



THE YORKSHIRE SQUASH & RACKETBALL ASSOCIATION

www.yorkshiresquash.com

President – Dr. Assem Allam

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TRUSTEES AND SOME COMMITTEE MEMBERS HELD ON MONDAY 16 MARCH 2020 AT PONTEFRACT SQUASH CLUB

PRESENT: Matt Stephenson (Chairman), Mike Clemson, Billy Hughes, Nicky Horn and Hugh Mannerings

APOLOGIES: Peter Keen, Steve Ridge, Andrew Tressler and Richard Antcliff

MINUTES: of the meeting held on 9 December 2019 were approved

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Matt commented that, although the meeting would consider all the items on the agenda, the discussion would inevitably focus on the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on our plans for the immediate future, the first of which was the immediate suspension of Yorkshire League fixtures

FINANCIAL UPDATE AS ON 5 MARCH 2020

Peter's Report was received with thanks. A number of the questions posed on the second page had been answered, and further adjustments would be necessary in view of the postponement of the Masters ICC Stage 1 weekend, and the impact of the pandemic on the work of the Development Officers. Over the next few months, Peter's report would be used as a basis for a detailed review by the Committee of our proposed activities and priorities for the coming year

INCOME STRATEGY 2020-21

It was agreed that the proposed survey of venues asking for their views on a Yorkshire Affiliation scheme should be deferred because of a possibly negative response due to the current situation, but that this should be reviewed in two weeks time

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THE NEXT SIXTY DAYS

The Development Officers were thanked for this report, which proposed a development strategy based on four key areas – Juniors, Clubs/Venues, Coaches, and People/Organisations and Volunteers. The activities under each of these areas were endorsed, and it was agreed that the implementation of the Junior Development Plan should be a priority. It was noted, however, that the work of the Development Officers would be restricted over the next few months, especially in terms of the necessary reduction of visits to venues and organisation of meetings

REVIEW OF ONGOING ACTIVITY 2019-20

- (a) Yorkshire League. It was noted that any rule amendments for 20-21 season needed to be confirmed at the AGM on 14 September, and that a deadline date needed to be fixed and publicised by which venues could enter teams
- (b) County Championships (Junior and Senior/Masters). Dates for both events needed to be confirmed and publicised, and encouragement given to junior players and their coaches around the county to enter the Championships to put themselves in the shop window as regards selection for the ICC teams and other representative matches
- (c) Inter-County Championships. It was noted that Stage 1 of the Masters events had been postponed by England Squash, with no revised date as yet
- (d) Ridings Tournament – was provisionally planned for May at Ilkley, but might need to be postponed. It formed part of the Junior Strategy to be pursued by the DO's
- (e) Northern Cup. It was understood that Cheshire CA was hosting this event on 13/14 June, and that Derek Norris would be organising the Yorkshire teams
- (f) County T shirts. Current finalised arrangements are that all players representing Yorkshire in any event must wear the official T shirt, the design of which will remain current until further notice, and they buy them direct from Iprosports at a reduced price (agreed with YS) plus p and p. Iprosports will then invoice YS for the difference, this having been agreed by the YS Committee as a subsidy, and which would need reviewing in advance of each season, although the demand for further T shirts should largely be restricted to players selected for the first time. Matt reported that he was negotiating a further discount on shirts with Dunlop
- (g) The PSA event at Dunnington has been cancelled. It was agreed that in future years YS might seek to take a more prominent role in this event
- (h) British Open Championships in Hull on w/c 25 May. The PSA had not made a decision as yet on whether these should go ahead

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- (i) Coaching Courses. It was agreed that we need early information from England Squash about courses which are independently arranged, but that the DO's are seeking to establish 4 Level 1's and 2 Level 2's at various venues, and Nicky is also planning a Squash 101 course at Bedale in May
- (j) Promotion of Refereeing. Matt and Mike had been in contact with Peter Hindmarsh, who is a National Grade Referee, who is a Mentor and Assessor of 'development candidates' and also has a remit to support Referee Welfare and Events Organisation, and who is very keen to assist any initiatives to develop Referees. Mike is arranging to talk to him and our Volunteer Referee Promoter, Martin Roberts, with particular reference as to how we take interested candidates who have taken the exam, to the next stage of mentoring by established Referees to qualify as a County grade Referee
- (k) Website and Social Media. Hopefully, Andrew Tressler, who has volunteered to update the website, will be able to do so shortly with the first batch of outstanding amendments. The Facebook page, established and updated by the DO's , is being well received

FUTURE PLANNING

Given the situation, the provisional date for the next Committee meeting of 22 June still applied, but would be reviewed nearer the time. Meanwhile, consideration could be given to drawing up a schedule of proposed activity for 2020-21, and considering the priorities and related budget which would be associated with it, as well as planning for a meeting with our sponsor to discuss financial support for 2020-21 onwards

The Chairman then declared the meeting closed

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