



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT THE WIMBLEDON CLUB**

**ON THURSDAY 2 DECEMBER 2021**

Present: Derek Howorth (President & Treasurer), Peter Bradshaw (Chairman), Roy Staniland (Secretary), 11 other members of the Council, Chris Risebro, Tim Sagar, Justin Sherring, Debbie Slater and Lewis Woodham (Surrey Tennis).

Total number signed : 44

The following register venues were represented by one or more delegates:

Banstead Downs LTC; Cranleigh Tennis and Social Club; Downswood LTC; Horsley LTC; Magdalen Park LTC; New Malden Sports Club; Old College LTC; Purley LTC; Priory Park Tennis Club; Reigate LTC; St Georges' Hill; Shalford Village LTC; Sheen Parks Tennis; Westside LTC Wigmore LTC; Wimbledon Club; DLL Woking.

1. The President

The President, Derek Howorth, welcomed people saying it was good to have an actual meeting

2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous AGM.

The minutes were taken as read and approved unanimously.

3. Election of Councillors and Reporting Accountant (Kreston Reeves LLP)

The election of the Reporting Accountant was proposed by Ed Coombs and seconded by Derek Howorth and approved unanimously.

Peter Bradshaw explained that 3 Councillors were up for re-election, himself, David Lovejoy, and Ben Disley. As there were no other candidates they were re-elected for 3 years without a vote. There were also two new nominations, Alyson Fox and Lynne Hunt. As there were sufficient vacancies on the Council there was no need for a vote and they were elected and welcomed to the Council Joy Jackson and Louise McKerchar are both stepping down after 10 and 6 years respectively on the Council. Peter thanked them for all their hard work and they were each presented with a bouquet of flowers.

The election of the Reporting Account – Kreston Reeves LLP was proposed by Louise McKerchar and seconded by Joy Jackson. It was passed unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report – Adoption of Association Accounts for the year ending 30 September 2021

Derek said that we have had two difficult years which has made comparisons with previous years a problem. Last year, income fell substantially due to a complete lack of sponsorship. The end result is a deficit of £68,000 which was less than forecast. The County is still in a sound financial position. Loans to clubs are still available. We have good reserves which act as a contingency. There were no questions.



The adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Derek Howorth and seconded by Louise McKerchar and passed unanimously.

#### 5. Accounts of the Surrey Junior Trust Fund for the year ending 30 September 2019.

Derek Howorth explained that The Surrey Junior Trust Fund is a small charity funded by donations from the County and a Charitable Settlement from Vernon Ely. This year the income has increased by £25,000 and £30,000 from the Vernon Ely settlement. Designated funds are retained for investment and the income from the investments is used to give grants to Surrey players. Grants of just under £28,000 have been made this year. There was also an increase of £72,000 in investments. There is currently £601,000 in the Trust Fund.

As this is an independent charity approval is not required.

#### 6. Report of the Council

Peter Bradshaw said that the excellent report showed what a great job is done by the team and he thanked Debbie Slater, Tim Sagar and Lewis Woodham, Judy Duckworth, Justin Sherring and Chris Risebro for the work they do.  
There were no questions

#### 7. 2021 Patrons Report and Patrons Accounts for the year ending 30th September 2021.

Sally Parker reported that the Patrons' finances remain in good order. As tennis activities were restricted this year, we utilised some of the income for the year to support the Surrey Junior Championships.

We have been unable to run any events in 2021 and there was no Patron's Ballot for Wimbledon tickets either this year. We are planning to have two visits and two dinners in 2022.

Deborah Hamlin left a bequest to the Patrons. We used the money to buy a bench with a memorial plaque for her club, Reigate LTC. The remainder of the money was added to a bursary programme being set up by a member of Reigate Tennis Club to support local junior players.

#### 8. Rule Amendments

There were no rule amendments

#### 9. Presentation by Justin Sherring

Justin explained about the Surrey County Coaching Programme which is run by many coaches around the County. It is the biggest programme in the Country with the aim to Grow the Game. We provide training from Under 8s to Under 18s. He thanked all the venues who provide facilities for the training. He explained about the Welcome Days run for the youngest age groups to get them into the programme. He also explained about setting up the Salisbury Cup, in honour of Joe Salisbury, which is a Regional Doubles Tournament for Under 18s. Surrey won the inaugural year. Surrey is at the top of the LTA Leader Board. Justin thanked all the Team Captains for all their hard work.  
Peter Bradshaw thanked Justin and the Performance Committee for all their work.



#### 10. Presentation of the Bernard Crouch Memorial Trophy 2021.

The Trophy was awarded to Melanie South who could not be present. David Crouch explained that the award was set up to thank people who get involved in and support tennis in Surrey.

#### 11. Presentation of Full County Colours and Senior County Colours.

Mark Staniszewski said there had been 47 matches with 37 wins, 4 draws and 6 loses.

Thanks to the Captains for all their hard work.

Colours presented to: Caroline Joy

#### 12. Presentation of shields to winners of the County Leagues

Lewis Woodham highlighted the fact that Surrey has the largest competitions programme in the County. There are 2000 teams and 10,000 players in the competitions.

- Women's 19/20: The Wimbledon Club
- Men's 19/20: Sutton Tennis & Squash Club
- Women's 21: Sutton Tennis & Squash Club
- Men's 21: Sutton Tennis & Squash Club
- Mixed 21: Sutton Tennis & Squash Club

#### 13. Presentation of Surrey Knockout Summer 2021 Winners

Presentations were made to Joe Barnes, Ed Boyce, Hazel Middleton, Mike Derks, Tony Ingrams, Mike Eaton & Susie Reid.

#### 14. Open Forum

Roy Staniland thanked all Councillors and Committee Members for their work, and the Office staff who provided excellent support to coaches and clubs throughout the pandemic.

There was a question about the Middle Sunday at Wimbledon. Roy said it would make an extra 40,000 tickets available for sale. There was a question about access to tickets and Roy explained that tickets would be available to LTA members through national ballots rather than local arrangements and there would be more tickets available for volunteers. He also explained that there would be a tier system for prices, with seats at the back of courts costing less.

David Crouch asked if Surrey had any plans for utilising the scoring system used in the Next Gen competitions. Justin said we had no plans at present, but would certainly consider it as a way to enthuse junior players.

Joy Jackson raised the issue of team members "playing up" in League matches with the example of someone dropping down 12 Divisions to play in a match. Lewis Woodham said that whilst this had not actually broken the rules, clubs were encouraged to have players play in their correct division. He said that he does contact clubs if this is raised as a concern.

Alyson Fox asked if Surrey was planning any themes for 2022. Roy said that the LTA and Surrey would be looking at future programmes once the pandemic is truly over. This would be facilitated through forums and meetings.

Doug Clare asked Justin about the LTA Performance Development Plan. Justin said that the Coach Education Development Plan was being run by a very good team at the LTA.



Roy announced that the Surrey Office Team would be moving out of the NTC in the New Year, but no new location has yet been found.

Peter Bradshaw said the 2020 had been a difficult year and that tennis had returned in earnest in 2021.

15. President closes the meeting.

The President Closed the meeting , thanking everyone for coming with thanks to Peter