

**DERBYSHIRE SQUASH & RACKETBALL**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**7.30PM 15 June 2011**  
**The Manor, Ilkeston**

**Present:**

**Committee:**, Kevin White (Chairman), Gill Ford (League Secretary), Nigel Millington (Racketball Coordinator), Ray Patrick (Treasurer), Jonathan Brooks (County Secretary), Phil Scully (Men's County Captain), Helen Wilson (Junior Representative), John Beastall (Men's Age Group County Captain).

**Club Reps and Other attendees:** Tony Humphries (Queens Park), Vic Malysz (RR), Doug Whitfield (Burton), Colin Morris (Burton), Garry Devonish (David Lloyd), Mike Herridge (Ashbourne), Gerry Higginbottom (Bradley House), Trevor Davis (Brampton Manor), Phil Bond (Duffield), Lesley Sturgess (Duffield), Gavin Bexon (Kimberley Manor), Ben Smith (Repton), Richard Lewis (LA Fitness), Carl Tomlinson (LA Fitness), Keith Howard (LA Fitness), Kevin Britchford (RR), Andrew Rockley (RR), Carl Jennings (Sandiacre Friesland), Pete Goodings (Manor), Mandy Street (Trent Vale), A Weaver (Trent Vale).

**Apologies:** David Short (President), Carol Wood (Development Officer), Martin Rose (Draycott).

Please note that in accordance with the DSR's Constitution only Member Clubs are able to vote at the AGM. A Member Club is affiliated to England S&R and has at least one team in the Derbyshire Leagues.

**1. Previous Meeting 12 May 2010 held at Brampton Manor and matters arising**  
*Acceptance of these minutes as a true record was.*

Proposed by: Phil Bond

Seconded by: Mike Herridge

**2. Election of Officers / Committee and Vacant Positions**

Nominations:

David Short (President)

Kevin White (Chairman)

Jonathan Brooks (County Secretary)

Ray Patrick (Treasurer)

Gill Ford (League Secretary)

Carol Wood (Development Officer)

John Beastall (Age Group County Captain)

Phil Scully (County Captain)

Nigel Millington (Racketball Coordinator)

Helen Wilson (Junior Representative)

**Vacant** - (Competitions Coordinator)

**Vacant** - (Marketing Manager) - fund raising and sponsorship

Jason Foster continues to act as the County's Child Welfare Officer, but in an advisory capacity only.

**Stepping Down** - Brendan Hickerman (County Captain), I would like to take this opportunity to thank Brendan for his time and effort over the last 10 years in this position. Also thanks to Lee Watson for his help in the organization of the various competitions over the last 3 years.

*Propose: Elected en bloc*

Proposed by: Mike Herridge

Seconded by: Gerry Higginbottom

There is also a vacancy for **Media Reporter**, which does not hold a Committee position

### **3. Treasurer's Report and Accounts - Ray Patrick**

#### **See Appendix 1**

Bank balance reduced by just £122 during the year, which is less than 2%.

Main income comes from subscriptions and was very much in line with last year. Next is England squash rebate but this is likely to reduce as membership falls.

A bonus during last year was a number of grants we were able to access. In the current climate they are unlikely to continue this year.

Main expenditure continues to be county expenses which increased significantly last year. This will continue to increase as the county becomes more successful and enters more teams in national competitions. The second largest expense was development which was substantially covered by the grants received.

To help with additional funding and we propose to increase League Entry fees for 2012/13 season. Currently this is £45 per team.

Nonetheless, we are trying to recruit a Marketing Manager to help generate income through sponsorship and advertising.

#### **Proposal 1: Increase League Entry Fees by £5 for 2012/13**

Vote: For 12 Against 0

Proposal carried

#### **Proposal 1a: Increase League Entry Fees by £10 for 2012/13**

Vote: For 7 Against 5

Proposal carried

#### **Acceptance of Accounts**

Proposed by: Phil Bond

Seconded by: Ben Smith

#### 4. Development - Carol Wood

A summary of progress over the past 12 months against County objectives is provided below.

##### **KEY OBJECTIVES - COACH EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT**

- 9 Derbyshire coaches attended Paul Carter's (ESR) workshop held at Manor H&R on 27 April.
- Interest in obtaining L1/L2 coaching qualification seems to have diminished due to costs involved in obtaining certificate. This has been raised at ESR Regional level and it is hoped that more funding support will be identified in order to address this issue.
- ESR have proposed further coaches' workshops and Continuing Professional Development program to engender a true profession.

