

MARLOW TENNIS CLUB
(A section of Marlow Sports Club Ltd)
POUND LANE, MARLOW, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
Telephone: 01628 483638

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on
Thursday 12th November 2009
In The Old Pavilion, Marlow Sports Club at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Julia Hick, John Finch, Jocelyn Finch, Jonathan Welch, Richard Mole, Mike Anderson, Georgina Jagger, Colin and Libby Upcott, Thelma Craig, Rosalind Augustin, Mary Crawford, Justin Cook, Tania Smith, Chris Rawlings, Wendy Aitken and Mary Green.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Jill Williams, Victoria and Ian Benning, Robert Daly, Eugene Augustin, Jane and Andrew Johnson, Sue Gallagher, Sue Hill, Tony Groom, Paul Valentine, Paul Morgan, Andy Ackrell, Neil Record, Caroline O'Connor, Alison Rae, Alan Hely.

MINUTES OF THE 20087 AGM

The Minutes of the 2008 AGM were taken as read and approved by the meeting as a correct record. Proposed by Thelma Craig and seconded by Ros Augustin.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

We continue to operate within a Sports Club where hockey is having a very successful season – celebrating its centenary and having just received planning permission for the Astroturf. Negotiations with Whitbread continue and at the next meeting of the Sports Club in early December it is anticipated that the Club committee will be in a position to agree a recommended way forward to the various Sections.

As far as the Tennis section goes we have had a successful year socially and attracted a number of new members – a number of the new men members playing to a high standard and having added to the strength of that section of the club. We had an extremely successful finals day in September – the tennis, especially the men's final events, were of a very high standard and it was great to see so many members coming to watch. The honours board has some new names on it. Thanks to all who supported the day by entering the tournament, umpiring, baking for tea and/or the evening supper and coming to watch.

The committee has had vacant posts throughout the year – no Club Ladies Captain and no secretary. This has placed additional duties on me as Chair and I want to thank the committee members who have supported the club and me as Chair throughout the year. We left the AGM last year with no secretary but following the meeting Andrew Johnson offered to take on the role of Membership Secretary – my thanks to him for this offer and for carrying out the role so well.

Alan Hely has continued to send out our electronic communication Tennisballs – which we are trying to use for all communication with members. He has also worked with Andrew to develop a new website – thanks to him.

Last year Colin Upcott resigned from his role in relation to oversight of the club house and grounds and Justin (our coach) has taken on part of this role – with the support of Colin. This has coincided with an alteration to Justin's contract with the Tennis Club to reflect this.

Membership has dropped slightly over the year – we have 336 members; 196 adults and 140 juniors. Individual LTA membership is low and this will impact on the number of Wimbledon tickets we are allocated – this year the draw for tickets was made from LTA members only and this will continue to be the pattern over future years.

As far as playing club tennis goes Monday nights are extremely popular with all 4 courts normally being – Thursday night is less popular as a club night. Tuesday remains a team players night and is well supported by the men's team players although few lady members attend. Wednesday night remains a night where women dominate play!! Justin has use of the courts for juniors on Friday evenings. Despite efforts club tennis in the weekend has not taken off and members have to organise their own games in the weekends.

Jilli and Julia organised a number of successful social events and I want to thank them for all their efforts over the last few years – more detail on the actual events will follow in their report. The addition of hot water in the club house has made life easier for all those who wash dishes at social events and at matches.

Finally I would like to thank all the committee for the work they do to help ensure that the club runs well but we do need members to take on roles to enable this to continue.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the Treasurers absence Ros Augustin took the meeting through the Accounts which show the club to have net assets of £101,462.

There had been no large payments during the year. Surplus was being generated in order that the courts could be maintained and replaced when

required. Any decision on the timing of this would relate to decision re the future of MSC

Some members sought clarification on the cost of new courts which Colin Upcott indicated would be approximate £25k per court based on the cost of Court 4.

The adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Chris Rawlings and seconded by Mike Anderson and approved by the meeting.

LADIES CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Mo Sullivan captained the first team for most of the summer taking over from Jane Johnson. Pat Jenkins, Chris Lavis and Mary Crawford were the others who made up the first team.

Jane as Mo has never got back to me can you add a few lines re the first team results

The ladies 2nd team finished 6 out of 14 in the Thames Valley Winter League Division 3. In the Bucks Summer League we didn't win any matches and will move back down to from the 1st Division to the 2nd Division. Core players were Tania Smith, Chris Lavis, Thelma Craig, Helen Strube, Ali Thornburn and Sue Hill.

" The Ladies 3rd team had a disappointing summer season. We lost 5 and drew 1, largely due to the fact that we couldn't manage to find a settled four and battled valiantly on with several keen individuals. However, we are optimistic for this season, have a committed team of 4 and so far have won 1 and lost the second by a whisker."

Ladies vets B -

We were delighted to find that we have moved up a division, after a season of no defeats last year!! Out of the six matches that we played last year we actually won four and drew two! We had great fun. met lots of really nice teams and our success gave us more confidence, so it will be interesting to see if we can claw onto our status in Division 7 this year. The rotating core players were Sarah Macdonald, Diana Anderson, Lin Wilson, Julia Hick, Sarah Gregory, Jill Williams, Denise Head and Jane Pyke.

