

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING 20 NOVEMBER 2017

HELD AT PONTEFRACT SQUASH CLUB

PRESENT: Marc Thomas (York RI), Gill Choyce (Pontefract), Peter Keen (Abbeydale), Mike Robinson (Barnsley), Nicky Horn (Ampleforth) and Mike Clemson (Ferriby Hall)

PURPOSE OF MEETING: To adopt a revised Constitution to enable Yorkshire Squash and Racketball Association to register as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

The proposal to adopt the revised Constitution was agreed unanimously. The Trustees would be Mike Clemson, Nicky Horn, Peter Keen, Matthew Stephenson and Marc Thomas

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2017 AT PONTEFRACT SQUASH CLUB

PRESENT: Marc Thomas (Chair), Peter Keen (Treasurer), Mike Clemson (Secretary), Gill Choyce, Nicky Horn and Matt Stephenson. Also in attendance, Mike Robinson (Volunteer assisting with the website)

APOLOGIES: Steve Ridge (who is recuperating well), Mark Shipley, Robert Field, Jayne Robinson and Steve Widdison.

MINUTES of the meeting held on 11 September 2017 were approved

REPORTS/UPDATES

- (a) It was understood that the County Junior Championships had gone well with a good entry.
- (b) Most of our teams had done well in Stage 1 of the Inter-County Championships, 13 of our teams having finished top of their group.
- (c) Yorkshire League was progressing well, although some affiliation fees were still outstanding. It was confirmed that players are expected to be members of England Squash.
- (d) Junior Development programme. The recent Ridings Tournament had featured 90 junior players and had been a great success. The Organisers of the various



Ridings teams – John Mullins (South), Carrie Ramsey (West), Adam Toes and Kenny Martin (East) and Derek Norris (North) were all keen to do more in their respective areas. Derek will continue to be involved in the organisation of the Northern Cup and selection of our teams. The North-West Junior league was progressing well, with more clubs keen to participate.

- (e) Coach Training. Six applications had been received for financial assistance to undertake Level 3, from Pete Bloor, Iain Taylor, Alex Hodgetts, Dom Pegg, Elliot Ridge and Steve Widdison. The £5k reserved for support to the Junior ICC teams would be allocated for this purpose, subject to the applicants agreeing to support the Junior ICC teams on completion of the course.
- (f) Promotion of Refereeing – no report.
- (g) Promotion of Racketball – a report was received from Steve Widdison saying that entries for the forthcoming County Championships are mainly consistent with previous years. The Academy of Rackets events are nearing the season's conclusion.
- (h) Our Safeguarding Officer, Jayne Robinson, had drafted a letter to clubs, which has been circulated by Marc, advising them of their responsibilities for providing a safe environment for junior and adult players, and offering Jayne's advice if required.
- (i) The Senior County Championships would be held on the weekend of 20-21 January 2018.
- (j) Yorkshire Website. Mike Robinson was thanked for his assistance. He offered to explore putting together a regular County newsletter to supplement the website. Marc will send some material to Mike.
- (k) The proposal to register Yorkshire Squash as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation had been approved by the Special General Meeting, but it was agreed not to take it further until further details had been obtained about the annual financial reporting requirements.
- (l) NE Regional Forum. It had been agreed with Durham and Northumberland that the prime purpose of the Forum was to access available funds from England Squash. Yorkshire would receive £2.5k in this financial year (£1k from funds already held plus £1.5k from this year's grant, subject to a suitable application being made).

FINANCIAL SITUATION

The meeting reviewed the likely income and proposed expenditure for 2017-18, from which Peter would draw up a revised budget and circulate it separately to the Committee. There was some discussion about the need to present a convincing case to our sponsor for continuing support in 2018-19 and the consequences should this not be forthcoming.

DEVELOPMENT

- (a) Marc's proposals for development were agreed. Stephen Widdison and Alex Hodgetts would be invited to lead on establishing our list of coaches and our



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intelligence on clubs in the county, in liaison with Peter (who will focus on the South and East of the county).

- (b) Nicky will focus on the promotion of activity for women (including SquashGirlsCan) and will be our primary link with ES. Nicky will also continue developing her links with women coaches, liaising with Stephen as required.
- (c) Nicky suggested that we arrange a function for coaches which could incorporate a meal and presentations of awards and examples of good practice. It was agreed that this could be considered towards the end of the season.

NATIONAL UPDATE

Mike reported that the County Associations Network was now recognised as a strategic partner by England Squash, and had held a formal inaugural meeting to establish itself as a membership organisation prior to the ES Council meeting and AGM. At the AGM ES had secured sufficient support for proposed changes to its Articles of Association to secure its funding from Sport England, but a proposal from Lancashire CA to scrap the name Squash57 had not been successful.

NEXT MEETING would be held on Monday 29 January 2018



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