



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT BRYMBO S&SC

18 May 2016

- **Members in attendance:**

Mark Davies, Jim Tunley, Geraint Jones, Kevin Lloyd, Julie Lloyd, Paul Holland, Paul Murphy, Mike Povey, Hannah Davies, Jack Hayes, Dave Thomas and Abbie Barkley

- **Apologies received from:**

Kevin Jones, Darren Lee, Rob Evans, Tom Trueman, Mannon Goddard and Mike Thomas.

### 1. **Welcome**

Mark welcomed those attending but apologised for the fact that we would be unable to show our audited accounts, which were still awaited back from the Auditor in South Wales.

### 2. **Note of the AGM held on 11 May 2015**

These were confirmed as a correct record.

### 3. **Matters Arising**

- (1) Racketball – a successful racketball evening had been arranged by Darren Lee in 2015, however, the Summer Racketball League that followed was not well supported.
- (2) Handicap tournament – we had supported World Squash Day in October 2015 with a handicap tournament, as well as the annual “Fast & Furious” at Christmas. .
- (3) Glyndwr University – from our partnership with Glyndwr, Abbie Barkley was now fully supporting our Junior Coaching.
- (4) Decoration - this is overdue but had been delayed pending a decision on our Third Court bid.
- (5) Internal Leagues – to encourage our top team players, a new “Premier Division” could be added over the summer months.

### 4. **Chairman’s Report**

Mark presented his report with the following elements highlighted:

“The Squash Club is still in a very strong position with **membership** continuing to increase at a steady pace with over 100 members regularly playing squash. Courts are quite difficult to book in peak times but there are plenty available during the afternoons and especially on the weekends. We are still suffering from too many **cancellations**, some at very short notice, which in turn means less income. This is a matter of some concern, particularly in the context of us seeking grant aid to fund the Third Court.

**It was agreed:** to see if there is any pattern to the cancellations and ask the Committee to consider the outcome.

The **website** remains an effective tool for Club information and for the recruitment for new members. To keep it fresh with any news, please inform Jim.

We have had a few **maintenance problems** when there has been heavy rain especially in the shower area and through the roof near the stairs. The Sports & Social Club are aware and the necessary repairs will take place this year.

We hope to have new **lighting** on the two existing courts, as the fittings are now obsolete and are investigating LED lights; although costly these are generally maintenance free for 8 to 10 years. It is also hoped that the Sports & Social Club will contribute to the cost. Mark explained how work had now been undertaken to ensure that heaters were not left on when the lights are out on court.

Planning permission is going in to the Council shortly for the **Third Court**. At a pre-planning meeting there appeared to be no obstacle to us gaining consent. Once this is approved, we will look to obtain building estimates. Before any decision is made, however, a meeting with all Club members will be required to discuss the financial implications.

Our **Junior Coaching Programme** is going well with juniors from the age of 6 to 15 training and being coached at the Club on Monday evenings. There are a number of outstanding juniors playing regularly in competitions and achieving competitive results. An on-going concern, however, is that some of our juniors still do not play enough squash; this is the only way for them to improve. Thanks must go to our Coaching Team; for their commitment to our young people.

Our **Teams** have had an excellent season. Our First Team in the **North Wales League** achieved a cup and league double. Our Second Team were relegated but then bounced back into the Second Division at their first attempt. Unfortunately, they “won” the North East Wales Plate Final but were disqualified for fielding an ineligible player. The Third Team held their own in Division 3 with Captain, Tom Trueman blooding a number of new players into team squash; well done to Tom.

**Teams** in the **North West Counties League** also had a very good season. The First Team finished second in the Second Division, narrowly missing promotion. However the Second Team did achieve promotion after achieving a 100% record in their league and will be joining the Firsts next season - a tremendous achievement. Well done to all the players who have represented the Club this season.

#### **Some notable achievements from our Club members:**

For a small Squash Club we do punch above our weight with the likes of **Jonathan Davies, Mark Davies & Neil Rawlins** – they all represented Wales this year in the Master Home Internationals - Neil making his debut and Mark as Captain in his age group.

