



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT BRYMBO S&SC

24 May 2017

- **Members in attendance:**
Mark Davies, Jim Tunley, Geraint Jones, Paul Murphy, Jack Hayes, John Williams, Darren Lee and Ricky Williams.
- **Apologies received from:**
Kevin Jones, Mannon Goddard, Jonathan Davies, Hannah Davies, Brian Wynn, Nigel Yorke, Laurie Jones and Mike Thomas.
- 1. **Welcome**
Mark welcomed those attending and thanked them for their support.
- 2. **Note of the AGM held on 18 May 2016**
These were confirmed as a correct record.
- 3. **Matters Arising**
 - (1) Racketball – given the previous successful racketball evening in 2015, it was suggested we should try to encourage the game with another session. Darren Lee agreed to look at this for possibly a Thursday evening before the new season.
 - (2) Internal Leagues – it was agreed to take the opportunity of the forthcoming Club Championships to discuss how we may encourage our top team players to join a new “Premier Division” either over the summer months or longer.
- 4. **Chairman’s Report**
Mark presented his report with the following elements highlighted:

“We’ve celebrated **ten years** of Wrexham Brymbo Squash Club and come a long way since those early days. The Club is in a very strong position both on the membership front and on the financial side. New members are still joining the Club with our website an important conduit in providing all of the information any prospective new member would need.

Courts are quite difficult to book in peak times, from 4:00 pm – 8:30 pm Monday to Friday, but there’s plenty available during the afternoons and at weekends. There are, however, still too many last minute **court cancellations** - we must try to resolve this and any thoughts would be welcome.

Planning permission for a **Third Court** was approved during the year and tenders recently sent out to a number of interested building contractors. The whole process, to reach this stage, has taken far longer than expected - the amount of paperwork and regulation required before anything can start is quite daunting. Members will be consulted on the financial implications and costs involved. If we proceed, new LED lighting will also be installed on the other two courts along with any other necessary to ensure they are up to the standard of the new court. Members will be asked to help out in certain tasks, e.g. painting & general works within the existing Club areas.

Our **Juniors Coaching Programme** continues to do well with youngsters from the age

of 6 to 15 being coached at the Club on Monday evenings. However, it is important that we maintain a flow of juniors coming through the Club possibly with more court time than the one coaching evening a week. We have a number of outstanding juniors playing regularly in competitions and achieving competitive results. It's still a concern, however, that some of our juniors are not playing enough squash; through play is the only way to improve !

Our thanks to Malcolm Williams (Big Mal) for continued support in his **sponsorship** of the Club - supplying us with match balls for the season and team shirts.

Teams

All teams in their respective leagues have had a solid second half of the season, which reflects the strength and consistency of team squash in the Club this year.

North East Wales League

First Team – Finished the season comfortably in the top half of the First Division table.

Second Team – Missed out on the Division Two championship by one point but won promotion and the North Wales Plate event.

Third Team – A steady season. A number of players, experienced and inexperienced, were introduced into the side - they almost won promotion to the Second Division.

North West Counties League

First Team – A great season winning the Second Division West region league. A very consistent Team all season.

Second Team – Finished mid table, also in the Second Division West, and could possibly have challenged for the top spot with the First Team but for a few injuries and work issues affecting Team selection.

Third Team – Won promotion to the Third Division by a considerable margin.

Thanks to all the players who turn out week in week out and for the commitment you all put into representing our Club.

Notable Achievements:

Mark Davies, John Ashton, Neil Rawlins & Jonathan Davies all represented Wales this year in the Masters Home Internationals.

Josh Davies (12) played for Wales in the Under 13 Home Internationals and also won the Under 13 North Wales Open, with younger brother Lewis winning the Under 11 category. We should also mention Will & Jamie Silvester who have both had great success this season in various competitions in Wales & England.

Hannah Davies played for Wales in the Women's World Championships in Paris and also in the winning mixed Welsh Team at the Three Nations event in Dublin.

The 2016 Club Championship was retained by Jonathan Davies.
Congratulations to all these players.

In July 2016, the Squash Club had the honour to be nominated in the WSRB Annual Awards as "*Club of the Year*"; at the same Awards Evening in Cardiff, our Secretary, Jim Tunley won the WSRB Award "*Volunteer of the Year*".

