

Corstorphine Tennis Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Clubhouse on Saturday 18 November 2017 at 12.00.

Present: Ian Gordon (chair); Mary Gordon; George Peat; Isobel Peat; Angus Roarty; Gordon Fisher; Liz Ferguson; Euan Morrison; Chris Whytock; Yvonne Mackenzie; Robin Sellar; Oscar Miron; Louise Keating de Miron; Louise Tosh; Rob Farley; Calum Massie; Max Raymar; Eileen Warmington; Anne Murray; Ernestine Mckay; Jane Kerr; Brian Carson; Stephen Gibbens; Neil Moncrieff.

Apologies: Shona Headrick; Paul Johnston; Margaret Johnston; Colin Robertson; John Stohner; Derek MacDonald; Tracey Lees; Katie Smith; Linda Dougal; Richard Tait; John Brodie; Linsay Miller; Lesley Mackie; Jenny Carson.

1. Chairman's Welcome

Captain Ian Gordon welcomed everyone to the AGM in what has been another successful year for the club. Ian reported that, having had the first full year of the new courts, they had been a great success. Colin was thanked for establishing the rota for sweeping the courts and also all who have participated and especially Euan and Gordon for their efforts to find a solution to tackle the moss problem. Ian highlighted the box leagues which have given members the opportunity to play competitive singles and thanked Kenny Couper for setting this up. Paul Johnston was also thanked for running the club tournament which had been a great success and also Liz Ferguson for her work with the juniors and for running their tournament. Ian thanked Yvonne Mackenzie, Margaret Johnston, Linda Dougal and Mary Gordon for their efforts in organising the social events which had been well attended and successful and in particular the fundraiser which had enabled the club to purchase a defibrillator, particularly poignant as it followed soon after hearing of the death of Ben Todd who had contributed so much to the club and is sadly missed. Ian reported that, while progress regarding the wall repair had been slow, by cordoning off the area the club had put safety first. A draft report from the structural engineers has been received and it is hoped that we will have the final report soon to allow us to progress meetings with neighbours. Gus Roarty was thanked for dealing with this. Ian also thanked all those who had helped with maintenance of the clubhouse throughout the year, particularly the painting of the exterior. He concluded by emphasising that the club depends on the voluntary efforts of the members and thanked all those who have helped and encouraged everyone to consider how best they could help.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM (5 November 2016)

Approved.

Proposer Euan Morrison

Secunder Oscar Miron.

3. Secretary's Report 2017

The new season officially opened on Saturday 1 April 2017 with an American Tournament in the afternoon, followed by a social event in the evening.

TEAM TENNIS

Match practices started week beginning 27 March, with women's practices on a Tuesday evening and men's on a Sunday morning and Wednesday evening.

Two men's teams and one women's team were entered in the Dunlop East of Scotland Leagues. The women's team gained promotion having finished 2nd top of Division 6A. Both of the men's teams avoided relegation, the men's first team finishing in 4th place in Division 7B and the men's second team finishing in 4th place in Division 9A.

There were no boys' teams entered into the Aegon leagues this season but some of the girls played in a combined Blackhall-Corstorphine team in 14U Division 1 and finished in 4th place.

SOCIAL EVENTS

On Saturday 1 April a cheese and wine social evening was organised. A number of fundraising activities took place throughout the afternoon and evening, including profit from the social event, a raffle, donations and a music quiz, to raise money for the purchase of a defibrillator from the Craig Hodgkinson Trust. We were delighted to raise £780 which allowed us to go ahead with the purchase. This was particularly timely as we had just learned the sad news that Ben Todd had died. Ben was a member of the club for over 30 years. He joined in the mid-1980s when he returned to Edinburgh from Australia. He was always a willing helper with any work that needed to be done about the club, without being asked and without expecting thanks. When he collapsed on the courts in 2015 we didn't think he would be back playing tennis but were delighted that he had been back playing and clearly enjoying it as much as ever. Ben is sadly missed.

The Wimbledon ballot for the club's allocation of 7 pairs of tickets was also held during the evening.

On Sunday 14th May a Great British Tennis Open Day Event was held. This was well attended and the on-court activities run by Bruce Beadle and his helpers, the off-court games and the refreshments were enjoyed by all. 2 new families joined on the day and others expressed interest in joining in the future.

On Sunday 30 July an American Tournament and BBQ was attended by 38 people and generated a profit of approximately £80.

