

Castle Hedingham Tennis Club

St. James Street, Castle Hedingham Halstead Essex

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 22nd February 2018 - 7.30pm, in the Disraeli Room, The Bell, Castle Hedingham

Apologies: received from Heather Boustead, Sam Stent, Dean King, Ben Newell

Present: Andrew Temperton, Peter Drury, Matthew Chater, Caroline Chater, Andy Westrop, Wendy Taylor, Maria Selby, Liam Lovelock, Sheetal Pandya, Josh Avent, Adam Redgewell, William Parker, Mike Osborne, Vickie Osborne, Julia Metson, Keith Chapman, Jo Bright, Jill Toocaram, Dave Toocaram, Sheelagh Foort, Mark Lofting, James Hatfield, Sue Nunn, Mike Clarke, Dot Clarke, Alex Irving, Josh Fenton-Jones.

AGENDA

Chairman's Report: Andrew opened the meeting by saying the purpose of the AGM was to report on finances and raise any issues. He reported that the lease has been extended for a further 99 years adding we can now invest in the courts and facilities with confidence over the forthcoming years. Club funds are now just under £20,000 and membership figures are good – he thanked the coaches and the adults who have encouraged new members. He said this year had brought sad news with the passing of Amanda Lofting and Dean Allen's wife, Karen, and wished their families all the best for the future. Andrew moved on to discuss the league results, the highlights of which were Mens B team winning division 2 and moving up to join Mens A in division 1 for 2018 and Winter Mixed B winning division 3. He commented the club league results as a whole are good, especially for a small club and impressive in terms of the number of teams we manage to put out. He then named and congratulated the winners of the Club championships which were held in September. Socially it has been a fun, successful year and between adult and junior events over £2,500 had been raised. In 2018 the club will be running peroni & prosecco club nights on the first Friday of the month. He thanked Sheetal and Josh for their efforts in producing a thriving junior coaching programme. He announced that the club is moving management of memberships and court bookings on-line using the LTA's Clubspark website. In other news, he announced we are planning to introduce branded clothing to enhance team spirit and build club loyalty. He ended by thanking all the committee for their continued hard work and wished everyone a safe, enjoyable and successful season.

2017 Minutes : no comments.

2017 Minutes - Approved by: Peter Drury Seconded by: Mike Clarke.

Treasurer's Report: Andrew read out Sam's notes. Sam reported a very successful year with membership fees up by over £400 on 2017 to £9,859. Other income from car parking, match fees, guest fees, easy fundraising, re-sale of old balls remained stable plus non-member junior fees from coaching. We are grateful to the Parish Council for their continued support in providing us with small grants to cover costs of new nets, net scorers and the like. Expenditure had been as expected and in-line with previous years with the addition of £340 legal fees for renewal of the lease. Overall we made an operating profit of just over £3,000. In addition income from fundraising during 2017 amounted to an incredible £2,634; this was nearly double the previous year's total and our thanks must go to William Parker and his helpers for this fantastic effort. Sam's report ended by concluding that the healthy accounts has meant this year £5,000 has been put into sinking fund (as opposed to the usual £3,000) taking the sinking fund total to £17,000.

Accounts – Approved by: Mike Osborne Seconded by: William Parker

Mike Clarke had a question about guest fees/honesty box and queried whether guests were actually paying. After a discussion, it was agreed that if anyone sees non-members repeatedly playing they should notify the player about the honesty box and report to a member of the committee but Andrew added, essentially we want to be a welcoming club and encourage guests to become members. Alex Irvine asked whether the honesty box would still be needed now bookings would be via Clubspark – it was agreed both options would be available for 2018 (honesty box or paying on-line).

Constitution : there are no changes to the 2017 constitution and it is available to view on the website.

New Lease: Andrew gave the details of the new lease. It is a 99 year lease starting 1/1/17 with an annual rent of £1,000, which is to be reviewed with RPI every 5 years.

