

Huntingdon & Peterborough Tennis Association

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT HUNTINGDON TENNIS CLUB ON THURSDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2021

MINUTES

Present

Dennis Vincent - Chairperson
Brian Brown - Treasurer (retiring)
Simon Grainger - Chatteris
Matt Sizer - Chatteris
Robert Brown - City of Peterborough
Ruth Swann - Longthorpe
Kevin Tassell - Stamford
Antoine Zimmerman - Huntingdon

Geoff Smith - Association & League Secretary
Jason Tuxworth - Fixtures Secretary
Wendy Cropp - Wisbech
Jim Hunter - Needingworth
Nicky Keir - City of Peterborough
Victoria Axe - Longthorpe
Karen Tarrersall - Stamford

Apologies for absence

Received from : Jim Wheeler (Ketton) ; John Rudd (David Lloyd) ; Alan Jones (Deeping) ; Shona Kent (Chatteris) ; David McPartlin (Castor & Ailsworth) ; Esmond Edwards (Committee Member) ; Brian/Kath Marshall (Special Guests) ; Carl Newell (Spalding) ; Sally Pell (Committee Member) ; Clare Fraser (Buckden) ; Stephen Lewins (Oundle) ; Caroline/Nick Clifford (Huntingdon) ; Vernon Reuter (Hemingfords) .

Clubs represented : Stamford ; St Neots ; Wisbech ; Chatteris ; Longthorpe ; Needingworth ; Huntingdon ; Ramsey ; and City of Peterborough . [9 Clubs in total]

Clubs not represented : Ketton ; David Lloyd ; Castor & Ailsworth ; Spalding Town ; Bourne Town ; Buckden ; Oundle ; Deeping ; and Hemingfords . [9 Clubs in total]

MEETING COMMENCED AT 7:40 PM

1. Chairperson - Welcome

Dennis Vincent welcomed everyone to the meeting and then gave his report as follows :

“ Good evening all. It is nice time able to be able to finally have a face to face meeting. For me this is the first that I have attended since the start of the pandemic. Because of the changing regulations earlier in the year it became necessary to abandon the mixed league and the Don Brace Cup. We can only hope that the new Omicron variant does not disrupt next year’s competitions. However the Mens and Ladies leagues that were played were closely contested and provided a chance to get onto court for all concerned. I would like to express my thanks to the committee for their support and I am aware that the early season uncertainty gave Geoff and Jason particularly a lot of problems arranging the fixtures and I am especially grateful to them for that work.”

(At this point in the proceedings Dennis apologised for having difficulty in speaking due to a throat problem and so Geoff continued in chairing the meeting on his behalf)

2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on **Thursday 28th November 2019** were accepted as a true and fair record of the proceedings.

3. Matters Arising - there were none.

4. Association & League Secretary’s Report

Geoff presented his report as follows :

“ At our 2019 AGM we said a fond farewell to Kath Marshall on her retirement and this year its farewell to another stalwart our Treasurer for many years, Brian Brown. More about this later but I must place on record my personal thanks to him for his help and support throughout the many years we have worked together on the Association & League’s Committee, organising associated competitions, and also from time to time playing against each other on court where he has always provided stiff but fair opposition. Thankfully Brian has agreed to stay on the Committee where his contributions will continue to be much valued. [continued overleaf]



4. Association & League Secretary's Report [continued]

It has been a particularly busy couple of years since our last AGM and at times hectic and quite stressful with hardly a day going by without something cropping up requiring my attention - in and out of season. However once again I couldn't have kept things running without Jason's excellent help and support throughout. My sincere and grateful thanks also go to all of the other Committee Members, Dennis, Brian, Esmond and Sally for their much valued help and support in what has been a very unusual and difficult period ; I consider that we have been once again a very effective and friendly team that the Clubs have fully benefitted from. Every effort has been made to follow Government and LTA pandemic guidelines whilst endeavouring to meet club requirements and expectations.

