



MINUTES OF THE 127th AGM OF THE SURBITON RACKET & FITNESS CLUB
HELD AT THE HOTEL ANTOINETTE ON
FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2008

Present: Michael Carroll (Club President)
Martyn Fisher (Club Captain)
Clive Messenger (Tennis Chairman)
Roy Staniland (Club Director)
Brett Pollard (Health & Fitness Chairman)
John Spalton (Treasurer)
And 36 members (List on file)

Apologies: Mike Hatherall, Mike Thomas, Gay Vaughan, Kevin Regan
and Crispin d'Albertanson

Mike Carroll welcomed all those attending the meeting and asked everyone to stand to remember two members who had passed away recently - Neil Desai who was the current Squash Champion and Margaret Coomber.

Mike Carroll then introduced the top table to all present.

1) Minutes of the 126th AGM held on 31st October 2007

The minutes were accepted by all those present.

2) Reports from the Club Captain, Club Director and the elected Chairman for each sub-committee.

The reports were accepted by all those present.

3) The election of Officers and Committees for 2008/09.

The following Officers were elected:

Club President	Michael Carroll
Club Captain	Kevin Regan
Squash Chairperson	Mike Thomas
Tennis Chairperson	Clive Messenger
Health & Fitness Chairperson	Brett Pollard
Treasurer	John Spalton
Hon Accountant	Sarah Jordan

Mike Carroll then read out the following message from Kevin Regan who was in the USA running The New York Marathon: "I would like to express to you all just how delighted I am to be given the opportunity to serve as Club Captain. This appointment comes at a particularly exciting time in the Club's

history; the recent refurbishment of the gym facilities has resulted in a state-of-the-art club of which we are all extremely and justly proud. On behalf of all the members I would like to thank my predecessor, Martyn Fisher for his outstanding stewardship of the Club these last 2 years and I look forward to an exciting future for us all as we embrace the new while retaining the valued traditions and ethos so unique to Surbiton Racket and Fitness Club.

The following members were elected to the Tennis Committee:

Dominic James, Edna Naylor, Wendy Goddin, Tom Lavis, Mike Lill, Simon Burgess and Daniel Chapman.

The following members were elected to the Squash Committee:

Viv Lavis, Doug Chalmers and Kevin Mc Gonnigle.

Mike Carroll thanked all those who had served the Club in the last twelve months and welcomed all those onto the Committees for the next twelve months.

Mike Carroll then added "Following on from the election of officials and committees I would like to add my thanks to the following people who have made such a huge contribution to the Club over the last twelve months":

a) To all the volunteers who gave up so much of their time during The Surbiton Trophy but especially to: Graham Harby, Trevor Williams, Ray Snelgrove, Clare Baker and Mike Bryant

b) For the huge amount of legal advice and help – Tim Reardon

c) For his assistance, knowledge and help in the dome and gym projects – Brian Laidler.

d) A special mention to Peter Bullock for his help with the gym project.

e) To Gill Barker, Gay Vaughan and Edna Naylor for looking after the teas and Club afternoon

f) To Jill Aspinall and Clare Baker for organising the Junior Tournament so well.

g) To all the Coaches; Michael Hennings and Stephen Cruden for squash, Mark Codling, Marc Holdstock, Matt Cutler, Tom Crisp, Ollie Nelson and Andy Jeffries for tennis.

h) To the staff – Paul Gladwell, Sarah Orton, Tim Newbon, Lee Mc Donald and Tony Martin.

4) John Spalton, Club Treasurer, presented the meeting with an overview of the accounts for the 12 months from 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008.

John Spalton presented the accounts to the meeting and then asked for any questions.

Q. Graham Childe asked why the wages had increased by 15%?

A. John Spalton replied that with the recent development more staff were needed to make sure the Club ran smoothly on a day to day basis.

Q. John Bellamy asked why the coaching income/expenditure could not be broken down so that Members could see the information in more detail.

A. John Spalton replied that it was, income was shown under Other Income and under Staff Costs the area of coaching expenditure was shown.

Q. Adrian Oxbrow asked why the profit from the shop was so low?

A. John Spalton replied that it was provided as more of a service rather than to make a huge profit.

Q. Tom Snow asked why the court income was lower than budgeted?

A. John Spalton replied that a number of Members were now all inclusive so the income was lower.

The accounts were approved by all those present.

