

Yarm Tennis Club



www.yarmtc.org.uk

Minutes of the 95th AGM held in the clubhouse, February 22nd 2016 at 7pm

Present

Club President John Schofield and 17 members

Apologies for Absence

Barbara Bigland, Pam Robinson, Nick Hatch, Marianna Williams

Approval of previous minute

Approved. Proposed John Schofield, seconded Anne Brown

Matters arising from minutes

Planned solar panels on squash club did not go ahead

Secretary's Report

- The club continues to thrive and once again was voted 'Club of the year' by the County at the awards ceremony in September, In the other categories Martin Williams won the volunteer of the year award, Helen Robinson r/up in club player of the year section, and Pam Robinson the Harry and David Thomas Meritorious Award. Overall a very good evening.
- Sadly, Grahame Parker who had been part of this club for many years died suddenly in April last year leaving a wife and young family. Our sincere condolences were sent to his family and representation at his funeral.
- We were pleased to hear that Anne Whitworth a former member of many years became an M.B.E. in the New Years Honours list for her services to hockey.
- Membership numbers are very slightly down on last year. Adults.135 (down 1) Juniors.155 (down 7) Students. 11(up 5)
We do still need to work both at maintaining our membership and attracting new members.
- Improvements during the year include replacing nets, purchase of a trophy cabinet moss treatment to courts 1/2/3/6/7/8 followed by pressure cleaning; conifer trees cut Jan.2016, a watering system installed over hanging baskets.
- Club nights had average attendance still only a few ladies come along unfortunately. There were also a few reports of people not being fairly treated which is disappointing as we are and wish to be a club who claims to make all abilities welcome and feel comfortable.
- The Great British tennis Weekend this year in May proved to be a good community event as the previous year resulting in 1 new member and a family, 2 guardian members and 2 juniors .Every effort was made with publicity, refreshments, facilities and special offers. Hopefully the reputation of the club was promoted well although this is something that it is impossible to measure.
- Cardio-tennis continues to be successful on Thursday mornings.
- Club tournaments in 2015 began as always with
 - Sally Chambers on May 4th. Organized by Darren Walker, the barbecue taken care of by Craig Proberts. 18 entries and a warm sunny day.
Winners: Dorothy Seaman / Massy (Satoshi Masuda) R/up: Helen Robinson / Tony Li
Trophy presented by John Schofield, his first visit back after a lengthy absence through illness.

- The Summer Handicap Tournament
Winners: Anne Brown / Massy R/Up. Emma Groves / Tony Li
- Yarm's " Davis Cup" took place on August 2nd - a beautiful summers day, organized by Darren, a team format introduced, well received and much enjoyed by 4 teams of 4 people.
Winners: Team Malta - Anne Brown, Tony Li, Dolores and Bob Tiltman.
- The Wear Trophy on Dec.6th and organized by Anne Clayton on a cold, dry day with 24 entries.
Winners: Dave Woodhouse / Nathaniel Cornforth R/up: Peter Kelly / Robert Hillier.
- Club Championships - results will be on the website but are recorded in this report.

| | Winner(s) | Runner(s)-up |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Men's open Singles | Marc Anderson. | Mike Brazell. |
| Women's Open Singles | Naomi Murakami. | Emma Farrar |
| Men's Open Doubles | Mike Dixon/George Gibbings | Marc Anderson/David Marley. |
| Mixed Open Doubles | Marc Anderson/Anne Clayton | Will Dutton/Emma Farrar |
| Senior Men's Singles | Nick Hatch | Mike Seddon. |
| Senior Men's Doubles | Mike Seddon/Dave Turner | Peter Kelly/Keith Philpott. |
| Senior Mixed Doubles | John Boddy/Julie Philpott | Tony Dinsdale/ Gillian Gibbings. |

- The Wimbledon Draw on March 23rd had a very large attendance, 31 pairs of tickets, 30 taken on the night, and a reserve list of 11.
- Stockton Sports Awards held in Feb.2016 and success again, R/up in coach of the year section Anne Clayton and Faye Edmondson R/up as the young volunteer of the year.
- The Club Twitter account grows steadily supervised by Jill Gullon.
- A Defibrillator and C.P.R training session was held in May and will be repeated this year if Dr. Charma is available.
- Christmas Dinner successful again at the Talbot, however a new venue to be considered due to bad weather conditions which seem to happen too often, fog, snow and ice and serious flooding on the country roads this year. Thanks to Anne Brown for organizing the dinner.
- Gazette wish tokens collected, awaiting cash total for club.
- A welcome pack has been created by Martin Williams, available in the clubhouse for general use and distribution.
- Anthony Platts, our treasurer resigned in September, he is working away and unable to continue. He has overseen the finances for the last 6 years and will be missed for his able contribution to the club, treasurer, vice captain, team player and friend. Tony Li volunteered to take on the treasurer's role and we wish him success. Craig Proberts resigned in January and Richard Farrar is not continuing as a committee member as of now, both have heavy work commitments. Many thanks for their contribution and considerable effort, Craig for his expertise in groundwork and Richard for producing action plans, policy's etc. and steering this club to achieving tennismark status which required a lot of time. He has also been responsible for compiling nominations for all awards.
- Honorary Lifetime membership was given to Eileen Payne and Enid Davison in appreciation of their long membership and contribution to Yarm Tennis Club.

