

# *Aldershot & District Lawn Tennis Association*

*Affiliated to Hants & Isle Of Wight LTA*

## **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2020, at AVONDALE LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

The Chairman, Keith Morris, opened the meeting.

Present: 26 people attended, representing 13 clubs.

### **1. Apologies**

Colin James (Shalford).

### **2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019, have been circulated. They were accepted.

### **3. Matters Arising**

None.

### **4. Chairman's Report**

Happy New Year to all clubs.

The Aldershot and District League is still doing very well with 26 clubs, Summer and Winter leagues totalling 238 senior teams and a few junior teams, about 900 matches per season. We remain one of the largest local leagues in the Country. Due to the very poor junior entries over the past few years, we have decided we will no longer run junior leagues.

We had 6 committee meetings in the year with excellent attendance. This was in addition to the 2 promotion and relegation meetings that are attended by league secretaries and Laura Williams.

The Aldershot and District League has an excellent committee. My thanks go out to Alison Fortune who is the secretary, Andrew Littlecott, treasurer, Chris Iles, men's results secretary, Carole Lee, ladies results secretary, Sam Williamson, mixed results secretary, Brian Greig, junior results secretary, Darrell Merrick Willson, who is the pennants organiser and a new committee member, Sarah Hamilton. My thanks also go to Laura Williams for the work she does regarding promotion and relegation at the beginning of each season, as well as the work she and Chris Iles do on the online results system.

For the umpteenth year, there is still confusion with some team captains and members being unaware of some of the rules for matches. The rules should be displayed in your clubhouse or if you haven't got a clubhouse, make sure the team captains have them. It would be helpful if when there was a new match secretary or new team captain, they were given some help by the previous match secretary or team captain on what their new role entails and the online system. Please make sure that match secretary changes during the season are communicated via the website or the ADLTA e-mail. You can now submit online Summer and Winter league entries, nominations, club details, Chairman, Match Secretary and Secretary details.

Yet again, there is one rule that I would like to draw your attention to - Rule G10. **This Rule states that matches shall not be postponed except for bad weather prevailing at the home venue at the actual time laid down for starting, as per the online system.** If it is raining, please be optimistic. As I have said numerous times before at A.G.Ms, do not leave messages on e-mail or voicemail. Perhaps we can go back to my era and actually speak to someone. Also, matches must not be rearranged. Any appeal for postponement must be made to League Secretaries and shall only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

Any set that a team wishes to claim due to the lateness of a pair must be done so before a set is played NOT after playing and losing the set.

Despite some rearrangements being agreed during the Rugby World Cup, this caused some confusion and it has been decided, in Committee, that in future, no date rearrangements will be allowed. You can, however, change the time as long as both teams agree.

Could all match secretaries please note that match dates must be entered within 8 days after the dummy date at the beginning of each season or penalty points will apply.

A small minority of teams do not supply light refreshments (coffee, tea, squash, biscuits). This should be a standard practice and I would appreciate it if all teams did it.

Thanks to Avondale Tennis Club for hosting the A.G.M.  
Thanks to all of you and the other volunteers in your clubs who do so much.

I wish you all success in 2020.

## 5. **Treasurer's Report**

Andrew presented the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2019. The accounts are stable and there are no problems There were no queries from the floor.

Andrew thanked Peter Hill for auditing the accounts.

Proposed: Carole Lee  
Seconded: Paul Adlam  
Carried unanimously.

## 6. **Election of the committee**

Keith asked if there were any volunteers to join the committee. There were none, however if anyone wished to talk about joining after the meeting they would be welcome to. Keith reported that the committee were happy to continue.

Keith Morris	Chairman
Andrew Littlecott	Treasurer
Alison Fortune	Secretary
Chris Iles	Mens League Secretary & ADLTA website
Carole Lee	Ladies League Secretary
Sam Williamson	Mixed League Secretary
Brian Greig	Junior League Secretary
Laura Williams	Online lead
Darrell Merrick-Wilson	Pennants
Sarah Hamilton	

The committee was unanimously voted in, on bloc.

## 7. **Election of Auditor**

Peter Hill is prepared to continue as Auditor.

Carried unanimously.

## 8. Presentation of cups

Mens A Winter	Camberley A
Ladies A Winter	Brightwell A
Mixed A Winter	Brightwell A
Mens A Summer	Avondale A
Ladies A Summer	Brightwell A
Mixed A Summer	Brightwell A

## 9. Proposals

Proposal 1:

Word change to avoid confusion with rule G6b.

The current rule states:

b) In the event of a player in any team being unavailable, then a player from a lower team may be promoted with the proviso that should such a player be used more than twice in the higher team, he/she shall not be allowed to return to the lower team for the remainder of the season.

New rule to state:

b) In the event of a player in any team being unavailable, then a player from a lower team may be promoted with the proviso that should such a player be used more than twice **in any combination of higher teams**, he/she shall not be allowed to return to the lower team for the remainder of the season.

Proposed by the committee.

Keith read out the proposal and gave examples. There were no comments against the proposal, just a query regarding a player in mixed and doubles. The rule applies separately in each league, i.e playing up in a ladies team has no effect on the mixed teams.

The proposal was carried unanimously.

Proposal 2:

In order to allow the committee enough time to implement any changes to ADLTA rules approved at an AGM, the AGM should be held in November rather than February.

Propose by the committee.

Keith read out the proposal and explained the reason behind it. Any proposals agreed at the AGM could be implemented the following summer season which is not currently possible unless it is a minor amendment.

The league could be more responsive to its members with an AGM in November.

The management of the accounts was queried if the proposal was passed. Keith stated that a 6 month transition accounting period would be used to line up the accounting year with the AGM.

The proposal was carried unanimously.

## 10. AOB

Paul Adlam stated that it was sad that the junior leagues were no longer continuing.

Ellen (from Frimley) suggested a tournament and Sam Williamson said that was something we were hoping to try. Brian mentioned the successful junior tournament that had previously been held but had stopped due to insurance issues with the Aldershot Tennis Centre. Avondale commented that their junior membership was down, however junior membership had increased at both Camberley and Elstead. The committed were asked if LTA insurance was available through the league but it is not. Brian thanked Avondale, Brightwell and David Lloyd for keeping the league going.

It was suggested having a junior entry on an individual basis, not via clubs. Sam thought this was perfectly doable and there was general support for trying to keep something running to develop club players for the future.

Wrecclesham have struggled with parental support and safeguarding issues, coaches can't just fill their car and head off to a match. It was stated that lift sharing was fine as long as there was a text or email giving permission.

Farnborough noted that the junior involvement was good 5 years ago but had dropped off, parental involvement being key.

Keith pointed out that coaches don't get paid for taking kids to matches so it is not necessarily in their interests to do so.

It was noted that some juniors played specific matches to gain LTA rating points. David Lloyd said they look for other junior events if there aren't enough matches and that playing juniors in adults matches wasn't always possible as parents had to attend and juniors had to be contacted via parents and could not be on a WhatsApp group for team matches.

Keith thanked Avondale again for hosting the AGM and reminded clubs to collect their winners pennants.