

**DERBYSHIRE SQUASH & RACKETBALL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7.30PM 19th June 2019
Kedleston Room,
Rolls-Royce Leisure Centre, Moor Lane,
Derby. DE24 9HY**

Present:

Committee: Ray Patrick (Treasurer), Phil Scully (Men's County Captain), Helen Wilson (Competition Coordinator), Jo Wallis (Development), Jonathan Brooks (County Secretary).

Club Representatives and Other attendees: Chris Respinger (Queens Park), Gary Beeby (Alfreton LC), Peter Fox (Ashbourne), Phil Scully (Princes Sports Club), Martyn McAllister (Duffield), Debbie Rogers (Duffield), Jim Lockhart (Hood Park), Julia Muzyka (Bradley House), Rodger Mann (Bradley House), Doug Whitfield (Burton), Annette Hayden (The Manor).

Apologies: Gill Ford (League Secretary).

Welcome to the Derbyshire Squash and Racketball AGM for 2019. It looks like a better turnout than last year. It's has again been a difficult year with less clubs and thus less players participating in the leagues. A positive outcome from this is that all the league matches were finished on time. But we did have a larger entry for the County Closed thanks to Helen's sterling efforts.

As usual we will need proposers and seconders for the various items that need approval.

1. Previous Meeting matters arising

20th June 2018 held at Kedleston Room, Rolls-Royce Leisure Centre, Moor Lane, Derby. DE24 9HY

The minutes of that meeting were available as always on the website and there were no matters arising notified to the committee.

Acceptance of these minutes as a true record.

Proposed by: Debbie Rogers
Seconded by: Doug Whitfield

2. Election of Officers / Committee and Vacant Positions

Nominations:

Jonathan Brooks (County Secretary)

Ray Patrick (Treasurer)

Gill Ford (League Secretary)

Phil Scully (County Captain)

Helen Wilson (Competition Coordinator)

Jo Wallis (Development Officer)

No other formal nominations had been received for any DSR post and it is proposed that the current committee be re-elected on block

Chairman - Vacant

Welfare Officer - Vacant

Racketball Coordinator - Vacant

Marketing Officer - Vacant

Age Group County Captain - Vacant

*Propose: **Elect en bloc***

Proposed by: Doug Whitfield

Seconded by: Rodger Mann

3. Treasurer's Report and Accounts

Last years accounts are attached, see appendix 1.

Prudent financial control has continued throughout the past year resulting in our cash reserve increasing by £883.

Income last year decreased by £750 compared to the previous year. Subscriptions were down by £690 being a combination of an overall reduction in league teams and that none of the summer subscriptions were included last year. England squash funding reduced by £530 but this was down to us not drawing money down with funds still available this year. We also received two lots of sponsorship for junior events. All other income streams being in line with the previous year.

Expenditure reduced by £900 with county expenses down on the previous year due to format changes. Junior development increased significantly with most of it being offset against England Squash funding. Expenditure on trophies was well down after the investment in perpetual trophies, namely cups, so ongoing costs will be minimal. Previous expenditure in other areas did not materialise last year which has resulted in our cash reserves increasing by £800 to £7400.

So in summary, it was a good financial year where cash reserves increased by £830 to £7400 which means our working capital continues to be maintained in excess of one years level of expenditure which has been our golden rule since dsra went bust several years ago. I do not foresee any significant changes over the next year although a reduction in league teams is a concern.

I thank you for prompt payment of league subscriptions although some summer ones are still outstanding.

On the subject of England Squash membership. Changes have now taken place with player membership now £12.50. All our clubs are affiliated but player membership is not good when compared to player nominations. Last year the average number for all clubs was 80%, not too bad. However by club this ranged from 32% to over 100% (Duffield). I still believe that all our league players should take up this membership but recognise this can be an issue for people who play infrequently or not at all. That aside I feel that we should request that clubs have a minimum membership of say 90% to participate in our leagues. This is a difficult issue as several participating clubs are not affiliated to Derbyshire.

See Appendix 1

Acceptance of Accounts

Proposed by: Gary Beeby

Seconded by: Peter Fox

4. Junior Section

County Closed Sept 2019

U11 winner Harry Watson, ru Felix Melton

U15 winner Chris Jerram, ru Jake Bamber

U17 winner Libby Leivers, ru Adam Brass

U19 winner Matt Gregory, ru Michael Wallis

Aspire Squad

Harry Watson, Felix Melton, Jake Bamber, Chris Jerram, Libby Leivers & Matt Gregory.