All Sports clubs and organizations need volunteers to function, and sincere thanks to all members and helpers who make any contribution in any way, large or small and long may it continue

Treasurers Report.

Thanks to Mike Tuersley for checking and signing off the accounts and a huge thank you to Anthony Platts for the time he had already spent in preparing most of the 2015 accounts and especially for the continuous guidance and support that he has given me in preparation for the treasurer's role.

- 2015 was another steady financial year.
Total income at £30620.37 was very similar to 2014 with a difference of minus £269.64
- Most importantly the income from membership subscription- which is by far our largest income stream-was almost exactly the same as 2014 with a difference of £174.50—(this does not include the income from visitor fees.) However, in real terms, the figures still relate to a fall of approximately 1% of membership fees in 2015, so as always, the committee must remain vigilant in attracting and retaining club memberships in 2016.

- Pavilion maintenance and supplies amounted to £1282.97 whilst the court maintenance/repair costs came to £4248.
- The main costs of the court maintenance consisted of applying moss killer and the cleaning of courts 1-3 and 7-9 by an external company.
- The committee are aware that the maintenance of the courts is very important, both on an aesthetic and a safety level-and funds are prioritised in the budget for further cleaning and treatment if necessary.
- Floodlight loan repayments for courts 4/5/6 totalled £1000 in 2015 and are expected to run until March 2023
- The total year-end balance on the YTC accounts was higher than the 2014 figure by about £4870. Compare this to the previous 5 years of accounts-this is a higher than normal excess.
However this is primarily due to lower loan repayment costs in 2015 compared to previous years, and also lower than normal expenditure on both court and pavilion repairs and maintenance.

In conclusion:

- The total year end balance for 2015 on the YTC accounts amounted to £49804.26. This is a healthy sum and a substantial amount of this will be put aside to be used in early 2016 for the repairs to courts 1-3.
- The committee are also aware that courts 7-9 have not been resurfaced for over 15 years and plans will be put in place to gather the funding for this project in the foreseeable future.

Finally, thanks to the committee and all members who give up their time in helping to run the club and keeping it on a sound financial platform. Also special thanks to both Anne Clayton and Martin Williams who carry out vital roles to prepare and bring in most of the income source to YTC.

Senior Match Reports.

Ladies

- Last years report showed that there were only 3 teams for the 2014 season and we were struggling for ladies.
- At the beginning of 2015 we had an influx of young women who had moved into the area all coming to play tennis, coming to the Monday adult class. It soon became apparent that they had got the tennis bug and the next thing we had a new Ladies Team, the D Team, with Emma Groves volunteering to be captain. They were a breath of fresh air, with some of the junior girls joining on occasions, all were very enthusiastic, and it is good to add a bit of youth to our teams. A few weeks into the league, they had been playing enjoying but not winning or even getting close to winning, but eventually they did win their first match and everyone was very excited.
Overall they had a reasonable season finishing 5th in Div 4.
- The C team having been promoted, experienced tennis in a higher league for a season and although they have been relegated were only a few points behind the next 2 teams.
- The B team finished middle table of Div 3.
- The A team, towards the end of the season, found themselves fighting for the title and ended up being runners up only 3 and a half points behind the champions.

Men

- Another good effort from all the men's captains fielding 6 teams, although sometimes a few frantic calls at the last minute from the F team.
- The men had a good year, A team finishing 3rd Div 1, C team 7th in Div2 (not sure yet if relegated) D and E Teams in Div 4 finished 3rd and 5th and F team finished 6th in Div 5.
- The B team was our champion team of the season winning the 2nd Div.

Mixed League & Cup Matches

- For the 2nd year the A mixed team did the double winning the 1st Div and the Mixed Cup.
- The B mixed team was relegated to Div 3.
- In the mens cup the team after lots of phone calls couldn't field a team for the 2nd round and so conceded and will now be banned for this year.

- Vets Winter League –
- Recently finished and sometimes struggled to field teams, The 1st team finished 2nd behind Great Ayton and the 2nd team 5th.

Thank you to all team captains it is amazing that we have 15 teams playing throughout the season.

Coach/Juniors.

