

**DERBYSHIRE SQUASH & RACKETBALL**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**7.30PM 22 May 2012**  
**The Manor Health & Racquets Club, Ilkeston**

**Present:**

**Committee:** Graham Hall (Chairman), Gill Ford (League Secretary), Nigel Millington (Racketball Coordinator), Ray Patrick (Treasurer), Phil Scully (Men's County Captain), Carol Wood (Development Officer), Jonathan Brooks (County Secretary).

**Club Reps and Other attendees:** John Pearson (Queens Park), Kevin Britchford (RR), Doug Whitfield (Burton), Colin Morris (Burton), Garry Devonish (David Lloyd), Jane McIntyre (Ashbourne), Hilary Herridge (Ashbourne), Jason Fearn (Brampton Manor), Andy Wilson (Brampton Manor), Mark Fidler (Brampton Manor), Trevor Davis (Brampton Manor), Kevin Barton (Brampton Manor), Robert Cope (Lumb Farm), Lesley Sturgess (Duffield), Sheila Alcock (Duffield), Ray Patrick (Hood Park), Richard Lewis (LA Fitness), Carl Jennings (Sandiacre Friesland), Eric Archibald (Sandiacre Friesland), Nigel Millington (The Manor), Pete Goodings (Manor), A Weaver (Trent Vale), Julia Muzyka (Bradley House).

**Apologies:** John Beastall (President), Helen Wilson (Junior Representative), Gerry Higginbottom (Bradley House), Andy Hay (Advance Squash) Phil Bond (Duffield).

**Clubs not Represented:** King Edward VI, Draycott, & Repton.

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 15 June 2010 held at The Manor, Ilkeston**

*Acceptance of these minutes as a true record was.*

Proposed by: Nigel Millington

Seconded by: John Pearson

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

Nominations:

John Beastall (President) has taken over from David Short who has stepped down. Our thanks to David for his commitment over the years.

Graham Hall (Chairman) has taken over from Kevin White who has stepped down. Our thanks to Kevin for his sterling service.

Jonathan Brooks (County Secretary)

Ray Patrick (Treasurer)

Gill Ford (League Secretary)  
Carol Wood (Development Officer)  
Phil Scully (County Captain)  
Nigel Millington (Racketball Coordinator)  
Helen Wilson (Junior Representative)  
Welfare Officer - Mark Fidler  
Competitions Coordinator Officer- Vacant  
Marketing Officer - Vacant

*Propose: Elected en bloc*

Proposed by: Nigel Millington  
Seconded by: Pete Goodings

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

**See Appendix 1**

First of all may I remind you that these are a summary of both junior and senior accounts for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> April.

In these times of austerity I am pleased to report you will note there is little change in our financial position over the past year.

Income increased slightly year on year with our main contribution coming from league subscriptions. It is gratifying that most are now received on a timely basis.

Understandably grants have dried up but we received a significant amount of sponsorship from Azetec Oils courtesy of our new chairman which has been invested in county shirts.

On the expenditure side county team expenses are the main item but we did see a reduction on the previous year.

There was also a considerable reduction in development spend influenced by the drop in grants and funding.

So in summary little change from last year with our working capital maintained at one year's level of expenditure which has been our golden rule since the DSRA went bust several years ago.

This now brings me onto the next year. We see a similar level of activity on the senior front to the previous year.

On the junior side a new committee has been formed and they have their own treasurer. Very ambitious plans are being formulated more of which you will hear about later that require additional levels of financing. We expect some funding from England Squash, some from sponsorship and the balance, a significant amount from Derbyshire squash. This would impact significantly on our reserves and as stake holders I believe you should ratify this spend. I suggest we wait to hear more before commenting.

Proposal 1: To levy a £1 (Junior's 50P) fee on top of the ES player affiliation fee to fund an increase in development activities. It will be a one off trial for this year only. The full amount of the levy will be rebated back to the County.

Vote: For 8 Against 1

Proposal carried

Proposal 2: All players who play in County leagues and Inter County matches to pay the player affiliation fee. Currently £6.50 of which 12.5% is rebated back to the County.