MENS CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Winter 2008 / 2009

The club plays winter league matches in the Thames Valley League.

Format is 2 pairs (4 sets) with matched played on a Saturday or Sunday.

Both men's team played winter 2008/2009 in division one, one division below the Premier division in the Oxfordshire winter league.

The league rules insist on two teams from the same club playing in the same division play their match as the first fixture of the winter season. The Men's A beat Men's B 5 sets to 3.

The final table is shown below taken from the Oxfordshire Tennis website. Alas Marlow B were relegated.

	MENS DIVISION ONE	PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST	POINT
FINAL TABLE						
1ST	ABINGDON B	12	7	3	2	66
2ND	BICESTER B	12	7	3	2	61
3RD	ESPORTA	11	8	1	2	59
4TH	OXFORD CITY B	12	5	2	5	54
5TH	WANTAGE A	12	6	3	3	53
6TH	BANBURY A	12	6	2	4	51
7TH	WYCHWOODS A	12	6	2	4	51
8TH	NORTH OXFORD C	12	5	2	5	49
9TH	FARINGDON A	11	5	2	4	46
10TH	GORING A	12	4	5	6	46
11TH	MARLOW A	12	4	0	8	39
12TH	MARLOW B	11	1	2	8	25
13TH	GORING B	11	0	0	11	-8

Captains report summer 2009

The club plays summer league matches in the Bucks Tennis Shield.

Format is 2 pairs playing doubles. The league is now regionalised resulting in local fixtures.

The club entered two teams into the Bucks Tennis 2 pairs summer league with all results known as of 02nd Sept shown as below.

A total of 18 different members played in one or more matches.

Standings of Mens - Mens Div 1

	Played	Points	Matches	Sets	Games
1 Gerrards Cross BL M1	5	10	39 - 1	39 - 1	239 - 96
2 Beaconsfield LTC M1	5	7	23 - 17	23 - 17	188 - 172
3 Farnham Common SC M1	4	5	18 - 14	18 - 14	143 - 142

Standings of Mens - Mens Div 1

	Played	Points	Matches	Sets	Games
4 Marlow TC M1	4	4	15 - 17	15 - 17	141 - 158
5 David Lloyd MK M1	5	2	12 - 28	12 - 28	160 - 202
6 Chesham 1879 M1	0	0	0 - 0	0 - 0	0 - 0
6 Wraysbury LTC M1	0	0	0 - 0	0 - 0	0 - 0
8 David Lloyd MK M2	5	0	5 - 35	5 - 35	129 - 230

Standings of Mens - Mens Div 2

	Played	Points	Matches	Sets	Games
1 David Lloyd GM M1	7	14	49 - 7	49 - 7	323 - 134
2 Marlow TC M2	7	11	40 - 16	40 - 16	283 - 183
3 Widmer End LTC M1	7	10	35 - 21	35 - 21	266 - 220
4 Chalfont St Peter TC M1	7	8	34 - 22	34 - 22	283 - 227
5 Hambleden TC M1	7	5	20 - 36	20 - 36	202 - 259
6 Richings Park LTC M1	7	5	19 - 37	19 - 37	196 - 263
7 Stoke Poges LTC M1	7	2	13 - 43	13 - 43	136 - 292
8 Wendover LTC M1	7	1	14 - 42	14 - 42	180 - 291

Summary – Played 7 – Won 5 – Draw 1 – Lost 1

REPORT FROM JUNIOR SECTION/COACHING

2008-2009 Junior report.

Numbers have been similar to last year. All the normal camps and match plays went ahead as normal at all half terms and spring and summer holidays. Match plays were held through out the year with players turning out and playing in all conditions. Summer camps were busiest and help to bring in new junior members, now in the coaching programme .Libby now a qualified DCA coach and i encouraged players to play in the junior leagues with good results. U18 Girls and U18 Boys won their leagues U14 Girls won 3 lost 3 U14 Boys won 3 lost 2. We have now entered the winter league, let's see what happens. Trips to Wimbledon Queens Club and the Albert Hall were well attended .Ilfracombe had a party of 29, 24 players mainly from Marlow tennis Club, with many successes ,every player had a win. The weather was windy inches of rain, yet we had the best time. NEXT YEAR 24TH TILL 31ST JULY already booked. All in all a great recession hit year, your coaching team Justin and Libby.

REPORT FROM OFF PEAK SECTION OFF PEAK

I took over as off peak representative in February when Jane left to move to Dorset, we were very sorry to see her go and miss her.

We continue to play regularly on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings which have been well attended with a turnout of anything from 4 – 14 players – we have welcomed several new members who play regularly which is good as we have also lost some.

Five round-robins “pay to play “have been played this season which have been well attended and enjoyable with refreshments afterwards. The proceeds pay for the balls.

We did not hold a doubles tournament this year so the winner of our “silver plate” was won by Sue Gallagher who scored the most points in the “round-robins”. We didn’t play any matches.

