



Minutes of the Council Meeting

Tuesday 20th February 2024
at Lees Hall Golf Club, Hemsworth Road, Sheffield, S8 8LL

Present:

President – John Clephan
Members of the Management Committee
Members of affiliated clubs

1. **Minutes of Council Meeting held on 7th February 2023**
The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7th February 2023 were formally approved.
2. **Matters arising**
No matters arising.
3. **League formation for the 2024 season**

Fay Buchan thanks the committee for their support and reported:

Ladies' League

There will be five divisions of teams who will play nine matches and one division of five. The matches will run from the 25th April to 4th July 2024, with a break for the bank holiday and for the senior tournament.

Men's League

There will be five divisions of ten, who will play nine matches, and one division of nine. The matches will run from Saturday 20th April to 29th June with a break for the May bank holiday and for the senior tournament.

Midweek Mixed League

The first two divisions have ten teams and there is one division of eleven. The fixtures will run 30th April to 16th July, again with a break for the bank holiday and for the senior tournament.

Saturday Mixed, Men's Late Summer and Ladies' Late Summer Leagues

Mark will be sending out an email requesting entries for the Late Summer Ladies' and Men's leagues and Saturday Mixed, later in the year. The planned start and end dates are on the list emailed out for this meeting.

Rowlinson Cup – Todd will be organising these fixtures.

Winter League – the plan is for these to run from 5th October.

4. Junior Leagues

Mark Busby reported:

The Junior League was run with 12&U, 14&U and 16&U events. We had 21 teams entered from 11 clubs.

We managed to get a large proportion of the fixtures played which is great, and I hope all the players enjoyed the games.

The final standings are:

12U:

Winners : Barnsley

Runners Up : Fulwood

14U:

Winners : Moorgate

Runners Up : Welbeck

16U: Div1

Winners : Barnsley

Runners Up : Hallamshire

16U: Div2

Winners : Hallam Grange

Runners Up : Welbeck

The Winter Junior League is currently ongoing.

We are looking to restart some Mini Leagues as a key focus this coming year.

Lastly, thank you to all coaches, junior helpers and parents for their continued support of the junior league.

5. Senior Tournament

Trevor Ward reported:

Last years tournament was very successful with 127 entries.

Once again, we had a really good ladies day on the first Sunday at Beauchief. This worked very well enabling most of the ladies matches to be played up to the semifinals stage.

Hallamshire again hosted the main event, the weather was good all week and we had good support. The standard of play throughout the week and on finals day was the best I have seen and is a credit to our association.

We also included for the first time a visually impaired event which had 3 categories. This worked very well, and we were delighted that we were the 1st Association to include this in our main event. Thanks to Janice and Dave for their help.

Thanks must go to the Hallamshire and Beauchief for hosting the events. Also, to our 2 referees Steve and Fiona who did an excellent job, to all our sponsors for

supporting, to all my Sub-Committee for all their hard work and to all the club ambassadors who helped promote the tournament.

Please make a note of this year's tournament date which is slightly earlier, from the 9th to 15th June.

We are always on the lookout for more sponsors, so if you know anyone who might support please let me know.

We look forward to seeing as many as possible entering this year.

6. Junior Tournament

Mark read out a report from Sue Pugh:

The Sheffield and District Junior Tournament was played at Beauchief and Ecclesall Tennis Clubs between Monday 24th and Friday 28th July.

This year we had 80 players competing throughout the events which was quite a few less than last year's 108 entries. The only event with no entries was the 9&U though there were more entries across the girl's events as a whole compared to last year.

The biggest change this year was that Fiona Fellows who has refereed the tournament for many years was not available during the week of the tournament. Fiona did most of the work required during the run up to the tournament and we had three other local referees who were on site during the event. I would like to thank Steve Holmes, Laura Fisher and Fabio Caparrelli for taking on these roles.

Thanks also go to the following :-

Fay for being there during the tournament and for her assistance throughout the year.

John Clephan for taking the lead on organising our referees, I'm not sure the tournament would have run without his input.

Everyone who volunteered, both at Beauchief assisting Fiona at the desk and around the courts, and on court at Ecclesall overseeing the matches of the younger players.

Penny and Adam Jameel from Deuce UK for sponsoring the tournament and providing vouchers for the winners and runners up.

Beauchief and Ecclesall Tennis Clubs for their hospitality, with the addition of the BBQ on finals day and other refreshments at Beauchief.

Sadly, as I have had to retire from tennis, I will not be organising things next year but hope to be involved in some shape or form during the tournament week.

The dates for next year's tournament will be Monday 29th July to Friday 02nd August.

7. Details of Club events, tournaments etc.

Clubs to let us know the details of any upcoming events.

8. Tennis balls for 2022 season and sponsorship

We are continuing with the AO Balls again this year.

A price list from Penny at Deuce was handed out at the meeting.

I recommend ordering balls as soon as possible.

9. Yorkshire Tennis Report

Martin reported:

Yorkshire Tennis has sent out an email to all clubs detailing:

- Free Associate Membership with £150 grant.
- Awards are on Thursday 29th July

10. Website

All league to run on the LTA Tournament Website.

Also, if clubs have any news they would like us to share on our website and social media please send it.

11. Annual Dinner 2024

The date for this year's dinner will be Saturday the 16th November at OEC Sheffield.

We will be looking for something more central next year. Last years was very well attended with reasonable representation from clubs. Any feedback please get in touch.

12. Any other business

Martin McCarthy raised the issue of Doncaster being booed and asked if they were doing anything wrong and need to take into account the distance for people to attend.

Caitlin from Brentwood pitched the equipment donation scheme and if any clubs were interested, please contact Steve Wood.

Cheryl from Thorncliffe outlined their current fundraising for the refurbishment of the courts. If anyone is able to donate it would be appreciated very much.

Brentwood pitched an idea of a Vets League (Over 60s), could be played during the day or after the mid week mixed. Mark to send out a form to gauge interest.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.