One of our young players, **Josh Davies**, won the Welsh U11 Championship at his first attempt – he is one for the future (like father, like son!).

Thank you all for your continuing support and let's hope by the next AGM we may have our Third Court”.

## **5. Finance Report**

In the absence of Kevin Jones, Mark presented a “headline Treasurer’s Report” advising the meeting that at 30 April 2015 the Club’s balance stood at £13,506.51. This excluded the funds retained on Deposit but included funds that were ring-fenced to either specific junior or coaching expenditure.

Mark ran through a summary of the various elements. Balances were described as healthy, but necessary to maintain a steady base level for identified future rental, maintenance as well as providing the necessary blocks for a possible third court.

The meeting received a recommendation from the Club's Committee that Member Subscriptions for 2016-2017 be increased for each of the three categories, as follows:

Senior - £80 [from £70]  
Junior / Student - £40 [from £35]  
Family - £110 [from £100].

The Committee also recommended that the court light fees should be held at current levels i.e. £3.00 per 45 minutes.

**It was agreed:**

(1) With effect from 1 June 2016, subscriptions for the ensuing year will be:  
Senior - £80;  
Junior / Student (in full time education) - £40 or £60 for 2 children from same family;  
Family (2 adults and children) - £110.

*[Subscriptions are due for payment by no later than 31 July 2016]*

(2) The cost to purchase a court light card will be maintained at £3.00 for each 45 minutes session.

**5. Club Constitution**

No amendments to the Constitution had been submitted.

**6. Election of Officers of the Club for 2016-2017**

The following were elected:

Chairman	-	Mark Davies
Secretary	-	Jim Tunley
Treasurer	-	Kevin Jones
Assistant Treasurer	-	Mannon Goddard
Team Representative	-	Darren Lee
Juniors Representative	-	Thomas Koscinski
Ordinary Members	-	Geraint Jones and Abbie Barkley

**7. Consideration of Honorary Membership**

In acknowledging the work of our Assistant Treasurer:

**It was agreed** – that, Mannon Goddard be made an Honorary Member for the ensuing year.

**8. Open Forum**

**[1] Third Court** – the current position with the court was explained and how, following a pre-planning application meeting with Wrexham Council, there was reason to believe that this may be approved. Members present heard about the potential funding arrangements, which may include seeking a loan to cover any deficit. While there was

much said about the positive aspect this would bring, some concern was also expressed about how this debt may impact on the future of the Club.

This linked into the current issue around court cancellations and following discussion: **It was agreed** – that, on gaining planning consent and seeking appropriate building costs, an urgent general meeting of all members be called to set out pros and cons of the situation and seek member input on the decision as to whether the plans are sustainable going forward.

**[2] Bar opening hours** – it was noted that from 1 June this year, new opening hours will operate, from 2.00 pm through to closing time.

**[3] Teams Meeting** – there had been a recent meeting for those who were interested in representing the Club next year in the North West Counties Leagues. Something arranged for those playing in the North Wales Leagues:

**It was agreed** – Mark will contact a few people with a view to this taking place in the next two / three weeks.

**[4] Ladies Team** – Mark had received a request for the Club to submit a Ladies Team into the Cheshire League. It is a matter of regret from the Club that while a few years ago we were able to field two teams, at this time we are now unable to accept this invitation.

**[6] Fitness circuits** – through her work at the IPC Gym, Hannah is able to use their facilities to help Club players with their fitness / pre-season training. Anyone interested should contact Hannah direct.

**[7] Individual Coaching** – the Club is able to offer a series of individual or group squash coaching sessions over the Summer period, possibly on a Thursday evening. Anyone interested should contact Mark direct.

**[8] 2016 Club Championships** – all members are encouraged to take part in our Club Championships, the Finals of which will take place over the weekend 24–25 June. Further details and the Entry List are now posted on the noticeboard.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm