

**MINUTES OF THE  
SOUTHPORT AND DISTRICT TENNIS LEAGUE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Held on Thursday 14 February 2019 at 7.30 p.m.  
At North Meols Tennis Club

2019 SEASON OPENING DATE IS WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 29 APRIL,  
FINISHING DATE IS WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 29 JULY.

The Chairman (RH) thanked everyone for attending and during the course of the evening conveyed his thanks to all the individuals responsible (especially those retiring from office) for running the League and to North Meols Tennis Club for the use of their facilities.

1. CLUBS REPRESENTED AND RECORDED: representatives attended from Argyle (3), Aughton (2), Birkdale (5), Blundellsands (2), Champion (1), Carlton (3), Croston (2), David Lloyd (1), Formby (3), Formby HT (4), Hightown (3), Hillside (5), Mawdesley (2), North Meols (4), Ormskirk (2), Rainford (1), Southbank (3), Sphynx (2), Town Green (1), Waterloo (1).
2. APOLOGIES received from John Spurr, Andy Williams, and Ron Hamilton.
3. As the MINUTES of the 2018 AGM are available on the website and no questions were raised or inaccuracies reported, the Chairman signed them as a factually accurate record. Proposed: Angela Baron. Seconded: Dave Mulligan. All in favour – passed unanimously (no abstentions).
4. MATTERS ARISING – to be covered under separate headings later.
5. THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT is also available on the website but special thanks were conveyed to Christian and Jeanette. No questions arose.
6. TREASURER'S REPORT –  
  
Jason's Report is available on the website but he also provided copies to the meeting.  
  
He pointed out the balance of £8,500 was £934 down due to the waiving of the junior fees, which the League proposed to do again in 2019, League Planner expenses and the fact that 3 new trophies had to be purchased.  
  
Thanks were expressed to Chris Cresswell, who again acted as Hon. Auditor, and Denis Swainson and Mick Walsh for prompt collection of fees.  
  
As no questions were asked his Report was accepted. Proposed: Denis Swainson Seconded: Mick Walsh. All in favour - passed unanimously (no abstentions).
7. MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT (available on the website).  
  
Jeanette said she had nothing to add. No questions were raised.
8. THE TEAM TOURNAMENT SECRETARY'S REPORT (available on the web site). Mick had nothing further to add.

9. THE INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENT SECRETARY.

Denis Swainson thanked all the individuals who had supported the tournament and reported he had enjoyed his time in charge.

10. THE SPARTANS TROPHY SECRETARY REPORT – covered as part of Mick's report (see above) No questions were raised.

11. THE JUNIOR SECRETARY'S REPORT also available on the website. Dave Clifford thanked the League for waiving the junior fees and informed the AGM that Rob Owens and Angela Bardon were jointly responsible for running the Junior League. An email address has been set up at [sdjuniortennisleague@gmail.com](mailto:sdjuniortennisleague@gmail.com). Dave confirmed that there had been a steady 10% growth in girls' participation levels which was very encouraging.

12. APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP/RESIGNATION.

Croston confirm that they wish to enter a third team

Campion gave notice that they have regrettably withdrawn their third team.

This has resulted in the necessity to reconstitute the League and, as Division 9 with only 3 teams would not be viable, and 67 teams is not divisible by an even number, the League put two proposals to the Meeting for a vote.

1. Divisions 1 – 6 eight teams, division 7 seven teams and divisions 8 and 9 six teams.
2. A single gap in each divisions from 5 to 9.

After listening to various comments/suggestions a vote was taken and Proposal 2 was accepted by 30 votes to 20.

13. RULE CHANGES:

All clubs had been issued with copies of the proposed Rule Changes for 2019 and RH explained that the changes had been allocated into two groups as those in the latter group are dependent on each other and will, therefore, need to be voted on together to ensure that the rules remain consistent. (copy available on the website)

The voting results for the changes as proposed were:

Section 1: General Rule Changes

All carried with no votes against and no abstentions with the exception of: Rule 4 - 4 against, no abstentions.  
Rule 14 - 1 against, no abstentions.

Section 2: Resignations, "starrings" and concessions

All carried with no votes against and no abstentions.

14. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

RH pointed out that although chairing the meeting for many years this was the first Meeting he was actually chairing in his official capacity as the Chairman. The position of General Secretary has been filled by Pauline Pope but no nominations have been forthcoming for the individual tournaments Secretary (see below).

President: Mr John Spurr  
Chairman: Mr R Hemmings  
Treasurer: Mr J McLeod  
Match Secretary: Mrs Jeanette Heague  
Individual Tournament Secretary/s: nominations invited\*  
Team Tournament Secretary: Mick Walsh  
Junior League Co-ordinators: Rob Owens and Angela Bardon  
Spartan's Trophy Secretary: Mick Walsh  
General Secretary: Mrs Pauline Pope  
Hon Auditor: Mr Chris Cresswell  
Handbook Secretary: Mrs H Bell  
League Planner Manager: Christian Bryan

Resignations:

Officers: David Clifford, Gill McGibbon, Denis Swainson and Mick Walsh.

General Committee: prepared to continue in office – Mr Neil Leadbetter, Miss Tracy Smith, Mr Andy Williams, Mrs Pru Makin, Mrs Heather Chambers, Mis Liz Eaves and Mrs Val Ormerod.

This left one vacancy and Denis Swainson stated that he would like to continue on the Committee but as a General Member.

\*As outlined in the letter to all clubs, at present there have been no offers to run the individual tournaments despite the League offering a monetary incentive. Clubs were invited to canvas their members/committees.

Applications had been received by a couple of clubs to host one of the Finals, again with an offer of £100 per club. Anyone interested to contact Mick Walsh.

15. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO LANCASHIRE LTA COUNCIL.

John Spurr and Neil Leadbetter were again elected as The Southport and District League's Representatives to Lancashire LTA Council. Rob Hemmings has also been co-opted onto the Council by virtue of the fact that he is responsible for the six-monthly meeting of Club Chairmen.

16. MEETING OF CLUB CHAIRMAN

The next meeting is on Wednesday 20 March at Ormskirk Tennis Club.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Hilary asked that any clubs who had not provided their completed Club Details Forms should do so as soon as possible.

RH reminded clubs, on behalf of Joan Upton, to promote the Hillside Floodlit Tournament which commences on the 4th March.

Hughie Chambers (Sphynx) again asked that, as we had £8,500 in the bank, would it be possible to give more to the junior section. It was felt that as we were repeating the concession of waiving fees, and that the balance was reducing each year, there was no need for further expenditure.

The dates for the start and finish of the 2019 Season are week commencing 29 April and finishing week commencing 29 July. This means that fixtures are continuous (i.e. no gap for bank holiday) and there are 3 early starts at the beginning and 2 at the end of the season.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.