

**Minutes Sussex Squash and Racketball Committee Meeting held at the Weald SC on
Tuesday 3rd May 2011 at 7.30PM**

Attendees

Chris Markham(CM), Paul Millman (PM) Chair, Karl Manning (KM) Fiona Western(FW), John Millard (JM) Mick Sheeran (MS) Mike Tonge (MT) and Simon Tunley (ST)

Apologise

Paul Fennell ESR (PF) and Ian Robinson (IR)

	Action
<p>1. <u>Matters Arising from minutes of last meeting 15th March 2011</u></p> <p>Minutes accepted. ST to chase up ladies captain for the women's senior county team. ST provided feedback on meeting with Active Sussex (see appendix A below for notes of the meeting)and the potential to access Sportivate funding. The next deadline to apply is still to be confirmed as the original one has now passed. The committee agreed that we should put bids in for clubs if they guarantee to buy into the scheme and its process, especially as in recent times clubs have shown a lot of lethargy in regards wanting to access funds. PM thought that approaching clubs directly with the option to bid seemed to be the best way forward. It was felt that more discussion was needed on this and perhaps to be raised at the AGM.</p>	ST
<p>2. <u>Website</u></p> <p>KM stated he had written to Berkshire about them potentially buying our system. He stated he provided the option now to clubs to be able to enter more details on the website about their members including date of birth and ESR membership number. He also has resolved the issue of players playing out of rank order. There was a discussion about fixing the date to change rankings during the season to fit with the calendar month ending rather than a few days after, most felt this made sense. KM to action. KM confirmed the system could now integrate people in different sections of the LMIS i.e. if they play in both the junior and men's leagues via their ESR membership number. KM keen for clubs to update their members data via their fixture secretaries. A discussion ensued about whether a person must have an ESR number against them on the system if they are to play in the leagues and the majority agreed this should be the case for all leagues. CM/FW to confirm this with clubs at the fixture meeting in June.</p>	KM CM/FW
<p>3. <u>Senior and Junior County Closed Events</u></p> <p>ST to contact Ben Hutton to confirm he is happy to run these events and agree dates.</p>	ST
<p>4. <u>Development Plans -Focus clubs.</u></p> <p>MT discussed email he sent to the committee on the 29th April 2011. He confirmed there were three key action points. 1. How to carry the Sussex forum forward; 2. Organise a coaches forum and thirdly feedback on the funding bids that were approved. MT is keen to host the next Sussex forum after the AGM to guarantee attendance from the majority of clubs, all seemed happy with this as long as the AGM was not too prolonged. MT confirmed there was still an issue on confirming a date for the coaches workshop however all agreed he should go with the 17th July so people get this in their diaries as early as possible. MT to speak with JM and Graeme Williams to confirm the content of the workshop, which will probably be hosted at the University of Sussex. MT provided feedback on bids five are underway or about to start. DM about to start; Bluecoats started; Crowborough have finished their programme involving mini squash in schools and have had around 5 new</p>	MT MT

	Action
<p>juniors join the club. MT raised the issue of Crawley SC and the fact they felt aggrieved that their bid was turned down even though their application did not meet the criteria set. They were after further funding for coaches to move to level 2 although not clear why the level 2 qualification will make a difference in getting more participants playing, especially as level 1 qualification would suffice in regards working with beginners of all ages. Committee agreed that their bid could be used to upgrade coaching qualifications and MT to feedback to the club on this and source funding from CM. MT confirmed he still needed to get feedback from Middleton/Lewes on their bids and if they were to be taken any further.</p>	MT
<p>Discussion was had on the lack of coaches in the county who were able to work amongst a number of clubs and there was a concern that some coaches were spreading themselves very thinly. It was agreed that ST was to contact the nine coaches who had funding from SSR for their level one to find out what they had been doing coaching wise at their various clubs; it was agreed this had to be a paramount requirement when future coaching bursaries are awarded.</p>	ST
<p>Sportivate funding was discussed again in the context of junior development and MT agreed to focus on the key clubs such as DM, Bluecoats, Littlehampton, Crowborough and Chichester and encourage them to submit bids. FW stated about finding out Chichester's commitment to Sussex for next season if they are to be supported with future bids and funds. PM agreed to write to the club to see what their plans are for next year in regards leagues for all age groups.</p>	MT PM
<p>ST stated it might be worth looking at clubs in decline such as Brighton Squash Club who are in a perfect position to provide squash for 14-25 year olds due to their location within a large number of secondary schools, however there is a need for someone in the club to take the lead. ST also mentioned that the University of Sussex is keen to put a bid in to encourage more students to take up the game from the higher education sector as again they fit the criteria and also there is the potential to get more girls playing the game. ST will be looking to put a bid in.</p>	
<p>5. <u>Treasurers Report</u></p>	
<p>CM discussed criteria for any future coaching bursaries. ST agreed to draw up a form so candidates could apply based on clear guidelines and get the committee to sign off. CM to confirm an annual budget allocation for coaching bursaries.</p>	ST
<p>CM confirmed main budget was on track although the development fund spent less than money allocated to it, which is a concern as a proportion was provided by ESR. Comments were made on perhaps spending more money on getting more coaches out working in the county.</p>	
<p>CM was keen to set budgets for next season; it was agreed as discussed at the last meeting to cut the county team racketball budget and the figure of £500 was agreed as this team is not such a priority and it should not be about buying success. CM asked the question about fixing an agreed sum to subsidise the junior account as it has consistently needed extra money each year to support teams that have been successful. ST suggested looking at the average spend over the last few years and put in a notional sum for 2011/12 to cover any extra expenditure required by the junior teams.</p>	CM
<p>There was a discussion about the unspent money in the junior development account and how best used. Examples mentioned were discounted extra fees for the junior league; best player of the year award nominated by each club to get a prize.</p>	

