

Monday, 19th October 2009

Present Sue Shirley, Mike Marsden, Neville Buckley, Steve Reynolds, Jim Grundy, Christine Kitchen, Tracey Allen, Charles Gayle, Mike Bond, John Raven and Peter Kitchen

Apologies Mike Watson

Matters arising from the previous minutes

Dealt with below.

Finance

All bills had been paid including the sand for the courts and the first phase of the new netting and we still had a reasonably healthy balance in the bank. Several events would take place over the next few weeks to bring in further income. The second phase of the netting will go ahead before the rise in VAT next January.

Membership

There were a couple of outstanding subscriptions.

Review of tournaments

A mini junior competition, for the youngest children, had been held on a Sunday afternoon in September. Singles and doubles tournaments for the older juniors had been run over the last few weeks. They had been very successful and much appreciation was given to Ian Maddison for organising them and for the help given by Tracey. The junior presentation evening would be held after the coaching on Friday, 23rd October.

Only the mixed doubles final had yet to be played in the Open Tournament.

It was felt that next year there should be a formal 'finals day' for the Open tournament in September along the lines of the Preston Tournament, followed by a Presentation Evening and a similar finals day for the Handicapped tournament at the end of April.

People wishing to play could put their names down from July so that a schedule of matches could be prepared ready for the last week in August.

Ladder and Men's Winter Doubles

Steve will start the singles ladder straightaway. Anyone was welcome to play including juniors. The secretary will ask Simon Stockton if it could be viewed via the web site.

An initiative has been organized by Kevin – 'Men's Winter Doubles' on Wednesday evenings to provide competitive tennis essentially for people wishing to play for a team. It is hoped that it will encourage the strongest players to take part. Results will be recorded by Kevin.

The bar would be available after play along the lines of Fylde League matches in the summer.

Upcoming events.

Several private functions were taking place over the next few weeks. Many thanks were given to members who had volunteered and to Mike for looking after the bar. Thwaites had a new manager for the area. We were still trying to get the £500 sponsorship from them.

Membership Categories

Formal notice of the new category of Limited Play member and possible others will be on the agenda at the AGM.

Smoking Areas

Smoking will be banned from the seating area under the veranda. A sign will be put in place. Many members did not like people smoking near the entrance which obstructs access and allows smoke to drift into the bar.

Instead a designated area will be provided by the outside wall. Jim and Christine will look for the best price for an ashtray to go onto the wall and John will mount it. A bin to replace those that were attached to the court netting will be obtained and the best place to place it will be determined. Another small bin is needed for sanitary purposes in the Ladies changing room.

Coaching and Team Practice

Two students from UCLA, Andy and Matthew, had been assisting Ian with the junior coaching on Friday evenings. They are both available to provide private coaching or squads.

Matthew in particular has attended a tennis school for two years and if available would be ideal to coach when team practice begins next February. The secretary was asked to check his insurance.

It would be best if they joined the ladder to give members confidence in their ability as players and in coaching.

Any other business.

An additional function will take place on **November 20th**. This will be a social evening consisting of 'The Pampered Chef' where a local person will give a cookery demonstration along with various utensils on sale. Income generated will go to charity and to the club.

Anyone is encouraged to come, not just members. Adverts will be placed on the clubhouse windows. At least 30 people are needed to come to make it successful.

Steve will purchase a box of balls to be kept in the cellar / behind the bar for public sale.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.