

**AGM of the Dunlop Cambridge and District Tennis Leagues  
held at Histon Recreation Centre on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>
Tim Arthur	Cambs LTA Exec, CLTC
Mark Sanders	Cambs LTA Exec, Gt Shelford
Vernon Dudley	League Secretary
Sylvia Morton	League Committee, Gt Shelford
Janice Mills	League Committee,
Phil Day	League Committee, CLTC
Clare Fraser	Buckden
Marie McIntyre	Buckden
Anna Springham	Cambourne
David Cansick	Cambourne
James Mills	Cambridge LTC
Alison McNaught	Cambridge LTC
Shona Kent	Chatteris
Simon Grainger	Chatteris
Alan Dignam	Cocks & Hens
Cilla Hughes	Cottenham
Darren Matthews	Culford
Jim Fordham	Exning
Ken Fish	Exning
Steve Trevanion	Foxton
Chris McMullen	Fulbourn
Ann Burton	Fulbourn
Chris Butterworth	Gransdens
Tim Butterworth	Gransdens
Jacqui Lloyd	Gt Shelford
James Diver	Gt Shelford
William Freeman	Grove Saffron Walden
Louise Luck	Haslingfield
Lawrence Hopkins	Haslingfield
Dave Rush	Histon
Eric Burton	Huntingdon
Antoine Zimmermann	Huntingdon
Sue Griffin	Milton
Mark Balaam	Needingworth
Sue Hicks	Newmarket
Ailsa Weir	Orwell
Lynn Belbin	Orwell
Lisa Seeley	Papworth
Hannah Curtis	Papworth
Kelvin Morton	Risbygate
Douglas Coton	Royston
Sally Pell	St Neots
Dennis Vincent	St Neots
Paul Ensinger	Victory BSE
John Cope	Victory BSE
Jim Hunter	Wyton

46 in attendance, clubs represented 26

No rep from: Ely, DL Peterborough, Steeple Morden, Ramsey, DLloyd Cambridge, Girton, Meldreth, Phennards, Soham

# Minutes of the AGM of the Dunlop Cambridge and District Tennis League held at Histon Recreation Centre on Wednesday 21st November 2018

## 1. Apologies for Absence

Christine Knight - Meldreth, Nick & Caroline Clifford - Huntingdon, Matt Miller - Phennards, Rachel Peacock - Ely, Josh Healy - Orwell, Colin Tait - League Com

2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM were passed and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising No matters arising which were not covered by this year's agenda.

## 4. League Secretary's Report Vernon expanded on his written report:

We continue to run competitions throughout the year with team numbers remaining very healthy. Mark confirmed that we are considered by the LTA to be one of the most active Counties.

**League Rules.** The rules were substantially re-drafted in 2016 and there have been no issues since. Following a recent problem there will be a debate about Rules D4 and D7 under Item 9.

**Website.** All players, particularly Team Captains, should be strongly encouraged to use the Cambs LTA website which is a one-stop-shop for all League documents and gives easy access to the results website. Captains should be encouraged to use the 'Comment' box to make notes as to why a match has been postponed or rearranged. That way everyone is kept informed.

**Club Communications** The process of emailing all League matters to the club representatives for them to disseminate is crucial and Vernon thanked these reps.

**Trophy Presentation** We will be repeating last year's procedure for presenting the trophies, which seemed to work well.

**Thank you's** Once again Vernon stressed that the League would not run smoothly without the committed volunteers and he thanked Alison, Sylvia, Janice and Phil for their support. Alison was stepping down after over 20 years of ensuring the smooth running of the League and he asked the meeting to show their appreciation. The success of the Cambs League is in no small way due to her involvement. There was warm applause while he presented her with flowers and a bottle of red wine.

## 5. League Finances

Colin submitted a written report summarising the last 6 years of League Finances.

The full impact of the increased League team entry fees can now be seen with £3,880 as against 2015/16 which was £2256. This year's surplus of £2,159 goes to Cambs LTA to help cover the cost of the part time administrator.

Vernon reported that a new account will be opened shortly (details to follow) enabling internet transfer for League fees and there will be a one-off request for team fees annually in October. Cheques will still be accepted.

Vernon also apologised that the 2019 Vets/Summer League cheques had not been banked yet but he is still waiting for 2 clubs to pay (confirmed as Gt Shelford and Victory in answer to a question).

## 6. Election of Officers.

Vernon stressed the need for a strong committee of dedicated volunteers with experience and continuity. He is standing for one more year but a League Secretary successor must be identified if clubs want the competitions to continue.

Vernon Dudley, Janice Mills, and Sylvia Morton were willing to serve for another year. Alison McNaught was stepping down and Phil Day was co-opted onto the committee in 2018. Alisa Weir and Lynn Belbin (both from Orwell LTC) have agreed to stand for election and the new committee of 6 was voted in unanimously.

It was also proposed that the gratuities be raised to a maximum of £400 a year. The League is better served by a committee of reliable members who are personally involved, rather than run by a part-time County administrator. A 4-fold increase in the gratuities was passed unanimously.

Tim suggested that the committee produce written instructions on running the Leagues to facilitate change-over.

## 7. Review of all Competitions 2018

The Leagues remain very active with 53 divisions throughout the year and 388 teams involved in the three main seasons – Summer/Winter/Vets.

