

# Wymondham Tennis Club

## Minutes of 51stAGM held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Present: Roger Tudor, Sue Lord, Chris Harmer, Jerry Hazell, Simon Spanyol, Mary Howell, Claire Dixon, Mike Wonnacott, Klara Arabadzhieva

Apologies received from: Callum King, Jo Dyer, Eleanor Jones, Malcolm Clarke, Lucy Nixon, Nick Rodda and Owen Tudor

1. The minutes of the 50<sup>th</sup> AGM held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 were agreed, as a true record, proposed by Chris Harmer, seconded by Clare Dixon and were duly signed by the chairman.

### 2. Matters Arising

The tenant of Kett's park is South Norfolk Council and the lease runs for 21 years. The proposed local Government changes may affect us in the future.

### 3. Chairman's Report

Copy Attached

- Katie & Sam have run a wide range of courses
- Club nights continue to be well supported and we are exploring pay and play options
- A variety of tournaments were run and well attended.
- The Big Tennis Weekend attracted a record ca. ninety guests
- Four teams were entered in the City League and one mixed in the Winter league
- The new clubhouse is an asset to the club with an outdoor area with picnic benches.
- The club is shortlisted for Norfolk LTA's club of the year

### 4. Treasurer's Report

The annual accounts for the club for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024 were presented by Roger Tudor and was proposed by Mary Howell and seconded by Mike Wonnacott before being approved.

- Our income from subs, lights, etc. is much improved and as a result the year end profit was good despite the heavy expenditure on the new club house, civils and fitting out.
- The money received for floodlights exceeded payments for the first time
- The biggest driver of our income is the number of members hence the need to continue to drive up senior membership
- The Norfolk LTA loan materialised which covered the cost of the electronic fob entry system.
- We have begun building a sinking fund for the maintenance and eventual replacement of the clubhouse

## 5. Membership Secretary's Report

- The Feb 24 to Feb 24 numbers show an increase of 17 seniors to 73 and our junior membership has improved from 51 to 53 in the same timescale. These exclude the 24 Kett's park annual play (not WTC).
- Our target is still to get to over 100 senior members which satisfy both our and S. Norfolk Council's fiscal targets
- The website and Clubspark website are regularly updated; the club has a Facebook page & a private group page and now is on Instagram all of which are used for information & news
- All membership fees were kept at 2024 levels, the second year with no increase.

## 6. Coaching Report

- See attached document.
- Katie & Sam have delivered a range of courses
- The first Rusty Rackets was well attended, and the next course starts on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 and already has around eight people signed up

## 7. Election of Officers

The following were re-elected

- Sue Lord - Chairperson & LTA liaison
- Roger Tudor - Treasurer & Membership Secretary
- Simon Spanyol - Secretary & South Norfolk / Ketts Park Liaison
- Jo Dyer - Safeguarding Officer
- Callum King - Member and Website / Social media Liaison
- Chris Harmer - Member
- Jerry Hazel - Member & maintenance liaison
- Katie Brooks - Member and Head Coach
- Malcolm Clarke - Member and official photographer
- Eleanor Jones - Member and junior liaison, second safeguarding designate

In addition, the following were added to the committee

- Mike Wonnacott - Competition and Men's organiser
- Mary Howell - Ladies & Mixed captain, ball monitor and clubhouse cleaning lead

An additional safeguarding officer is still desirable

## 8. Team/Leagues for 2025

- The Men's first team captain is Owen Tudor
- Mike Wonnacott is the men's second team captain
- Peter Elphick will captain the men's third team
- Mary Howell is the ladies and mixed team's captain.
- Mary Howell has agreed to investigate what other leagues / competitions exist as we have more willing players than available games.
- There was some debate about when the ladies team would play their home games, Mary will discuss with the squad and report back.
- Further friendlies with other clubs are desirable and will be organised

9. Kett's Park / South Norfolk Council

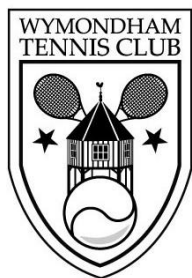
- The new Kett's manager is Liv Towler and a meeting with her is arranged for the 17<sup>th</sup> February to get her up to speed on WTC, billing, etc.
- WTC presented to the Greater Norwich Growth Board with S. Norfolk to show them how the money they provided or the new courts has helped drive membership and participation. All bookings, pay and play bookings and pay and pay receipts were all at record levels despite the relatively high rainfall in 2024.

10. Items from members

- Rusty rackets needs some follow up tennis offerings to retain the attendees
- Monday morning social tennis is to be relaunched in early March and will include pay and play opportunities.
- Ladies monthly sessions will continue with the next planned for the 16<sup>th</sup> February followed by International Women's Day on the 8<sup>th</sup> March
- A new member explained the difficulty in navigating our website / Clubspark. Offering a welcome pack and a buddy system to help people is desirable.
- A range of friendly intra club competitions will be arranged and bring and share food seems to work well for such occasions.

SIGNED.....

DATE.....



# CHAIR REPORT

## 51st AGM 11th Feb 2025

I am pleased to report that 2024 was a year of further growth & development for the club. Membership numbers increased & court utilisation improved. The new club house has made a big difference.

