



SHREWSBURY SQUASH & RACKETBALL CLUB

2020 AGM Report 5th AUGUST 1900 hours

PRESENT:

Mal Brown; Annette Dickinson-Flint; Chris Flint; Ryan Heath; Graham Jackson; Terry Jones; Gary Nolan; Elaine Radcliffe; Lorna Rogers; Guy Scott; Don Wallington; Alex Whitehouse. [12] [17 in 2019] [18 in 2018] [16 in 2017] [13 in 2016] [12 in 2015] [15 in 2014].

APOLOGIES:

Cyril Nolan; Neil Page.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to our AGM which was held socially distanced in the "Open Air" for Covid-19 and safety reasons.

Minutes of the 2018 AGM had been issued to those attending; there were no matters arising.

CHAIRMAN & SECRETARY'S REPORT :

The Club had a good start to the year; things were going well until the most unfortunate outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in March.

This has adversely affected our income, as I am sure it has for many of our members, but thanks to the stewardship of Lorna, our Treasure of a Treasurer, the Club Accounts, whilst under severe pressure, have remained relatively strong. More importantly than the income question, it has been an immense disappointment that we have been unable to provide the playing and fitness opportunities which our members deserve.

I will not dwell upon the point at this time but we must all be strong and committed to "Bouncing Back" and rejuvenating our membership.

A new website will help in this respect but the key to any future growth or success rests with you as members; word of mouth and personal contact is the best way forward but the interests of existing members will always be paramount in any decision making.

Since March the Club Executive Officers have been very busy constantly monitoring and questioning the ever changing flow of Government and Sport England guidelines in an effort to re-open the Club at the first opportunity.

Upon re-opening we have a number of MANDATORY procedures which we are obliged to adopt; all of these will have cost implications for the Club set against a backdrop of reduced income.

More details and information will be outlined as circumstances continue to vary.

HONORARY TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Lorna Rogers, on behalf of the AGM, has passed on our grateful thanks to Iain Painter who has selflessly audited the Club accounts each year. Lorna tabled a written set of audited accounts and advised everyone that they covered the financial year ending in August 2019.

She was pleased to report that there was an operating surplus of £11,858, more or less as the previous year but highlighted the fact that whilst total income was slightly higher than the previous year, lights income was significantly down.

Lorna reminded the meeting that as the Club has been effectively closed for four months this year, it would significantly impact upon the Accounts for the year ending August 2020 as costs directly attributable to dealing with the Covid-19 guidelines would be included.

Lorna recommended that the Annual Subscription should remain at £85 and that light fees be increased to £6 for 40 minutes and a guest fee of £3. Light meters have been reprogrammed for 50 minute sessions allowing 40 minutes playing time and 10 minutes cleaning time for each session.

Lorna also recommended that existing full members, if they wished to, may pay an Annual Subscription of £57 for the 2020/21 season to reflect lost playing time during lockdown.

Details of the England Squash Levy to be added to the subscription are awaited.

The recommendations were unanimously approved.

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT.

Guy reported that the County Leagues had all been very competitive and our players committed themselves well despite some injuries and player availability etc. Results:-

Division One – 2nd place – "A" team [up one place]

Division One – 5th place – "B" team [up two places]

Division Two – 4th place – "C" team [up one place]

Division Three – 1st place – "E" team [to be promoted]

Division Three – 6th place – "D" team [up two places]

Squash 57 [formerly Racketball] League – 2nd place - team 2

Squash 57 [formerly Racketball] League – 3rd place - team 3

Squash 57 [formerly Racketball] League - 4th place - team 1

Squash 57 Knock out Cup - winners - team 1

Cyril Nolan was particularly pleased with the "E" team winning the Division three title and being promoted. He paid tribute to his 'band of players' and markers Mike Jordan and Celia Toogood.

A Captains meeting would be held to address selection by agreement and recruitment and to increase the numbers in each squad once we are permitted to return to Club Team Squash & Racketball.

1st TEAM CAPTAIN'S REPORT.