Vote: For 13 Against 0

Proposal carried

Proposal 3: All players who play in internal club leagues to pay the player affiliation fee. Currently £6.50 of which 12.5% is rebated back to the County.

Vote: For 5 Against 8

Proposal defeated

#### **Acceptance of Accounts**

Proposed by: John Pearson

Seconded by: Nigel Millington

#### **4. England Squash - John Davies**

John gave a talk on the current availability of grants and assistance from ES together with details of where the monies collected were spent.

#### **5. Development - Carol Wood**

Focus of Development Activities to be undertaken between 01 June 2011 and 31 May 2012 is given below.

##### **KEY OBJECTIVES — CLUB DEVELOPMENT**

- Continue to support Clubs who wish to establish regular coaching sessions for its members and try to increase number of club teams (particularly Ladies) participating in Derbyshire leagues.

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

- Continue to encourage existing L1 (assistant) coaches to complete a L2 and/or racketball course so that all Derbyshire clubs are able to offer 'in-house' coaching to its members.
- Support those Derbyshire based players wishing to become ESR qualified coaches in partnership with EM Regional Office.

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

- Continue to support Junior Grand Prix events including addition of an U15/U17 competition.
- Liaise with EM Regional Coach, Derbyshire's 'Responsible Coaches' and Junior Team Managers to develop a more comprehensive programme of squad sessions and competitive events for U11/U13/15 players (boys & girls).
- Increase competition for County Junior Squad places (particularly U11/U13/U15) by increasing participation at County Junior Closed and other intra-county events.

It has been a difficult year in terms of Development activities in Derbyshire, largely because of the economic climate resulting in the loss of support of the EM Regional Coach Kirsty McPhee. However, we picked ourselves up and with the help and support of the EM Regional Office (Julie Clark and the new Regional Manager John Davis), I believe we have managed to push forward in a number of areas of Development.

To summarise, we converted the £500 funding from ESR into more than £1500 worth of junior coaching delivery with 98 attendees in total taking part. A big thank you must also go to the parents for paying the coaching fees, Pete Goodings without whose help/sponsorship with respect to The Manor court hire this would be achieved and of course to Curtis Tomlinson and Jason Fearn for delivering the coaching.

Whereas 3 years ago (October 2009) Derbyshire could only raise 3 players for the U13 Boys team (one of whom was only 9y), we now have 15 boys competing in the County U13B ladder for a place in the U13B county team this coming season.

Summary of activities under above objectives is given below:

## **KEY OBJECTIVES — CLUB DEVELOPMENT**

- Working with Ashbourne SC and Burton SC to increase the number of Junior players as well as Ladies Squash & Racketball players.

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

- James Foulk has qualified as L1 squash coach and completed his Racketball coach's course. James has also completed the first weekend of his L2 course (funded by bursary from Derbyshire Sport and England Squash & Racketball) and I will continue to mentor him and attend sessions until he has passed his UKCC/ESR L2 Coach exam (July 8<sup>th</sup>).

## **KEY OBJECTIVES — JUNIOR COACHING & DEVELOPMENT**

- Following loss of support of EM Regional Coach, Kirsty McPhee, DSR are indebted to Pete Goodings for sponsoring the Derbyshire Junior Academies by providing courts at The Manor Health & Rackets, Ilkeston, at a 'knock-down price'. It is hoped that this support will continue under the new management.
- Five U11/13/15 development squad sessions were held with Curtis Tomlinson and an additional U15 Girls/Boys County Elite squad at Easter.
- Two U17/19 Boys County squads were held by Jason Fearn at Brampton Manor.

## KEY OBJECTIVES –JUNIOR COMPETITION DEVELOPMENT

- Continued to support Helen Wilson as appropriate by attendance at Derbyshire Junior Grand Prix events including the U15/U17 competition held in July 2011.
- 60 entries in Junior Closed held in January 2012, with the U11 and U13 Boys categories notably increased and closely contested. In addition we held separate U11, U13 & U15 Girls competitions which bode well for the future of County Girls' squash next season when we expect to enter an U13 and U15 Girls team. Many thanks are due to John Sulley who has put a lot of effort into organising the U13Girls squad.