<p>Committee agreed to discuss and work out how we might add value.</p> <p>MT mentioned about us running a racketball county closed and all agreed this was a good idea and just needed to agree a good time to run such an event.</p> <p>6. <u>Leagues inc Juniors</u></p> <p>FW confirm she was hosting a ladies knock out cup at Corals on the 8th May which six teams had entered. She confirmed teams were happy with the format of the leagues for next season.</p> <p>Junior leagues going ok although there was a discussion on trying to avoid rearranged fixtures as it seemed to be becoming an issue. MS confirmed West Worthing were back on track in regards having a junior committee to help run their junior teams and leagues.</p> <p>MT confirmed racketball league went well although looking at maybe scrapping the doubles next season and replace with another singles match (5 singles only).</p> <p>It was confirmed that there would be just one application form next season covering both the men's, women's and the racketball league; this will be sent out by CM.</p> <p>7. <u>AOB</u></p> <p>It was agreed that the fixture meeting would be on the 2nd June 2011 at the Triangle Burgess Hill. CM/FW to contact clubs on this</p> <p>The AGM/fixture meeting is to be held on the 14th July 2011 at 7pm again at the Triangle. The meeting will be followed the coaches forum chaired by MT. ST to let clubs know</p> <p>ST to chase Tim Vail on county results.</p> <p>Next committee meeting to be held on the 20th September 2011 at the Weald SC.</p>	<p></p> <p>CM/FW</p> <p>CM/FW</p> <p>ST</p> <p>ST</p> <p>ST</p>
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Summary of Action points

Simon

1. To finalise captain for the ladies senior team#
2. To check with BH about the county closed events and the dates
3. To contact all those who received a coaching bursary to check where they are ta with their coaching and what coaching they have done since and where?
4. To design a form so people can apply for coaching bursaries in the future
5. To contact TV on the results of the county weekend
6. To let clubs know the date of the AGM
7. Book Weald for next meeting

Karl

1. To follow up letter to Berkshire about possible purchasing of our online league system
2. Liaise with CM on updating rules and any changes for the fixture meetings coming up
3. To change ranking date to a calendar month

Mike Tonge

1. To inform all clubs about the next squash forum to be held post the AGM
2. To liaise GW/JM about content of the coaching workshop and advertising to all
3. Confirm with Crawley SC that their bid can be used for subsidising coaching courses.
4. To continue chasing Middleton about their bid
5. To contact the key clubs about bidding for Sportivate funding.

Paul Millman

1. PM to write/email Chichester about their plans for next season in regards Sussex leagues.

Chris Markham

1. To check rules on website and prepare thoughts for next meeting in regards the ranking and ghost rules.
2. To set budgets for 2011/12 based on discussions at the meeting
3. To draw up application for entry into the leagues to include both men's, women's and racketball teams
4. To inform Clubs about all members needing to update their players info on the website and that all must have an ESR number if they are to play in the leagues.

Fiona Western

1. To try and help find a captain for the ladies 040 county team
2. To inform Clubs about all members needing to update their players info on the website and that all must have an ESR number if they are to play in the leagues.

John Millard/Paul Fennell

1. Look at supporting MT on getting Middleton and Lewes back on track with their bids and also looking at how Sportivate can be best used with the clubs that were highlighted above.

Appendix A

- Universities - Assist in connecting better to Universities (mainly Brighton/Chichester as Sussex link strong) to encourage take up by students. Noted already part of Freshers' Fairs.
- Sportivate – submit bids for various projects e.g. girls/women, students, school years 10/11. Jo Irving to ensure SSR receive notice of any reopening of applications.
- Coach Sussex – Anthony Statham, Coaching Development Manager, to contact John Millard to offer support through Coach Sussex.
- Communications – SSR to send through any local news/information suitable for monthly enews bulletin to Sussex Network, or for webpage/Twitter/Facebook.
- Sussex Sports Awards – SSR to encourage nominations amongst its network.
- Volunteers – SSR to be mindful of the opportunities to recruit volunteers via Active Sussex Volunteer Scheme and upcoming Sport Maker programme.
- Funding – noted the NGB prepares excellent funding bulletins. Inspired Facilities Fund will be an opportunity in July to look at multi-sport facilities that need modernising/upgrading.
- Workplace Health Programme – Simon to contact Donna Imrie who manages the programme on behalf of Active Sussex, with a view to offering a squash or racketball competition to businesses. Donna's email address is donna@active-solutions.co.uk

Paul F – It's likely that I'll receive a new delivery plan template from Sport England at some point, given that the CSP core specification to NGBs has been tweaked. You may also have additional priorities that you want to add to the above. I'll transfer the points outlined above with any you may have, onto a new template and get it to you for signing off presumably.

Perhaps we can meet again in six months time to touch base and identify any other opportunities to work together? In the mean time, we look forward to receiving your Sportivate bids!