As far as the administrative processes are concerned i.e. the issue of various Covid bulletins, club consultations, the usual or abbreviated pre-season letters and associated documents, I am happy that things have generally gone as well as they could have given the difficult and constantly changing times. Indeed it seems to have been a busier couple of years than the normal ones which had a more predictable and therefore manageable format - my files have not got any thinner and hardly a day went by without something happening with lots of emails to respond to and initiate, and 'phone calls to answer !! Last year was one of 'are we or aren't we' and the associated admin that went with it. Jason did his usual excellent job in preparing the fixtures which then didn't happen. However with great delight for most of our clubs we did manage to finally get some play organised this year with the mens and ladies competitions taking place with all but two teams participating i.e. Bourne Town decided not to play in the present pandemic climate and sadly RAF Wyton have decided to fold after so many years of enjoyable membership of our league for both club and their opponents. Again my thanks to Jason for getting the revamped fixtures sorted out which apart from only a few blips (which he quickly resolved) things seemed to go very well - no doubt his report will touch on that. I feel that we as a Committee acted very properly and efficiently with our approach to the pandemic and that the clubs in the main responded in similar fashion. We took the big decision of mothballing our refreshment requirements which was the right thing to do in most people's eyes albeit it was a bit strange after so many years of them having been an endearing feature of our league. This may be something that we will need to reconsider if things go back to normal next year.

Unfortunately there were some playing issues that arose through the season that I had to spend quite a bit of time on and adjudicate where it was within my brief as League Secretary. These mostly involved conceded matches (Rule 11 refers) and most had reasonable reasons why they had been conceded, so I adopted our former Secretary Steve Spilka's approach on these by imposing the non-discretionary points deductions but not levying a fine and referring that to Committee for resolution - see comments on this later. Full details about these are held in my file and available to be viewed if anyone wants to, and I also prepared and provided a spreadsheet to assist the League Committee with its deliberations which showed the clubs involved and my recommendations regarding the fine that could be applied.

My congratulations to all of the divisional winners and to all of the clubs who managed to fully participate in the mens and ladies competitions that we did manage to run. Hopefully early in the New Year clubs will be invited to submit their team entries and we shall return to some form of normality but I rather suspect this won't be the case.

At the 2019 AGM and subsequent meeting of the Committee meeting it was agreed that I should deal with the practicalities of distributing the redundant trophies and I had hoped to have done this by now but the Covid pandemic made this impossible to do so this is still a work in progress matter.

The following decisions were made at our last Committee Meeting : **1. CONCEDED MATCHES** - (a) **FINES** : given the exceptional circumstances arising from the pandemic it was felt that on this occasion the points deductions were sufficient and that **no fines be levied** ; (b) **RULE CHANGE PROPOSAL** - Rule 11 be amended : see item 7 on the agenda ; **2. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY** - no further rule changes to be made other than that recently implemented ; **3. TOP CLUB TROPHY** - proposed that this should be 'put on ice' for another year and until such time as a 'normal' season is possible **4. OFFICER SUCCESSION PLANNING** - that whilst noting that Geoff was prepared to carry on into the 2022 Season that a 'shadow' appointment be made ready for his 'retirement' by the 2022 AGM ; **6. DON BRACE CUP** - await and see if its possible to resume this competition in 2022 and then review the situation at the next Committee meeting.

I would once again like to take this opportunity of wishing you, your families and club members a very **Happy Christmas and all the very best for 2022**, both on and off the court. Most important of all ... Keep Safe and Well !!

Finally my thanks to Huntingdon Tennis Club for making their premises available to us for this AGM and our Committee meeting. "

Geoff's report, including the Committee decisions, were received and approved in their entirety with no further comments or issues raised - a selection of photographs taken at the 2019 AGM were featured on the reverse of the hard copies of his report as circulated at the meeting. He was thanked for all of his efforts of the last two years.

5. Fixtures (Assistant League) Secretary's Report

Jason reported as follows :

" After a year without competitive tennis and the possibility that this was going to be extended for a second, it was good to find that we could run the Men's and Ladies' leagues, even if the Mixed was missed.

The lifting of the lockdown restrictions led to a slightly earlier start to the two leagues and this additional time made a big difference in being able to arrange the fixtures and led to many of the divisions finishing before the middle of August when the Hunstanton Week is held.

