

Yarm Tennis Club



www.yarmtc.org.uk

Minutes of the 94th AGM held in the clubhouse, February 23rd 2015.7pm

Present

Club President John Schofield and 16 members.

Apologies for Absence.

Marianna Williams.

Approval of previous minutes.

Approved.

Matters arising from minutes.

None.

Secretary's Report.

We continue to be a popular club, success measured and acknowledged by the County as 'The Place To Play' in 2014.

- Membership though is down in numbers, particularly ladies: this seems to be a national trend and something we would like to improve. Adult numbers are the lowest for 5 years, 136 adults, and 162 juniors. (Feb.2015) 77% adults retained, 65% juniors.
- Improvements during the year, a water fountain outside, new picnic tables, cleaning of courts, trees trimmed, veranda posts repaired, fascia boards replaced, pavilion painted externally, honours boards in place.
Removal of the walls around courts 1. 2. 3 and replaced with a wire fence and embellished netting.
- Club nights overall were not very well attended during the summer, possibly due to many matches, for the regulars who did come there was good fun and good tennis.
- The Great British Tennis weekend on May 17th / 18th here, involved much time, effort and planning. Good feed back from the large numbers who attended but limited long term success it seems.
- A change of format was tried for club tournaments, the 4 Grand Slams had a 'YTC' grand slam tournament, a Darren Walker enterprise with different arrangements food etc. a good deal of work and effort was required by him and all tournaments ran like well oiled machines. Numbers who entered remained small as in club tournaments in previous years, disappointing as those who did enter had great enjoyment. At all the tournaments people made the effort to wear the appropriate colours, correct flags were around and photographs to record each one.

Tournaments in 2014

The Australian Open at YTC On Feb.2nd. had 10 entries, all given top ten players names for the day, prizes for everyone. Cold (as you would expect.)

Winners Julie Philpot / Tony Li

R/Up Anne Brown /Anthony Platts

The Sally Chambers tournament had a regular format followed by a barbecue. Organized by John Schofield, a warm but windy day, 21 entries (only 8 ladies).

Winners Helen Robinson / Mike Dixon

R/Up Dorothy Seaman /Mike Tuersley.

The French Open came next. A hot sunny June1st. Only 10 entered, a jolly atmosphere, slight changes made by Darren

Winners Debbie and Richard Farrar

R/Up Dorothy Seaman / Alex Fisher

Wimbledon / Summer handicap. Organized by Darren and assisted by Jill Gullon.

16 Entries, a warm and sunny day, perfect Wimbledon weather.

Winners Dolores Tiltman / Matthew Lewis R/Up Kiran Singh / Jibin He

US Open. August 31st and again hot and sunny. 14 entries.

Winners Janet Smith /Mike Tuersley R.Up Anne Brown /Mike Dixon/ Jim Underwood.

The Rosebowl/end of season tournament took place on September 28th. Anne Brown organized it, and as usual for 2014, a lovely warm day. 14 entries.

Winner James Harley / Tony Li R/Up Dorothy Seaman / Andy Graham.

The Club Championships, results are recorded but all on website.

	Winner(s)	Runner(s)-up
Mens Singles	Mark Anderson	Tom Murakami
Mens Doubles	Dave Marley /Marc Anderson	Mike Dixon /Tom Murakami
Ladies Singles	No event	
Ladies Doubles	No event	
Mixed Doubles	Naomi and Tom Murakami	Marc Anderson /Anne Clayton
Mens Vets Singles	Nick Hatch	Mike Seddon
Mens Vets Doubles	Martin Williams / Peter Kelly	No Final
Ladies Vets Singles	Gill Baker	Jill Gullon
Ladies Vets Doubles	Gillian Gibbings / Gill Baker	Marianna Williams / Julie Philpot
Mixed Vets Doubles	Mike Seddon / Jo McCullagh	Martin Williams / Dorothy Seaman
Super Vets Ladies Doubles	Dorothy Seaman / Janet Smith	Anne Brown / Julie Philpot
Super Vets Mens Doubles	Adrian Smithies / Dave Woodhouse	
Super Vets Mixed Doubles	Keith Philpot / Dorothy Seaman	John Greenwood / Julie Philpot

- Cardio tennis has come to Yarm run by an external coach on Thursday mornings. A beginners coaching class follow this class.
- The Macmillan coffee morning in September raised. £282 matched by Barclays. Consideration is being given to supporting a local charity next time; Barclays sponsorship has finished for this club.
- The Wimbledon Draw held on April 23rd gave 28 members the chance to attend with a guest; tickets are allocated in pairs, as you know. It was now necessary to opt.in to the draw by Feb. 14th 2015 to enter into the club draw this year.
- A number of club members suffered injuries and medical conditions this year, some ongoing, some serious; they are all assured of our concern and our good wishes.
- Success was achieved in both Stockton Sports Awards and the County Awards.