Competition for places in the U13 Boys County squad was particularly keen, such that County U13B and U15B Ladder has been introduced to aid squad selection for next season.

## 6. Junior Section - Helen Wilson

### Junior Squash Grand Prix

This season a total of 59 players, 15 years of age or under, played in the Derbyshire Junior Squash Grand Prix events. 4 clubs from the Derbyshire area were represented, with many of the players making their first appearance at a Grand Prix event.

John Kinirons, and family, kindly sponsored the GP tournaments and provided T-shirts to all players who played in at least 2 of the 6 GP events.

Many people are involved in making sure the events run as smoothly as possible, from the players' coaches: Steve at Glossop, Lesley, Sam & Paul at Duffield, Carol at Ashbourne, Jason, Jane, Scully & John at Brampton to Andy Wilson, who does much of the work behind the scenes, and Kev Barton, who helps sort out the groupings each time and then helps on the day of the tournaments; these, plus the help of many others who score, serve food etc etc, make the days fun and light-hearted which is the intention of such junior squash events.

Kev & I will continue to organise the Grand Prix events next season, unless there are any objections, starting at Brampton Manor in September.

In Derbyshire we have many talented youngsters and should be proud of them all. These events are merely a stepping stone towards bigger and better achievements for some, and for others the Grand Prix events provide the opportunity for them to play squash at a slightly more competitive level than perhaps they are used to. Whatever, they are a starting point for players to play, and enjoy, the game of squash.

Awards and rackets were presented to the following at the end of a busy, record breaking final event held at Brampton Manor in April with 45 youngsters having taken part.

Most Helpful Player - Joshua Harbut.

Sportsmanship Award - Michael Quinn

The Best Newcomer Award - Isabelle Kenworthy

Most Improved - Adam Brass

Future Champion Award - Molly Tomlinson

Runner-Up of the GP Award - Ben Harvey

**Winner of the Grand Prix Title - Tom Hayes**

Congratulations to Tom for winning the event and who now joins the elite list of names on the coveted trophy that includes the likes of Joel Hinds and Phil Scully.

### **Current National Rankings of Derbyshire Junior Players — May 2012**

Players names in bold are those who played for Derbyshire at this age-group in the ESR Inter-county Championships for the 2011/12 season

#### U19 Boys

Ashley Davies (7)  
Russell Clark (22)  
James Blythe (50)  
Adam Turner (56)  
Owen Whitfield (86)  
Alex Wilson (107)

#### U17 Boys

**Russell Clark** (6)  
**James Blythe** (16)  
**Adam Turner** (18)  
**Alex Wilson** (94)  
**Matt Barton** (106)  
**Craig Osborne** (162)

#### U15 Boys

**Matt Barton** (51)  
**Joe Harrison** (122)  
Henry Wall (134)  
**Joe Thomas** (awaiting June12 list)

#### U13 Boys

**Henry Wall** (45)  
**Joe Harrison** (48 in April12)  
**Joe Thomas** (62 in April12)  
**Kieran Shelley** (63)  
Oliver Hall (82)  
Joe Kinirons (131)

#### U11 Boys

Oliver Hall (15)

#### U17/19 Girls

Siobhan Baxter (23)  
Madeleine Tomlinson (63/60)

#### U13 Girls \*

**Gabrielle Barton** (26)  
Elizabeth Wall (37)  
**Francesca Sulley** (42)  
Libby Lievers (54)  
**Molly Tomlinson** (63)

#### U11 Girls

Elizabeth Wall (4)  
Libby Lievers (10)

- Derbyshire teams were entered into Junior Inter-county Championships in the U13B, U15B and U17B and U13 Girls team. It is hoped that full reports will be posted on the website shortly, but a brief summary is given below:
- U13G team (3 players only) were Runners -up in the National Trophy Final -- see website reports.
- U13B team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in Group Z narrowly losing out to Cheshire by 2 points.

