



## Sussex Squash and Racketball Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 14 May 2024 1930  
Zoom

| Attendees                  |    | Apologies           |     |
|----------------------------|----|---------------------|-----|
| Simon Tunley (Chair)       | ST | Julian Barker-Danby | JBD |
| John Davenport (Secretary) |    |                     |     |
| Karl Manning               | KM |                     |     |
| Paul Millman               | PM |                     |     |
| Steve Holliday             | SH |                     |     |
| Helen Perris               | HP |                     |     |
| Chris Markham              | CM |                     |     |
| Benetta Adamson            | BA |                     |     |
| Joe Isherwood              | Jl |                     |     |
| Fahad Khalid               | FK |                     |     |

| Item       | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Action  |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>1.0</b> | <b>Apologies</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |         |
| 1.1        | As above.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |         |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b>Previous minutes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |         |
| 2.1        | Previous minutes were agreed.<br>Outstanding actions: ST to chase LW for outstanding fees.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | ST      |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>Matters arising:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |         |
| 3.1        | <b>Brighton Racquets Festival:</b> ST advised that Brighton Racquets Festival is scheduled 04-06/06 and that he is engaging with Noah Meredith (NM) to host sessions at Withdean. Sessions are likely to be for groups of ~12. NM has racquets but needs help with goggles. ST to lend goggles (underwritten by JI!). JI is helping out on one or two of the three days. ST and JI to finalise arrangements with NM.                                                                                                                                                | ST & JI |
| 3.2        | <b>Brighton collaboration:</b> JI advised that Freedom Leisure are not very collaborative and are charging full fees for the Graded tournaments. JI is liaising with their General Manager, Ross, regarding the resolution of the sunlight issue affecting courts at Withdean.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Jl      |
| 3.3        | <b>Junior coaching:</b> reach is limited by coach availability at the moment. Michael Chester (MC) has recently attained L2 qualification and is engaging with Jon Merrick to try to establish a presence at Cooden. He is also supporting SH at Lewes, along with another coach. JI reported that coaching is going well at Weald, with numbers growing. Funding training for juniors looking to take their first steps into coaching was also discussed. JI is funding some DBS checks for coaches. Fewer safeguarding courses are available for 16-17 year olds. |         |
| 3.4        | <b>Funding:</b> ST has engaged Sadie Mason regarding Active Sussex funding opportunities – ST to follow up and update SH and HP.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ST      |

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|     | HP advised that the Gatwick Trust funding application is complicated and she hasn't had time to progress this.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | HP       |
| 3.5 | <b>Comms:</b> Existing Zoom account to be cancelled. It was advised that the <a href="mailto:sussexcountycoaching@sussexsquash.org.uk">sussexcountycoaching@sussexsquash.org.uk</a> e-mail address runs out on 25/01/25. This will need renewing.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | CM<br>KM |
| 4.0 | <b>Leagues Update</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |          |
| 4.1 | <b>Unfulfilled fixtures:</b> some fixtures were not fulfilled late in the season and claims have been made for costs incurred. Some are valid (cancelled within 72hrs but some not, e.g. Crawley's claim against Nutley with 1 week of notice).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |          |
| 4.2 | <b>League competitiveness:</b> JD suggested that it was inappropriate that someone with a Squash Level (SL) >3000 should be able to play in Division 4. Measures to improve the competitiveness/fairness of the divisions were discussed, including introduction of SL limits per division. It was agreed that any rule change proposals would be added to the agenda for the League meeting – CM/JBD to add to agenda. Carrying over of ghosting into the new season and reviewing the limits on games played per half season were also discussed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | CM/JBD   |
| 5.0 | <b>Sussex Development</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |          |
|     | HP referenced the previously issued document that provided updates on initiatives and progress made.<br>Junior League completed and was successful – format to be reviewed and plans initiated for repeating this next season. The standard was typically sub-bronze standard, and discretionary service line concessions were made to promote fun.<br>The girls only event at West Worthing was also successful, though hard to organise.<br>The challenge of outreach was discussed again. Ideally we would be able to reach out into schools, but our capacity to arrange events/programmes is limited by the coaching capacity. Some coaching is undertaken independently of Sussex at Bede's (NM), Worth (Curtis Malik) and possibly others, though it was noted that those with professional careers themselves cannot necessarily commit with the regularity that schools require.<br>Potentially offerings could be made at a Sussex level providing sufficient coaching cover could be arranged between multiple coaches.<br>JD offered to provide Bede's details to SH & HP to open discussions. | JD       |
| 6.0 | <b>County Squads</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |          |
|     | SH advised that some tweaks are being proposed for next season – feedback has been invited from coaches. It is likely that there will be four grades next season to allow better differentiation between standards.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |          |
| 7.0 | <b>Tournaments</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |          |
| 7.1 | The popularity of tournaments was discussed. JI is keen to repeat the Grand Prix event, though potentially not linked as a series.<br>JD highlighted the successful graded tournaments hosted at David Lloyd Eastbourne, West Worthing, Weald, Dunnings and Brighton. These are marketed through CM Stringers ( <a href="https://www.cmstringers.com/entry/">https://www.cmstringers.com/entry/</a> ) (Joe Magor).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |          |

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|             | Coordination of the calendar of squash tournaments, including England Aspire training and graded tournaments was discussed. JD to consolidate a single schedule for the 24-25 season.<br>BA and HP to arrange for comms to be issued regarding the schedule for junior tournaments.                                                                                                | JD<br>BA & HP |
| <b>8.0</b>  | <b>Committee Organisation Structure</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |               |
| 8.1         | The following org structure changes were confirmed:<br>League Organiser: CM→JBD<br>Treasurer: CM→HP<br>Secretary: ST→JD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |               |
| <b>9.0</b>  | <b>Treasury Update</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |               |
| 9.1         | CM provided an update: overspent on Juniors vs income from squads by ~£2k. Not much of the Development grant spent yet. Should break even with affiliation rebates, which are to be checked.                                                                                                                                                                                       | CM            |
| <b>10.0</b> | <b>Meetings</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |               |
| 10.1        | Provisional dates for the following meetings were proposed:<br>League meeting: 27/06 at Uni of Sussex<br>AGM: 18/07 at Dolphin (CM to confirm).<br>JD to issue invitations.                                                                                                                                                                                                        | CM<br>JD      |
| <b>11.0</b> | <b>Website</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |               |
| 11.1        | Nothing raised.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |               |
| <b>12.0</b> | <b>County Teams</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |               |
| 12.1        | Sussex were crowned Senior Champions! Thanks to Camron Malik for putting together a team at short notice. Over 55s came 2 <sup>nd</sup> in Stage 1 and are playing for 11 <sup>th</sup> . ST confirmed that comps are run in 5yr bandings. The rate limiting factor in entering more teams is having enough willing and available captains. To be discussed at the League Meeting. | ST            |
| <b>13.0</b> | <b>England Squash matters</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |               |
| 13.1        | ST mentioned forthcoming changes to ES affiliation (individual instead of through clubs).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |               |
| <b>14.0</b> | <b>AOB</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |               |
| 14.1        | Jl advised that Sarah Gilbert is coaching at the Triangle.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |               |
| 14.2        | It was agreed that the next Committee meeting will be scheduled for Tues 10/09. JD to issue invitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | JD            |