

**Minutes Sussex Squash and Racketball Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 at 7.30PM Zoom Meeting**

**Attendees**

Simon Tunley (ST), Bill Jefferies (BJ) Karl Manning (KM), Chris Markham(CM), Lee Wicks (LW)

**Apologise**

Paul Millman (PM), Stephen Holliday (SH), Kelly Eastment (KE), Camron Malik (CRM)

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>1. <u>Apologies</u></b></p> <p><b><u>2 &amp; 3 Matters Arising from minutes of last meeting 7th December 2021</u></b></p> <p>LW needs to set up thanks giving account again for GS money as was closed and money returned to donors as not realised it had a closing date. CM to chase CRM on sponsorship money</p> <p><b>4 <u>Leagues</u></b></p> <p>CM stated mens progressing ok relatively straight forward and hassle free. An issue with one match before xmas that did not happen due to omicron and in the end given as a walkover as only fair in the circumstances. Need to make a decision on ghost player rule however this season not included due to the reduced matches. Will probably delay for this season and KM can do on the LMS. CM to send reminder to KM. Womens league still needs to be addressed and looked at and suggest to focus now on next season KE. We are struggling with getting a womens county team</p> <p>LW stated positive response on junior leagues looking at north and south leagues. He has spoken with KE and West worthing will host south matches and Dolphin the north matches in March. Look to go through the summer doing a match each month focus on the players who tend not to play in the junior tournaments. Look for every club to host. Try and look to include junior county. Teams are Nutley, Acorns, Hove, Crawley, Bluecoats, West Worthing, Lewes, Middleton and Chichester. CM has received entry fees from some of the clubs already and will be contacting other clubs for their entries. May look for next season to create a premier league for the bigger clubs.</p> <p><b>5. <u>Business League Updates</u></b></p> <p>BJ mentioned business league is happening and most first half matches have happened. BJ Graeme is keen to set up again for next season</p> <p><b>6. <u>Junior County Squads</u></b></p> <p>Feedback from LW was a really positive result for the junior county teams at Nottingham. Aim now is to get the closed competition running this summer. LW mentioned we will struggle on the girls side as numbers as low with no U11. LW</p>	<p><b>LW</b></p> <p><b>CM KE</b></p>

mentioned probably scope to hold a girls event to try and recruit more girls using Kelly and Torrie and possibly Isobel Boyle.

LW confirmed the feeder squad went well and a great success and runs again at Bluecoats with Kit. Thought on a north and south feeder squad. CRM to send list and money for those who attended at K2 on Sunday. Eight turned up the the A/B squads and Ben still running ok. Look to review U11 festival in 22/23 and Isobel Boyle has agreed to help run.

Lee sent around a flow chart showing his thinking on the squash offer in Sussex. LW mentioned coaches seemed to be working in silos and thinks we need to agree a set of objectives to help underpin the squash delivery in Sussex. LW stated there are so many relationships that need ironing out and also we need to be clear on what our expectations are for the county coaches. CM agreed the chart reflected the present picture however the biggest issue is funding and the fact players are not prepared to pay for the county squad coaching. LW/BJ agreed we need to go back to basics and review what resources we have to commit based on budget constraints. ( See appendix for flow chart)

### **7. Safeguarding and DBS**

ST stated we should be looking at making sure coaches are qualified with a DBS or safeguarding qualification. ST to contact ES to find out what is required now to coach both at a club and for the county.

### **8. Budget**

CM mentioned fair chunk of the costs are around county teams however not played their matches yet. Junior side income has come in and looking ok however still awaiting costs and also some players still need to pay. Made a loss on the development side. Any levy taken this year needs to go towards next year. We are in a surplus position however still have costs to go out particularly on the development side. Satellite programme not so cost effective. CM to chase CRM for sponsorship money

**CM**

### **9. Sussex Development**

See appendix 1 for the reports on development. LW mentioned there is another meeting week and coaches not keen to use the ES app which supports the regional funding; this could impact on funding. LW keen to update the coaching list on the Sussex website so relevant and usable. LW to work with Coaching group.

**LW**

### **10. Social Media Update**

Going ok and being used wherever possible

### **11. Website**

KM stated a quiet season so far and no news is good news.