[continued overleaf]

5. Fixtures (Assistant League) Secretary's Report [continued]

There was no significant period of poor weather which helped ensuring that the majority of the matches were played as per the schedule and most of the fixtures had been completed on time. In the main, there were few issues with the scheduling. Oundle were very helpful in providing a list of all their fixtures taking place in other leagues meaning avoiding clashes was straightforward. For clubs who have teams in more than one league, fixture clashes are highly likely and it's accepted that some tweaking to the original fixtures lists might be necessary. It is imperative that when clubs are sent the draft fixtures that these are checked as a matter of urgency. Most clubs were very helpful and checked everything would work within days of the fixtures being sent out but we did have one instance of only being informed two weeks later which led to some rapid recalculating in only a short period of time. We do need to emphasise the importance of all clubs checking the draft fixtures as a matter of urgency when they're first received so that time is available if changes need to be made.

Another issue mentioned during the season was a fixture with the same clubs being drawn home and away. Unfortunately I don't have the time to refer back to previous seasons to ensure fixtures are always reversed but if clubs do find that they are playing the same opposition in the same location over several years, I'm happy for this to be brought to my attention so that I can try and ensure this is not the case the next year; checking one or two isn't a problem. "

Jason concluded his report by referring to the website updating process and by thanking the majority of the clubs for getting their scores in quickly and with the correct information. There were no further issues arising from his report and he was thanked for the excellent job he had done.

6. Treasurer's Report

Brian presented his final report as the Association's Treasurer.

He reported that the accounts were still in a very healthy state and copies of the 'examined accounts' were duly circulated, received and approved by those present.

He was thanked for his considerable contribution over many years in undertaking these and other duties for the Association ; there would be more about this later in the proceedings.

Esmond Edwards was thanked for undertaking the official examination once again.

No recommendations had been made regarding changes to any of the fees so these would remain unchanged for the ensuing season.

Brian said that he was delighted to see that Jason Tuxworth had agreed to take over the Treasurer's duties - his appointment would be dealt with later in the proceedings. Jason mentioned that in future he would be asking the clubs to make all payments by BACS * in order to make the banking process more efficient. [* League Rule 4 to be amended accordingly]

It was also pleasing to note that Brian had agreed to continue as a Committee Member and his nomination is included in the listing of members for approval later in the proceedings.

7. League Rules

2022 LEAGUE RULES - PROPOSED CHANGE :

At its meeting held on Thursday 4th November 2021 the League Committee agreed to the following change to League Rule 11 - additional text has been added under the **Penalty** clause as shown in **red** below :

Should a club concede two or more matches in a season then all results are voided and the team concerned automatically relegated.

This proposal was put to the meeting and approved by all of those present. The League Secretary to arrange for a copy of the amended rules to be fully circulated to all clubs before the start of the next season.

No other rule changes were proposed or agreed. In response to a member's question mutually agreed rearrangements between the clubs involved is still acceptable provided that the League and Fixture Secretaries are kept fully informed.

HUNTINGDON & PETERBOROUGH TENNIS COMMITTEE INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2 YEARS TO 31ST OCTOBER 2021

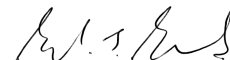
	2020/21		2019	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
League and Cup Fees		1,320		1,250
EXPENDITURE				
Don Brace Expenses - Courts, Refreshments & Balls		—		150
Trophies & Engraving		141		12
League Secretary - Expenses		329		96
- Honorarium		400		—
Travelling		22		—
A.G.M and Committee Expenses		35		127
Accounts Examiner		30		—
Printing, Postages & Telephone Website		181		—
		<u>1,138</u>		<u>385</u>
SURPLUS/DEFICIT		<u>182</u>		<u>865</u>

ACCUMULATED FUND 2 YEARS ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2021

	2021	2019
	£	£
Balance as at 1.11.2019	5,131	4,266
Add Surplus for the 2 Years	<u>182</u>	<u>865</u>
	<u>5,313</u>	<u>5,131</u>
Represented by:-		
Cash at Bank	5,291	5,036
Cash in Hand	<u>22</u>	<u>95</u>
	<u>5,313</u>	<u>5,131</u>

I CERTIFY that the attached Income and Expenditure Account has been prepared from the books, records, information and explanations supplied, and it is in agreement therewith.

