



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Penrith Squash & Racketball Club held on Tuesday 26th September 2023 at 7.00pm in the Clubhouse at Penrith Rugby Club

- 1 **Present-** Chris Lilley (Chair), Richard Utting, Neil Coward, Jemma Donald, Richard Lee, Ethan Niazi, Graham Silburn, Garry Hobson, John Scott
- 2 **Apologies for Absence** – these were received from Bob Shelmerdine, Dave Richardson, Alex McIntosh & Dave McGlasson
- 3 **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 15th September 2022** – these were accepted as a true and correct record
- 4 **To receive a report regarding Finance and Membership** – Alex McIntosh provided data taken as of the end of September confirming that, over the last 12 months:
 - Overall numbers had reduced slightly (8%) from 197 members to 189
 - This had been largely down to a reduction in the number of Junior Male members (reduction of 15%) from 32 to 27
 - Female membership (both juniors and adults) remained steady with the same number of members as 12 months ago
- 5 **To receive and adopt the Report of the Chair, Chris Lilley**

Having been involved with Penrith Squash Club for some 40 years, Kate & I have decided to move to Suffolk to be near to our daughter Sarah and family, and we leave in October. I have held various roles in the club and I have now passed these onto other committee members. Furthermore, we have been fortunate to have a number of young and willing members join the committee. So, I am confident the club is being left in very good hands, especially under the continuing guidance of Richard Utting. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at the Club and am proud to see how successful the Club has become over the last few years.

Membership

Before Covid, we had 132 members which fell to 119 mid 2020. Over the last year, membership has gone up from 193 to 197, peaking at 207 in March.

Finance

Subs increased this year to £11,691 and meter income went up to £6,109. On the expenditure side we spent £1,367 on a new gas heater for court 4, £985 on a new website, £360 on automatic LED strip lights, and we are part way through refurbishing the ladies' showers at an overall budgeted cost of £990.

Teams

We entered two teams in the Cumbria Leagues, both in league 2. The A team had the potential of winning both the league and the B cup, especially with new member Chris

Stephenson joining us just after the season started, but we weren't able to put out our strongest teams on a regular basis. The A team finished 3 out of 7, the B team, again last, despite winning its first match in the last 2 seasons.

Competitions

We held the Club Closed, Handicap and Racketball comps – thanks to John Scott for organising.

- Ladies Closed: Kath Gray beat Nicola Parker & Jemma Donald in a round robin
- Mens: Mark Jackson beat Harry Ewbank
- Handicap: Harry Ewbank beat Richard Lee
- Racketball: Dan Fawcett beat Neil Buck

Ladies Club Night

We started this back in September, with Jemma Donald being the lead, and through her network of friends and colleagues, she introduced many young ladies to try squash, resulting in about 12 new members. The sessions were regularly supported by coaches David Richardson and Ivan Curties. The club night disbanded during the summer, and is due to re-start this month, along with a ladder challenge system.

Projects

The most pressing project is getting a new roof to take us forward for another 20 years; this being actively pursued, but grants are few and far between.

The chairs report was accepted and adopted in full

6 Election of Officers

- Chair – Richard Utting was nominated, seconded and unanimously elected as chair for 2023/24
- Vice Chair – Garry Hobson was nominated, seconded and unanimously elected as Vice Chair for 2023/24
- Membership/Subscriptions -Alex McIntosh was unanimously elected to continue in his post as subscription and membership secretary
- Committee Members – Garry Hobson, Richard Lee, Jemma Donald and Ethan Niazi were all nominated, seconded and unanimously elected onto the squash committee
- Neil Coward to continue as Junior lead

7 To consider any resolutions put forward by committee members or the general membership- none had been received

8 Any Other Business

- Richard Utting gave a vote of thanks to Chris Lilley for all his hard work and dedication to the club over the last 40 years. He will be sadly missed.
- Subscriptions/Meter Fees – it was agreed that these should remain as they are for this forthcoming year.