**Summer League** This grew to a total of 213 teams, breaking down as:

- 65 Ladies teams in 8 divisions
- 83 Men's teams in 11 divisions
- 63 Mixed teams in 10 divisions

Congratulations go to County Champions: Cambridge Ladies, Gt Shelford Men and David Lloyd Mixed teams.

**Winter** This is a real success story with a growth of over 40% in 11 years from 88 to 138 teams, helped by having Men/Ladies fixtures on alternating weeks to the Mixed. Although this makes setting the fixtures challenging, it is worthwhile.

**Vets** This continues to be a popular League providing winter tennis for players over 45. It has grown to 6 divisions with 37 teams competing.

**Super Seniors** In 2018 5 men's teams and 6 mixed teams competed in this League for 60+ players. This small but popular League needs to grow and clubs were asked to consider entering teams; joint teams with another club are allowed.

**Grays Cup** 14 ladies teams and 20 men's teams competed in this Knock Out event and the final was held at Hills Rd on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September. A strong, young Risbygate team retained the cup beating Gt Shelford 7-1. Cambridge ladies beat Histon ladies and Alison is to be congratulated on finally being on the winning side at the 4<sup>th</sup> attempt.

Alison and Kelvin were thanked for getting the cups refurbished and fit for another 50 years.

## 8. Formation of Divisions for Summer Leagues 2019

**Ladies League** 65 teams in 7 divs of 8, 1 div of 9  
5 teams have withdrawn and 2 new ones entered. Extra promotions, not relegations will be applied. Agreed that the divisions will be formed as per the suggestions circulated ahead of the meeting

**Mixed League** 63 teams in 7 divs of 6, 3 divs of 7  
3 withdrawals and 3 new teams. Huntingdon were far too strong for div 8 and will be promoted to div 5 where the withdrawal of Victory BSE has created a gap. In the bottom div 10 new teams DL4 and DL5 were too strong and will be promoted to div 7 and 8 respectively, as per the sheets circulated ahead of the meeting.

**Men's League.** 85 teams in 8 divs of 8, 3 divs of 7  
There is an issue with the Fulbourn teams where Fulbourn 1 finished in div 1 and Fulbourn 2 demoted to div 10. Since Vernon distributed notes prior to the AGM, Fulbourn have reconsidered their position. They realise that they are fully entitled to keep the 1<sup>st</sup> team in div 1 despite losing all these players and the team would be made up of their current 2<sup>nd</sup> team plus any new members they might attract. They now request that the meeting consider letting their 1<sup>st</sup> team drop down to mid-table to provide better tennis all round. After lengthy discussion it was accepted that this was an exceptional circumstance and common sense should prevail despite worries about setting a precedent. It was agreed to move them to div 6 provided this did not cause extra demotions elsewhere. As a result, in the higher divisions there may be 2 up 1 down  
The summer League formats for 2019 were then passed by the meeting.

## 9. League Rules

Rules can be viewed on the Cambs LTA website so for those with smart phones they are available at a match if absolutely necessary.

There have been no requests for rule changes since these were overhauled in 2016. However, there was a problem which arose concerning the claiming of a set for late arrival.

Vernon clarified Rules D4 and D7.

Matches must start at the scheduled time & as a result as soon as both teams have one pair the match should start, with the second match commencing as soon as the delayed players arrive. It is the responsibility of both match captains to manage the situation, appreciating that traffic delays are sometimes inevitable. If a captain decides to claim a set for a delay of over 30 minutes, this must be made clear at the start of the delayed match. Provided both captains agree, sets could be shortened according to Rule D8.

## 10 Cambs LTA

Mark Sanders, our Councillor Representative at the LTA was pleased to report that the LTA recognises the success of our Leagues.

He thanked everyone for registering and the clubs for completing DBS's - only 2 had not yet submitted theirs.

He reminded clubs that as from 2019 Registration, all coaches must be LTA registered. All coaches on the 'Find a Coach' site must be accredited and the clubs insurance may be invalidated if not. Clarification will be out shortly on the position with assistant coaches, hitters, DofE students, volunteers etc.

Clubs have until 30<sup>th</sup> November to nominate applicants for the British Tennis Awards in 10 different categories. Tim felt it was particularly important to encourage younger club members and this was one way to recognise their contribution to the club.

The County now has a part-time administrator, Joanna Jeffells, who works at Hills Rd three days a week.

The LTA plans to concentrate on promoting disability tennis and recreational tennis as well as performance tennis, and some funding is available for projects.

Cambs LTA AGM is on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm at Emmanuel College. The speaker will be Alan Hodges from the Eastern Region talking about 'Safeguarding in Clubs'.

Mark also asked clubs to advertise amongst their players the County Seniors Leagues which run from age 35,40,45,.....70,75. Cambridgeshire has teams in most of the age groups but is keen to attract more players.

## 11. AOB

Before presentation of the trophies Vernon apologised to recipients that some clubs had not kept up with the engraving and urged everyone to do so. D Lloyd and Soham had failed to return their trophies and would be fined £20 per trophy.

The business of the AGM finished at 9pm and was followed by the Presentation of Trophies

The new Cambs League Special Achievement Award was presented to Haslingfield for success in winning 5 trophies (having only won a total of 4 in the previous 5 years). They were presented with a Certificate and a box of Dunlop tennis balls.