On Saturday 2 September a wine and savouries social evening was attended by 40 people and generated a profit of £180.

The Christmas Party Night will be held at the Murrayfield Hotel on Saturday 2 December and a fancy dress social tennis evening is planned for Monday 18 December.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. Following the AGM, a committee meeting was held on **Monday 6 February**. The following items were discussed.
 - 1.1. Actions from previous meeting had all been completed with the exception of the ongoing issues of repairs to the boundary wall and replacement of floodlights or alternatively of one of the bulbs.
 - 1.2. The list of duties of committee members was reviewed and agreed.
 - 1.3. The committee were very grateful to Euan Morrison for carrying out a very comprehensive review of coaching at the club. This was discussed in depth and a number of actions identified, a number of which Euan and Ian were to follow up with the coach(es) and also the local Active Schools Coordinator.
 - 1.4. The marketing subcommittee were asked to meet and identify actions, in particular re social networking.
 - 1.5. The current Ground Maintenance Contract was discussed and it was decided that clarification was needed regarding the exact work contracted.
 - 1.6. It was decided to organise a fundraising event to raise funds towards the cost of purchasing a defibrillator from the Craig Hodgkinson Trust.
 - 1.7. The deletion of the 'temporary membership' category to be proposed at the AGM.

2. A committee meeting was held on **Monday 4 September**. The following items were discussed:
 - 2.1. Repairs and Maintenance issues
 - 2.1.1. Due to the wide variety of proposals and costs received from builders to repair the boundary wall, it was decided to contact a structural engineer to carry out a survey and advise on options. A sub-committee is also to be formed to take this project forward.
 - 2.1.2. The floodlight bulb has been replaced and a new light meter has been purchased and is to be installed.
 - 2.1.3. It was agreed to accept the estimate from Nicholson joiners to replace the 4 windows on the south side of the clubhouse.
 - 2.1.4. The painting of the outside of the clubhouse is complete, with the exception of the gable ends and the front door.
 - 2.2 Chris Whytock reported that there are no concerns re the club's current financial position. However, electricity is a significant outlay. Chris was asked to look at the possibility of changing energy supplier.
 - 2.3 The court booking procedure was discussed. It was agreed that it is working well and should now be extended to include booking courts for all activities.
 - 2.4 Mary Gordon to carry out a comparison of fees charged by neighbouring clubs to inform the setting of fees for next season.

2.5 Liz Ferguson attended the meeting to outline how the junior section was working. It was decided that Stuart Brown be approached re the possibility of funding to allow the club to repeat the schools' sessions and open day next year.

2.6 AOCB

2.6.1 Arrangements to be made to have trees pruned.

2.6.2 Facebook profile picture to be updated to show the new courts.

3. A committee meeting was held on **Monday 13 November**. The following items were discussed:

3.1. All items from the previous meeting had been completed with the exception of looking at alternative energy providers which is ongoing.

3.2. AGM planning.

3.2.1. Chris Whytock (treasurer) submitted the financial report to be presented at AGM

3.2.2. A potential increase in some of the fee categories to be recommended.

3.2.3. There is one vacancy on the committee.

3.2.4. Dates for next season were agreed.

3.2.5. The committee discussed other items to be raised by members.

3.2.6. Euan Morrison had looked into the issues relating to maintenance of the courts and in particular the best way to eradicate and prevent moss. This will be summarised at the AGM to raise awareness with all members. In addition it was agreed that the club should proceed with the purchase of a sprayer for moss killer and a drag mat

3.3. Payment for lights – there was considerable discussion about the cost of using floodlights, particularly as this has not been increased for many years. It was agreed that:

3.3.1. Light cards to cost £4 from beginning of January 2018

3.3.2. Lights to be paid for at social tennis sessions from start of October, from next season.

3.3.3. Following a vote, it was agreed to increase the cost of lights at social tennis to £1.50 from January 2018.

3.3.4. Coaches to pay for light cards.

3.4. AOCB

3.4.1. Cortsorphine Primary School had asked the club to consider donating a raffle prize for their fair. It was agreed to offer a family membership valid from beginning of December – end of March 2018.

3.4.2. St Anne's Church had asked if the Club would like to participate in their fair on 25 November. It was decided that we wouldn't on this occasion.

