

AGM Minutes for Newick Tennis Club **held 17th April 2024 in the Clubhouse Blind Lane**

Jenny Smerdon welcomed all to the 2024 AGM

Present:- Chair, Jenny Smerdon, Treasurer Linda Whitworth, Secretary, Hilary Bryan and 12 others present.

1) Apologies

Sam and Alice Boileau, Courtney Williams, Sue Austin, Willi Robertson, Jane Sharman, Andy Rees, Hilary Blackburn and Chris Davies

2) Secretary's report of previous AGM – 19th April 2023

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

Proposed by: Liz Tobitt Seconded by Rachel Townsend

3) Treasurer's report for 2023/24

On website and copy given to those- present.

Linda highlighted a few points within the report and accounts.

Subscriptions increased this year - up by £2,700 including late payments.

As as can be seen income is up including match fees.

Maintenance of courts was £650, cleaning £200 and new net £69.

Still paying off LTA loan £3,600 - £800 a year

Interest rates are up

Our rates are lower

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

4) Chair's report for 2023/24

Thank you all for your continued support this year. We had an Open Day in May to raise the profile of the club and welcome new members. An encouraging number command several new members joined as a result. Membership increased on the year before and next year I will send out a separate email for the subscriptions as several members were very late to join and numerous reminders had to be sent.

WhatsApp groups have grown in popularity and we now have them for the Mens evenings on Mondays and Thursdays, the Ladies afternoons on Mondays and Thursdays and Club sessions on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

Lindfield continue to hire two courts on a Thursday evening from 7.15pm through the Autumn, Winter and Spring months and Haywards Heath use one court on a Monday evening from January to March. Both Clubs do not have floodlighting.

We have continued to run two Ladies teams and one mens team in the Sussex League. Last year we played in the 1st Division of the Horam League. Slightly intimidating for us but we held our nerve and came 4th in the group, better than expected!

Thank you to the working party who have been looking at solutions to the toilet refurbishments and we will hear from them in due course.

Coaching:

Tuesday mornings ladies coaching continues to thrive.

Wednesday juniors coaching at Newick School, Reception though to year 4 with over 30 children taking part.

Saturday mornings from 10am-12.15pm max of 18 juniors

5) Juniors' coaching (Le Tennis).

Tim from Le Tennis at Maresfield said it had been a challenging year competing with other activities but looking brighter. Coaching at Newick Primary continues on a Wednesday after school with over 30 children up to yr4 taking part. 18 on a Saturday morning with 12 younger ones, somewhat erratic as competing with football on recreation ground but have later time to get them to tennis. Those who cannot make Saturday morning are offered another junior session at Maresfield. Newick Saturday is offered to juniors who cannot make coaching session in Maresfield. Awards and certificates given as an incentive to juniors.

Kyria assists at Wednesdays coaching.

Coaching levels range from Level 2-5.

Always free first session for junior and adults - always advertising.

Francoise asked about posters around club and advertising in area on social media and an Open day with coaches from Le Tennis. Tim said that would be possible but unless in a coaching session his coaches would not be paid by Le Tennis.

Agreed to sort an Open Day at beginning of season to encourage new adults and youngsters.

Kyria continues to coach the ladies on a Tuesday morning

Chair thanked Tim who then left.

Jenny (Chair) has approached Josh Stockwell to take up to date photos for the website.

As not on TikTok, Facebook or Newick Talk the Chair suggested another might take on the task of advertising.

6) Sussex and Horam League results

2023/24	Position	Summer 2023	Winter 2023/24
Men	3 rd	3W, 1D, 3L	
	6 th		1W, 1D, 3L
Ladies 1 (Div 8)	4 th	2W, 1D, 2L	
	6 th		4D, 2L
Ladies 2 (Div 10)	5 th	2W, 1D, 3L	
	4 th		2W, 3D, 2L

Horam League 2024 starts Monday 22nd April and continues through to August. Only two divisions this year. Newick is in div 1 (3 men and 3 ladies needed every Monday). Play begins at 6-30pm

Jenny captain of Men's team and Hilary Blackburn the Ladies.

6) Subscription:- 2024/25

It was agreed that subscriptions should be left as last year:
£135 Senior, £240 Couple, £285 Family and Juniors/students £25.
£25 Parent (hitting) membership to help under 10s

Proposed by: Malcolm Young Seconded Liz Tobitt

A monthly direct debit is too tricky to administer for a small Club like ours even if we decided to consider Club Sparks.

7) Committee for 2024/25

All Committee resigned.

New Committee: for 2024/25 Jenny Smerdon, Linda Whitworth, Hilary Bryan, Gill Hemsley, Sam Boileau and Steve Curry with a proviso to co-opt member(s) to the Committee when necessary.

Proposed by: Rachel Townsend Seconded. Pat Tugwell

Unanimous agreement by all present

AOB

Tennis Club could have a stall at Food Fair on Sunday 30th June for new membership. Advertise on local media, websites and local parish magazines.

Open Day to attract new members to be sorted for agreed Saturday or Sunday (May or early June). Ask InterSport in Lewes to come.

Working Party. To be Saturday afternoon - 27th April 1-00, 4-00pm with refreshments

Weed around courts, Clubhouse to tidy, shed to empty of nets, balls etc. and pruning of shrubs.

Skip to be ordered.

Refurbishment of toilets -

Chair thanked Liz, Malcolm and Rachel for their efforts so far.

Original idea was to extend both toilets at back of clubhouse. Looked into possibility and found very costly, over £30,000. Alternatives were

2. leave toilets as they are but upgrade, £10,000 approx
3. improve toilet area with one door but two toilets giving more storage place and upgrade facilities £12,000 approx
4. upgrade and have one door and upgrade £15,000 approx

All would need to have access for those with disability.

Discussion followed and it was agreed that option one was too expensive and sub-committee would look again at options 2,3 and 4. Treasurer said that £15,000 would be made available.

Option 3 was strong favourite but sub-committee would look at pricing and choices. They would report back with quotes and timings.

There being no other business or questions the meeting closed 9.30pm.