

Dundee and District Squash Rackets Association
Annual General Meeting 15th April 2008 at the Fort bar, Broughty Ferry

Present : see separate attendance sheet. 26 members, 4 committee, and 2 reps from Scottish Squash.
Apologies : Maura Campbell, Dave Pert, Robin Reynor, Jan Parkinson, Claire Craik, Jenny McTavish, Graeme Patullo.

Chairman's Report (Dave Gordon)

Dave introduced Kim Atkinson (chief operating officer) and Alec Sinclair (president) from Scottish Squash.
He reported a smooth running and successful season.
The 2 men's divisions of 10 worked well with plenty of matches as did the ladies set-up.
He gave credit to the sportsmanship demonstrated during the season.
He thanked the committee with special mention to Charlie Hood who has been on the committee for 6 years with 5 as treasurer.

Treasurer's Report (Charlie Hood)

See attached report.

Income from subs is down due to less teams and the surplus is down due to expenditure on the welcome packs.
Charlie thanked Aileen Don for auditing the accounts from last year.
The accounts were agreed by Dave Gordon and seconded by Sue Campbell.

Men's League Report (Graeme Patullo)

Graeme was unable to attend the meeting so Sue Campbell read out his report.....

Ladies Match Report (Sue Campbell)

Web Site

Robert Mulligan and Dave Williams have done a lot of work on the web site.
They plan to improve the usability and make it up date the league tables as soon as scores are inputted.
They aim for simple navigation, good, friendly, sporty colours.
Plans to include a members forum and perhaps match reports.
Sue Welsh suggested a player of the week page.
A facility to retrieve match results could be included.
The domain server may need to change due to some restrictions on the present site.
Player statistics may also be requested.
Maps to squash courts were asked for.

A presentation of an engraved tankard was made to Charlie Hood by Kim Atkinson to thank him for all his hard work as treasurer.

Election of Office Bearers

Post	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
President	Dave Gordon	Sue Campbell	Charlie Hood
Secretary	Jennifer McArtney	Dave Gordon	June
Treasurer	Jennifer McArtney (temp)		
Men's match sec and web	Dave Williams and Robert Mulligan	Dave Gordon	Sue Campbell
Ladies Match sec and custodian of trophies	Sue Campbell	Dave Carson	Irene Morrison
Ordinary members	No nominations		

Subscriptions.

Charlie Hood proposed these stay at £40 per team and this was seconded by Dave Gordon.

AOCB

- Web site – covered previously.
- The squash notes in the Dundee Courier were written and submitted by Dave Gordon for 9 years. They now need to be submitted by e-mail so were not done last season. It was generally felt that these are missed. Dave Gordon suggested use

of web site to access results. Rob Respinger felt they should be resurrected and that if the web site was up-to-date any one could do the report for the paper.

- NUH Mike Robinson stated that NUH is to close mid April. A fight has been launched and a business plan has been constructed but it may be too little, too late. Basically Norwich Union subsidised the club and no longer wish to. There does not seem to be enough time for a community buy out. The council have been approached. The teams have not started looking for alternative courts but bell's doesn't have capacity for all the teams. ? lottery- they would need to be a charity and there's no time to establish one. Dave Gordon wrote to the Perthshire Advertiser on behalf of DDSRA.
- Dave wrote to Jim Breckbridge to wish him well after the eye injury he sustained at the knockout finals.

Presentation by Kim Atkinson of Scottish Squash

Kim distributed written information about

- Coaching courses
- New junior development programme and teacher awards

Scottish squash are looking for clubs to be involved.

They are looking at anew website which would include a ranking system and a league management system.

Membership

The new system of membership allows clubs and individuals to join.

Insurance is included (this would insure a committee etc and is not the same as insurance covering the venue).

The fees are different for clubs that own their own courts.

Competitive rates are senior- £18, junior-£10 and non-competitive, senior £5, junior-free.

It is still a work in progress and they would welcome feedback from clubs.

Matt Shaw asked about the situation at NUH.

He has looked at rates for the facility. The rateable value of a squash court is seven times the value per square foot of that of a gym. This is based on capacity as could get eg 20 people in same space doing yoga.

Kim replied that a report is being formed about the decrease in numbers of squash courts.

Rob Respinger suggested that Dundee and District and Scottish squash need to help each other to resurrect squash.

Kim mentioned that information re new initiatives eg mini-squash were available to members.

There was a discussion as to why players should need to join to get this kind of information and it was suggested that initiatives will only happen in areas that support Scottish Squash.

A consultation in March 2006 led to the appointment of a national development officer. There is only one but Alec said more would follow if more funds came into SS.

Dave Gordon mentioned that there was a problem with local schools not passing on information to children about local opportunities for sport.

June Fraser said this was down to individual head teachers.

Kim – SS are partners with the active schools network.

Kim- the funding received by SS depends on the number of members they have.

Mike Robinson said we need SS to help increase the political profile and development of squash.

SS- the funding has increased by £80, 000 in 4 years and squash has been chosen by all 6 sport area institutes.

Kim invited all comments or suggestions to be e-mailed to her.

Alec finished by saying that we had heard what SS could do for us and now had to ask what we could do for Squash.

Dave Gordon thanked Kim an Alec for attending the meeting.

AOCB

- Nick Cunningham proposed that the committee think very seriously about re-affiliating with our governing body (SS) particularly for the benefit that there would be for juniors.
DG- an extra ordinary general meeting would be required to decide this.
- DG wished all the best for a future for NUH.

Charlie Hood presented the prizes to

Men's division 1 winner

Men's division 2 winner

Ladies gold division winner

Ladies silver division winner

Men's A knockout final winner

Men's A knockout final runner-up

Men's B knockout final winner

Men's B knockout final runner-up

Ladies knockout final winner

Ladies knockout final winner

To finish the meeting, Dave Gordon paid tribute to Tony Darbyshire who sadly passed away this season. “ He was a super guy.” He converted a barn on his farm into a squash court and Dave recalled that he and Bill Fairweather were asked to open the courts. They had a lovely time and great tea after. Dave said he was a popular, lovely guy of whom he and many other squash players have many fond memories.

There followed a quiz and raffle.