##### **KEY OBJECTIVES - CLUB DEVELOPMENT**

- Brampton Manor: (Coaches Jason Fearn, Jane Beresford & Jono Lovegrove) growing from strength to strength with players from all age groups representing Derbyshire at Individual, County and National level. The success of their U11 development programme saw 6 of their juniors—including 4 girls—enter the inaugural ESR U11 championships.
- Glossop LC: L2 coach Steve Hough regularly gets 12-16 players (6-15y) attending his junior sessions with 3 representing Derbyshire at U13/U15 level last season. 17 boys braved the snow last January to attend a special 3 h session with Kirsty McPhee (ESR Coach) and she now holds monthly develop sessions at Glossop.
- Ashbourne: 'Junior Taster' session organised for last October half-term and efforts to establish regular sessions with a qualified ESR coach continue.
- Etwall LC: Unfortunately due to constraints imposed by John Port School on court availability etc, efforts to develop Etwall SC (adults & juniors) had been abandoned. However, discussions are ongoing with the new owners (Active Nation) in an effort to keep the courts open and available for junior sessions.
- Manor Health & Racquets: Pete Gooding (ex EM Regional Manager) took over as Club Manager at start of year and has appointed Curtis Tomlinson (ex England junior) as Head Coach and discussions are already ongoing as to how DSR can work with them to develop this ESR Gold Chartered Derbyshire club into a major player in the squash and racketball community.

##### **KEY OBJECTIVES - COACHING & COMPETITION DEVELOPMENT**

- Introduction of Derbyshire junior squad coaching sessions to support and develop players. This program was implemented in conjunction with the Regional Squads held by Kirsty McPhee (EM Regional Coach) who viewed these squads as a 'talent spotting opportunity'.
- U11/13/15 DEVELOPMENT SQUADS:  
Kirsty McPhee headed up the coaching team for these squad sessions held at Duffield Squash Club in June 10, October 10 & February 11. Each day was split into 3 separate sessions (U11/13 Boys Development; U11/13 Girls & U11/13 County Boys) with 12-16 players attending each session. Unfortunately a 4<sup>th</sup> squad session planned for April 11 had to be postponed due to Kirsty's involvement with the U15/17 European team championships. Despite Kirsty's increased responsibilities within the ESR Performance Program, it is hoped that these Development Squads will continue for the coming season.

- COUNTY COACHING:- JASON FEARN  
Jason (L4 coach at Brampton Manor) agreed to take charge of the coaching for U17/19 and U15/17 boys county squads (A & B squads respectively). Invitations were restricted to the top 8 players for each of the sessions which were held in June, October & December 2010.
- COUNTY COACHING:- PAUL HARGRAVE  
Paul (L4 coach at Duffield) took charge of the U13 boys and girls county squad coaching sessions which were held prior to the inter-county stage 1 (October10) and stage 2 (January11).

## 5. Junior Section - Helen Wilson

### **Junior Squash Grand Prix**

This competition continues to be the 'springboard' for our U15 players to get a taste for the competitive game and serves to identify players who wish to be included in the County team squads.

After 5 out of the 6 rounds of the Grand Prix events this season, so far a total of 55 children under 15 have taken part. The events have taken place in 3 venues, Brampton Manor, Ilkeston Manor and Duffield with representatives from at least 6 different clubs in the area coming from as far afield as Glossop and Ashbourne.

Generous sponsorship has continued from Simon Favell of SFI Ltd resulting in each player receiving a polo shirt and with the promise of rackets and other prizes to be given out after the final event at Brampton Manor on 26<sup>th</sup> June.

The events are proving to be fertile hunting grounds for Carol Wood in her role as Development Officer (along with her England Squash contacts) when seeking talented youngsters to train with the various county and regional squads. We must thank Carol for her endeavours in this area.

After the final Grand Prix event of this season, I am hoping to host a one-off GP-Style event at Glossop sometime during the summer (depending on number of courts available due to refurbishment), and host a Handicap tournament for players aged 15-19 who are not highly ranked in any county squad, (date and venue yet to be decided).

The new season of the Grand Prix will begin in September at Brampton Manor and there will be a further 5 tournaments held, most likely, at Duffield and Ilkeston Manor, finishing at Brampton in June 2012.

### **Derbyshire U17 Boys**

Derbyshire's U17 Boys, consisting of Ashley Davies, Russell Clark, Adam Turner, James Blythe, Alex Wilson and Craig Osborne, were just a whisker away from lifting the England Squash Inter County Championships trophy in March losing out to Hertfordshire by the narrowest of margins in a dramatic final.

They qualified for the finals by coming out on top in both the Stage 1 and Stage 2 events that were held in September and January - up against Yorkshire, Sussex and Hertfordshire.

