



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT BRYMBO S&SC

30 May 2018

- **Members in attendance:**
Mark Davies, Jim Tunley, Kevin Jones, Geraint Jones, Paul Murphy, Jack Hayes, Darren Lee, John Hayes, Laurie Jones, Simon Koscinski and Craig Stephens.
- **Apologies received from:**
Mannon Goddard, Hannah Davies, Richard Ackerley, Sian Hughes, Gareth Hinton, Karl Woodward and Mike Thomas.
- 1. **Welcome**
Mark welcomed those attending and thanked them for their support.
- 2. **Note of the AGM held on 24 May 2017**
These were confirmed as a correct record.
- 3. **Matters Arising**
 - (1) Racketball – a racketball evening had not taken place but, again, it was suggested we should try to encourage the game with another session and Darren Lee agreed to look for a date before the new season.
 - (2) Internal Leagues – following encouragement of our top team players to join a new “Premier Division”, this had worked to a limited extent.
 - (3) Courts refurbishment – this was completed over the winter months, with courts now playing really well.
 - (4) Flooring in shower area – some patching had taken place but, it was hoped, a full repair / replacement will be carried out by the Sports Complex.
 - (5) Condition Game Challenge – this had taken place and won by Mark Davies (with Josh Davies winning the Plate). In future, this competition will be scheduled as a season finale.
 - (6) Internal Leagues Tournament – this idea has not been taken up due to the number of other events being run by the Club.
 - (7) Radiator in shower area – it was felt that if this were working correctly, it may assist with the level of condensation. The matter would be reported again to the Sports Complex.
- 4. **Chairman’s Report**
Mark presented his report with the following elements highlighted:

Now in our eleventh year and again there have been many positives and some negatives. **Memberships** continue to be steady with quite a few new members joining the Club mainly through our website, which is continues to be well marshalled by Jim. We do, however, need to attract more female members to the Club, although this appears to be a problem throughout Wales.

The **Squash Courts** have been refurbished with new floors, all walls repaired and painted, with new extractor fans installed; they now are really playing well. Importantly, we’ve also had new LED court lights installed and these have made a massive difference - our thanks to Brymbo Sports & Social Complex for their assistance in covering the cost of these. Recently, we’ve also re-decorated throughout the foyer and balcony areas of the Club, giving it a fresher look

Court Bookings remain very high from 5.00pm onwards, however, we are still seeing too many late court cancellations; causing frustration with other members and a loss of income for the Club. The weekends are still free most of the time.

Since September 2017, Moreton Hall School have been using the courts on Wednesday afternoons, with a possibility this could be extended further later this year. This provides the Club with additional income.

Financially, the Club is still in a relatively strong position even taking into account all of the above-mentioned costs.

The **Monthly Internal Leagues** are still going well with quite a few new players having joining recently. Huge thanks go to Mike Thomas for his continued support of the leagues.

On a negative point, our **Third Court** remains in limbo due to a higher than anticipated build costs; in excess of £150,000. We believe this to be excessive when considered against what we know other Clubs have been built theirs for in the past couple of years. Recently, we have been looking at different forms of construction and, possibly, more cost-effective ways to build a court - so it's not quite dead yet!

Juniors – this is still going well although we do need some new, younger children to join in our beginners / earlier sessions. Recent **Mini Squash** visits to Primary Schools in Llay and Coedpoeth have taken place in the hope that this may encourage some new players into the coaching programmes.

Through WSRB, we have hosted a series of **Area Performance Centre (APC)** sessions for players from Wrexham & Flintshire who are below elite level. We've also hosted two successful **Development Tournaments** at the Club; this has brought together juniors of varying abilities to play in a graded event.

A major success this past season has been a new **North – Mid Wales Juniors League**, with Clubs entering teams of three players, from Wrexham, Bethesda, Deeside, Newtown & Llanfyllin. Teams played each other once a month, with Brymbo as the venue, and it certainly met its intention in providing greater opportunity to play competitively and bringing those players on. It is likely that this League will be extended to more clubs next season.

Junior Players Achievements - a number of players, Josh & Lewis Davies, William & Jamie Silvester, David Thomas & Thomas Koscinski have all made their debuts playing team squash this season, in the North Wales Leagues and the North West Counties League.

Josh Davies became Under 13 Welsh Champion this year and played for Wales in the 5 Nations Tournament in France at Under 15 level. Jamie Silvester also played in the 5 Nations Tournament at Under 13 level – this was a great honour and both performed admirably.

Some notable **Senior Player Achievements** this year – John Ashton won the Men's Over 45 Event at the Wales Masters Championship. Along with Jonathon Davies & Mark Davies, John also represented Wales in the Home Internationals.

Hannah Davies was Captain to the successful North Wales Ladies Team at the Senior Inter Counties and gained promotion to the next level. Hannah also became the 2018 Ladies Champion at the inaugural Snowdonia Open Tournament at Bangor.

The **2017 Club Championship** was retained by Jonathan Davies.