Junior Report: Sheetal was pleased to report that the Saturday morning courses are virtually full up with 50 regular juniors (even in the winter months). In September 2017 he trialled additional Monday and Thursdays sessions from 4-6pm and this would be repeated this summer. For the adult members, cardio tennis has started up with Josh on a Tuesday 2.15pm and in future an evening session may be offered too. Sheetal has also started an adult Refresher course which is being held at midday on a Friday. Again, if the demand is there then he plans to offer another session. Rusty Rackets will be starting in April and, depending on demand, will run until October. Sheetal offered team training for the league teams. In terms of the Schools programme, Josh is hoping to start in de Vere this week and letters have been sent to St Peters (Hedingham), St Andrews (Gt Yeldham) plus St Andrews (Bulmer) and St Margarets (Toppesfield). Sheetal is also looking to approach Hedingham senior school. The coaching team's aim for 2018 is to fill all courses and generate more membership for the club. He added February half term camp had been very busy and he will be running a camp over easter holidays week commencing 9th April. He added that 1 or 2 courts would be available to adults during the coaching week between 9 and 10am (please contact Sheetal in advance if you wish to use the courts) and, subject to junior numbers, possibly 1 in the afternoon. Summer camp was run for 3 weeks in 2017 and he is looking to do the same in 2018 (dates to be confirmed). He finished by advising that non-member fees are being fed back into the club and gave a big thank you to Josh, who has now passed his level 2 and plans to do his level 3 this year.

Team Captain's Reports: team results covered already in Chairman's report

Announcement of Team Captains (see attached list)

Team captains – Proposed by: Liam Lovelock Seconded by: Andy Westrop

ClubSpark: Andy Westrop explained that ClubSpark is a new website provided by the LTA which, amongst other things, will handle and simplify membership. It is possible to pay on-line and it will automatically update the membership data online. It also has a facility to take court bookings. Andy will block out all the matches and tournaments when the fixtures come through and Sheetal will add coaching, junior camps, junior matches etc. All Clubspark members can then go on-line and check court availability and book a court. Sheetal added there is a useful Clubspark app for phones to make it even easier. Mike Clark asked about how a member would book a coaching lesson. Sheetal said this should still be done via Sheetal's website as before and then Sheetal will follow up and book the court on the ClubSpark website. Jill asked whether there was a facility for non-members to book but it was agreed this wasn't an option and anyone interested should be directed to the Clubspark website to become a member. Caroline added we will need to issue a new court code. All members have been sent an invitation to join ClubSpark and should check their junk mail if it hasn't been received in their inbox. The plan is to go live on/just after 1st March. Peter asked whether our existing website is still up and running. Andy confirmed it is and there's a button on there to 'click to join' which directs traffic to the ClubSpark website. Sheetal added another benefit of the ClubSpark website is that people can search on the LTA website for a local club and they will be directed through to CHTC's ClubSpark page.

Subscriptions 2018 (Rules): it was proposed by committee that subscriptions remain per 2017 i.e. Rates for for 1st April – 31st March would be: Adults £90, Family (2 adults & children U18 or in full time education) £195, Junior/Student (in full time education): £50, Over 65s: £70. Guest fees: (with a member) £2.50 per player. New text is proposed: Fees are non-refundable. Half rate applies from 1st September. All prospective members must apply via ClubSpark and information regarding club news/fixtures/social events and court availability is available there too. Club sessions open to adults plus juniors by invitation only. Tennis balls – a bucket of balls is available in the club house for use by all members. Please make sure all balls are collected from the courts and returned to the club house at close of play. Please put old balls in the dead balls box as these are then re-sold. Any members or their visitors leaving equipment do so at their own risk and the club shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury resulting from this or any other cause. The same applies to any vehicles parked on-site and left unattended. Please do not park in the spaces along the wall or block these spaces as these are reserved.

Rules/Subscriptions – Proposed by: Peter Drury and Seconded by: Vicky Osborne

Election of Officers and Committee members for 2018: Andrew ran through list of all committee jobs. He added we have a big committee but if anyone would like to join the committee or assist the committee in PR/ increasing profile of the club with weekly updates to generate fun & enthusiasm etc, then please contact the Secretary. Assistance is also required to research fund-raising and grants available – once again, please contact the Secretary if interested. Andrew ran through the list of those committee members proposed for re-election and no objections were raised. William asked if Dids is still a member. Although Dids wasn't in a member in 2017 due to injury she is governor at school which means she is up to date on Child Protection issues.

Re-election of committee members - Proposed by: Mike Clarke Seconded by: Sue Nunn

Development Plan / Members' Questionnaire: Andrew advised we need to start making plans for spending the sinking fund and looking at ways to raise more funds for future plans. With this in mind Caroline has set up a members' questionnaire which will be sent out as a 'survey monkey link' when a member renews and pays their subscription. The questionnaire covers: Court re-surfacing (alternative surface-artificial clay/astro/new all-weather) plus club house, equipment, grounds improvements. There is a second survey monkey questionnaire covering tournaments ideas, fund-raisin, branded clothing. Members are encouraged to complete these to aid the club and its committee with future plans and aspirations.

