

**Minutes Sussex Squash and Racketball Committee Meeting held at the Weald SC on  
Tuesday 11th September 2012 at 7.30PM**

**Attendees**

Karl Manning (KM) Fiona Western(FW), Mick Sheeran (MS), Paul Millman (PM), Camron Malik (CRM), Dave Snelson (DS) and Simon Tunley (ST)

**Apologise**

Chris Markham(CM), Mike Tonge (MT) and Ian Robinson (IR)

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>1. <u>Matters Arising from minutes of last meeting 12<sup>th</sup> June 2012</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junior squad fees were discussed following CM's emailed proposals and Graham Stevenson's feedback this week on the costings. CRM highlighted issue with the new charges as felt still too high and therefore parents would be more choosy on which squads they might attend especially if they are in the regional squad and playing weekend tournaments as well; he felt they are unlikely to pay up front on this basis and make a monthly commitment. CRM felt a fee of £10-£15 was more acceptable especially based on the coach pupil ratio when numbers are high. It was agreed however the new rates have not increased really and do offer a saving if paid up front.</li> </ul> <p>Further discussion was on the fact there was hope for a greater subsidy from SSR. However it seems costs are still too high to produce favourable figures that would be sustainable over time and SSR accounts could not afford long term to support rates that were too low and therefore those proposed are mindful of this.</p> <p>Recommendations were to reduce the number of squad sessions from 10 to 8 to help reduce the cost and run from September to April. All agreed to ask CM to look at figures based on 8 sessions and also confirm what the subsidy from SSR is approximately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior county closed: KM provided a paper see appendix A. There is still an issue over ESR numbers and the interface with our LMIS. KM is waiting for around 1100 names to be linked in to the LMIS. KM hopes by the end of the month all should be ready to go with ESR support. KM plans to send an email out to all players or the question was asked do players have to opt out to not be entered automatically? Early round matches would be played at players clubs and the finals would be looked to be hosted in the January window set aside for the county closed 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> January 2013. DS is to see if West Worthing would like to host the finals. There was a discussion over a cost of entry to add some value to the event and make players buy into it. DS mentioned option to offer a T shirt as part of the entry but it was felt it would be hard to give these to the players. FW suggested a £5 fee and all agreed to support; since the meeting KM has suggested offering as an incentive a £1 discount on club league fees to every player that enters from their club. Most seem in agreement on this but it is to be confirmed by KM.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. <u>Website</u></b></p> <p>KM produced a paper (See appendix A) which provides an update on the website. KM confirmed he has restricted clubs access to certain aspects of the LMIS until they update key details on the web. MS stated KM needed to be wary of the fact some junior teams are run by parents who are not overly committed to the admin side of teams and the entering of fixtures, so restricting access needs to be done</p>	<p align="center"><b>CM</b></p> <p align="center"><b>DS</b></p> <p align="center"><b>KM</b></p>

<p>carefully.</p> <p><b>3. <u>Senior and Junior County Closed Events Updates</u></b></p> <p>Junior event is being run at Corals with Ben Hutton as TD again at the end of the month. See above for info on senior closed.</p> <p><b>4. <u>Development Executive Post</u></b></p> <p>PM provided some background to the post and confirmed it was to be funded via ESR and SSR and would be a two year tenure. PM thanked the committee for the feedback on the post including aspects on inclusivity and KPI's. PM keen to get the advert out ASAP and see what type of candidates might apply. PM confirmed there are different schools of thought on the type of person who might suit the post and it does not need to be a coach. PM confirmed the salary and mileage expenses could be flexible if the right candidate comes along. PM keen will send out advert with a closing date sometime in October. DS and ST agreed to be on the interview panel.</p>	<p><b>PM</b></p>
<p><b>5. <u>Treasurer's Report</u></b></p> <p>No feedback from CM however all accounts now under one umbrella with the merging of the junior accounts with the main accounts.</p> <p><b>6. <u>Leagues inc Juniors</u></b></p> <p>All ok</p> <p>MS stated junior leagues all set to go although a drop off in team numbers. Weald lost two teams while Chichester increased to three.</p> <p>MT confirmed racketball league all set to go</p> <p><b>7. <u>England Squash and Racketbaoll (ESR)</u></b></p> <p>PM confirmed ESR are looking to meet with counties to try and improve better interface. South East counties feel they need greater support to help develop the game as this where grass roots squash starts.</p> <p>PM confirmed ESR should look at supporting counties that are prepared to deliver on relevant plans and not those who might be less interested.</p> <p><b>8. AOB</b></p> <p>PM thanked DS and CRM for offering their services on the committee</p> <p><u>Date of next meeting</u></p> <p>At the Black Horse Patcham at 7.30 on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012</p>	

## **Action Points for September 2012 Meeting**

### Paul Millman

1. To finalise Executive post and advertise

### Chris Markham

1. CM to finalise junior squad fees

### Karl Manning

1. To finalise the county closed event via the LMIS

### Dave Snelson

1. To see if West Worthing would host the county closed finals in January 2013

## Appendix A

### **LMS Update – September 2012**

#### **England Squash Registration Numbers**

England Squash have provided an interface to validate ESR numbers, which has been built into the LMS. After initial use though it was found that the interface did not allow for surnames with spaces within them. This has meant that the actual implementation has been delayed as ESR seem slow in providing a correction for this. I hope this to be resolved by ESR by the end of the month.

The integration of ESR numbers allows the LMS to provide consolidated statistics for where the same player is in both the Mens and Ladies leagues for example. This is quite a step forward for the system. The current stats have been a bit unreliable while I have been doing this work but are hopefully mostly correct now.

It is hoped that the ESR requirements will help reduce the number of 'ghost players' in the system. Because of administrative delays that some clubs have, I am allowing new players 30 days grace before insisting that an ESR number is added for them.

#### **Closed Tournament Proposal**

I would prefer that ESR numbers are fully in place before starting this but hope that can be by the end of this month.

#### **LMS data checks**

Quite a number of checks have been introduced this year to ensure the completeness of necessary data in good timescales.

The checks include:

- Cannot rank players who have no ESR number
- Cannot change rankings or enter results until all match start times are in place
- Cannot change rankings or enter results until all fixtures secretary and captains details are in place
- Insist that results are added in the order they are played in

Although this has improved the accuracy of the system, to the benefit of all, not all clubs have been happy about the restrictions this has introduced and so I have added a discussion point for this below.

#### **Discussion points:**

- Start date, entry fee, finals date and location for closed tournament
- Certain clubs unwilling to accept the implementation of ESR numbers
- Need for accurate and complete information on the LMS Clubs allowed to drop high teams prior to start of season

KJM – 11/09/12