3.4.3. Painting of the gable ends of the clubhouse to take place in the spring.

3.4.4. The problem of water ingress onto courts from embankment on the north side to be addressed.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

SENIORS

The Club tournament was organised by Paul Johnston and the finals took place on Saturday 2 September 2017. The results were:

Men's Singles	Winner	Scott Robertson
	R/up	Ronnie Easton
Women's Singles	Winner	Jane Kerr
	R/up	Margaret Johnston
Men's Doubles	Winner	Scott Robertson & Calum Massie
	Rs/up	Kenny Couper & Thomas Lodomery
Women's Doubles	Winner	Margaret Johnston & Mary Gordon
	Rs/up	Jane Kerr & Jenny Carson
Mixed Doubles	Winner	Jane Kerr & Ronnie Easton
	Rs/up	Liz Ferguson & Derek MacDonald
Mixed Doubles handicap	Winner	Gordon Fisher & Margaret Johnston
	Rs/up	Louise Tosh & Alec Stevenson
Men's Doubles over 50	Winner	Ronnie Easton & Derek MacDonald
	Rs/up	Euan Morrison & Chris Whytock

A women's doubles round robin tournament, with drinks and savouries, was held on Sunday 20 August. This was won by Margaret Johnston and Shona Headrick.

JUNIORS

A junior tournament was organised by Liz Ferguson. All matches were played on Sunday 27 August and this was followed by a BBQ. Due to the wide range of ages of those taking part this was not played in the formal age groups and this ensured it was a fun day enjoyed by all. One group was won by Kristopher Clark, runner-up Anna Hancox and the other group was won by Sandy Barclay, runner-up Samuel Tait.

Approved - Proposer: Yvonne Mackenzie

Secunder: Neil Moncrieff

	<u>61,091</u>	<u>56,715</u>
	30-Sep-17	1-Oct-16
Inc/red over previous year	6,204	-36,785
Sinking fund within	40,000	40,000

Chris said that he would be standing down as Treasurer at the next AGM, when he will have completed three years in the post. Stephen Gibbens has indicated that he is willing to take over and will shadow Chris throughout the next year.

Captain, Ian Gordon, highlighted the importance of maintaining membership and that, while marketing is important, members should encourage people they know to come along and try the club.

Approved. Proposer Rob Farley Second: Louise Miron

5. Election of Office Bearers and Committee

		Proposer	Second
Captain	Ian Gordon	George Peat	Eileen Warmington
Vice-Captain	Gordon Fisher	Liz Ferguson	Euan Morrison
Secretary	Mary Gordon	Louise Tosh	Gordon Fisher
Treasurer	Chris Whytock	George Peat	Yvonne Mackenzie

Liz Ferguson indicated that she would be willing to continue as Junior Co-ordinator, provided there is support from other members and parents to support the duties.

Other committee members.

All committee members, with the exception of Linda Dougal, have indicated that they are willing to continue.

Proposer Anne Murray **Second** Eileen Warmington

Lesley Mackie was nominated as a new member on the committee.

Proposer Yvonne Mackenzie **Second** Liz Ferguson

Team Captains

Ladies - Jenny Carson to be confirmed

Gent's First Team – to be decided by the first team players.

Gent's Second Team – Gordon Fisher

6. Fees for 2017

The treasurer recommended increasing the fees for 2018:

Full adult from £160 to £170

Restricted Adult from £70 to £75

Family from £334 to £350

Morning Members from £47 to £50.

These changes were agreed.

George Peat proposed that the fee for guests should also be increased. Following some discussion it was agreed to increase the fee from £3 to £4.

7. Dates for Next session

The following dates were agreed:

7.1 **Opening of Season** – Saturday 7 April

7.2 **Finals Day** – Saturday 1 September

Junior Finals Day – Sunday 25 August

Match Practice Arrangements – Men on Wednesdays and Women on Tuesdays, starting week beginning 2 April.

8. AOCB

8.1 Saturday Social Tennis times

Max Raymar proposed that the start time for Saturday social tennis should be changed to 1 o'clock. Members voted against this change.

8.2 Maintenance of courts

Euan Morrison stressed the importance of good court maintenance to address the moss problem. He highlighted that it is even more important to brush the off court area as this area has less footfall. The Club is to purchase a drag mat and a sprayer on wheels for administration of moss killer.

Members are asked to participate in rota for the weekly brushing of the courts and all are asked to use the drag mat after each time the courts are used.

8.3 Practice Wall

Gordon Fisher asked about the possibility of investing in a practice wall. This will be considered by the committee.

Ian Gordon thanked all for attending. The meeting was closed and a vote of thanks to the chair was proposed by George Peat.