Juniors

- Friday nights at the tennis club are always a buzz. Last year, Claire Smith, an experienced coach was brought in to help out with the 1st & 2nd sessions which proved a hit, also with Jo McCullagh (one of our parents) also coming along to gain experience before taking her level 1 which she has now passed and is now making plans to do Level 2.
- Having extra experienced coaches working with Mark and Anne helped with the planning and the delivery of a better programme. At times numbers reached 30/35 at each session, 4 sessions run over the evening. Throughout the winter, numbers slightly drop from above.
- The Friday junior sessions are quite unique, not sure many or any clubs run in the same way, but also pretty sure that they don't see 80+ children turning out every week from Sept to April outside in all weathers (haven't missed one since Sept)
- The U8's have a different programme, running on a Monday evening throughout the summer and sessions were not as manic this year, which was a blessing as there were less helpers. Thanks Janet Smith for her continued support with the minis on a Monday, she is brilliant and couldn't do without her.
- These children then move to a Sat. afternoon from Sept. to March at Eggescliffe School, with helpers Sarah Zaranko and Chris Brazell, along with a couple of the parents, and these sessions have worked well this year. 30 to 35 children take part spread out over the sessions.
- Throughout the summer juniors play in county and local leagues from 8U to 18U, and in the winter we have Boys teams in 14U & 18U, and also lots of mini players have enjoyed team tennis, 1 8U team and 2 9U teams, and a girls only team at 8U and 9U, 2 of our girls - Isobelle Sample and Amy Pickering - were seen on "Look North" playing in their 9U girls only league.
- The usual competitions, Road to Wimbledon, Bigland Bowl, Wear Trophy and new this year was the Quorn family mini red cup, parent and child 10&U event, great success 24 pairs turned out, a great atmosphere, we are the case study for the LTA.
- Another Yellow Ball event for Parent/ older child was held at the county closed, 9 pairs with our winners going through to the national finals at the NTC.
- It seems that junior/ adult events are popular so will be running some more, starting on Sunday March 20th, for Sport Relief. Please support.
- Work still goes on in 16 primary schools across the area linking the children to tennis, and recently the club and I have just been successful in our application to run with a new initiative Davis Cup Legacy programme.
- Something that should be highlighted is that some juniors volunteer, Saurabh, Naman and Ayush all help out every Friday; they come straight from school, and stay for all 4 sessions. Others help with the mini tennis programme in the summer, Faye Edmondson, Olivia Sample, Sophie Greener and Izzy Orr, all have helped with the mini leagues run at D.L. and Durham Uni. Stockton. All have given lots of hours over the winter allowing our mini players to have the experience of playing in teams.

Adults

- 6 new ladies from the Monday group became members and more important formed our new ladies team.
- Adult coaching has a big turnover which is the idea, its there for people to get a taste of tennis, some will stay, others move on to club nights and some to teams. The numbers for Monday's have been a steady 4/5 over the winter, more of us than club nights on most occasions, recently a few more joined the group and hope that others will return once the weather improves.

- Tuesday ladies group continues every week whatever the weather with 9/10 attending.

Thank you to everyone who helps in what ever capacity. We need you all and more.

Election of Officials.

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| Resignations | Anthony Platts, Craig Probets, Richard Farrar. |
| Club President | John Schofield. |
| Club Captain/Membership Secretary | Martin Williams. |
| Club Secretary | Dorothy Seaman. |
| Club Treasurer | Tony Li. |
| Club Vice Captain | Darren Walker (proposed by Anne Brown) |
| Committee members | Anne Brown, Anne Clayton, Jill Gullon, Jim Underwood. |
| New members | James Bustard, Cecelia Cordova, Geoff Brown. proposed by Anne Brown, seconded by John Schofield. |

Subscriptions for 2016 season.

The outgoing committee proposes the following:

| <u>Member Type</u> | <u>Pay by end of April</u> | | <u>Pay May onwards</u> | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|
| | 2015 | 2016 | 2015 | 2016 |
| Adult | £135 | £137 | £145 | £147 |
| Husband/Wife | £233 | £236 | £250 | £253 |
| Family | £338 | £343 | £363 | £368 |
| Student | £70 | £70 | £75 | £75 |
| Junior(Y7-Y13) | £65 | £66 | £70 | £71 |
| Young Junior (up to Y6) | £44 | £45 | £49 | £50 |
| Guardian | £25 | £25 | £25 | £25 |
| Winter Adult | - | - | £70 | £70 |
| Winter Junior | - | - | £35 | £35 |
| Winter Young Junior | - | - | £25 | £25 |

Proposed by Richard Farrar, seconded Jim Underwood.

“Clubspark”, an LTA online membership tool, is being introduced this year. This was explained by Martin Williams along with reasons for keeping only a small increase in subscriptions this year.

A.O.B.

- Courts 1/2/3 are slippery, (Adrian Smithies). Martin Williams explained due to the type of paint.
- Loans from L.T.A no longer available. (John Schofield)
- 2016 Action plan outlined by Richard Farrar.
- Equipment cupboard needs a makeover and made fit for purpose. (Janet Smith)
- Davis Cup coming to the Puma Centre, Sunderland. Date to be confirmed probably in April. (John Schofield)
- General suggestions/discussion re.maintaining membership.
- Thanks to Tony Li for taking over as treasurer. (John Schofield)

Meeting closed at 8.15pm.