Aspire teams for the Aspire Champs in July 2019

Harry Watson, Felix Melton, Jake Bamber & Chris Jerram.

Inter county Teams

U11 Notts/Derbys

Harry Watson

Felix Melton

U15 Derbys/Notts

Chris Jerram

Jake Bamber

Finlay Stott

Liam Morton

U17 Derbys

Matt Gregoroy

Libby Leivers

Adam Brass

Alex Lapworth

Dan MacDonald

This year there were only 3 Junior Intercounty teams entered, 2 of which were joint teams with Nottinghamshire. This is well down from the normal 4 or 5 Derbyshire teams in previous years. The GP's were non-existent this year and we are to make a determined effort to resurrect the event for the forthcoming season. Dates for a couple of the events will be circulated to all the relevant clubs.

5. Development

Summary of Development activity since last AGM

- Ongoing links and communications with other CA reps in our Regional Forum. Ray Patrick from Derbyshire is treasurer of Squash East Midlands (SEM), Jo Wallis is secretary. We share ideas, good practice and an Aspire Head Coach: Dan McGinn. Dan is now also Loughborough University's head squash coach. Next season the 5 counties from SEM (Northants, Lincs, Notts, Leics & Derbys) are planning to run an England Squash (ES) Sanctioned Copper series, with one event in each county. It will be called the Squash East Midlands Grand Prix Super Series.
- Discussions with other county association officers outside our region. David Harris in Kent, Vicky Prow in Middlesex, Richard Antcliff previously from Kent and now Yorkshire, Peter Keen from Yorkshire.
- Special relationship with Andy Hay and Notts. We shared two Junior Inter-county Teams this season at U15 and U13.

We share county training with coach Lewis Walters at The Park.

A brand new venture between the two counties is the Notts / Derbys Junior Squash Leagues. Andy Hay coaches across Notts and Derbys and this new league series is aimed at grass roots players: an entry level graded event, run monthly. If a player can serve and rally they can enter. Each league lasts 2 hours. Results appear on League Master and now also on Squash Levels. Each match is one game to 11. Tim from League Master and Richard Bickers from Squash Levels have worked with Andy Hay to ensure the results 'hold together' with such small amounts of data.

See the results online:

<https://nottsjuniors.leaguemaster.co.uk/cgi-county/icounty.exe/showtournamentlist>

&

<https://squashlevels.com/players.php?BaDSquashID=msmote09him5p73pd9sbs6hfb6&check=1&club=all&county=all&country=all&show=last24m&events=1&matchtype=Notts+%26+Derby+Junior+League&playercat=all&playertype=all&search=Search+name>

- Attended ES AGM, and two ES council meetings
- Liaison with Aspire head coach: formerly Neil Guirey and currently Dan McGinn. Worked with Dan and the RF to develop the Aspire and the Inspire programmes for our region.
- Tournament Organiser for our Junior County Closed in Sept 2018 at Duffield: Sanctioned Copper event played as a mixed event in each age group: U11, U15, U17, & U19

- Regular phone calls with ES staff; Linda Taylor, Josh Taylor, Jo Rowbottom, Mark Williams, Kevin Stewart.
- Visit to new courts at Repton with Ray and ES staff.
- Successful bid for ES regional funding. Money split between Elite and Participation, with much larger sum this year for the ES participation programmes. Squash Girls Can, Squash 57, Junior 101 and Squash 101.
- ES 101 APP. The ES RF funding is conditional upon the new reporting system. Four coaches in Derbyshire now using the APP: Andy Hay (3rd), Jo Wallis (12th), Lesley Sturgess & Adam Turner.
- Communications with coaches and clubs across the East of the county to offer support. Queens Park, Alfreton, Princes, Ilkeston Manor, Duffield, Repton, Burton. Next season, plans to head West, over the Pennines, to gain an understanding of squash & racketball provision and need.
- Organised an ES Level 1 Squash Coaching course at Princes Sports Club
- Organised a Level 3 Safeguarding course which was run by Sarah Parkman from Duffield, raising £50 for NSPCC.
- Helped Princes Sports Club achieve ES Club of the Month for Feb 2019
- Partnered with Chesterfield School Sport Partnership to create Squashfest Princes in November 2019.
- Partnered with Duffield Squash Club for their Squashfest in May 2019.
- Supported three coaches from Derbyshire to attend the ES Coaching Summit.
- Links with CAN, the County Association Network.
- Facilitated Derbyshire coaches entry into ES Coaches Club.
- Voting in ES council elections
- Detailed discussions with Tim from League Master and Richard from Squash Levels.
- Facebook posts on Derbyshire Squash & Racketball page
<https://www.facebook.com/derbyshiresquash/>

Some people ask, in a Monty Pythonesque sort of a way " what did England Squash ever do for us?"