- U15B team came 3<sup>rd</sup> in their ICC stage 2 event and a very young and inexperienced team put up a very brave fight in the Northern Cup against some very experience and highly ranked teams.
- U17 Boys came runner-up in their group for ICC stage 2 event losing to Kent who were the winners of the National Finals. The U17B team were also RU in the Northern Cup event even though they were without their No. 1 (Russell Clark ) who has decided to take up boxing.
  - Derbyshire County players (7 Girls & 6 Boys) were selected to represent the EM Region at the National Regional Championships.

A mixed U11 team (Joe Kinirons, Adam Brass, Gabrielle Barton & Libby Lievers) entered the Cheshire Squash U11 team events thus gaining valuable experience taking them into next season.

## 7. Derbyshire County Leagues - Gill Ford

See below - 15. Presentation of League Trophies 2011/12.

The 'winter' leagues saw entries from 18 clubs which entailed a total of 328 matches to be organised. Clubs are reminded to check their fixtures as soon as possible after they are issued, as errors can easily creep in.

At the end of the season there were only three matches that were still unplayed.

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.

## 8. Rule amendments

### **Player qualification for Premier Division (Ladies Squash & Racketball)**

Currently rule 6.h) states: For a player to be eligible to play in the premier division after Christmas they must have played at least 2 times before Christmas.

This rule was suspended during last season due to there being only one division and thus a lack of players available to teams.

Ladies Squash Premier Division.

**Proposal 4: Delete rule 6.h) (Only clubs with a Ladies team to vote)**

**Vote: For 7 Against 0**

**Proposal carried**

Racketball Division 1.  
Proposal 5: Delete rule 6.h)

Vote: For 5 Against 3

Proposal carried

### Scoring

Point-A-Rally scoring is currently in use in some divisions and certain aspects are to be reviewed.

Men's Squash Premier Division; Currently PAR to 11 and either set 1 or set 2 at 10-10:  
Proposal 6: Change to 2 clear points at 10-10.

Vote: For 6 Against 0

Proposal carried

Ladies Squash Premier Division; Currently PAR to 15:  
Proposal 7: Change to HiHo to 9 (Only clubs with a Ladies team to vote)

Vote: For 5 Against 2

Proposal carried

Ladies Squash Premier Division; Currently PAR to 15:  
Proposal 8: Change to PAR to 11 (this proposal could be dropped depending on the outcome of the above proposal. (Only clubs with a Ladies team to vote)

Proposal not voted on

Ladies Squash Premier Division; Currently either set 1 or set 2 at 14-14:  
Proposal 9: Change to 2 clear points at 14-14 (this could read 10-10 depending on the outcome of the above proposal. (Only clubs with a Ladies team to vote)

Proposal not voted on

## 9. County Knock-Out Cup 29th April, Duffield Squash Club

Another successful finals weekend brought the Derbyshire Squash and Racketball season to a close. Thank you to Duffield Squash Club and Phil Scully for hosting the event.

Congratulations to

Men	Section A	Duffield 1	bt	The Manor 1
	Section B	Rolls Royce 1	bt	Duffield 3
	Section C	King Edward VI	bt	Brampton Manor 3

Trophies will be presented at the end.

## 10. County Championships 13/15<sup>th</sup> January, Duffield Squash Club

Vic Malysz - Tournament Director.

### Finals Results

Ladies Main: Heidi Walters beat Lesley Sturgess 9-11 11-8 9-11 11-8 11-7

Ladies O40: Lesley Sturgess beat Sue Smith 11-7 11-8 11-4

Ladies Handicap: Heidi Walters beat Jane McIntyre 9-11 11-8 11-8 11-5

Men's Main: Phil Scully beat Dan Busby 10-12 11-7 11-7 6-1

Men's O35: Jason Foster beat Brendan Hickerman 12-11 11-5 11-8

Men's O45: Greg Loach beat Phil Bond 11-8 12-10 11-8

Men's O55: Nigel Millington beat John Beastall 11-4 11-4 11-9

Men's Handicap: Alex Wilson beat Simon Watt 15-11 15-8 15-8

## 11. Summary of County Teams

Phil Scully...

