



# THE KENT COUNTY LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at 7.30 pm on 3 December 2018  
in the Music Room at Newstead Wood School, Orpington, BR6 9SA.**

## **Present**

### **Council:**

John Ratcliffe in the chair, Jason Baker (Hon Secretary), Vanessa Webb (President), John Watton (Deputy President), Nigel Jordan (Hon Treasurer), Phil Lynch (Hon Assistant Secretary), Austin Smith (Life President), Denis Costelloe (Life Vice-President), Angela Darby (Life Vice-President), John Darby (Life Vice-President), Stuart Smith OBE (Life Vice-President), Neil Biddle, Mary Evans, Susan Finch, Rosemary Lee, Matthew Perfect, Susan Peters-Berg, Sandi Procter, Graham Silvester, Jane Short, Malcolm Smith, Sue Thomas, Keeley Wicks, Anna Wilson, Stephen Woodley.

### **Representatives of Clubs, Schools and Other Affiliated Organisations (27 clubs represented):**

Avenue Tennis (2), Blackheath LTC (1), Broadstairs LTC (1), Bromley CC (1), Bromley LTC (2), Bromley Tennis Centre (1), Bromley Wendover LTC (2), Canterbury LTC (1), Catford Wanderers (1), Chislehurst (1), DL Beckenham (1), DL Kings Hill (1), Frindsbury (1), Hartley CC (1), Herne Bay LTC (2), Horsmonden LTC (2), HSBC (1), Kings Hill Community TC (2), Knoll Orpington LTC (2), Margate LTC (1), Old Wilsonians LTC (1), Shooters Hill LTC (2), Staplehurst (1), Sydenham TC (2), The Parklangle Club (2), The Sundridge Park Club (1), Trottiscliffe LTC (1).

### **Kent Supporters Club Members:**

Pat Braam, Cornelius Bruinsma, Margaret Bruinsma, Charlie Falconer, Tony Fisher, Syed Hussain, Clive Short

### **Others:**

Harri Izzard (Kent Tennis Support Team), Clare Lilley (Kent Tennis Support Team), Janice White (Kent Tennis Support Team), Cynthia Smith, Hazel Lindfield (Ladies Seniors County Team Co-ordinator), Marcia Ackers (Seniors County Team Captain), Dino Skeete (Seniors County Team Captain), Helen Bowain, Rae Anderson, Peter Pharo, Nigel Smith.

**Apologies:** Roger Bottomley OBE (Life Vice-President), Pauline Cox (Life Vice-President), John Povey (Life Vice-President), Lina Hopkins (Councillor), Charlotte Knight (Councillor), Robert Searle (Councillor), Geoffrey Stephenson (Councillor), Andy Burgoyne (Men's County Captain), Graham Sutherland, Tina Slater (Safeguarding Officer), Julian Shaw (Whitstable LTC), Yvonne Child, Kathleen O'Hanlon (East West Connect), Chris Bartram (Collins Construction), Tim Freeman & Trevor May (Trevor May).

80 people attended (70 in 2017)

## **Welcome.**

The Chairman, John Ratcliffe, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **Apologies.**

Clare Lilley gave the Apologies.

## **1. Minutes of AGM 4 December 2017.**

The Minutes were proposed by John Darby and seconded by Phil Lynch. They were approved unanimously.

## **2. Presentation: Kent Tennis – highlights of 2018.**

Sandi Procter (Kent and LTA Councillor), gave a presentation looking back at all the work done and the successes of 2018. Most of the information is contained in the Annual Report for 2018 but Sandi highlighted the following:

- Kent Junior player national and international successes: Anton Matusevich, Emma Raducanu, Hugo Coquelin, Sasha Hill, Sofia Johnson, Jack Pinnington-Jones.
- Kent Senior player international representation: Marcia Ackers, Hazel Lindfield, Jasper Cooper, Anne Gibbs, Jane Gentle
- Kent County team national champions: 18U Girls, 10U Boys, Ladies Winter County Cup, Men's 35s.
- Kent County teams national/ regional finalists: 14U Boys, 10U Girls, 9U Mixed team.
- Kent Men Summer County Cup team gained promotion to Group 1.
- Kent 3<sup>rd</sup> place in County Cup race behind Surrey and Middlesex.
- Kent Seniors teams: Men's 45s, 60s, 65s, 70s and Ladies 40s, 50s, 55s, 70s, 75s in Division 1 in 2018. Ladies 60s team promoted to Division 1.
- County training started monthly in September 2018 from 8U to 18U, with a new Junior Performance Group set up to oversee County teams and training.
- County Championships largest in GB, 437 players, 606 entries.
- Road to Wimbledon – 24 clubs in Kent took part.
- Disability tennis – 1435 disability players playing each month in Kent.
- British Tennis Awards – Kent had 2 National finalists: Avenue Tennis for Club of the Year, Bromley Tennis Centre for Disability Programme of the Year.
- Tennis for Kids - 42 coaches and 1317 children took part across Kent.
- She Rallies initiative to encourage women and girls aged 16+ in tennis led by Lyndall Newton-Early in Kent.
- Kent Supporters Club has 679 members.
- Kent Tennis Day at Avenue Tennis took place on 23 September 2018.
- KLT summer edition deadline is 30 April 2019.

## **3. Annual Report.**

The acceptance of the 2018 Annual Report was proposed by Graham Silvester and seconded by Denis Costelloe. The acceptance of the Annual Report was approved unanimously.

## **4. Financial Report.**

The Hon Treasurer, Nigel Jordan, provided the report for the 2017-18 financial year ending 30 September 2018 and made the following points:

### **Income:**

- Increase, mainly due to County Training, but this is not an activity which earns Kent Tennis money.
- Registration fees income is steady.
- Supporters Club income showed small decrease.
- Income from sponsors has increased slightly.
- Wimbledon ticket monies all collected.
- Increase in competitions income.

#### **Expenditure:**

- One new loan made in 2018.
- County is more efficient but there have been increased costs for maternity leave cover and Workplace Pensions for staff.
- Decrease in spending on County Cup competitions.

The final position is a net surplus of £14.5K.

A priority for Kent Tennis is to preserve its interest in Bromley Tennis Centre. The current operator's contract ends in March 2019 and Kent Tennis is working to extend this. The final decision will be made by Council.

The Board will discuss financial priorities and plan spending at the forthcoming All Day Planning Meeting.

Nigel Jordan thanked everyone who has helped with the preparation of the Accounts, including Martin Leonard of Hayfield Bookkeeping. He thanked Siobhan Butler, Janice White and Clare Lilley for covering Harri Izzard's maternity leave. Malcolm Smith proposed the acceptance of the 2018 Accounts and was seconded by Tony Fisher. They were approved unanimously.

#### **5. Appointment of Reporting Accountants.**

Nigel Jordan advised that FW Berringer & Co had been in place for many years and last year he market tested their service against other accountancy providers. FW Berringer & Co offered the best price and he recommended that they be re-appointed. John Darby proposed and Tony Fisher seconded the appointment of FW Berringer & Co as Reporting Accountants for 2018/19. This was approved unanimously.

#### **6. Election of Life Vice-President.**

Malcolm Smith spoke about the huge contribution made by Stephen Woodley to Kent Tennis over many years, as a player, organizer of Seniors County teams and Kent Tennis Councillor. Stephen played in the Kent Men's team at County week during the 1960s and 1970s, captaining the team in 1973-74 and awarded Colours in 1963. As a player he won 3 national veterans doubles titles and represented GB in the 55s and 75s age groups. He served as Kent Seniors Co-ordinator and Seniors Men's Captain for many years, making 118 Seniors team appearances for Kent to date and awarded Seniors Colours in 1988. Stephen was a Councillor from 1971-74 and from 2014-18. Stephen has been instrumental in the transformation of tennis in Canterbury, working to develop the facilities in the area. Tennis in East Kent owes Stephen a debt of gratitude. Malcolm referred to Stephen's wise counsel and spoke of his gratitude for the support Stephen has given him over many years.

Malcolm proposed the election of Stephen Woodley as Life Vice-President, which was seconded by John Watton. This was approved unanimously.

Malcolm presented Stephen with a gift which he accepted. Stephen gave a short speech, thanking everyone, expressing how pleased he was to be made Life Vice-President.

#### **7. Election of Nominated Officers and Council to Council for 2019.**

Jason Baker outlined the election of the nominated Officers and Councillors as shown in Appendix 1.

Officers: Jason Baker (Hon Secretary), Nigel Jordan (Hon Treasurer), Phil Lynch (Hon Assistant Secretary). These were proposed by Graham Silvester, seconded by Neil Biddle and approved unanimously.