<p><b>12. <u>Senior County Teams Entered/Womens Captain</u></b></p> <p>LW has kindly managed to get a squad together for the womens match this week although squad numbers limited. Ollie Pett will skipper and organise the mens team in April</p> <p><b>13. <u>England Squash Matters</u></b></p> <p>PM has mentioned regional rebate is likely to be reduced which will impact on Chris supporting the county potentially going forward</p> <p><b>14. <u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>BJ mentioned may have a womens team next season at Lewes and Chris mentioned he still has fees from 3 womens teams who have entered, which would make sense to carry over to next season. Next Meeting 12/4/22 7.30pm on Zoom ST to book</p>	<p><b>ST</b></p>
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**Summary of Action points**

Kelly Eastment

1. To create list of clubs and try and add key contacts and champions of the clubs to try and build stronger relationships with the junior county squads.
2. To work with ST on contacting the womens teams about triangular league matches for next season

Simon Tunley

1. To book next committee meeting

Chris Markham

1. To speak to CRM so he can claim sponsorship offered

Lee Wicks

1. To send just giving link to KE as needs to set up again
2. To send updated coaching data base to Karl to hopefully upload to our website

Karl Manning

1. To work with LW on uploading coaches database to the website



## Appendix 1

### **Sussex County Development Officer – Kelly Eastment**

#### **December 2021 report – Coronavirus lockdown**

##### **Actions taken so far**

- Development meeting and circulating both minutes and sending out reminders previously
- Sussex committee meeting
- Satellite programme – liaising with schools, trying to organise final school and sending links for finished programmes
- Liaising with LW regarding ideas for county communication and ways to push forward in the new year – will meet in new year to brainstorm and put together an action plan
- Liaising with PS ref satellite programmes
- Liaising with CM ref satellite programmes and funding
- Phone call with CV ref funding and schools

##### **My view**

- Coaches seem happy to be back and keen for adults return and full play
- I feel I am continuing to build connections with a lot of coaches and clubs with this leading to people coming to me much more for help, guidance and meetings
- Feeling confident we have a good team of coaches to push the schools and Squash Stars programme to success following the setup
- I feel moral has dipped recently with changes in Sussex and the next steps will be very crucial for how everyone moves forward
- Video meetings seem to gain a lot more attendance than previous face-to-face meetings and starting to receive more 'apologies' from those missing meetings and also getting some feedback from those who cannot attend so I can bring these to the meeting

**Kelly Eastment**

### **Sussex Squash Coaches Zoom Meeting – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Attending:** Kelly Eastment, Chris Vine, Stephen Holliday, Lee Wicks, Camron Malik, Neil Cooper

**Apologies** –Phil Stoneham

**Current Status:**

**Important Note:**

- Since we have returned to squash a decline has been noticed in club/coach/county communication
- If coaches/clubs could please let KE know if you cannot make the meeting and preferably send an update, it is important as a county we know how everywhere is doing so we know if anywhere needs help or to celebrate when places are doing well
- If you have tournaments, events or groups running at your club we can share posters and information on our county social media accounts which could help with your numbers
- If you are working with schools, please let KE know so we can make a note, celebrate the fact and even link this with the Squash Stars programme we have put together as a county
- Overall, let's not lose our communication. It is great how well we can work as a unit!

### **Satellite/Schools/Squash Stars catch-up:**

- Last school to book in but in communication now
- Really positive feedback from the schools

### **Kelly Eastment:**

- Club nights continue to increase in participants
- Doubles tournament on 11<sup>th</sup> Dec was really well attended and lots of positive feedback
- Racketball tournament planned for 12<sup>th</sup> Feb
- Drills night saw high number of attendees
- Christmas activity camps

### **Phil Stoneham**

- Hove Park Satellite programme completed 4 sessions at school and now heads to the club, great feedback so far
- PS currently runs 2 sessions Squash57 on a Wed & Fri mainly for beginners
- PS will be running a session on Friday in the new year to hopefully gain more participants
- Hove Club working with a number of schools
- Junior club night Wednesday at 5pm
- Junior groups Saturday 10-12.30pm.

### **Stephen Holliday**

- Holding off on new sessions for new year to see what happens with announcements
- Seen a decline in numbers in the last couple of weeks in all the sessions since announcements started

### **Lee Wicks**

- Been busy with the interactive wall but has been taking some great ideas from other clubs bhe is visiting

### **Camron Malik**

- Weald dropped to 3 at the start of winter but Curtis has not picked that up to 11
- K2 seeing high numbers along to the sessions
- K2 ladies sessions still running well
- K2 looking at starting sessions for home school students

### **Neil Cooper**

- NC running Sunday sessions
- Jack doing a mid-week session free/cheap with the view to getting new members which has been going well

### **Chris Vine**

- England Squash meeting to discuss how to engage more directly with the counties  
Any ideas on the above please pass on to CV

### **Funding**

- Funding needs to be spent by March 2022
- £1.5k for each county via South East Forum
- Funding is to be spent for people to run one of the events on the England Squash app where names etc need to be added

- Need to hit a minimum of 80 on the app as a county by March 2022
- If you would like to run a Junior 101 or Ladies Squash57/101 session and receive some funding please put together a proposal of what you would like to run, what funding you would like and what it would be going towards via email to KE

**County Junior Admin**

- County Closed has not yet happened
- A/B squad will run before intercounties in January
- LW looking at ways to improve communication within county, KE and LW will meet in the new year to work on this together
- LW idea for county coach to go out to clubs to see what/who is out there

**Copy of Flow chart from Lee Wicks showing a mind map of Sussex Squash Present and Future Offer**