29.11.2021



E.J. Edwards - Examiner

[NOTE : AN EASIER TO READ VERSION OF THESE ACCOUNT ARE FEATURED IN THE APPENDICES TO THESE MINUTES ON PAGE 5]

8. Presentation of Divisional Awards

Certificates and shields were presented by Dennis to this season's divisional winners on the following basis :

DIVISION	LADIES LEAGUE WINNERS
1	CITY OF PETERBOROUGH "A"
2	ST NEOTS "B"
3	WISBECH
4	OUNDLE "A"

DIVISION	MENS LEAGUE WINNERS
1	STAMFORD "A"
2	HEMINGFORDS "A"
3	HUNTINGDON "B"
4	CHATTERIS "B"

Unfortunately representatives from the Oundle and Hemingfords clubs were not present to receive their awards

The full League Tables are featured in the Appendix to these Minutes (Page 6)

A **Special Award** was then made with Dennis presenting **Brian Brown** with a framed certificate

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN RECOGNITION OF EXCEPTIONAL DEDICATION AND LONG SERVICE TO THE ASSOCIATION AND LEAGUE

Geoff also advised that further recognition of Brian's services will be made at a future Committee Meeting when it is safer to do so under the pandemic situation.

Brian thanked everyone for their kind thoughts and friendship over the years.

Photographs were taken of all recipients - copies will circulate in due course.



9. Election of Officers and Committee

Geoff reported that no new nominations had been forthcoming by the due date * (*Friday 26th November 2021).

At the last Committee Meeting it was noted that all of the existing members were willing to serve for another year, as were all of the Officers with the exception of Brian Brown who was retiring as Treasurer. Jason Tuxworth agreed to be the new Treasurer. In the absence of any further nominations **it was proposed and agreed by those present that these members be re-elected en-bloc together with their official positions.**

A subsequent notification had been received by the League Secretary from Ramsey Tennis Club that Rachel Gillett would like to fill one of the vacant Committee positions and so this was also agreed.

The Officers and Committee Members duly elected to serve for the 2022 season were :

CHAIRPERSON
ASSOCIATION & LEAGUE SECRETARY
TREASURER
FIXTURES SECRETARY *

Dennis Vincent
Geoff Smith
Jason Tuxworth
Jason Tuxworth

[* NOTE : This position has been re-titled from Assistant League Secretary]

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Esmond Edwards, Brian Brown, Sally Pell, Rachel Gillett
There are still vacancies available.

10. Any Other Relevant Business

Any other items were invited and the following matters were briefly discussed :

10.1 Refreshments - in response to a question querying whether this requirement should be reinstated once it is safe to do so the general feeling was that at the appropriate time the current rules about provision should be applied. The Committee will however keep this under review and advise the clubs accordingly before the season starts.

10.2 Suggested change in order of play of the Mens, Ladies and Mixed Leagues - it was pointed out that this had been considered a number of times over the years but the decision had always been to keep as is because otherwise there would be difficulties experienced by the clubs who also participated in the Cambs League. The associated matter of the apparent declining numbers of lady match players was also raised but no easy solutions were identified or decisions made.

11. Close of Meeting - There being no further business to discuss the meeting was **declared closed at 8:30 pm.**

APPENDICES - FOLLOW OVERLEAF (Pages 5 and 6)

APPENDICES

HUNTINGDON & PETERBOROUGH TENNIS COMMITTEE
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2 YEARS TO 31ST OCTOBER 2021

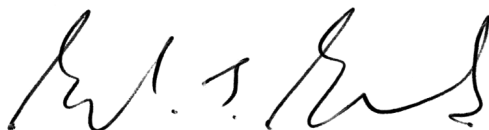
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29.11.2021