Congratulations to all these players.

Teams Sponsorship - important and huge thanks go to Malcolm Williams (Big Mal) for his continued support of our Teams, in supplying us with balls and player shirts for the season.

Teams News 2017-18 Season

North East Wales Tuesday League

First Team – they performed well throughout the season to finish a comfortable 3rd place in Division 1. Captain, Richard Ackerley, mixed his team selection throughout the season introducing new players like young Layna Beattie and the older Dan Aimer & Ashley Peile into the fray. To top the season off they won the NE Wales Handicap Cup.

Second Team – John Williams once again, with help from Kev & Julie and his “WhatsApp” Group, kept control over the team and finished a creditable 3rd place in a tough Division 2. Their season was capped by winning the NE Wales Plate competition.

A plus for the season was the promotion of junior player, Josh Davies from the Third Team; Josh cemented his place in the Team for the second half.

Third Team – Once again, Captain Marc Williams made it known he wanted promotion this season after coming so close last year. All of the Team put in some excellent performances and they did achieve promotion to the Division 2 for next season. Well done.

Fourth Team – the Fourth Team was introduced into the second half of the season, playing in Division 3; the aim was to give some of our junior players the experience of league squash. Junior players involved were William & Jamie Silvester, David Thomas, Thomas Koscinski & Lewis Davies with Lindsey Silvester and a couple of old timers helping out when needed !

Valuable experience was gained by these younger players which should hold them in good stead for next season when, we hope, they will be fighting for places in the Second and Third teams.

North West Counties League

A very up and down season for the **First and Second Teams** in Division 2 with injuries, work issues and, perhaps a lack of commitment at certain times, which did not help matters. We maybe need to look again at the parallel team system we adopted, which didn't work out as expected.

Despite all that, both teams managed to stay in the Division thanks to some important wins during the last couple of weeks of the season.

The **Third Team**, however, performed admirably throughout the season even though some players needed to move up to the Firsts or the Seconds, sometimes at very short notice. They eventually went on to win the Division 3 by **ONE POINT** - on the last game of the season! The introduction of Josh Davies into the side, as a Junior, he gained us an extra point – it was the key to us winning and Josh more than proved his selection by winning his last match 3-2.

For the record, Geraint would not like to go on last ever again, if the circumstances were repeated.

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

Overall a very entertaining season with lots of talking points to be discussed at a later stage and possibly at a teams meeting to be arranged for soon after our AGM.

5. Finance Report

Kevin presented a "headline Treasurer's Report" advising the meeting that at 30 April 2018 the Club's year end balance stood at £14,093.76. This excluded the funds retained on Deposit but included funds that were ring-fenced to either specific junior or coaching expenditure.

Kevin 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 our aspiration to build a Third Court.

There was discussion around the potential to acquire funds for a Third Court, and in a context of no major funding of court maintenance in the next two years.

The meeting received a recommendation from the Club's Committee that Member Subscriptions for 2017-2018 be unchanged in all of the three categories, as follows:

Senior - £90-00
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 2018, 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 2018]

(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 2018-2019

The following were elected:

Chairman	-	Mark Davies
Secretary	-	Jim Tunley
Treasurer	-	Kevin Jones
Assistant Treasurer	-	Mannon Goddard
Team Representative	-	Darren Lee
Juniors Representative	-	not elected
Ordinary Members	-	Geraint Jones and Hannah Davies

8. Consideration of Honorary Membership

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

9. Open Forum

[1] Teams Meeting – this was arranged for **Thursday, 14 June at 7.00 pm** in the Sports Club

[2] Third Court – tenders for the building works had proved to be excessive, however there was still a desire to look at alternative forms of construction. A further meeting will also be arranged with our Architect.

[3] General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) – this was a huge issue affecting all organisations (businesses, public authorities as well as small voluntary Clubs like the Squash Club) that maintain the personal data of individuals. This became effective from 25 May 2018.

Jim provided an overview of the Squash Club's processes, in which we are required to pass members' details to the company who host and maintain our on-line booking system, MyCourts, as well as to the Brymbo Sports & Social Complex Ltd.

MyCourts have issued their Privacy Policy to all "active members" i.e. only those who are currently subscribed to the Club with a membership contract. As the "data processor" they will systematically obtain explicit consent from members regarding use of their personal details.

For those who have resigned or ceased their membership subscriptions, their memberships will be set as "inactive" and, as such, are automatically removed and cannot login to the Booking System website. In time we will need to determine a retention plan of "inactive" members before they are permanently deleted from the member database.

It was agreed that, for its part, the Squash Club should also obtain explicit consent from all members by requiring their confirmation through completion of the 2018-19 Membership Application Form.

[4] 2018 Club Championship – due to time constraints, it was agreed to move back the Finals Day for our Club Championships to **Saturday, 16 June**, with Semi Finals scheduled for the Friday early evening (15 June).

Courts will not be booked for earlier round matches but all taking part will be asked to organise these as soon as possible before the Semi Finals are due to be held.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.