5) To approve the proposed Budget for 2008/2009 and revised rates of subscriptions from April 2008.

John Spalton presented the budget and revised rates of subscriptions.

Q. Adrian Oxbrow asked about the proposed budget for subscription income.

A. John Spalton replied that since the middle of June, the Club had over 350 new members over the age of eighteen. It had been calculated on the new increase in members.

Q. Don Hodgson asked how salaries would be dealt with in the new budget?

A. John Spalton replied that salaries would be discussed and reviewed.

Q. Adrian Oxbrow asked why the Club didn't provide more catering?

There was a discussion from a number of members about catering. It had been tried before and there had not been the support for catering. John Spalton agreed that the Committee would revisit catering at their next meeting.

Q. Graham Childe asked if there was a five or ten year plan?

A. John Spalton replied that the Club did plan several years in advance and more information would be available during the presentation later on in the meeting.

Q. Sara McGuinness asked if sandwiches could be provided?

A. John Spalton said that the matter would be considered again with a view to taking the suggestion forward.

The budget and proposed rates of subscriptions were accepted by all those present.

6) A final presentation on the costs of the gym, squash and changing room project.

John Spalton presented the final costs to the meeting. A slide by slide presentation was welcomed by the meeting and all present considered that it had been managed very well.

7) A question and answer forum on the new Limited Company.

Tim Reardon stepped forward to give a general presentation on the new company structure and the liability of members – which was £1 per person. Some general discussion took place about the company and the reasons why the Club was trading as a Limited Company.

8) AOB

- 1) Bronia Snow asked if the staff could put the bridge tables out for the members.
- 2) Michael Vaughan was speaking on behalf of his wife Gay who was unable to attend the meeting due to a recent operation – there were two points, the first was about the cost of hiring lockers and the second one was to thank all those concerned who have made sure the grass courts were in play earlier than last year and then stayed in longer than in previous years. Roy replied that the lockers were new this year and the costs would be reviewed after Christmas.
- 3) Ann Collings considered that all those that have generated an extra 350 new members should be thanked – this was an excellent result.
- 4) Audrey Leathard and Bronia Snow wanted to mention the great job that Roy Staniland was doing.
- 5) John Bellamy asked if we could look at the membership information that we provide in the annual report.
- 6) Audrey Leathard wanted to thank Clare Baker and Jill Aspinall for their hard work in running the junior tournament.
- 7) Bronia Snow asked why in the changing rooms there was no “cut off” sensor to switch the lights off when there was no one using them. John Spalton replied that this would have been an extra cost

- and as we have seen from the presentation, the project was carefully managed to keep costs down as low as possible.
- 8) Sue Hodgson asked why we had not had an up to date membership list. Roy Staniland replied that there were issues with data protection and we would get advice on providing lists of member's details.
 - 9) Ben Newton felt that during junior coaching the juniors were being encouraged to make a lot of noise. Marc Codling replied that he would look at this in the future.
 - 10) Ben Newton raised the issue of chewing gum.
 - 11) Dominic James asked about the proposed time scale for resurfacing the top hard courts. John Spalton replied that we would have to see how the increase in membership went before any decisions were made.
 - 12) Gill Barker wanted to thank all her ladies and some men who have helped to provide teas on a Saturday.
 - 13) Gill Barker asked if the Committees could consider having their own section meetings i.e. Tennis, Squash or Health & Fitness Open Meetings to discuss specific issues within the sections.
 - 14) Gill Barker also asked how members would be able to cancel courts on the day if they were ill. Roy Staniland replied that we had always used discretion in the past with the floodlights, so that would continue with cancellation fees.
 - 15) Adrian Oxbrow asked why we were discussing the budget seven months after it had already started; surely we should be looking at next year's budget prior to the new financial year starting. Mike Carroll replied that historically this had been the procedure that had been in place for many years. However the suggestion was entirely appropriate and the Committee would consider the practicalities of introducing this next year.
 - 16) Nick Brown considered that we should not be talking about individual sections of the Club – it was one Club and we should look at it in that way.

The President, Mike Carroll, thanked all those for attending the meeting especially for their understanding during the recent building work. He wished them a safe journey home.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.