The election of 14 Councillors listed in Appendix 1 was proposed by Phil Lynch and seconded by Denis Costelloe. This was approved unanimously.

Three Councillors stood down at the AGM and Jason Baker spoke about their contribution, thanked them for their work and presented them with a gift from Kent Tennis. Lina Hopkins and Charlotte Knight were unable to attend the AGM.

Sue Thomas has served for 8 years on Council, working to support clubs and volunteering for Kent Tennis. Jane Short has served for 10 years on Council, working on Publicity and the development of the KLT magazine. Lina Hopkins has served for 12 years on Council, representing Ashford and District. Charlotte Knight has served for 3 years on Council, representing Maidstone District.

### **8. Kent Tennis Rule Changes.**

Jason Baker proposed the Rule changes shown in Appendix 2 relating to the criteria and awards for Seniors Colours:

“A ~~Veterans~~ County Tie, or in the case of ladies, a bracelet charm may be worn by players who have represented the Association on at least 25 occasions in the ~~Veterans~~ Seniors’ Inter-County Championships.”

The proposed changes were proposed by Stephen Woodley, seconded by Keeley Wicks and approved by the AGM unanimously.

### **9. Tennisys Inter-Club Leagues Rule Changes.**

Harri Izzard proposed the Rule changes shown in Appendix 3:

- i. A.5 – Nomination Forms
- ii. A.6 – Divisions and Sections for Teams
- iii. A.8 – Match Dates
- iv. A.18 – Match Winners

This was seconded by Keeley Wicks and approved unanimously.

### **10. Presentation of Seniors Colours**

Stephen Woodley presented Seniors Colours to Peter Pharo. Hazel Lindfield presented Seniors Colours to Gillian Newsom and Rae Anderson. Yvonne Childs was unable to attend the AGM and her Colours will be presented at a later date.

### **11. Presentation of Inter-Club Shields.**

Keeley Wicks, overall Tennisys Kent Inter-Club Leagues organiser, thanked the volunteers who run the leagues; Anne Gibbs, Mark Martin, Vanessa Webb and Rachael Taylor. The shields were presented to the winners of the Winter 2017/18 and Summer 2018 Tennisys Kent Inter-Club Leagues.



### **11. Volunteer Update, including British Tennis Awards.**

Sandi Procter thanked all volunteers who contribute to Kent Tennis.

Stuart Smith spoke about the contribution Cynthia Smith has made to tennis in Kent. Cynthia stood down from her role as Ladies Seniors County Teams Co-ordinator after the AGM last year. She served on the Kent Juniors Committee and as Kent Junior Leagues Competition Secretary from 1976-79. She ran the Kent Easter American Tournament and provided support to the Ladies County Team Captain, Chris Russell-Vick. As a player Cynthia has played 124 Seniors matches for Kent, won 10 Seniors World Championships medals, represented England and GB and won 4 national veterans doubles titles. She was awarded Honorary Colours in 1993 and Seniors Colours in 1986.

Cynthia has been nominated by Kent for the LTA Meritorious Award. Stuart thanked Cynthia and presented her with a gift from Kent Tennis.

Sandi welcomed new volunteers to Council: Jim Barton, Tony Fisher and Graham Sutherland.

She mentioned that Pat Braam had been awarded the LTA Meritorious Award.

Sandi talked about the 2018 Annual Awards, for which Kent received 118 nominations before the deadline of 9<sup>th</sup> November 2018. She read out the shortlist and winners for the 2018 Kent Tennis Annual Awards, which will be presented at the Awards Dinner on Saturday 2 March 2019. Details were provided in the packs given out at the AGM.

### **12. Presentation: Kent Tennis – looking forward to 2019.**

Janice White introduced a short film produced by the LTA which showed Scott Lloyd explaining the new Vision and Mission which will be rolled out in 2019.

Janice highlighted the following initiatives which will be developed further in 2019:

- Officials Network
- Coaches Network
- Social Media

### **13. Any Other Business.**

There were no items of business raised.

John Ratcliffe thanked everyone for attending, and those involved in the organisation of the AGM:

Janice White  
Clare Lilley  
Harri Izzard  
Graham Silvester  
Emma Wanostrocht (Bromley Tennis Centre)  
Newstead Wood School

The meeting finished at 8.50pm.