

# Hertfordshire Lawn Tennis Association

## Minutes of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association

International Suite, University of Hertfordshire Sports Village, Hatfield

**Thursday 05 December 2019**

**8 pm**

Agenda item	Discussion
1	<p><b>Apologies:</b></p> <p>Apologies were read out as listed: Brookmans Park – Sue Kilbey Herts Seniors Ladies Leagues – Liz Johnson Herts VP – Jean Gates Herts VP – Sarah Tricks Herts VP – Hope Mailer Herts VP E Sanders Herts 200 Club – Eileen Cox Northwood – David Cameron Former Mens Seniors Organiser – Alan Roberts Herts VP Mike Hudson Gosling – Sam Bruce</p> <p>The meeting included officers and committee members of the Association, Vice Presidents and representatives from clubs and venues.</p>
2	<p><b>Minutes of Previous AGM held on 06 December 2018.</b></p> <p>The minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 06 December 2018 were agreed and adopted. There were no comments.</p>
3	<p><b><u>Report of the Committee for 2019</u></b></p> <p>Trevor Adamson, President of Herts Tennis and Chair of the Herts Tennis Management Committee read out his report which is also printed in the Herts Tennis Annual Newsletter – Issue 13 November 2019. Reference was made to the following. In February Herts tennis organised a trip to the Federation Cup match in Bath especially for the Under 14 Girls. February also saw the Under 9s win the Mini Orange festival and the 12 Counties team get promotion to Division 1.</p> <p>In March we held our Awards Dinner where we presented the British Tennis County Award winners with a gift and we also had our own additional County Awards and all the winners can be found within the newsletter. Also in March the Under 8s were winners at the East Region Mini Tennis Red Inter County Finals. In May the Lionel Cox Trophy event was held at Queenswood and the overall winners were Hertfordshire. In July – a fantastic performance from Herts Ladies in the Inter County Grass Court event at Eastbourne led to them becoming County Champions. The Men were not so fortunate this year but finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the group and so remain in Group 1 for 2020.</p>

Also in July the Under 12 Girls became County Cup winners. In August the Ladies over 35 team were County Cup runners-up.

The Herts Tennis Coaches Working Group is well established and has provided several excellent workshops and courses. The working group meets regularly and further events are being planned for the coming year.

We have a number of funding schemes to help clubs including interest free loans and facility grants which are available to small clubs to make improvements. These opportunities have been taken up by a variety of clubs during the year.

We have a school club link programme to engage schools in tennis. We also have grants for disability programmes.

The County Leagues are now completed and the winners for this year in the Championship are Letchworth Ladies and Welwyn Men. As always our juniors have performed well and details are in the Newsletter.

You will be aware that the enquiry into activities by the Committee in 2004 has now ended. You will also be pleased to know that we have been advised by our lawyers that the LTA insurance should cover our costs regarding this matter.

There is one important issue that has happened in the last 12 months and that is that the LTA have now altered the coverage that Clubs receive through their LTA insurance. Clubs are covered if they are accused of anything by an outside source. However, if the LTA decide to accuse or bring a case against the club you are not covered on the LTA insurance. We are writing to the LTA to raise this matter and we shall be writing to all our clubs to advise them of this situation and suggesting that they take out cover to protect themselves.

Martin Corrie, Treasurer, distributed summaries of the County's annual profit and loss accounts for period ended 30 September 2019. Full approved sets of all the accounts are available to anyone who wishes to see them. 01 October 2018 – 30 September 2019 accounts received and adopted. They were proposed by Gavin Masterton and seconded by Lee Evans. The motion was carried.

Martin explained about the three operating companies and turned to the finances of each of these operations. In conclusion, when we add up the overall results of the three entities, we had an overall investment in tennis (deficit) of £27,380 compared to a deficit of £7,682 for 2018. The overall financial position of the County remains sound with liquid assets of £447,000. Next year it is not anticipated that there are any major changes in our income as the club and places to play registration scheme is now implemented. We are lucky that our supporters have all indicated that they wish to continue at the same level as last year. We have identified projects for 2019/20 to continue with the development of tennis in Hertfordshire which involve continuing to spend over £100,000 on local projects and include continuing spending approximately £60,000 on club and player development programmes. Over the next few years it is anticipated that this will reduce our free cash balances to in the region of £200,000.

	<p>If any clubs require funding assistance with small projects the clubs should contact Carole draper in the County office in the first instance.</p>
4.	<p><b><u>Annual Fees and Subscriptions</u></b>  There were no changes to the Registration fee.  There were no changes to the Inter Club Competitions fees.</p>
5.	<p><b><u>Arrangements for 2020 including:</u></b>  Herts LTA Presentation of Awards Evening is to be held in Harpenden in March 2020.  Herts County Doubles League – proposals relating to change in format for 2020 were discussed and voted on.</p> <p>Lee Evans gave thanks for all the support and hard work to the committees and organisers of the Leagues and competitions. Thanks were also expressed to Rickmansworth for host the County Championships and to Hoddesdon for the inaugural 2 pair Harris Cup competition.</p> <p>Herts Leagues winners – Letchworth Ladies and Welwyn for the Mens.</p> <p>Under the County Competitions agenda item the focus is on the Herts League. The County’s Summer 3 pair doubles competition which has been running since 1947. The important issue for all of us is the competition going forward and the County’s Management Committee would like to make a proposal to that, which may have a significant impact on its future. Numbers have continued to diminish and we have heard from a number of our larger clubs that they will drop teams this year if the format remains the same.</p> <p>The proposal is  ‘To introduce a new format in matches in the Men’s &amp; Ladies competition of the Herts League in 2020 in which the rubber between like pairs (i.e. 1sts v 1sts, 2nds v 2nds and 3rds v 3rds) is the best of 3 sets with a 7 point tie break at 6-6 in the first two sets (with a deciding 10 point tie break as a third set if necessary) and the rubbers between non like pairs (ie. 1sts v 2nds, 1sts v 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2nds v 3rds) are 1 set matches with 7 point tie breaks at 6-6. Under the proposal the matches between like pairs will be played in the final round, as follows:</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> round of rubbers: H1 v A3, H2 v A1, H3 v A2  2<sup>nd</sup> round of rubbers: H1 v A2, H2 v A3, J3 v A1  3<sup>rd</sup> round of rubbers: H1 v A1, H2 v H2, H3 v H3  Each rubber, whether the best of 3 sets or 1 set will continue to count as one point towards the overall match score’</p> <p>The proposal was put forward twice, once in respect of the Men’s competition and once in respect of the Ladies competition.</p> <p>The vote for the Men’s was YES 27 votes to 6  The vote for the Ladies was YES 27 votes to 3  The motion was carried.</p>
6.	<p><b><u>Elections</u></b>  The current Officers and committee members are all willing to stand for re-election for 2020 and were elected.</p>

	<p>Trevor Adamson - President and Chair  Martin Corrie – Treasurer  Helen Elliott – Honorary Secretary  Carole Draper  Lee Evans  Bridie Amos  Janet Corrie  Matt Willcocks  Stuart Foster</p> <p>Proposed by Gavin Masterton and Seconded by Alister Heaphy.</p> <p>There were no nominations for Vice Presidents.</p>
7.	<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b>  Pam Burrage spoke about the schools programme and the promotion of the schools competition. Queenswood also represented England in the World Schools Championships and won a bronze medal.</p>
8.	<p><b><u>Date of next AGM</u></b>  Thursday 03 December 2020</p>
9.	<p>There being no further business, Trevor Adamson thanked those present and closed the meeting at 21.32.</p>