



SLAZENGER CAMBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LEAGUES

Annual General Meeting 2015

Histon & Impington Recreation Ground, New Rd, Impington CB24 9LU

Wednesday 04th November 2015 at 8.00pm

DRAFT Agenda

- 1 Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the 2014 AGM
3. Matters Arising
4. League Secretary's Report (Report attached)
5. Treasurers Report (Accounts follow)
6. Election of Officers
7. Review of all Competitions (Report attached)
 - ❖Summer
 - ❖Winter
 - ❖Vets
 - ❖Super Seniors
 - ❖Grays Cup
8. Summer Leagues 2016 - Formation of Divisions and Dates
9. League Rules - Notes attached. To discuss & possibly amend one existing League Rule & 2 Grays Cup Rules. Also to explain rearrangements policy
10. Cambs LTA including Cambridgeshire Fund
11. Any Other Business

Presentation of Trophies

**AGM of the Slazenger Cambridge and District Tennis Leagues
held at Histon Recreation Centre on Wednesday 12th November 2014**

Those present:

Name	Club
Richard Barnes	Cambs LTA Exec,
Keith Heron	Cambs LTA Exec,
Vernon Dudley	League Sec, Histon
Sylvia Morton	League Committee, Gt Shelford
Janice Mills	League Committee, David Lloyd
Alison McNaught	League Committee, CLTC
Jim Fordham	Exning
Ken Fish	Exning
James Mills	Cambridge LTC
Polly Butt	Fulbourn
Ann Burton	Fulbourn
Christine Sprowell	Newmarket
Marieanne Rodolakis	Newmarket
Tamryn Saby	Comberton
Sabrina Ashley	St Neots
John Holmes	Royston
Emma Windred	Royston
Malcolm Bentley	Grove Saffron Walden
Hazel Boyd	David Lloyd
Jim Wocha	Histon
Jo Setchell	Ely
Mary Finney	Ely
Stephen Hancock	Gransdens
Simon Elliott	Cocks & Hens
Mark Balaam	Needingworth
Sam Fabisz	Needingworth
Clive Wood	RAF Wyton
David Willett	Soham
Phil Crisp	Thetford
Nick Chamberlain	Thetford
Paul Hope	Red Lodge
Stephen Richardson	Haslingfield
Paul Bonnington	Haslingfield
Kelvin Morton	Risbygate
Paul Dixon	Cottenham
Darren Matthews	Culford
Ruth Davies	Milton
Barrie Crick	Milton
Nick Hassett	Milton
Ben Bryon	Cambourne
Matt Miller	Phennards
Jenny Fleck	Gt Shelford

42 in attendance, 26 clubs represented

No representatives from:

Bar Hill, Buckden, Chatteris, Foxton, Girton, Gt Staughton, Huntingdon, Orwell, Papworth, Steeple Morden, Victory BSE, Virgin Active (12 clubs)

**Minutes of the AGM of the Slazenger Cambridge and District Tennis League
held at Histon Recreation Centre on Wednesday 12th November 2014**

1. Apologies for Absence were received from the following: Nick and Caroline Clifford (Hunts), Peter Fielder (Buckden), Alan Franklin (Girton), Debbie Hall, Steeple Morden

2. Minutes of the 2013 AGM were passed and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising There were no matters arising.

4. League Secretary's Report Vernon summarised briefly his written report.

The County should be proud of its league activity which extends throughout every month of the year, bar January. He asked those present to show their thanks to "the three good ladies" who work with him to ensure their smooth running.

Rules for Submission of Results: On-line entry is working well for all leagues bar the summer, when nomination rules are in force and results are entered by the Committee.

Home team captains are reminded of their responsibility promptly to:

Either enter the result/submit results, clearly written with names in full, to league committee member

Or add a comment or explanation on-line as to why the match has been delayed.

The tables are watched with interest and it is frustrating when they are not up-to-date.

Fulfilling Fixtures: The strength of the Cambs League has always been that fixtures are scheduled, and most matches played on the set date, with few walkovers. Regrettably, he feels that the number of walkovers is on the increase and asked for possible reasons. Are clubs entering too many teams for the size of their membership? Why not send one pair and try for a draw, rather than be docked 2 penalty points? Are teams trying to rearrange in order to get their strongest players out for a crucial match? Is the 2 point penalty effective enough?

Clubs are reminded that the Summer fixtures should not be rearranged. However, if both teams request to the Committee for the date to be changed, it may be allowed.

Changing fixture dates in the other leagues may be done, giving as much notice as possible.

New Friends/Lost Friends Sadly Burwell and Cambridge University Press are no longer entering teams due to lack of players.

Milton Tennis Club has recently joined. It was agreed that Culford Tennis Centre who play on indoor courts at the school just north of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk could enter the Cambs League.

Club Communications Vernon thanked all the club reps who disseminate the League information to their committee's captains etc. Without this the League could not run effectively.

Looking forward Having been League Secretary since 2005, Vernon wished to give advance notice that he would like to step down at the 2016 AGM. New members of the League Committee must be found soon in order that the job of organising the Leagues can be handed over smoothly. Richard Barnes expressed the feeling of those present that we had been very lucky to have had Vernon's calm, efficient and considerate management for so long.

5. Treasurer's Report

Copies of the Balance Sheet prepared by Colin Tait were circulated and accepted by the meeting. New trophies had been purchased for the growing number of divisions; website fees were also up as the cost is governed by the league size; hence a smaller surplus for 2014 of £275 had been passed to the County.

The Leagues normally make a small surplus but Richard Barnes stressed that if the need arose, the County would offer financial support to the League.

