

Committee Report

May 2021 - May 2022

The last year has seen the Club move out of Covid conditions, but those who were present at the AGM will recall that this was not the case at the time when we facilitated the AGM with the use of Zoom and postal voting.

Due to the uncertainty of Covid restrictions at the time, we postponed the discussion on membership fees until July 2021 when again it was decided that due to the court closures in the earlier part of Club's financial year, membership renewal fees would be charged at 50%.

In August, there was a cautious return to normality with many members taking advantage of the discounted renewal prices, whilst others took a wait and see approach. We wish to thank all those who generously donated to the Club during this period.

The Committee has elected to hold an EGM later in the Club's financial year to discuss fees. The Committee are awaiting a recommendation from a sub-committee which is having to address future rising costs.

Alan Almond has stepped down as a Trustee of the limited liability company. The Committee would like to thank Alan for his support over many years.

Committee

Name	Meetings Attended	Notes
Richard Jones	11	
Elissa Seddon	11	
James Klanczkowski	10	
Nick Cochrane	10	
Trisha John	11	
John Shepherd	7	
Stan Ball	11	
Steve Bridgeman	0	Stepped down due to sabbatical in Africa

Finance

Further details will be seen in the Treasurers report.

The Club has benefitted financially from the various grants and assistance made available during Covid and in order to provide parity between existing members and future members, the Committee has taken this opportunity to established a major capital reserve fund which will be supplemented in future years.

Differential pricing at the bar has enabled reduced pricing for members.

Procedures for the collection of guest fees have been strengthened.

Property

The Committee recognise that a long-term solution is required to make it easier, quicker and cheaper to fix the lights on the badminton courts. The Committee have therefore decided that a scaffold tower be purchased to resolve this situation and this can also be used for other work at altitude such as work on the squash courts and roof inspections.

We are endeavouring to open the Club over bank holidays if courts have been booked at least 24 hours in advance.

Staffing and Communications

We have taken advantage of the government's Kickstart scheme, in which the government covers the wages of the employee plus an upfront sum of £1,500 for any training required. Unfortunately, due to Covid and staff absences (bar staff), they have not been able to undertake the work initially earmarked for them. The scheme has ended in respect of new entrants.

Sub-committees were established to review membership fees and the Constitution with the intention of reporting to the upcoming AGM. Unfortunately, this has not been possible, but they should have been discussed with members by the time of the proposed EGM.

Badminton/Squash/Table Tennis

Badminton seems to have recovered recently to its pre-covid level with men's/ladies/mixed league matches taking place during the winter and Monday and Thursday evening sessions proving to be very popular. Unfortunately, Wednesday evening requires some promotion. Daytime sessions appear to be picking up again.

Junior badminton coaching is proving to be very popular and an additional session will be allocated to the Juniors. There is also some demand for "back to badminton" that we are looking to restart.

Members are encouraged to attend the bi-weekly multi-sports evening on a Friday.

We are working with the sports brand "Oliver" to ascertain how the Club can benefit from an association with this entity. An "Open Day" was held with their support which produced 20 new applications for membership. These applications generally arose from marketing to parties who had shown a prior interest. We plan to run another Open day during the renewal/subscription period so that we can showcase the Club to potential new members.

Squash unfortunately has not recovered from Covid, this is not only a problem at Littlehampton but at all clubs. The Sussex league has been reduced including the number of teams in our league reducing significantly. The Club managed second place thanks to newcomer Mark Rogers playing at number one string which greatly strengthened the team in the second half of the season.

Team coaching continues, but there has been no demand for junior coaching. It is hoped that multi-sports evenings might generate some interest amongst the younger members

The internal leagues have been dropped for the time being, but these are expected to return next season.

Table Tennis continues to be popular with a few regulars, but an attempt to generate a session on Thursday evenings for more advanced players has failed to garner significant much support.

Social Activities

The social side of the club is beginning to pick up again and the regular functions are being supported quite well. The monthly quiz has become a favourite amongst some members and the quarterly shuffleboard evening draws in many from afar. Other activities are planned throughout the year.