E.J.Edwards - Examiner

HUNTINGDON & PETERBOROUGH TENNIS LEAGUE

FINAL PLACINGS

2021

Ladies' Leagues

Division One

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	City of P'boro A	7	6	1	0	40	16	24	13
2	St. Neots A	7	6	0	1	45	11	34	12
3	Stamford A	7	4	0	3	31	25	6	8
4	Deeping	7	3	0	4	20	34	-14	6
5	Longthorpe A	7	2	1	4	26	30	-4	5
6	Ketton A	7	1	2	4	19	37	-18	4
7	Buckden A	7	1	1	5	19	35	-16	3
8	David Lloyd A	7	2	1	4	22	34	-12	-1

Division Two

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	St. Neots B	7	6	1	0	46	10	36	13
2	Hemingfords A	7	5	1	1	33	21	12	11
3	City of P'boro B	7	4	2	1	36	18	18	10
4	Stamford B	7	4	1	2	34	20	14	9
5	Needingworth	7	2	2	3	24	30	-6	4
6	Ramsey	7	1	1	5	17	39	-22	3
7	Buckden B	7	1	0	6	15	41	-26	2
8	Longthorpe B	7	1	0	6	15	41	-26	2

Division Three

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Wisbech	5	3	2	0	27	13	14	8
2	St. Neots C	5	3	2	0	26	14	12	8
3	Stamford C	5	2	2	1	26	14	12	6
4	City of P'boro C	5	2	0	3	18	22	-4	4
5	Longthorpe C	5	2	0	3	18	22	-4	4
6	Chatteris	5	0	0	5	5	35	-30	0

Division Four

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Oundle A	5	4	1	0	30	10	20	9
2	Castor & Ailsworth	5	3	1	1	28	12	16	7
3	Hemingfords B	5	3	0	2	24	14	10	6
4	Longthorpe D	5	2	0	3	17	21	-4	4
5	Oundle B	5	2	0	3	14	26	-12	4
6	Spalding Town	5	0	0	5	5	35	-30	-2

Men's Leagues

Division One

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Stamford A	7	7	0	0	46	8	38	14
2	Buckden A	7	5	0	2	34	22	12	10
3	David Lloyd A	7	4	0	3	29	25	4	8
4	Huntingdon A	7	4	0	3	28	25	3	8
5	City of P'boro A	7	3	0	4	29	27	2	6
6	Deeping	7	2	0	5	20	36	-16	4
7	St. Neots A	7	1	0	6	16	37	-21	2
8	Longthorpe A	7	2	0	5	17	39	-22	2

Division Two

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Hemingfords A	8	8	0	0	59	5	54	16
2	City of P'boro B	8	6	0	2	40	24	16	12
3	Needingworth A	8	4	2	2	37	27	10	10
4	Stamford B	8	4	1	3	35	29	6	9
5	Ketton	8	2	3	3	32	32	0	7
6	Longthorpe B	8	3	1	4	27	36	-9	7
7	Buckden B	8	3	0	5	22	41	-19	6
8	Chatteris A	8	1	1	6	23	41	-18	3
9	St. Neots B	8	1	0	7	12	52	-40	0

Division Three

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Huntingdon B	8	7	1	0	51	13	38	15
2	Hemingfords B	8	6	1	1	51	11	40	13
3	Needingworth B	8	5	0	3	36	28	8	10
4	Hemingfords C	8	4	1	3	29	32	-3	9
5	Longthorpe C	8	4	0	4	29	31	-2	8
6	Castor & Ailsworth	8	3	0	5	30	33	-3	6
7	Stamford C	8	2	2	4	26	38	-12	6
8	Ramsey A	8	2	1	5	26	38	-12	5
9	Wisbech	8	0	0	8	5	59	-54	0

Division Four

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Chatteris B	8	8	0	0	57	7	50	16
2	Oundle	8	6	0	2	52	12	40	12
3	Chatteris C	8	4	2	2	36	28	8	10
4	Needingworth C	8	4	2	2	34	30	4	10
5	St. Neots C	8	4	0	4	33	31	2	8
6	Longthorpe D	8	4	0	4	30	34	-4	8
7	Ramsey B	8	2	1	5	26	36	-10	5
8	David Lloyd B	8	1	1	6	12	52	-40	3
9	City of P'boro C	8	0	0	8	6	56	-50	0