The Report concluded by thanking all members for their continued support".

5. Finance Report

In the absence of Kevin Jones, Mark presented a “headline Treasurer’s Report” advising the meeting that at 30 April 2017 the Club’s year end balance stood at £19,342.52. This excluded the funds retained on Deposit but included funds that were ring-fenced to either specific junior or coaching expenditure.

Mark ran through a summary of the various elements. Balances were described as healthy, but necessary to maintain a steady base level for identified future rental and maintenance, as well as providing the necessary blocks for the Third Court.

The meeting received a recommendation from the Club’s Committee that Member Subscriptions for 2017-2018 be increased in only one of the three categories, as follows:

Senior - £90-00 [from £80]
Junior / Student - £40-00
Family - £110-00.

The Committee also recommended that the court light fees should be held at current levels i.e. £3.00 per 45 minutes.

It was agreed:

(1) With effect from 1 June 2017, subscriptions for the ensuing year will be:
Senior - £90;
Junior / Student (in full time education) - £40 or £60 for 2 children from same family;
Family (2 adults and children) - £110.

[Subscriptions are due for payment by no later than 31 July 2017]

(2) The cost to purchase a court light card will be maintained at £3.00 for each 45 minutes session.

6. Club Constitution

No amendments to the Constitution had been submitted.

7. Election of Officers of the Club for 2017-2018

The following were elected:

Chairman	-	Mark Davies
Secretary	-	Jim Tunley
Treasurer	-	Kevin Jones
Assistant Treasurer	-	Mannon Goddard
Team Representative	-	Darren Lee
Juniors Representative	-	Thomas Koscinski
Ordinary Members	-	Geraint Jones and Hannah Davies

8. Consideration of Honorary Membership

In acknowledging the work of our Assistant Treasurer, Mannon Goddard, it was agreed – that, Mannon be made an Honorary Member of the Squash Club for the ensuing year.

9. Open Forum

[1] Third Court – tenders for the building works were awaited, however it was felt a ballpark cost was likely in the region of £120k. Members discussed the prospect of a shortfall in available funds for the project and how this may be remedied, possibly through a loan from members. Geraint explained some of the options available and how this may be an attractive proposition to the wider membership.

[2] Squash court utilization – there is still an issue around late court cancellations, particularly at our “peak times”. It was suggested that, to encourage greater use during the daytime or at weekends, a variable court fee rate should be considered. The current system used for bookings could cope with this arrangement, as well as dealing with “no show” or cancellations but it would require a terminal set-up in the building, together with an internet connection. Simon had looked into this and offered to organise a point-to-point system at cost, if that were agreed.

The matter will be put to the new Club Committee, together with details of possible charges that would be incurred.

[3] Front wall on Court 2 – this slight “bowing” of the front wall had been reported to CourtCare some months previously and, apart from an initial response, nothing further had been heard. It was agreed to raise this with them once more.

[4] Shower floor – Mark raised the issues currently affecting the men’s shower area and, in particular, the poor state of part of the floor. The matter had been reported to Gareth Lloyd and it was hoped that some remedial action will be forthcoming.

[5] Teams Meeting – there were a number of issues that will need to be discussed by those interested playing teams next season and it was agreed Mark will contact a few people with a view to a Teams Meeting taking place in the next two / three weeks.

[6] Pre-Season Competition – the Secretary had sponsored a trophy for a new Pre-Season competition to be known as “*The Condition Game Challenge*”. This would be a bit of fun played over a weekend in early September, to ease members back into a squash routine following the summer holidays.

[7] Leagues Tournament – a suggestion had been made for an annual Leagues Tournament in which only those playing in the Monthly Leagues would compete, using a handicap based on League positions. It was agreed the suggestion be considered further by the Club Committee.

[8] Courts “sweating” – there is an occasional issue when the courts are inclined to “sweat” if the temperatures inside and out of the building are at too great a variance. One remedy would be to control / regulate correctly the court heaters combined with use of the court fan. There was a suggestion, however, that in severe cases access to a condenser would also help.

It was agreed to raise this with Gareth Lloyd for possible consideration of (1) an upgrade of the existing fans, (2) wiring up the court heaters with the court fans, and (3) to fix the court thermostats at no more than 20 degrees.

The meeting closed at 9.16 pm.