

Gerrards Cross Squash Club

Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting

held on 10th June 1996 at the Memorial Centre

Present: K Hewison (Chairman) and 15 members

1) Apologies for Absence :

Apologies for absence were received from R Crosbie, E Hoare, P Hogan and M de Semlyen.

2) Minutes of the 1995 AGM :

The minutes of the 1995 AGM were adopted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

3) Chairman's Report :

The Chairman reported that the Committee had continued to ensure that the Club provided good quality squash facilities in well maintained premises at a highly competitive membership fee.

He welcomed the valuable contribution of David Evans who had replaced Peter Crown as House representative, the continuing efforts of the secretary and was especially pleased to report that Nick Lees would remain as Treasurer for another year. Whilst on the subject of committee membership, he stressed the importance of injecting new blood and ideas and urged members to consider standing on the committee in whatever capacity they could manage.

He reported that the need to attract new members continues and that the Committee had expended considerable energies in this direction over the past year.

Thanks were expressed to Anita and Richard Crosbie for once more organising successful and highly enjoyable Handicap Tournaments. These tournaments are an opportunity to mix socially with other club members as well as providing the chance for us lower league players to cause an upset by beating the higher ranked players.

He finished by thanking the Committee for assisting him in his role and wishing the membership another year of enjoyable squash.

4) Treasurer's Report :

The audited accounts for the year ending in September 1995 were presented by the Treasurer (attached). This year's accounts show a deficit of income over expenditure, mainly due to increased expenditure on repairs and maintenance following the recent work on the court walls. Income from subscriptions was down whilst that from court bookings was up. The level of membership has been a major point of concern for the Committee over the past year. However, the Club's overall financial position remains relatively healthy with a current account of around £10K.

5) Appointment of Club Auditors :

The accounts of Messrs Nunn, Brown and Dales were accepted unanimously.

It was reported that Nunn Brown and Dales (who audited the accounts) should be referred to as Honorary Accountants rather than auditors in order that the club continue to receive their services free of charge (a saving of £600). It was proposed that the Honorary Accountants be offered honorary corporate membership of the club in appreciation of their services. The motion was proposed by Andrew Royal, seconded by David Rose and accepted by all present.

The Honorary Accountants were thanked for their efforts and were proposed for reappointment by N Lees, seconded by K Hewison and passed by a majority vote.

6) Membership Report :

The Secretary reported that the current level of membership is once more down on that reported at the previous AGM with the most alarming reduction showing in the adult category. There have been several recent applications from ex-members of the Wexham Park club which has just closed down. The club has invested in a mail-shot of 600 leaflets via the New Neighbours scheme which delivers local information to people moving into the area.

The current figures for membership are as follows :

	1995-96	1994-95	1993-94	1992-93
Adult	99	108	110	111
Family	18	20	24	30
Under-25	6	8	9	6
Junior/Student	21	12	18	20
Corporate	20	15	23	7
Non-playing	-	4	6	4
Life member	7	5	5	5

Corporate membership is still popular and is a possible target for growth. The following organisations are currently involved :

Hitachi Data Systems
RWS Translations
Trebor Bassett

The courts have been made available to South Buckinghamshire District Council for a Sports Fun week running from 5th - 9th August to promote various sporting activities to young children. Some daytime courts will be unavailable for booking during this week. The courts were also hired once more by St Mary's School for the tuition of pupils.

Members of Bojangles have been granted permission to use the changing rooms during off-peak periods for a monthly fee.

7) House Secretary's Report :

The maintenance work on the court front walls discussed at the previous AGM had been carried out was considered to be successful. Inspections of the Club's plumbing and electrical supply were in the process of being organised along with various minor maintenance matters.

Generally, the fabric of the Club was considered to be in good condition. There was a discussion on the overriding of the court lights and the peak/off-peak times which the Committee would monitor.

John Mayfield suggested the provision of a chilled water fountain which the Committee agreed to investigate.

8) Captain's Report :

Nick Hallchurch reported that the 1st team had won the 2nd division of the Summer League. Final results were still awaited for the Winter competition for both 1st and 2nd teams. Maintaining two teams had been difficult with the departure of several key players.

He thanked Dave White for running the 2nd team and reported that a Vets team was playing in the Summer League under Mike de Semlyen.

Due to the increased number of ladies now playing at the Club, the Committee was considering re-instigating the Ladies Tournament.

9) Junior Secretary's Report :

David Colwill reported that the Sunday afternoon coaching sessions had run throughout the winter with a beginners group being started towards the end of the season. Occasional Saturday afternoon sessions were run by Jenny Brown.

A team was entered in Division 3 of the county leagues and had achieved good results, winning 4 matches from 8.

The Christmas match between the Juniors and a Chairman's select team was re-instated with the Juniors achieving a narrow victory.

The Junior Championship result were as follows:

Category	Winner	Runner-up
Under 12	James Roberts	retained trophy (only entrant)
Under 14	Gareth John	Richard Colwill
Under 16	Toby Francis	Jeremy Baker
Under 19	Toby Francis	Jeremy Baker

The trophy for most improved player was awarded to Becky Franklin.
The Chairman expressed thanks to David Colwill for his efforts.

10) Subscriptions :

Following a debate about the club's finances and subscription levels D Sledge proposed that the fees be raised to £52 for adult membership and £78 for family membership to reflect the increases in membership of the Memorial Centre. The proposal was seconded by N Lees and passed by a majority vote.

11) Election of Club Officers :

The following Officers and Committee members were elected:

Chairman:	Ken Hewison
Secretary:	David Sledge
Treasurer:	Nick Lees
Club Captain:	Nick Hallchurch
Ladies Representative:	Anita Crosbie
House Member:	David Evans
League Secretary:	Andrew Royal
Junior Secretary:	David Colwill
Elected Member:	Pam Hogan

12) Any Other Business :

- ◆ There was a discussion regarding the relationship between the Memorial Centre and Bojangles fitness centre and how this might affect the Club. Tony Collins urged the Committee to attend the up-coming meeting at the Memorial Centre and to support the agreement between the two parties. The Committee declined to represent the membership on this issue, considering it to be a matter of individual choice, unless the outcome was likely to affect the Club.
- ◆ A Barn Dance is to be held during October in aid of the Cheshire Home. It is being organised by Pam Willis and details will be made available in the next Newsletter.
- ◆ Stuart Jaggard thanked the Committee for its efforts on behalf of the membership, both present and absent.
- ◆ David Sledge urged members and Committee to consider articles for submission to the September Newsletter in the vain hope that they might actually do so.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:24 pm.

D Sledge
Hon Secretary