They won the semi-final against Sussex and lost out to Hertfordshire in the final 3-2, the final match being dramatically lost 13-11 in the fifth.

The **U17s** also entered a team in the **Northern Cup** and finished a very respectable 3rd. As the Northern Cup is one of the few tournaments that allows mixed teams, and with the non-availability of Ashley Davies and Adam Turner we brought in Siobhan Baxter and U15 player Matt Barton to play alongside Russell Clark, James Blythe, Alex Wilson and Craig Osborne.

## **6. Derbyshire County Leagues - Gill Ford**

See below - 14. Presentation of League Trophies 2010/11.

December snow and other 'postponed matches' - postponed matches not being rearranged and then not played. Although there was a valid reason to postpone most of the unplayed matches, few were rearranged within 2 weeks of the original match date and some remained unplayed at the end of season - this can adversely affect promotion and relegation.

We will be publishing future dates for entries, fixtures etc on the website well in advance. The 2011/12 League season will start in the week commencing 5 Sept for Divs Premier, 2 and 4 and 12 Sept for Divs 1 and 3; it may be necessary to adjust these by a week to allow for the completion of the summer leagues, the fixtures will be published on or before 14 August for Men, Ladies and Racketball.

We remind teams and clubs of Rules 10 a) and b) for the fulfilment of fixtures and penalty points and reimbursement of match expenses where less than 48 hours notice is given.

Reporting results is a continuing problem and we ask all clubs to ensure that match cards are fully and completely filled out in all aspects and posted immediately after the match. Cards will continue to be used although emails to [gill@derbyshiresquash.co.uk](mailto:gill@derbyshiresquash.co.uk) is also ok, but please ensure that you identify the fixture (division, teams and date) in the subject field of the email.

## **7. Rule amendments**

### **Playing for a higher team (Men, Squash)**

Last year we changed Rule 6 e) (ii) to make things easier to administer and provide more flexibility for clubs to field teams. Some larger clubs appear to have used this rule change to field very strong teams to gain promotion in the lower divisions and some matches have been rather one-sided. We have had numerous complaints from smaller clubs who do not have call on such reserves of players. It is proposed that we revert to the former rule as set out below.

Current Rule 6 e) (ii) "ANY nominated player may for their club 10 times each half season"

**Proposal 2: replace current Rule with "ANY nominated player may 'play up' for ANY higher team THREE TIMES ONLY ... each half season before being tied to a higher team" [as previously defined].**

Vote: For   7   Against   5  

**Proposal carried**

## Scoring

Point-A-Rally scoring to 11 is increasing in use throughout the country and we should consider ensuring our county players and representatives are familiar playing PAR.

Pros: 'higher' standard players play PAR external to Derbyshire; ESR & WSF sanctioned events all use PAR to 11 except for O45+. Cons against PAR: shorter matches, different character of game. Further comments/discussion points were received from the floor: Phil Bond, Trevor Davis, Pete Goodings and Gerry Higginbotham.

The proposals below will be voted on by the member clubs.

Men's Squash Premier Division; Currently traditional to 9 (HiHo):

**Proposal 3: change to PAR to 11, 2 clear points at 10-10.**

Vote: For 11 Against 0

**Proposal carried**

Women's Squash Premier Division; Currently traditional to 9 (HiHo):

**Proposal 4: change to PAR to 11**

Vote: For 1 Against 6

**Proposal defeated**

**Proposal 4a: change to PAR to 15**

Vote: For 6 Against 1

**Proposal carried**

Men's Squash other Divisions; Currently traditional to 9 (HiHo):

**Proposal 5: change to PAR to 11**

Vote: For 2 Against 12

**Proposal defeated**

Men's Squash other Divisions: Currently traditional to 9 (HiHo):

**Proposal 6: change to PAR to 15.**

Vote: For 6 Against 6

**Proposal defeated**

Racketball: Currently PAR to 15: We currently allow two players to choose which to play to 11 although the default is 15 if one disagrees.

**Proposal 7: change to PAR to 11**

Vote: For 8 Against 1

**Proposal carried**

## Balls

Racketball: Currently bouncy "blue" Karakal ball. However, we currently allow two players to choose which ball they play with although the default is "blue". One alternative ball is an ESR approved Price single dot black ball - intermediary between bouncy blue Karakal and the double yellow dot and rather dead black ball. The Price single dot black ball is used for Inter-Counties and National events. However, racketball was introduced to be a game for those no longer playing squash and not for squash player who appear to want racketball to be more like squash.