Katie Brooks has run an extensive junior coaching programme with Sam Howlett doing Saturday morning groups. Sam has also continued to run Cardio tennis sessions & coached a Rusty Rackets course in the autumn. All the coaching groups are well supported, enquiries come in every week & there are waiting lists for many courses.

Club nights continue to be well supported with many members also playing in groups at other times. Several junior members have been joining club nights. Friday night timings were changed for the winter with an earlier start time on 2 courts. The Monday morning session is going to be open to non members on a pay & play basis from March. A ladies session has been running monthly to encourage more ladies to get involved in group play.

In June an American tournament was held in conjunction with the official opening of the new clubhouse, it was a great afternoon which got coverage in the local press. Another doubles tournament was held in September. In July after Wimbledon we had our Big Tennis Weekend Open Day which was massively successful with nearly 90 people attending including 50 juniors. A further Open Day was held at the end of August in connection with Kett's Park. I would like to thank all members who attended & supported these events, their input & involvement is key to the success.

Over the summer a singles tournament was run by Mike Wonnacott, a big thank you to him. There were some fierce competition culminating in an exciting final match between Callum King & Jack Salmons with Callum taking the first prize. The Plate competition was won by Peter Elphick. Four teams were entered into the City League, 3 men's & a ladies. The ladies finished mid division in Division 3, very respectable from a very small squad. Men's teams struggled a bit through injuries & it is a very competitive league in all divisions. I would like to thank the captains; Mary Howell, Stephen Halls, Jasper Felton & Peter Elphick for marshalling the players, never an easy job. Stephen & Jasper are not continuing while they recover from shoulder injuries, fortunately Owen Tudor & Mike Wonnacott have volunteered to take over. In addition thanks to Malcolm Clarke for running the Veterans team. Mary also captains the winter league team which is currently doing very well.

The new clubhouse has been a great success, well received by members & visitors alike. There are still a few things needed, like noticeboards, nevertheless it is a great space. The outside area has been enhanced by the 2 picnic benches which were kindly provided by South Norfolk Council.

During the past year the committee have continued their great support to me with their thoughts & helping to keep the club running for which I thank them. Roger Tudor continues to oversee financial & membership matters plus lights & court bookings for club sessions. Simon Spanyol is the liaison with South Norfolk & has tackled communication by using Mail Chimp. Jerry Hazell has been busy with various jobs around the clubhouse, Callum King continues to administer the website. Malcolm Clarke with his professional photographing skills has provided us with some great pictures. A special thank you to Jo Dyer in her role as welfare officer, it is vital to our LTA registration. Volunteers are the lifeblood of clubs & we will be very pleased to hear from any members who want to get more involved. Finally, a measure of the club's progress & success is that it has been shortlisted for the Norfolk Club of the Year award; the winner will be announced in early March.

Sue Lord

February 9th 2025

## 🎾 TENNIS COACHING REPORT - 2025 🎾

It has been a very successful year within the coaching department at the Club.

### JUNIOR COACHING PROGRAMME

The Junior Coaching Programme at Wymondham Tennis Club caters for all ages and abilities. There are 11 weekly Junior Courses, from LTA Youth Red Courses to LTA Youth Yellow 16 and Under Courses. At the beginning of January 2024, there were 16 children attending Junior Courses at the Club. A year later, there are now over 100 children on the coaching programme and there are over 70 Junior Members.

During the School Holidays, Mini Tennis Courses and Tennis Camp Days were organised and they were very popular and very well attended.

The Junior Courses which take place on Saturday mornings with Sam have had very high attendances throughout the year.

### ADULT COACHING PROGRAMME

The Cardio sessions which Sam has taken on Monday evenings and Saturday mornings have been fully booked throughout the year.

During the Summer, we held a 'Rusty Rackets' course on Monday evenings and it proved to be very popular and well attended.

Our first 'Rusty Rackets' course of 2025 will be taking place in a couple of weeks' time!

Last Summer, I introduced a 'Ladies Only' Adults Course on Wednesday afternoons.

This course was open to all Mum's who had children attending the Junior Courses at WTC.

The sessions proved to be very popular!

This course will recommence in March.

There will be a new weekly 'Ladies Morning' session on Wednesday mornings at the Club.

These sessions will start in March/April - when the weather gets a bit better!

Members, as well as Non Members are welcome to attend these sessions.

(The LTA are very keen for Club's to offer playing opportunities to Non Members, as well as their own Club Members!)

This Spring, I will be working closely with the UK Tennis Charity 'Bright Ideas for Tennis'.

Danny Sapsford (Bright Ideas for Tennis Co-Founder and Charity Manager) and Mark Bullock will visit Wymondham Tennis Club to do some disability training with the Committee Members and several Club members.

I will work with Mark to organise some disability sessions for local children at the Club.

These sessions will take place during the Summer Term.

And, in return for holding these sessions at WTC, current and former GB Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup pros will visit WTC free of charge to provide a Charity Open Day including tennis masterclasses, a doubles exhibition match and a fastest serving competition.

All funds raised on the Charity Day will remain within the Club.

I am looking forward to another busy year on the courts at WTC!

Katie