We had our New Year lunch and farewell to Jane at the George and Dragon in January and hope to do the same in January.

REPORT FROM SOCIAL SECRETARY Marlow Tennis Club 2009 Social Events

The Tennis Club year started with a very successful spring clean on 4th April.

The weather was good which enabled the outside team of volunteers to tidy up the shrubbery and do an enormous amount of gardening around the club house. It was later discovered that Colin had pruned a tree so delicately that a bird’s nest had survived with no upset to the birds so RSPB would be very proud.

The inside team spruced up the Club house considerably well and a result Julia did a splendid makeover by replacing the curtains for the changing area.

The club was all set for a very enjoyable Open day round robin on the Sunday. Juniors had the morning and seniors the afternoon to play tennis and enjoy the tea and various cakes that were produced by those attending.

On 10th May we had another social tennis afternoon with a good turn out of a mix of standards all joining in happily to make it another great club day.

The BBQ evening in June was very well attended and everyone enjoyed the Home Farm lamb and sausages. We had a splendid donation of various salads, plenty wine and a great team of helpers tidied and washed up. This is when we really appreciate the new addition of a boiler to supply hot water in the club house for evenings when there is a lot of washing up to do. SO much quicker and efficient although it has to be said that the hot water can be a bit too hot now so be careful.

The final summer event in July was the Cheese and Wine evening. Another fun tennis evening with a good variety of cheeses consumed afterwards.

The finals day on 9th September was a beautifully sunny and hot day which added to the success of the tennis matches. Great tennis and great turn out of supporters with the usual standard of tasty cakes and biscuits to enjoy with tea and juice throughout the afternoon.

The Finals presentation and supper continued in the Pavilion with wonderful lasagnes and shepherd's Pie followed by a splendid variety of puddings.

Mary presented the awards and congratulated the players on producing a very high standard of tennis on such a hot day.

Helen and Harry Roberts hosted a fantastic Quiz night on 9th October which had all five teams stretching their brain power at several stages but the Penguin fish and chips restored their energy at half time and a great evening was had by all.

Julia and Jilli would like to convey their thanks to all who participated in the events this year as they stand down from their roles as social secretaries.

12. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The committee's proposals for the officers and committee for 2009/10 are as follows –

Chairman	Mary Crawford
Treasurer	Eugene Augustin
Secretary	no nominations
Membership Secretary	Andrew Johnson
Communication officer	Alan Hely
Ladies' Captain	no nominations
Mens' Captain	Jonathan Welch
Match Secretary	Jocelyn Finch
Junior	Justin Cook
Off Peak	Wendy Aitken
Social	no nominations

All the above nominations were accepted by the meeting.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The meeting voted to accept the committee proposals. Proposed by Thelma Craig and seconded by Ros Augustin.

Membership category	2009 -10 fee	2010 – 11 renewal fee if paid by 1 st April	2010 – 11 renewal fee if paid after 1 st April
Full	£109	£109	£112
Full Husband and Wife	£194	£194	£200
Full Family (Children up to 18 th birthday)	£259	£259	£267
Senior	£67	£67	£70
Student	£59	£59	£61
Off Peak	£67	£67	£70
Joint Off Peak	£114	£114	£118
Off Peak Family (children up to 18 th birthday)	£181	£181	£187
Junior Membership (5- 7 yrs)	£30	£30	£31
Junior (8-18 th birthday)	£59	£59	£61

14. RULES AND REGULATIONS

The meeting agreed to the proposed changes. Prior to this the Chair highlighted the main areas of change. These being:

- 2 new membership categories with full rights – seniors (over 70) and student (aimed at those undertaking a course of education after leaving school; normally an undergraduate course)
- The 50% fee reduction for those joining for the first time commencing in Oct, not Sept
- Introducing a trial membership of one month for people thinking of joining the club but either wanting some lessons first to help them decide or to see if practically they can make the commitment (often due to work or family commitments)
- Committee members receiving a £50 reduction in their subscription
- The quorum being reduced to 10% of membership and proxy votes being allowed.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The meeting agreed that the current auditors, Ruskells, should be retained

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Thursday night play – after discussion about the limited numbers that attend on Thursday night it was agreed that over the winter 2 courts would be able to be booked.

Courts – concerns was raised re tree roots damaging court 3 and also a tree that blocked the light beam on that court – Chris Rawlings agreed to help Justin remove a branch form the offending tree. He would look at the court with Colin to see what, if anything needed to be done.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

The following 32 members were not at the present submitted proxy votes

Victoria Benning, Ian Benning, Robert Daly, Eugene Augustin, Jane Johnson, Andrew Johnson, Sue Gallagher, Sue Hill, Tony Groom, Paul Valentine, Paul Morgan, Andy Ackrell, Neil Record, Caroline O'Connor, Alison Rae, Alan Hely, Ali Thorburn, Nicholas Baikie, Jonathan Slack, Anna Bacon, Helen Roberts, Carol Record, Ian Martin, John Paten, Margaret Shelley, David Johnson, Riyad Tibi, Lin Wilson, Roger Penlington, Ann Dunn, Jill Williams