Alex Whitehouse reported that despite injuries and the loss of a previous player, the team finished second in Division One, they were the only team to beat Division One winners Llanfyllin.

Alex volunteered to remain as 1st Team Captain for the coming season.

JUNIOR SECTION REPORT.

Gary Nolan reported that it has been a successful year with an average of 12 regular players; both fitness and standards were continuing to improve.

The Club Junior Championships was not held this year, being a casualty of the current pandemic.

It will be essential for a future Committee Meeting to discuss and agree when and how best to "re-launch" bearing in mind parents as well as numbers in the building.

ELECTION OF CLUB CAPTAIN.

Guy Scott's nomination was unanimously endorsed.

ELECTION OF 1st TEAM CAPTAIN.

Alex Whitehouse's 'volunteering' was unanimously endorsed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

The Chairman advised the meeting that he would like to see more newer and younger members helping out at the Committee in order to more adequately reflect the views of the wider membership. He invited everyone to be proactive in seeing if this could be achieved.

The following people were elected to Office:

Chairman & Secretary	Graham Jackson
Honorary Treasurer	
& Membership Secretary	Lorna Rogers.
Club Captain & County Rep.	Guy Scott
1st Team Captain	Alex Whitehouse
Child Protection Consultant	Terry Jones
[Safeguarding & Equity]	
Internal League Organiser	Cyril Nolan
Head Coach	Courtney Downing
Competitions Organiser	Pete Morgans
Junior Organiser/Coach	Gary Nolan
Fitness & Training Officer	Ryan Heath.
Honorary Auditor	Iain Painter
Social Events Team	Rapidz Crew
Ladies Co-ordinator	Laura Mather.
Committee Members	Malcolm Brown
	Chris Flint
	Mark Fone
	Neil Page.
	Annette Dickinson-Flint,
	Max Lloyd
	Don Wallington

THE FOLLOWING POSTS REMAIN VACANT:

Assistant Treasurer;

Website Editor;

Sponsorship Co-ordinator;

Bookings Officer

Covid-19 Lead Officer and Support Group.

WEBSITE & EQUITY POLICY.

It was agreed that the draft website be issued to all Committee Members inviting feedback in order to prepare for a website launch in September to coincide with subscription renewals.

It was agreed that the England Squash Equity policy of 2013 and 2015 needs revising; ES indicate that it is 'in hand'.

It was further agreed that Terry Jones would look at what we have, the ES policy and prepare recommendations to produce an equitable policy incorporating safeguarding issues in addition to Equity matters for the consideration of the Executive Committee.

RETURN TO PLAY : MANDATORY GUIDELINES

Since "opening" on 25th July it was thought appropriate to review how members have responded to the guidelines which had been the subject a careful, common sense based Risk assessment etc and which were the result of much thought, debate and recommendations from England Squash. It was very strongly debated and the possible serious consequences in respect of breaches of the guidelines were pointed out. Under the circumstances, it was agreed that, however difficult, it was in the interests of the Club and the safety of all its members to state that the Executive Committee would take disciplinary action for members disrespecting the Club and members by not complying with the guidelines.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- a] Alex and Elaine initiated a brief debate about the continued requirement to feed Court Light meters with pound coins. The move towards a "cashless" Society had unfortunately gained considerable impetus during the current pandemic. The Executive Committee, aided by James Anderson, had previously given the matter some thought but had been daunted by the possible expense and indecision when considering the plethora of different options and wishing to maintain flexibility for the varying views of the members, some of whom wish to continue to use cash. It was agreed that a small working group be set up to formulate a sensible solution to the question.
- b] Don and Gary led a discussion asking about restarting the Club Internal Leagues. It was agreed that the Club could restart them on 1st September agreeing that it was achievable under the present guidelines provided that only the "Sides" version would be played. GSJ to send league sheets to Cyril.
- c] It was agreed that the Chairman would issue a series of "bulletins" informing members of the continually changing guidelines, essential advice on how to play "sides" and re confirming booking protocols, particularly for the Activity Space.

The meeting closed at 2010 hours