At the County awards,

- YTC took the 'Place to Play' award
- Anne Clayton - Coach of the Year award
- Darren Walker - runner up Organizer of the Year
- Holly Barker - Junior Volunteer of the Year
- John Greenwood - Adult Player of the Year and The Harry & David Thomas Meritorious Award.

Stockton Sports Awards 2014.

- YTC. R/Up in the 'club of the year' category.
- The twitter account continues to grow, looked after by Jill Gullon.
- Christmas Dinner at the Talbot, Bishopton was successful.
- Gazette Wish tokens raised £243.

Running any club is an onerous job and people are needed to help in a variety of ways. It is always the aim to provide good facilities for tennis and a happy crowd to play. We hope for good health and good weather for the coming season.

Treasurers Report.

I am pleased to report that 2014 was another robust financial year.

- Total income missed that of 2013 by £1,900.28, adjusted to take into account the different payment procedure in place now for Wimbledon tickets. Also using the same adjustment, general expenditure was lower than that of 2013 by £2,638.10.
- Membership subscription income was lower than the 2013 figure by some £795, with lower re-subscription numbers. Visitor fees were also seen lower than the previous year, although 2013 was a higher than average year. The committee remains vigilant in attracting and retaining club memberships.
- The year-end balances were £1,419.61 lower than 2013, mainly accounted for by ground improvements. Following the reductions made to the back wall of courts 1/2/3, shown as courts repair/maintenance in the accounts, printed windbreaks were acquired for function and form. In addition the damaged picnic tables adjacent to court 4 were replaced.
- The short-term loan from the LTA to assist with the changes to the walls of courts 1/2/3 was repaid in full in June 2014.
- Repayments to the floodlights loan for courts 4/5/6 totalled £1000.00 in 2014 and are expected to run until March 2023.
- Actual court surface repair/maintenance costs in 2014 were only £433.14, being the supply & application of moss killer. This remains a problem, particularly with regards to courts 3 & 9, but there are substantial funds available in the budget for further treatment or repair as necessary.
- The accounts and 5 year financial forecasts made available to the noticeboard continue to show that an average of £8000 per annum is available for court repair and maintenance costs. There is also an average additional contingency of around £7000 per annum available for larger projects.
- Tennismark now replaces Clubmark, and accreditation is granted to those clubs who reach the standard required, it marks a well run club.

YTC reached the level in Jan. 2015 and was the **first in the North East** to achieve this.

The action plan outlines the aims for the coming year, and any suggestions can be considered and incorporated as necessary.

Membership is one of the essential activities, and ways are being introduced to capture interest, i.e. a welcome pack, taster sessions etc.

I wish thank the committee and all members who give up their time and efforts in helping to run the club, with a special mention again to Anne Clayton who carries out vital roles for the club with perhaps at times our unrecognised appreciation.

Thanks recorded to Anthony for his work to maintain the healthy financial state of the club.

Senior Match Reports.

Ladies

- It was a struggle last year with numbers having lost a few of our top players to injuries and university. After long discussions with all the ladies, it was decided that there were insufficient players willing to play in the 1st Div so regrettably had to withdraw the B team leaving us a team in the 1st 2nd and 4th Div. This proved to be the correct decision for last season.
- A team struggled and managed 4th out of 6.
- C team struggled in Div 2 and unfortunately didn't win a match and so relegated to Div 3.
- D team had a brilliant year finishing 3rd in Div 4, only missing out by 5 points on promotion.
- The 1st team was successful and won the Ladies Cup.

Men:

- A Team Finished 6th in Div 1,
- B Team Had a season in the 1st Div but unfortunately was relegated to Div 2.
- C Team Finished 2nd so promoted to Div 2

- D Team Finished 4th in Div 4
- E Team E team finished 3rd in Div 5 missing out narrowly on promotion. (4pts)

Mixed League

- 1st team won league and also the Cup. 2nd Team 5th in Div 2
- Vets.Winter League 2013/2014. 2 teams in 1 div. Finished 4th and 7th.
- The Winter League having reached several finals and semi finals over the years, finally managed to win beating Jesmond.

Coach/Juniors.