6. Election of Officers.

The members of the Committee - Chairman Vernon Dudley, Sylvia Morton, Alison McNaught, Janice Mills and Colin Tait – were all willing to stand for yet another year and were re-elected en bloc, with grateful thanks.

7. Review of all Competitions -2014

Vernon summarised his written report: The past twelve months has seen 362 teams competing in 50 divisions in 4 leagues, plus the two k/o Grays Cups. Eighteen different clubs will be receiving trophies tonight with Cambridge LTC collecting the most.

Summer league This continues to grow with entries for 2015 topping 200. Gt Shelford retained the Div 1 title whilst Cambridge LTC won both Ladies and Mixed.

Winter This League is currently running, with 113 teams in action. Alternating the fixtures to one week ladies/men the next week mixed has resulted in an increase in numbers and will be continued.

Vets This popular Spring League has doubled in size in ten years to 36 teams.

Super Seniors This new league has been very enjoyable with excellent catering at times but with too many walkovers. The aim is to keep it going if possible by being very flexible until better established. Ladies may play in the men's event and non-club players may be invited to play, provided they are not playing for another team in the league.

The Grays Cup There were a disappointing number of walkovers initially but the event finished with an excellent Finals evening on 4th October with plenty of spectators. Royston Men retained the trophy with a 6-2 win over Victory BSE. Cambridge Ladies won a very close contest against Cocks & Hens, decided by the championship tiebreak. Entries are still open for 2015 and clubs are encouraged to enter this k/o cup for players of Div 3 standard and below.

8. Formation of Divisions for Summer Leagues 2015

Ladies' league 2 teams have withdrawn: Haslingfield 1 and Ely 2, 4 new teams have entered: Culford, Milton, Girton, Haslingfield 1 (top players having left club)
60 teams would be divided into 8 divisions in total: 4 divisions of 8 and 4 divisions of 7

Men's League. 3 teams have withdrawn: C&H3, CUP and Nmkt3, 4 new teams have entered: Culford, Milton, Red Lodge 2, Royston 5
84 teams would be divided into 11 divisions in total: 7 divisions of 8 and 4 divisions of 7

Mixed 2 teams have withdrawn: GSTC6 and GSTC7, 2 new teams have entered: Royston 4, Milton
As last year, there will be 9 divisions in total: 6 divisions of 6 and 3 divisions of 7

Ladies and Men's leagues will start at the end of April followed by the Mixed which will finish in early August. The LTA system imposes certain constraints to the scheduling which cannot be overcome, unfortunately.

9. League Rules

Nomination Rules : Following some confusion, the committee had been asked to clarify Nominations Rule 17.
The meeting voted to change (d)

From - Those players nominated may not play for a lower team irrespective of the Division(s) in which other teams from that club may play i.e. a first team player may not play for the second team. Players from lower nominated teams may play for higher teams for a total of two occasions only in Men's & Ladies and one occasion in Mixed. Once the player has played 3 times (2 for mixed) for any number of higher teams he or she may not play again for the team for which he or she has been nominated. This rule will apply to all clubs having more than one team in any classification of Leagues.

to :

Those players nominated may not play for a lower team irrespective of the Division(s) in which other teams from that club may play e.g. a **nominated** first team player may not play for the second team. **Nominated players from lower teams** may play for higher teams for a total of two occasions only in Men's & Ladies and one occasion in Mixed. Once the player has played 3 times (2 for mixed) for any number of higher teams he or she may not play again for the team for which he or she has been nominated. This rule will apply to all clubs having more than one team in any classification of Leagues.

And (e)

From - A player who has not been nominated, having played 3 times for a higher ranking team (twice for the Mixed), is committed to that team and may not then represent a lower ranking team during the season. An unnominated member of a lower ranking team may play for a higher ranking team irrespective of the number of times he or she has played for the lower ranking team.

to:

A player, having played 3 times for higher ranking team(s) (twice in the Mixed League), may not then represent a lower ranking team during the season. (Explanatory Note not part of the Rule: Any doubt about the application of this rule should be referred to a member of the League Committee)

Captains were encouraged to ask for clarification from the Committee before a match if they were in any doubt.

Eligibility Rule (proposed by Steeple Morden) Smaller clubs struggling to find players, often had members who also belonged to another club. It was requested that, even though these players were representing another club in the league, they be allowed to play up to 2 matches for their other small club. The meeting voted against this proposal, deeming it too difficult to monitor and it could lead to an imbalance with high division players turning out for the bottom divisions. There was sympathy for the smaller clubs and Steeple Morden would be asked if there was any other way to assist them.

Vets League The Committee recommended that the age limit should be 45 for both men and women in this league. This was passed with the proviso that any women between 40-45 who played before 2015 could continue to participate. Passed.

Grays Cup Rules The Committee recommended that, since this was a k/o event for Ladies and Men's teams, the Mixed League be removed from the Eligibility Rule. Passed.

10. Cambs LTA AGM Richard Barnes encouraged all clubs to come to the LTA Club Forums, the next one being in February 2015.

There was yet another big reorganisation in the LTA; County training is to take place again and Regions are back in fashion. Our region extends from Oxford in the West to Southend in the East with one office in High Wycombe and another in Cambridge. The LTA is focusing on big clubs and on areas of deprivation so smaller, rural clubs may get overlooked. With the loss of staff such as Neil Twitchett, he felt there would be an even greater need for volunteers to look after the smaller clubs in our region.

Cambridge is lucky to have 'Tennis for Cambridge', set up by Mark Sanders, and successful in raising funds for local clubs. Do ask if help is needed, particularly for small projects under £10K where matched grants may be available.

11. AOB

Richard Barnes thanked everyone for coming and asked them to show their appreciation again for Vernon and his team. (sustained applause)

Presentation of Trophies

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45pm