**Proposal 8: change to new black single yellow dot Price ball.**

**Vote: For   7   Against   4**

**Proposal carried**

## Player Qualification for Premier Division

Squash: Premier Division 2<sup>nd</sup> half qualification Rule 6 h) currently a player has to play at least 2 times in the first half to qualify for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half in Premier Division. To help ensure more consistent and stronger teams in Premier Division.

**Proposal 9: increase to 3.**

**Vote: For   2   Against   8**

**Proposal defeated**

## Player Numbers

Racketball; currently 4-a-side.

**Proposal 10: 5-a-side.**

**Vote: For   7   Against   0**

**Proposal carried**

## 8. County Knock-Out Cup 9/10 April, Brampton Manor, Ilkeston

Another successful finals weekend brought the Derbyshire Squash and Racketball season to a close. Thank you to Brampton Manor and Jason Fearn for hosting the event. Congratulations to

Men	Section A	Brampton Manor 1	bt Repton	5-0
	Section B	Brampton Manor 2	bt Ashbourne	3-2
	Section C	David Lloyd 2	bt Burton 5	4-1
Ladies		Duffield 1 by default		
Racketball		The Manor 1	bt Brampton Manor 2	3-1

## 9. County Championships

Kevin White - Tournament Director. 55 entries up 7 from last year's 48 (33 in 2008, 47 in 2009).

### Finals Results

Ladies Main: Laura Hill beat Jenny Knibbs 9-0 9-3 9-6.

3/4 play-off Heidi Walters beat Hannah Blythe 10-8 9-7 9-3

Ladies O40: Lesley Sturgess beat Sue Nash 9-4 9-3 1-9 9-0.  
3/4 play-off: Jane Hill beat Sandra Albinson 9-6 9-3 9-1

Ladies Handicap Lesley Sturgess bt Sue Nash 3-11 11-3 12-10 11-5.  
3/4 play-off Heidi Walters beat Sandra Albinson 13-11 12-10 11-9

Men's Main: Joel Hinds beat Phil Scully 9-1 9-4 9-0.  
Plate: Steve Barker beat Ben Smith 9-7 4-9 9-8 4-9 9-4.

Men's O35: Kevin White beat Jason Foster 9-7 9-2 9-4  
Men's O45: Greg Loach beat Mike Lambert 9-1 9- 0 9-1  
Men's O55: Tony Robinson beat John Beastall 1-9 9-5 9-1 9-7  
Men's Handicap: Owen Whitfield beat Tom Whitfield 18-16.  
Plate: James Blythe beat Alex Wilson 8-11 11-7 13-11 3-11 11-9.

## 10. Summary of County Teams

Phil Scully...

Please see Appendix 2

## 11. Achievements by Derbyshire Qualified Players and Teams

Details may be found in the press reports, brief details are:

**Joel Hinds** reached a high of WR73.

**Millie Tomlinson** Represented England at U19 level.  
Winner of English, French U19 Opens 2010  
Member of the Ivy League winning team 2010/2011.  
National (USA) Intercollegiate Women's Individual Champion 2011.

**Laura Hill** remains England No. 8. Laura has just won her 7<sup>th</sup> **National Racketball title**.

**Murray Scott** had a very successful season in the O45s reaching the semi-finals of the British Open in June 2011 and playing for England in the Home Internationals. Murray won the Midlands Regional Tournament.

**Lesley Sturgess** played for England O40s in the Home Internationals winning all her matches.

**Marcus Thomas** was selected for Wales O35s for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

### **Juniors**

Siobhan Baxter England U17 No24 & U19 No40

Madeline Tomlinson U17 No77

Elizabeth Wall U11 No12

Gabrielle Barton U11 No18  
Libby Leivers U11 No26

Russell Clark England U17 No13 & U19 No41  
**Ashley Davis England U17 No4 & U19 No18**  
**Adam Turner England U15 No1 & U17 No20**  
**James Blythe England U15 No4 & U17 No35**  
Jono Lovegrove England U19 No51  
Matthew Barton England U13 No79  
Alex Wilson England U17 No101

### **Teams**

**Benz-Bavarian Duffield** reached the PSL Semi-Finals as Champions of the North Division. The team includes Nick Matthews WR1 and locals Joel Hinds, Laura Hill, Paul Hargrave, Kevin White and Millie Tomlinson. You do not need to be a member of Duffield SC to watch the PSL matches and tickets can be bought from the team manager Felix Frixou or Sheila Alcock.

### **12. Website [www.derbyshiresquash.co.uk](http://www.derbyshiresquash.co.uk)**

The website continues to be our main source of information and the club reps should regularly review it for notices and information.

We hope to refresh the website and bring you more information in a clearer format over the summer months.

