

## FULFORD LADIES' INVITATION TENNIS LEAGUE



Proud to support Breast Cancer Research



### **Minutes of Annual General Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024** **Fulfordgate Working Men's Club 7.30pm**

1. Present: Appleton Roebuck, Bishopthorpe, Boston Spa, Bubwith, Copmanthorpe, David Lloyd, Dunnington, Fulford, Heworth, Knaresborough, New Earswick, Poppleton, Riccall, Rowntree Park, Rufforth, Stamford Bridge, Starbeck, Sutton-upon-Derwent, Wigginton, Wilberfoss, Wistow, York

Apologies: Cliffe, Tollerton

Not in attendance: Pocklington, Wetherby

2. The minutes of the AGM held in 2023 were agreed.

3. (a)**Chairs report** – Laura Rhodes. LR thanked everyone for attending. Reflecting on last season, LR commented that too many matches had been rearranged, and urged all clubs to adhere to the published fixture list. LR reminded all clubs to submit 'special requests' for changes to the published fixture list, (community events that take place each year and make fulfilling a fixture difficult) to the committee for approval. Once they have been approved, clubs are asked to reschedule that specific fixture and advise the match secretary of the new date. Events that had gone particularly well were the pink weekend, which raised over £1000 for the Breast Cancer Research charity. In addition to this, two raffles held at the AGM and the presentation evening, meant a total of around £1200 was donated to the charity, from the league.

(b)**Treasurers report** – Laura Rhodes. LR informed the meeting that fees would be collected this year but would remain at last year's cost of £8.00 per team. The bank balance is stable and healthy, but we have lost our sponsor, Suitable Sporty who gave £100 per year. LR asked if anyone knew of any business or individual who would like to sponsor the league, to be in touch with her. In the meantime, we will replace the sponsors logo with information about the charity the league supports – Breast Cancer Research.

(c)**Results Secretary** – Ellie Wilkinson. EW thanked everyone for making her job easier by getting results in on time. EW had put the provisional fixtures on the website, and advised they were provisional depending on the outcome of several items that were to be discussed during the meeting. EW asked that everyone check the details of the fixtures and alert her to any changes needing to be made regarding start times etc. Any committee approved changes should be organised between captains and EW to be advised as soon as possible.

Please contact EW using

[ladiesresults@yorktennisleague.co.uk](mailto:ladiesresults@yorktennisleague.co.uk)

All nominated players details must be with EW no later than 1 week prior to the start of the season. If EW has not received these, the rule of the first 3 players on the first completed scorecard will be applied.

- (d) **Secretary report** – Claire Fuller. CF thanked all clubs for their communications in updating contact details, and their communication throughout the season, generally. Please email CF with any updates to captains' contacts using [info@yorktennisleague.co.uk](mailto:info@yorktennisleague.co.uk), no later than Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. List will be circulated straight away, following this deadline. CF asked if anyone saw any errors in the contact details to let her know so she could rectify them. As last, year please DO NOT send any changes to home days or times, additions, or withdrawals of teams to this inbox. These need to go directly to the Results Secretary using this email address, [ladiesresults@yorktennisleague.co.uk](mailto:ladiesresults@yorktennisleague.co.uk) CF advised she would monitor the inbox on Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the season, so please be patient for a response. CF advised that minutes of meetings would not be emailed to clubs, these would be posted onto the website.

**CF away from Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.**

4.

**Election of Officers:**

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
Chair	Laura Rhodes	Sutton-upon-Derwent	York
Treasurer	Nicola Graham	Bishophthorpe	Poppleton
Results Secretary	Ellie Wilkinson	Knaresborough	Appleton Roebuck
Secretary	Claire Fuller	Bishophthorpe	Heworth

All candidates were voted in unanimously

**5. Competitions**

No club offered to host any of the competitions this year. LR asked if clubs could consider if this is something they could get involved in, and to let her or any committee member know.

**6. Fees**

Fees for the coming season were agreed as £8.00 per team entering the league. Payable ahead of the season starting.

**7. Proposed amendments to rules**

- (a) Proposed by APPLETON ROEBUCK TENNIS CLUB;

We would like to propose an amendment to rule 13 of the Ladies League Rules.

This is as a result of a couple of occasions, in our experience, where a tennis coach has played in Division 5 and 6 matches. For example, Appleton Roebuck's ladies 1st team in Division 5 played a match where a coach was playing for the opposition's 3rd team. Whilst it is an experience to play against such strong players, it does significantly affect the result of the match.

*Rule 13 currently states:*

*"Clubs with a county player can only play for their first team, regardless of which division they are in. County players are those who have been selected to represent a County team in the current season."*

*I would like to propose that we extend this rule in some way The simplest amendment would be:*

*"A county player, or professional coach can only play for their club's first team, regardless of which division they are in."*

LR invited a representative from Appleton Roebuck club to speak regarding their proposed amendment. To clarify, AR wanted to remove the word 'coach' from the proposal and for a more generic term relating to 'strong players' playing in divisions much lower than their ability, to be considered. A long discussion followed, clubs understood the difficulty when players who are of a much higher standard are asked to help out in a lower team, and various options for combatting it happening, were floated. LR will summarise these options and circulate them for clubs to be able to give them full consideration, in good time for next year's AGM.

As a result of the discussion, Appleton Roebuck withdrew their proposal in full, to support LR circulating ideas and collecting feedback.

## **8. Applications for membership**

Sutton-on-Derwent 2

York 4

No objections were raised to these teams being entered into Division 7, **carried**.

Unfortunately, Sheriff Hutton have had to take the difficult decision of withdrawing from the league. York 1 requested to be able to play on a Friday evening for their home matches. The reason being an additional team entering the league meant managing court time was more difficult, some courts were currently needing attention and they had to consider keeping all members happy, not just those that play for teams. A discussion followed regarding their request, as primarily the league is a weekend league (Saturday and Sunday), which resulted in a vote. **FOR** allowing York 1 to play their home matches on a Friday evening = 26. **AGAINST** allowing York 1 to play their home matches on a Friday evening = 12. **Request granted.**

## **9. Formation of divisions**

This information is now available to view on the website, accommodating 2 new teams entering the league in Division 7 and one team withdrawing from the league (Division 6 last season).

## **10. Sponsorship**

The league is looking for new sponsorship.

## **11. Pink Weekend**

This shall be held over the weekend of 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> July. Please support the event, which raises money for Breast Cancer Research, by dressing in pink items, holding a pink raffle, maybe having a glass of pink fizz! Please take photos, with consent. We shall be using a Just Giving page again this year.