Please see Appendix 2

## 12. Achievements by Derbyshire Qualified Players and Teams

See also 'section 6 'Junior results' and section 16 'Chairman's address'.

**Joel Hinds** reached a high of WR96.

Laura Hill currently holds a WR116.

Murray Scott had a very successful season to win in the O45s Nationals and be runner-up in the British Open. Murray also won the Midlands Regional Tournament.

Lesley Sturgess represented England in age category, and won the O45 and O50 National racketball championships.

Sue Smith represented England in age category.

### Teams

Benz-Bavarian Duffield again reached the PSL Semi-Finals as Champions of the North Division.

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

New look website is now up and running

Be sure to subscribe to the mailing list. This will allow us to target members directly.

Any suggestions for the content/display would be most welcome.

Winter league entry forms will be on the website at the beginning of June with entries being in by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Cost is £55 per team.

### 14. Media Reporting

We are proposing that a representative from each club writes a brief report on their team's performance over the previous two weeks. When complete, email it to Graham Hall who will endeavour to get it included in the following week's paper. Each club will only have to complete a report once in the season, although more reports, higher club profile. We will produce a list of the clubs with the date for their report to be submitted at the start of the winter season.

### 15. Presentation of League Trophies 2010/11

John Davies presented the trophies to the relevant clubs.

	Champions	Runners-Up
Premier	Duffield 1	Brampton Manor 1
Div 1	Hood Park 1	Duffield 2

Div 2	Queens Park 1	Rolls-Royce 1
Div 3	Lumb Farm 2	LA Fitness 2
Div 4	Brampton Manor 3	Bradley House
Div 5	King Edward VI	Duffield 6
Ladies	Burton	Ashbourne
R'ball	The Manor	David Lloyd

## **16. Chairman's Address**

Ladies and Gentlemen, 12 months ago Kevin White addressed this meeting by telling us all how important development of squash and racketball was, that we all had a duty to increase participation and that introducing more juniors was key to the progression of the game. This year, I have to report that nothing has changed in that respect and that of the juniors playing in Derbyshire they are concentrated in a minority of clubs. Some of our clubs do little to encourage their juniors to acquire an ESR ranking and play squash competitively, while other have a junior section of such a size that it barely merits the name.

And yet the other side of the coin is that Carol Wood and I are constantly being bombarded with requests to do more from parents of children who play at clubs with vibrant junior sections. It seems at times that we can't win, but we have taken it upon ourselves to respond to those with junior sections and encourage those without to get involved if they can.

Notwithstanding Carol's earlier report, this year has seen us continue to provide our budding players with academy sessions coached by Curtis Tomlinson at Ilkeston and Jason Fearn at Brampton Manor. And all things considered, we've had a decent year or at least made our mark. At the very least we've shown that we mean business. Junior Development is never easy in the face of other distractions and to compound matters, at the very end of the season we've lost Curtis due to family reasons, and Pete Goodings here at The Manor is moving into a new business venture that will take him away from the county.

But, having made a good start the only thing we can do is look to the future. We've taken the decision to re-establish the junior committee and over the coming 2 years we intend to plough more money into junior squash, either from DSR unallocated funds or commercial sponsorship than DSR has done in previous years.

We've drawn up a new development plan, which will be delivered by Carol and I, but which will need the full support of the clubs, representatives and members.

We've engaged the services of Danny Massaro to work with our junior county squads and enlisted the help of Sam Wileman to run our development academy. Danny and Sam will work together identifying future talent, nurturing it and polishing players who achieve the desired standard. We want to give our youngsters the chance to become proficient at this great sport of ours and to be

truly competitive at inter-county level. I'm calling on everyone present to give this new initiative your support because without it we can't deliver.

Clearly the new plan represents major changes in the way junior squash is developed in Derbyshire, but without this renewed outlook the game cannot grow, so please give us your blessing.