**Clubs are deemed to have been informed of events etc once a notice has been placed on the website.**

### **13. Media Reporting**

We are looking for a volunteer to write press reports on Derbyshire squash and racketball news suitable for local papers and our website.

- Weekly press releases usually appear on the website on Tuesday or Wednesday so please check regularly. Please feel free to print out and put a copy on your club's notice board.
- The Derby Telegraph prints an edited version on Thursdays and occasionally addition squash news on Saturdays. The Ashbourne Times, Derbyshire Times, Belper News and the Ilkeston Advertiser are also regularly sent reports.
- Please submit to [Kevin@derbyshiresquash.co.uk](mailto:Kevin@derbyshiresquash.co.uk) any Derbyshire related reports on the League, KO Cup, County Teams and Derbyshire individual's performances to the Chairman before Tuesday 6.00pm.

#### **14. Presentation of League Trophies 2010/11**

John and Pauline White performed the honours in presenting the trophies to the relevant clubs, these included the Men's and Ladies Premier trophies which have both been sponsored by them.

	Champions	Runners-Up
Div Premier	Brampton Manor 1	Repton 1
Div 1	Repton 2	Duffield 2
Div 2	Brampton Manor 2	Burton 3
Div 3	David Lloyd 2	Burton 4
Div 4	Repton 3	Hood Park 4
Ladies Prem	Duffield 1	Bradley House
R'ball Div 1	The Manor 1	Brampton Manor 1
Div 2	The Manor 2	Duffield 2

#### **Other Trophies**

2010/11 Racketball Section A	Champions: The Manor 1
2009/10 Ladies League Div 2	Champions: Trent Vale
	Runners-Up: Repton
2009/10 Ladies Knock-Out Cup	Runners-Up: Ashbourne

#### **15. Chairman's Address**

I want to highlight the importance of Developing squash and racketball within Derbyshire and particularly your Clubs. I have briefly highlighted development activities of the DSR within Derbyshire in the past 12m and what our aims are in the next 12m. However, every club has a duty to increase participation with their club in order for squash, racketball and your club's to prosper. Assistance for increasing participation or improving facilities can be sought from England Squash's East Midlands Area Manager, John Davis ([john.davis@englandsquashandracketball.com](mailto:john.davis@englandsquashandracketball.com) and 07970 826734). Organising junior activities and linking with local schools is an essential part of attracting new entrants to squash and John will be able to assist you here. An association with an enthusiastic Licensed Coach will enable clubs to further support increased activities and provide a steady stream of new members.

#### **16. Any other business**

John Beastall proposed a round of appreciation for the amount of effort put in by Kevin. On this note the 2011 AGM was closed.

**Kevin White**  
**Chairman DSR**

## Appendix 1

DERBYSHIRE SQUASH & RACKETBALL 2010 / 11 COMBINED ACCOUNTS								
<u>INCOME</u>					<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
-	2009 / 10	2010 / 11	Change			2009 / 10	2010 / 11	Change
	£	£	£			£	£	£
Cash in Hand	5728	6777	1049					
Subscriptions	3675	3530	-145		County expenses	1086	2801	1715
					Lge Sec. Expenses	700	725	25
England Squash rebate	276	872	596		Printing	123	0	0
					Junior rebate	0	0	0
Interest	0	0	0		County closed	0	59	59
					Trophies	407	684	277
County closed	154	0	-154		Website / Maint.	285	0	-285
					Shirts	0	131	131
Ref. Workshop	13	0	-13		Development	275	1494	1219
					Room hire	218	0	-218
Shirts	25	0	-25		Cup Fees	0	120	120
Grants	0	1350	1350					
					Sub Total	3094	6014	2920
Junior closed	0	140	140					
Sub Total	4143	5892	1749		Cash in Hand	6777	6655	-122
TOTAL	9871	12669	2798		TOTAL	9871	12669	2798

## Appendix 2

### Derbyshire Inter-County Team Summary

Inter County Squash	Mens	Mens O35 A	Mens O35 B	Mens O45	Mens O55	Mens O60	Women
2010/11							
Stage 1							
Div 2	2nd						
Div 1		3rd					
Div 2			2nd				
Div 1				1st			
Div 1					4th		
Div 1						3rd	
Div 2							2nd
Stage 2							
Div 2 Promotion	1st						
Div 1 Relegation		2nd					
Div 2 Promotion			3rd				
Div 1 Promotion				2nd			
Div 1 Relegation					2nd		
Div 1 B						2nd	
Div 2 Promotion							2nd
	Promoted to Div 1	Stay in Div 1	Stay in Div 2	Stay in Div 1	Stay in Div 1	Stay in Div 1	Promoted to Div 1