I stand here as an unashamed advocate of England Squash.

I represent The England Squash County Association of Derbyshire.

I am an England Squash coach, coaching and playing in an England Squash Affiliated Club, and sometimes in our England Squash affiliated County Leagues.

I benefit from their insurance, their understanding of the social science behind building squash communities, their support, their NGB lobbying, their Elite Player pathways, I could go on.

Mostly I am an advocate of England Squash, because, I firmly believe that without our NGB the sport would wither away. We have seen locally the fall in participation. Without the county associations and the coaches and the clubs and players all playing their part, then England Squash will not meet the criteria set for them by Sport England, they will lose their funding, and squash as we know it will cease.

So, what can we each do?

Players can pay their £12.50 membership fee and activate their membership.

There are many new benefits for players available on the website, and if you've not logged in for a while, you may get a pleasant surprise.

Clubs can get involved with the ES Participation Programmes to help *Grow the Game*. These programmes are: Squash 101, Squash 57, Squash Girls Can and Junior 101.

Take up the Club Support Day offer from England Squash

They can make it easy for players to join ES as activated members. They can approach the county association or England Squash for advice and support. They can really value their coaches. In Derbyshire we only have 13 with valid coach status, they are a precious resource. Look after them, and they will help your squash & racketball community grow.

Of the 13 coaches, three are my family, one works abroad, 6 work at Princes, 1 works in Sheffield, 3 are from Duffield and 1 over in Marple. Three are U19, two of whom will be off to Uni in September.

Coaches can use the intelligence from ES and trust in their Participation Programmes, to help *Grow the Game*. Use the ES 101 APP to record their players.

England Squash have promised Sport England that 9000 adult players will be recorded on their 101 APP by 2021. Currently there are 2500 recorded.

Squash 101: 5000 players

Squash girls can: 2000 players

Squash 57: 1000 players

Junior 101: 3000 players >> current 5000 ☺

1.2 million people play squash. Many are 'casual dippers' playing in clubs and leisure facilities. The challenge is to find them and engage them in our clubs and county activities.

These four key words used by Mick Todd when he is attending clubs around the country on the ES Club support days, summarise his big pitch for Squash and Racketball.

FUN!

SOCIAL!

COMMUNITY!

PHYSICAL!

Please get in touch with me if you want more information on anything I have mentioned.

Jo Wallis 07815 574113 jo.wallis1@gmail.com

Plans for next season 2019/20

- Build on the partnerships forged within the county, our regional forum, England Squash, and the wider squash community.
- Explore the clubs to the West of Derbyshire
- Remain a key point of contact for coaches, clubs, Regional Forum and England Squash
- Organise a Level 2 Coaching course at Princes (likely to be this Summer)
- Deliver a high level coaching workshop with Paul Carter, for our best senior county players and our coaches.
- Increase the number of coaches with Active Coach Status.

Increase participation of Juniors and Adults across the county, and ensure this activity is recorded on the ES 101 APP to help ES reach the targets set by Sport England.

6. Derbyshire County Leagues - Gill Ford

In the leagues we had teams from 11 different clubs down from 13 the previous year. The number of teams entering was down again at 37 from 41 the previous year. The leagues ran smoothly overall with a total of 212 matches being played.

Reminder that entries to next season leagues need to be in ASAP. Also the leagues will start the week commencing 16th September 2019.

Results of last years leagues:

Summer League 2018

	Champions	Runners-Up
Div 1	Duffield 1	Fulwood
Div 2	Tollgate	Duffield 3
Div 3	Ashbourne	Burton 2

Winter League 2018/2019

	Champions	Runners-Up
Premier	Princes 1	Burton 1
Div 1	Queens Park 1	Duffield 3
Div 2	Burton 3	Burton 4
Div 3	Hood Park 2	Burton 5
Ladies	Ashbourne	Burton
Racketball	The Manor 1	Burton 1

Trophies will be presented at the end

7. County Knock-Out Cup 14th April, Repton Squash Club

A good finals weekend bought the Derbyshire Squash and Racketball season to a close. Thank you to Repton for hosting and Helen Wilson and Phil Scully for organizing the event.