- Junior numbers were slightly down on 2013 but the Friday night Summer coaching was more productive with less at each session, and a better programme could be delivered.
- The majority of these children continue from Sept. playing in all weathers, and even when there are only 2 half courts they turn up and get all the mini equipment out. I have tweeted several pictures of groups all wrapped up in hats gloves and scarfs.
- Monday Mini tennis programme is popular, with many continuing through the winter at Eaglescliffe School on Sat afternoons.
- The primary schools links are still strong with the Year 3 competition being a major part of the school timetable now, last year for the first time in 10 Years Stockton didn't have a representation in the county final, but it is good to report that we were back in the limelight with Yarm Primary winning last year, with 6 of the 8 team joining the club.
Outreach work with Preston Primary continues with an all year round after school programme, the same children choosing to attend each term. So in effect the tennis club goes to them.
- There were junior tournaments, Road to Wimbledon boys & girls, The Bigland Bowl (mixed junior event) and BBQ, and again our Wear Trophy in Dec (adult and junior tournament), with new winners this year. A new Mini Tennis adult / child event was introduced which proved popular with a team winning instead of individuals.
- We competed in Junior Aegon County Team Tennis (10 teams) and Cleveland Leagues (6 teams) and winter county leagues 2013(7 teams), far share of girls and boys teams. All had fun and enjoyed being in a team, Yarm put on good spreads and teams always thank us for our hospitality. our successes came in the following:-

Winter County League

- U8's won and Boys & Girls 18 won.
- Aegon Summer County League, Boys U12 won Div 2. U8's won Div 2
- Cleveland League Boys 12&u were joint winners. Boys 16 won.
- The summer camps were a success in July and August.
- Yarm was again host to the Junior County Closed at the end of August and the club received lots of compliments about our club and hospitality. Success came in the girls u8's, both winner and R. up.
- Finals Day, a great success, which led to, a full turn out again to our presentation evening.
- As soon as the summer season finished the junior's start competing again. Currently there are 2 U8 teams; the 1st team having recently been crowned champions again, 1 U9 and a boys and girls U 14 team. New this year is a 'girls only' league for U8 girls who are just starting to compete. 2 teams in this, different girls to the normal winter league, this has proved brilliant for growing their confidence and the volunteers who help run these leagues are mainly from Yarm, Holly, Faye and Olivia have been regulars. In March boys 8U matchplay at Egglescliffe for the lower red boy players is to start.
- The entries for the summer Aegon team tennis are complete and have a grand total of 11 teams, the only age group not covered is U10, but will try to overcome that for next winter. 2 U8 and 2U9 teams are entered.
- 4/5 children are competing out and about, and only this week Francesca 8 came back with U8 and U9 trophies from a tournament at TW.
- GCSE, AS and A level students work continues, more paperwork than normal to fill in for them.

A big part of my agenda was not only to grow the competitive side in our younger juniors, but also to grow the ladies groups – I am excited about both, but particularly the ladies and have attracted 6 to 8 ladies in their early to late 20's, a couple very much beginners but the others are promising and are getting the bug, buying rackets and all the gear. Altogether on Mondays and Tuesdays together with the Thursday day time class that Claire runs we have 20 ladies on the books, not all members yet, but I think quite a few will join in April.

Court time is going to be busy this summer, but it is pleasing that so many want to take part.

Thanks to all helpers and volunteers, whether it is parent help, transport, scoring, organizing food, or volunteers that help with the coaching. We need you all and more.

Here's to a warm and active summer ahead.

Election of Officials.

Jon Hall and Maureen Cameron are standing down from committee, thanks to them both for their contributions and help. Other members willing to stand.

Club President	John Schofield.
Club Captain / Membership secretary	Martin Williams.
Club Secretary	Dorothy Seaman.
Club Treasurer / Vice Captain	Anthony Platts.
Committee Members,	Anne Brown, Anne Clayton, Jill Gullon, Richard Farrar, Tony Li, Jim Underwood, Darren Walker, Craig Probets.

Proposed by Darren Walker, seconded by Anne Brown.

Subscriptions for 2015 season.

The outgoing committee proposes the following.

Member Type	Pay by end April	Pay May onwards or New Members
Adult	£135	£145
Husband/wife	£233	£250
Family	£338	£363
Student	£70	£75
Junior (Y7 – Y13)	£65	£70
Young Junior (≤ Y6)	£44	£49
Guardian	£25	£25
Winter Adult		£70
Winter Junior		£35
Winter Young Junior		£25

Proposed by Anthony Platts, seconded by Richard Farrar.

AOB.

- Major work to start in squash club in March, should be completed by the start of the season. Solar panels also to be fitted to squash club roof.
- Wimbledon Opt In, thanks to all who did opt in.
- Peter Kelly thanked all committee members and team captains for their work and his comments are much appreciated.

Meeting closed at 7.55pm.