Finally I'd like to end on a very positive note. In Derbyshire have one player and one institution who have exceeded expectations in some respects and worked very hard achieve excellence in another.

The player concerned is Ashley Davies and I'd like to make special mention of his progress over the last 12 months. Ashley Davies has achieved a level of success which doesn't come along every day and which provides inspiration for many of our junior players. Since our last AGM, Ashley has not only signed a PSL contract to play for Duffield next season, and been selected to represent England at the World Junior Championships in July, but when he left the U17 age group at the end of January he was European No.1 and England No.2. Not only that, but he had become British U17 National Champion, U17 runner-up at the British Junior Open and had finished the season with two European titles under his belt. He now plays at U19 and we expect him to be even more successful over the coming 2 years.

The institution I mentioned earlier is Brampton Manor. This year BM has won both Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Club of the Year, as well as ESR East Midlands Regional Club of the year. Not only that, but it has been chosen as a hub site for the Derbyshire Institute of Sport, it is Chesterfield's most loved business and the UK's most loved Health and Fitness Club. These accolades have been won not only because of the club's facilities, but because the staff and management have engaged the membership. It's no accident that BM has the largest junior section in Derbyshire, by a country mile and I think their squash coaching staff, Jason Fearn, Jane Beresford and John Robertson deserve a pat on the back for the for showing what can be done when you set your stall out to achieve success.

### **17. Any other business**

A question relating to clubs using 'paid' players in their teams was raised by Trevour Davies. After some discussion and with no overriding commitment either way it was decided to discuss the issue further at the next committee meeting.

In an effort to increase the participation of more ladies within Derbyshire squash. A suggestion was tabled that it might be possible to run a combined squash/racketball match with some of the team competing in each discipline. The consensus of opinion was that it would be unworkable.

**Graham Hall**  
**Chairman DSR**

## Appendix 1

### DERBYSHIRE SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION 2011 / 12 COMBINED ACCOUNTS

#### INCOME

	2010 / 11	2011 / 12	Change
	£		£
Cash in Hand	6777	6655	-122
Subscriptions	3530	3389	-141
England Squash rebate	872	725	-147
Doubles competition	0	150	150
Sponsorship	0	1000	1000
Grants / ESR funding	1350	600	-750
Junior closed	140	0	-140
Sub Total	5892	5864	-28
TOTAL	12669	12519	-150

#### EXPENDITURE

	2010 / 11	2011 / 12	Change
	£		£
County expenses	2801	2065	-736
Lge Sec. Expenses	725	750	25
Printing	0	0	0
County closed	59	93	34
Website / Maint.	0	295	295
Shirts	131	1439	1308
Development	1494	836	-658
Cup Fees	120	135	15
Trophies	684	522	-162
Sub Total	6014	6135	121
Cash in Hand	6655	6384	-271
TOTAL	12669	12519	-150

## Appendix 2

Inter County Squash 2011/12		Mens	Mens O35 (A)	Mens O35 (B)	Mens O45	Mens O55	Mens O60	Women	Women O40	Women O50	Racketball
Captain	Phil Scully	Richard Woodroffe	Martin Rose	Mike Lambert	John Beastall	Alan Hagger	Lesley Sturgess	Lesley Sturgess	Lesley Sturgess	Lesley Sturgess	Nigel Millington
Stage 1											
Div 1	3rd										
Div 1		3rd									
Div 2			withdrawn								
Div 1				2nd							
Div 1					2nd						
Div 1						2nd					
Div 1							2nd				
Div 1								2nd			
Div 1									1st		
Premier A										4th	2nd
Div 1											
Stage 2											
Div 1 Relegation	4th										
Div 1 Relegation		2nd									
Div 2 Promotion			withdrawn								
Div 1 Promotion				4th							
Div 1 Promotion					2nd						
Div 1 B						1st					
Div 1 Promotion							3rd				
Div 1								1st			
Premier A										1st	
Div 1											1st
	Relegated to Div 2				Stay in Div 1	Stay in Div 1	Promoted to Premier	Stay in Div 1	Promoted to Premier	Stay in Premier	Promoted to Premier