

Minutes of the Southport & District Tennis League Annual General Meeting

Held on Monday 23rd February 2026 at

7:30pm Venue - Argyle Tennis Club

The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting this year there then followed a minute silence in memory of Pauline Pope. He then went on to explain the voting procedures for the evening

CLUBS REPRESENTED AND RECORDED -

Argyle (3) Aughton (1) Birkdale (0) Blundellsands(2) Champion(1) Carlton(3) Croston(3) Formby(1) Formby Village(2) Hightown(1) Hillside(2) Mawdesley(5) North Meols(2) Ormskirk(0) Rainford(1) Southbank(0) Sphynx(6) Town Green(1) Waterloo (1) *(no representatives for Birkdale, Maghull, Ormskirk or Southbank)*

APOLOGIES received from J Spurr, L Newton, D Bardwa, T Carey, B Oban.

MINUTES OF THE 2025 AGM- Available on the website no questions were raised or inaccuracies reported. proposed by Dave Mulligan seconded by Jason Jones. The minutes were passed as a factually accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING – No matters arising.

THE CHAIRMANS REPORT – available on the website – Rob mentioned the early frustration caused by the unannounced LTA's introduction of gender identification via the 'player competition eligibility' box, causing delay in entering player names to the on-line scoresheet. To help avoid such delays and the extra administration created he requested that clubs should check their list of LTA registered players pre-season that they are correct or not duplicated. No questions were raised.

TREASURER'S REPORT– available on the website. In T Carey absence Rob gave a brief explanation for the increase of team fee's, which will be addressed within the proposed rule changes. No questions were raised.

MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT – available on the website – no questions raised.

AUTUMN LEAGUE REPORT – available on the website – no questions raised.

TEAM TOURNAMENT SECRETARY'S REPORT – Rob apologised for the considerable delays experienced last season due to several unavoidable circumstances. He had to take over the organisation of the various rounds for the Team Knockout Tournament, with three finals now complete, the Trinity Shield to be played Monday 2nd March, and gave his thanks to Liz Newton for her help in arranging the finals. The Spartans Trophy was cancelled.

INDIVIDUAL TOURNAMENT SECRETARY'S REPORT - available on the website – Rob thanked Derek Bardwa for organising and Southbank LTC for hosting.

JUNIOR SECRETARY'S REPORT– available on the website. Rob thanked Rob Owens for the very successful junior league which saw 14 clubs, 80 teams and 239 junior players compete and wished them continued success for 2026.

RULE CHANGES - All clubs had been issued with a copy of the proposed Rule Changes for 2026 supported by the executive committee. Rob reported an earlier League Restructure meeting for clubs had previously taken place and had proved very useful. He read through the rule change proposals. There were two amendments put forward from the members.

- i. That 'starred' players be reduced to 2 men 2 ladies per team excluding the clubs lowest. Proposed by Mark (FLTC) seconded by Gareth (SLTC)
- ii. That starred players be indicated on team scoresheets, proposed by Jonathan (MLTC) seconded by Jason (ALTC).

All rule changes and amendments were then carried with no votes against and no abstentions.

TEAM APPLICATIONS / RESIGNATIONS – Once the on-line team applications are received clubs were asked to be realistic in the number of teams they wish to enter owing to the removal of rule 8. The final entry date is **Sunday 15th March** to allow the completion of League Planner.

Election of Officers for 2026 – Rob thanked all the Executive Committee; there would be no league without them.

President: Mr John Spurr

Chairman: Mr Rob Hemmings

Treasurer: Mr Tim Carey

General Secretary – Mr Chris Harrison

League Planner Manager – Mr Christian Bryan

League Match Secretary: Mrs Jeanette Heague

Individual Tournament Secretary: Mr Derek Bardwa

Team Tournament/Spartans Trophy Secretary: Mrs Liz Newton

Autumn League Secretary – Vacancy

Junior League Co-ordinator: Mr Rob Owen

Singles League Secretary – Mr Neil Prince

General Committee – Mr Mick Walsh, Mr Jason Jones, Mr Alan Williamson, Mr Jimmy Blackburn, Mrs Erica Moore

Resignations – Mr Mark Doyle, Mr Chris Parkes, Mrs Louella Lyon, thanks were given for their past contribution.

Election of Hon Auditor – Dave Eyes, Rob offered thanks for his input.

Election of representatives to Tennis Lancashire Club and Venue Liaison Committee – Mr Rob Hemmings & Mr Jason Jones

Any Other Business

- i. League will start w/c Monday 27th April
- ii. Thanks were given to Argyle LTC for hosting the 2025 Presentation Evening, the 2026 AGM and Executive Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm