OSRA Committee

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, 08/09/2020 at Thame Racquets

Present: David Quinn, Alex Perry, Lucia Bell, Aubrey Bell, Ross Gore, Ken Reid, Adrian Cassidy

Minutes: Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as True and Accurate

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising from the previous minutes

OSRA Development Plan: Andrew Wilson has recently completed the County Development Course with England Squash. He would like to play a key role in increasing participation in the sport within the county and presented to the committee a strategy devised by himself in conjunction with County Coach Ross Gore.

He is looking for funding for the project, some of which may come from ES.

The plan is spread across five years with the initial stage being a fact finding mission to ascertain what is being done, where, by whom and for whom in Oxfordshire.

Andrew would then act as interlocutor for the exchange of information with a particular but by no means exclusive emphasis on junior participation.

The committee was asked to feedback ideas/comments to Andrew by September 20th.

In the meantime, Alex will furnish him with our county player data base as held by ES.

Return to Play: The latest update for return to play was issued on September 2nd and has been circulated to all clubs. Full court play is now possible but with restrictions.

A number of squash courts have re-opened and these are predominantly privately owned ones. Again a list has been sent to the clubs.

It is highly unlikely that Winter 1 of the county leagues will take place and there must be doubts surrounding Winter 2.

The committee recommended that:

- Members petition their local squash clubs if not re-opened to resume bookings and to seek financial redress where this isn't happening

- OSRA advertise more comprehensively what is open and the offers available so as to encourage people to at least play somewhere
- Encourage the resumption of squash boxes where possible in compliance with the government led restrictions

AGM: After a brief discussion is was decided to hold a virtual AGM in October. The accounts need approval and a new committee appointing. It was also felt that a general chit chat about league squash would be useful. It would be expected that one representative from each club should be present. DQ to organise the contents of the meeting; AC to set up the zoom side of things.

2021 Committee: All current members signalled their intentions to remain in their positions although DQ has subsequently decided he wishes to stand down as County Secretary. The position of Chair would also need filling.

Accounts update: AP presented the latest accounts and pointed out that there is £2,900 in funding from ES, most of which is earmarked, but £900 is available for suitable future projects.

ClubNet: The annual fee is now due for payment. It is around £1100. We did not use the online results/fixtures side of things for the Summer Leagues as they did not take place due to Covid 19 and for the same reason, there is unlikely to be a need for Winter 1. So far, we have been offered a £63 discount which is a bit derisory. AC will speak to Allen Hawkey at ClubNet and feed back.

Social Media: Ross Gore has agreed to be the main driver of improving the traffic and information on our social media sites.

Any Other Business:
AP virtually attended the Southern Region Forum Meeting. We need to inform them how we are spending our £500 Covid money. The South Squash Network is planning a 'Counties Best Practice' meeting which will feed into individual County Development Programmes. It was also pointed out that the ES enhanced rate for subscription (ie compulsory for individual players in order to play in the leagues) in

counties enforcing it will be used for their County Development. It was pointed out that individual membership of ES in order to play in the leagues was removed from the OSRA constitution at the last AGM.

The next committee meeting was fixed for 7pm on Thursday, December 17th with RG to source a venue.

The meeting closed at 9pm.