Fund-raising: Andrew invited William to update everyone on fund-raising. He reported on a great 2017 and said similar events are planned for 2018 with the addition of monthly peroni & prosecco nights. The cricket club have confirmed a match for Friday 8th June. The fun tennis fete/afternoon this year will be for all ages with tennis-related activities (£5 entry including free burger from BBQ). There will be a fastest serve competition (Mike Clarke has kindly offered use of his speed gun). Wendy is organising H&D League matches in August & September and we will be reaching out for volunteers to help. The rounders event will be repeated in August then Finals weekend in September (8th / 9th). There will also be a dance of some description, like the ceilidh. Anything with too much loud music would be need to be at alternative venue to the Fullers barn. For the 2018 presentation the current plan is to eat and have speeches at the White Hart once more and then move onto Memories for dancing & music (possibly the Disraeli band)

Halstead & District League tournaments: Wendy explained CHTC will be hosting 3 H&D League tournaments during August & September. The mixed tournament has run for 2 years, the Mens 1 year and this will be the first year of the Ladies event. The aim is to get all 9 clubs in the league playing, each sending 2/3 pairs. The only rule is that you have to have played for the H&D League. It is a full day's tournament with a good standard of play and entertaining to watch. 2018 will be the last year CHTC hosts all 3 events. Wendy encouraged those present to come along and watch, enjoy the food – and help out!

Any Other Business – none received ahead of meeting

- 1. Winter balls:** Some members have been trialling some new balls during the winter. They are Tretorn pressure-less balls which seem to be bouncing better and lasting better than the Slazenger balls in damp wet weather. They are more expensive however. Andrew proposed we use them as practice balls in the winter but not for matches. Mike Clarke added they're not affected by temperature and bounce well and it will be easier to then adjust to playing matches with new balls then going from the old flat ones. Andy Westrop asked if they can still be recycled – we assume yes, when/if they eventually get worn out.
- 2. Wimbledon tickets/Opt-in:** Peter reminded everyone that the LTA opt in deadline is tomorrow, 23rd Feb – as of 21st February 66 members had opted in out of 118 eligible (although possibly some eligible members maybe shouldn't still be on list). This is higher than last year's opt in (63) but proportionally lower. In 2017 the club got 9 pairs and in 2016 11 pairs.
- 3. Juniors H&D League:** Sheetal reported we are currently mid-table in orange green and yellow groups. Yellow group were doing very well with 7 wins from 7 but then had to pull out of the last 5 due to exams (the players were: Archie, Arlen, George & James).
- 4. Andrew welcomed junior members Josh and Alex to the AGM.** Dean Allen will be in touch with them regarding the possibility of playing in Mens D league matches.

The AGM concluded at 8.24pm

CASTLE HEDINGHAM TENNIS CLUB
TEAM CAPTAINS 2018

Summer League

Mens A	Ben Newell
Mens B	Keith Argent
Mens C	Mark Lofting
Mens D	Dean Allen
Ladies A	Maria Selby
Ladies B	Pippa Veale
Mixed A	Caroline Chater
Mixed B	Jo Bright
Seniors	Peter Drury

Winter League

Mixed A	Wendy Taylor
Mixed B	Mike Osborne

CHTC COMMITTEE
as agreed with The Committee at 18th January 2018
and subsequently at the AGM on 22nd February 2018

Full committee list 2018:

Andrew Temperton, Matthew Chater, Sam Stent, Caroline Chater, Peter Drury, Andy Westrop,
Mike Osborne, Wendy Taylor, William Parker, Maria Selby, Adam Redgewell, Dids Gransden,
Sheetal Pandya, Karen Bushell, Vickie Osborne and Liam Lovelock

Andrew	Chairman
Matt	Vice Chairman Coach liaison Team captain liaison
Sam	Treasurer Membership secretary Club emails / Facebook updates
Caroline	Secretary – meetings & AGM agenda & notes Club emails Car park invoicing LTA affiliation liaison
Andy	Website & ClubSpark maintenance & updates
Peter	Court / Club Maintenance Tennis balls Wimbledon tickets
Mike	Branded clothing Fund-raising social committee
Wendy	Adult formal & social tournaments – publicising/promotion & organisation on the day LTA grants and funding
William	Head of fund-raising/social events with the help of sub-committee: Leaf, Mike, Vickie and Liam Clubhouse / cleaner Refreshments for matches & Saturday juniors
Maria	Health & safety Insurance
Adam	Parish council / village promotion Club signage
Dids	Child protection
Sheetal	Coach First aid kit
Liam	Fund-raising social committee & Assist with maintenance
Vickie	Assist Mike with Branded clothing & Fund-raising social committee