

YORKSHIRE SQUASH & RACKETBALL COMMITTEE

Minutes of Yorkshire Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 9th June 2015 at York Squash Club

PRESENT

Gill Choyce (Secretary/ Women's ICC Teams) Mike Clemson (Chairman/Venues communicator) Marc Thomas (Y/L and Website) Steve Ridge (Junior IC teams) Mark Shipley (co-opted) Matt Stephenson (Men's IC teams) Nicky Horn (Grassroots Development Project) Angela Cwaczko (ESR Participation Manager) Adrian Etherington (Referees Promotor)

APOLOGIES

Peter Keen (Treasurer) Robert Field (co-opted)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting, held on April 13th 2015 were accepted.

ICC MENS and WOMENS TEAMS RESULTS

The Premier Finals were hosted by Nottingham and proved successful for both of the Yorkshire teams, the Men were runners up and the Women won.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thanks to Peter who had previously circulated his report. He requests any outstanding invoices to be submitted asap. It was agreed that the overspend of £762 on Grass Roots Development Project 1 be paid out of the YSRA account.

SPONSORSHIP

The committee expressed thanks to Assam Allan who has guaranteed £10K sponsorship for a further year, and who is considering our request for the sponsorship to be put on a three year rolling programme

GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Project 1 now completed.

Project 2 is underway; notes on the way forward were circulated. Nicky stressed that the main problem is the lack of coaches and therefore the aim now is to target those coaches who are able to deliver the programme to direct and focus on key areas- increased participation of juniors and females. The Project has been assessed with Nicky by Angela on behalf of ESR, who has approved the amendments made to the original specifications and the progress to date.

PROMOTION of JUNIOR SQUASH

Report on Development squad; Dave to be congratulated for his hard work throughout the season resulting in the many achievements outlined in his report.
ICC squad training proposal; Steve would seek funding from ESR Foundation with the aim of promoting coaching under an education banner. With part YSRA funding from the donation received to support the junior ICC squads, coaching schemes for Leaders, Levels 1 and 2 would be undertaken by junior ICC players and once qualified, they could assist Dave and Nicky in their roles.

Development Squad Plans and Budget 2015-16; It was agreed that an amount of £2k would be reserved against Dave's activities, to be called upon after the use of any funding from other sources. It was felt, however, that Dave's proposals needed more detailed discussion than was possible at this meeting, and it was agreed therefore that Mike should reconvene the Junior Committee

PROMOTION of REFEREEING

Adrian Etherington was welcomed to the meeting. He has agreed to take on the voluntary role of Referees Promoter on behalf of the Committee, although he would prefer not to be a regular attendee at Committee meetings. In liaison with Martin Roberts (ESR Referees Co-ordinator) and with Angela, Adrian will seek to compile a list of all those who have attended Referees Courses in Yorkshire, encourage those who have not taken the exam to do so, and work with those who have to undertake refereeing on a regular basis and to consider moving on to the next level.

ESR REGIONAL FORUMS

Council meeting this weekend. Mike reported that the County Associations in the north-west were not keen on merging with the north-east, and that our region therefore comprised ourselves, Durham and Northumberland

INTER-COUNTY TEAMS 2015-16

Entries were required by 24 July 2015. It was agreed that we would only enter teams in categories with an assured level of support from players and with a Team Manager in place.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for 2015-16

Will be set up for placement on the web site. (Gill)

SQUASH CLOTHING

All IC shirts have been sourced for the last few years through 305 with no problems. Joel to be approached re costs- a better offer has been received from Andrew Murray at iPro Sports. Steve agreed to explore the options.

BRITISH OPEN -YORKSHIRE NIGHT

A successful evening, and it was agreed that we should support its repetition next year, with better publicity.

PURCHASE OF IT EQUIPMENT for YSRA

Agreed that this is not required.

YORKSHIRE LEAGUE 2015-16

Marc to organise. **All club representatives to bring any rule changes to the AGM.** Venue is York squash club 7 30pm on July 6th.

GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT

Angela Cwaczko, ESR Participation Manager for the north of England, was welcomed to the meeting, and outlined her role in relation to increasing participation

in squash and racketball. She will be on hand in a supporting role for the north, providing advice and implementing strategies across all areas, including setting up links so that university students are not lost to the sport on graduation. Mark Shipley reported on work in hand on his project to contact Universities throughout Yorkshire to see what support might be needed to promote and organise squash.

Internet booking system; Marc outlined the response to his search. Of the 15 responses it would appear there are several systems in use, on the whole successful and easy to use. The need for internet booking is of most use for those clubs who do not have any reception facilities. Ideally 6 clubs without systems are required to make a feasible project. Marc will seek to identify these clubs and prepare an application to ESR for funds to assist these clubs establish systems.

Closure of courts in Bradford; 10 courts are to be lost in the area. Rather than lose these players, perhaps they could be directed to other clubs such as Wilsden. Mike is seeking, in conjunction with Angela, to set up a meeting of all interested in the Bradford area, with three objectives – to see whether any of the closures could be reversed or replaced; to assist players at those venues to relocate; and to draw up a plan for promoting squash and racketball in the area.

Request from Almondsbury SC; a member of staff at this centre had asked for assistance in promoting squash and racketball. Mike had sent him the Guidance notes from the CAN website, and Mark would see if any local coaches could assist.

BUSINESS PLAN 2015-16-Update and Budget

Needs to be addressed following AGM

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Is there a need for a County Coach? His role would involve part coaching, part co-ordination and promotion. Feasibility of attracting a coach's services, say 1 day/week. Costs in the region of £5k suggested. Discuss in the business plan 2015-16.

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that members of the Committee would meet at the conclusion of the AGM to agree dates for Committee meetings for 2015-16.