Congratulations to:

Section A Princes 1 bt Burton 1

Section B Ashbourne 1 bt Burton 4

Section C Hood Park 2 bt Bradley House

Trophies will be presented at the end.

8. County Championships 16th & 17th March, Duffield Squash Club

Congratulations to:

Mens Phil Scully bt Sam Watts

Mens Plate Chris Alcock bt David Gonzalez

Womens Lesley Sturgess bt Jo Shelley

Womens Plate Carolyn Lindsay bt Debbie Rogers

Mens O35 Matt Whitehead bt Charlie Wall

Mens O35 plate Dean Gregory bt Phil Mobley

Womens O40 Lesley Sturgess bt Jo Shelley

Womens O40 Plate Carolyn Lindsay bt Di Vickers

Mens O45 Brendan Hickerman bt Jeff Davenport

Mens O45 Plate Dean Gregory bt Martyn McAllister

Mens O55 Greg Loach bt Felix Frixou

Mens O55 Plate Steve Coppard bt James Rosborough

Mens O65 Group Winner John Pearson

Mens O65 Runner Up Rob Lathbury

Handicap Kieran Shelley bt Aaron Harding

Handicap Plate Chris Jerram bt Martyn McAllister

Thanks again to Helen and Phil for organizing and also Duffield Squash for hosting the event.

9) Summary of County Teams

LEAGUE	M SENIOR	M SENIOR B	W SENIORS	M 035	W 040	M 045	W 050	M 055	M 065	RB SENIORS	RB 040
FINALS							22nd june				
GROUPS	STAY	STAY				STAY		STAY	STAY		
CAPTAIN	SW	JSL	not entered	not entered	not entered	JD	JS	SB	RL	not entered	not entered

JD JEFF DAVENPORT
SB SIMON BARNETT
RL ROB LATHBURY
JS JO SHELLEY
SW SAM WATTS
JSL JOHN SLATER

10. Achievements by Derbyshire Qualified Players

- **MILLIE TOMLINSON** - WORLD 21 and first senior England Cap. Historic win over former world champion Nicol David
- **LESLEY STURGESS** - 16TH year and 18th cap playing for England for the ladies 055 winning all three matches in the ladies home internationals.
- **GREG LOACH** - Runner up in Mens 055s squash nationals.
- **ADAM TURNER** - Turned pro this year.

11. Website www.derbyshiresquash.co.uk

The website continues to be the main source of communication and should be the first port of call for information. We continue to include and add information and any suggestions for further content can be forwarded to Gill.

Score cards can be downloaded from the website.

12. Any other business

The issue of notification of 'deadlines' was discussed as not all players/clubs check the website daily. We will investigate if some other form of communication can be easily introduced to run in parallel to the website.

The introduction of the 'Squash Levels' ranking system was discussed. We are currently trialing it in the summer leagues to see how easily the data can be exported from our current system. Most attendees were unaware of this so better notification of our aims needs to be put on the website. It was also raised that before any change over to fully utilizing the system it needs to be discussed and approved at the AGM.

The ladies league was discussed as 'Bradley House' would be unable to enter a team due to insufficient players. A number of ideas including teams of 4, teams of 3, 1 string being a racketball event and the possibility of a man in the team were discussed. These ideas are to be followed up with the clubs who may enter a ladies team.

Debbie Rogers indicated she may be interested in the position of 'Racketball Coordinator'.

Jonathan Brooks
Secretary DSR

Appendix 1

DERBYSHIRE SQUASH RACKETS 2018 / 19

INCOME

	2017/18	2018/19	Change
	£		£
Cash in Hand	5932	6590	658
Subscriptions	3075	2385	-690
England Squash rebate	387	306	-81
County closed	84	165	81
ES Funding	1716	1186	-530
Sponsorship	0	460	460
Interest	0	7	7
Sub Total	5262	4509	-753
Total	11194	11099	-95

EXPENDITURE

	2017/18	2018/19	Change
	£	£	£
County expenses	889	594	-295
Lge Sec. Fee	800	800	0
Website maint.	300	300	0
Development	493	1755	1262
Cup Fees	42	0	-42
Trophies	791	227	-564
AGM costs	148	0	-148
Balls	100	0	-100
County shirts	237	0	-237
Misc	54	0	-54
Coaching courses	750	0	-750
Sub Total	4604	3676	-928
Cash in Hand	6590	7423	833
Total	11194	11099	-95