family £300, Juniors £25, Coaching Parent £25

Walking Tennis £60 or £3 pay as you play

Visitors Fees : adults £5, Juniors £2

Match Fees £3

Proposed by: Richard Pledger, seconded by: Hilary Blackburn

8) Committee for 2024/25

Committee of 2024/25 resigned.

Jenny, Hilary, Linda and Gill willing to stand again with a proviso to co -opt members as and when necessary.

Proposed by: Peter Whitworth, seconded by: Paul Mitchell
Unanimous agreement by all present

9) Future plans

- Encourage new adults and juniors to join
- Possible cardio tennis at the club
- Tiny Tots group beginning shortly for under 5s with a coach
- NLTC inviting Tim and headway to use the courts for clients who wish to be more active
- Future thoughts on Padel Tennis at the club

AOB

- Working Party 27th April
- Need a new Welfare Officer
- Opening of season Sunday, 11th May with BBQ
- Tennis promotion at Newick Food Fair

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00pm.