

## **The Parklangley Club: Tennis Committee**

### **Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 23rd May 2023**

#### **Present**

Nick Nicol, Dave Cooke, Matt Dagwell, Sue Marais, Susie Reeves, Sue Slaney, Jeremy Tagg, Sandra Webster

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Received from Julie Fox and Christine Harris

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

Minor amendments on name spellings, minutes approved.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

Substitute coach for Greg on Fridays, if Greg on holiday coaching team should be able to cover, but not last-minute cancellations.

#### **4. Block Bookings**

Nick and Glenda to arrange new arrangements for winter as agreed at AGM, i.e., alternate weeks for majority of member bookings, this will be monitored and committed to review next year.

Suggested a bi-weekly indoor club session from 7 - late. This will be trialled.

#### **5. Club and Grounds Updates**

Clay courts G and H to be resurfaced over summer, including sunken shoe cleaners by both gates, and additional drag nets to provide 2 per court.

Addition of scoring posts on grass courts.

Upgrades to fencing, including skirt at base of grass court nets.

Decompaction of all clay courts, that is a professional clean, sweep and redistribution of clay, before topping up clay, at both club and Old Dunstonians.

A question was asked about watering clay courts in very hot dry weather, possibly weekly. Trevor May to be consulted.

Tony Reeves is repairing fences on clay courts.

Some additional patio furniture is moved onto courts, why? Still an issue with glasses and bottles on courts, particularly on indoor courts but also on G and H after matches.

More signage RE: court sweeping needed, but with some humour.

Outdoor clocks requested, and DC has already purchased 2 that would be suitable. Also straighten indoor clock.

A bell (The Peter Ford Bell) has been purchased and will be used to start club sessions, and for timed tournaments.

## 6. Club Teams

All ok, but lots of injuries. Captaincy problems in one team, now resolved.

Teams and their captains to be on notice board and website, along with policy for deciding captaincy.

There have been teething problems due to delays in opening grass courts.

## 7. Improvers

All calm at the moment.

## 8. Juniors

Isaac Forde - #8 in the country for 16U's

Juniors continuing to perform at outstanding level, notable mentions:

- Alex Mirrington - cat 3 TE champion, Albania – now representing in Men's NCL
- Daniel Nott - 9&U National G2 champ
- Nate de Marivales - finalist at cat 3 TE Iceland
- Robbie Taylor - national champ w/ Surrey 14U
- Alex, Tommy, Nate national runner ups W/ Kent 14U
- 14U NCL 2 wins from 2 chances of making NCL finals at Roehampton.
- Erik Ndreu and Dimitar Lalov winning at Men's events.
- Daisy Carpenter picking up World ranking + back-to-back women's Brit tour Quarter finals (in last 3 weeks), in Wrexham ITF main draw this week.
- Martino Colabella also competing at Wrexham ITF this week.
- Liv Zingg national champ with Surrey + G2 champ (12&U)
- Owen Bidder playing bath grade 2
- Zeph Davis went to Soto tennis academy to train and had a tournament out in Spain also, playing for men's teams.

Other:

In Kent County champs recently 7 out of 8 players in quarter finals were Parklangley players (boys). 8u boys and girl county champs are PL player.

Big improvement on number of juniors currently competing on regular basis.

Currently ranked 4th in league table of all clubs/ centres in the country based on junior performance and amount of county and junior performance kids who compete. Local rivals aren't close to us. All clubs/ centres above are massive centres.

Mike McClure has asked for a junior social session on Clay A and B, on a Sunday evening, to be a combination of Tsonga on one court and doubles play on the other, with perhaps music and snacks. Kai will do the first few sessions but wants to reduce his Sunday hours. Sandra asked Matt if he could help, but this is unlikely.

## 9. Tennis AGM actions

Covered in meeting.

#### **10. Members' Questions/requests**

The committee agreed with a request from Catherine Saunders to launch a new mixed doubles box. Catherine to take full charge of the project and administer it.

The subject of additional extra tournaments was discussed. As the Improvers do not have their own tournament it was felt that something should be offered to them should they be enthusiastic. Improvers representative to contact via WhatsApp improvers groups to ascertain this. In addition, next year the handicap was to be publicise to the improvers group as this is the perfect tournament for them to get involved in.

Members representatives will continue to do play-ins as they are best placed to know the required standards to join club sessions.

On Friday Improver sessions the coach is happy to either provide drills or observe play and offer tips. This is subject to actual requested assistance on the day.

Players will not formally be downgraded from full club once played up.

#### **11. Members complaint**

A complaint from Bob Stanley and multiple others was read out, no action to be taken regarding cancellation of weekday indoor group coaching, but it was agreed to it was agreed to reduce the cancellation time on the indoor courts from the current 7 days to 3.

#### **12. Any Other Business**

It was suggested that we approach Emma Raducanu to see if she would be happy presenting trophies on club finals day. It would need to be confirmed with Emma that her participation would be at no charge to the club. Dave Cooke will contact Harry Bushnell who is best placed to make the request on the club's behalf.

Further discussions were undertaken on how we can best change the culture at the club, so members feel positive about sweeping the courts. Two actions to be taken.

Firstly, signage reminding members to sweep the courts after play.

Secondly, a video of how to sweep courts correctly and with accompanying explanation of the technical reasons why it is important in terms of maintenance.

Sue Slaney, Sandra, Matt, and Nick volunteered to be in the video subject to their availability.

#### **13. Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 17th July at 7.30.