



## TENNIS MK AGM 2013

**Minutes of the Tennis MK AGM held on Wednesday 27 February 2013 at 7.30pm in the Function room, David Lloyd, Newlands, Milton Keynes.**

**Present:** David Marchant, (Chair), Bob Poole (Secretary), Peter Tolaini (Vice Chair), Anne Harris (Adult League Secretary) Tony Johnston (MK), Steve Sumpter (MK), Josh Spring (MK), David Massey (OU), Steve Doyle (Wolverton), Angela Redgewell (Gilpin), Sue Soul (Gilpin), Wendy Prince (Woburn Sands), Paul Gilroy (Stony Stratford), Eamon Hanratty (Great Linford), Nigel Knowles (OU), Glynise King (Olney), M. King (Olney), Tony Carr (David Lloyd), Jan Taylor (Stony Stratford), John Taylor (Stony Stratford), Jo Woodward (Wolverton), Phil Cooper (Stony Stratford), Mary Hartley (NP), Anne Saunders (NP), Kathy Sumpter, Mihai Cenusă (MK), A. Barr (Olney), C. Mackellar (Olney), Gary Hutchinson (Great Linford).

1. **Apologies for absence:** David Higgs (Treasurer), Andrew Petherick (David Lloyd), Anne and Dave Thomas, (Vagabonds), Pam Miller (Newport Pagnell), Simon Barter (Olney), Andrew Wakelin (Winslow) Liz Murdoch (Gilpin), Andrew Soul (Gilpin).
2. **Presentation of Champion of Champions awards.** Chairman, David Marchant, presented the winners of the 2012 Champion of Champion tournament with their trophies. Present to receive the awards were Ladies Singles winner, Glynise King (Olney) and Steve Supter (MK) who collected the Mixed Doubles on behalf of Jenny Gatley and himself. Men's Singles winner, Seb Calcutt (Stony Stratford) was unable to attend in person, but his trophy was collected by his club.
3. **Minutes of 2012 AGM:** Circulated in advance and approved with one small amendment in AOB as Sue Soul had kindly pointed out in advance of the meeting that she had raised the idea of the vets social play tennis following it being discussed by the League sub-committee. **Matters arising:** None

Tennis MK Chairman, David Marchant, gave a presentation on activities since the last AGM in 2012 which included reference to reports by various committee members as detailed below.

4. **League report:** Anne Harris kindly provided the following report which was circulated at the meeting and via email in advance.

Despite unhelpful weather the 2011/12 winter season was completed with results in all six divisions. The top teams were all undefeated (just two draws) and made Gilpin, Milton Keynes B, Vagabonds (on sets), Wolverton C, Newport Pagnell B and Wolverton D champions. The season was however marred by a breach of League Rules.

The 2012 summer season also had weather problems but Captains persevered and all matches had results. Newport Pagnell C and Great Linford C withdrew leaving normal six divisions of eight. Champion teams were Milton Keynes A, Newport Pagnell B, Winslow A, Leighton Buzzard, Milton Keynes E and F, all undefeated. Great Brickhill withdrew from the Ladies divisions leaving the usual teams. Milton Keynes A, despite two draws, headed Division 1, followed by Olney A, Leighton Buzzard and Open University 2, 3, 4. There were twenty seven teams, up one, Olney C. Milton Keynes A and David Lloyd E dominated Division 1, 2 whilst Buckingham won Division 3 by 4 sets.

The 1<sup>st</sup> round dates of the Knock-out Cup were fixed and played, on the whole, to schedule. However, in the following rounds some Captains were rather uncooperative with each other and needed chasing.

Finals Day at Stony Stratford and fine for a change with some close matches. Men's 1,2,3 and Ladies 1,2, saw Milton Keynes A win both finals 5-3 whilst Milton Keynes E and Leighton Buzzard were winners in Men's 4,5,6 and Ladies 3,4. Unfortunately a Rule break forced the disqualification of one of the finalist teams.

This winter forty six teams, losing Leighton Buzzard but gaining Open University. Despite the weather I am hopeful Captains and Match Secretaries will complete enough fixtures to give top and bottom positions.

Summer 2013 – regrettably Towcester as a Club have withdrawn from the League. It has had summer and winter Open, Ladies, Mixed and Junior teams since 1984. Their Club committee thanks the League for past enjoyable competition.

The usual forty eight open teams, twenty two Ladies, no Towcester, Stewkley B and again twenty seven Mixed. Clubs have received Match Secretaries list and Fixtures list – to follow, K.O. Cup draws and Captains. The second Champion of Champions event, Presentations Evening and the new Veterans Mixed Social day tennis have all been part of this year, but am sure will be covered during the meeting. Finally, I thank Club Match Secretaries and Captains for their support over the year. Anne Harris.

**Junior report:** Peter Tolaini kindly provided the following report which was circulated at the meeting and via email in advance.

The report takes us back to the winter season of 2011/12. The winners of each league and cup both 2011/13 winter and summer 2012 seasons can be found attached to this report. As you will see a fantastic effort from Olney Tennis Club winning 6 of the 9 leagues in the 2011/13 winter leagues. The summer saw Stony Stratford take the honours winning 4 of 9 leagues and 4 of 6 KO Cups. The summer also saw the introduction of mini tennis leagues, U9, and U10. The league also organised Mini Tennis Red festivals, which were in effect an opportunity for our youngest players to play matches against other clubs of similar abilities giving them a taste of competition. The U9 & U10's played the best of 3 set matches in a league format as were all the other leagues. The KO Cup finals were played on finals day at Stony Stratford with the format being the same as league matches. The down side of the leagues is that we were not able to run an U18 league due to lack of players by all clubs. This is something that will continue until our U16 qualify for U18. However, this may be a problem that cannot be resolved! With the pressures put on our youngsters with their schooling and also the fact they want to earn money their priorities may not always be playing tennis, Coupled to this if they do get a part time job they are invariably asked to work at weekends and junior matches are played on weekends. This is something that possibly can be addressed by clubs by allowing more access to court time, perhaps something clubs can think of? Another point clubs may wish think about is to start playing U 18's in their adult teams, for evidence of how successful this can be look no further than Milton Keynes Tennis Club!! Another point that we have to accept is that the standard of the leagues is probably middle to low, skill wise around the 10.2 – 9-1 ratings. Once players improve their ratings players tend to move onto LTA ratings tournaments, Matches and Match plays. This allows them to improve their ratings. However, the TMK Junior league has an important part to play in introducing players to match play and will always be what TMK junior leagues will strive to achieve. We were not able to run our Road to MK Champion (R2MK) in 2012 as clubs were not able to host the matches and we have decided that it will not be run in 2013 due to the same reason. To end on a good note, there seems to be an increase in the number of girls starting to play, again something we are keen to build on. Most clubs are working hard to increase their mini tennis members and moving them onto play matches all positive stuff. I therefore ask all clubs to ensure you promote mini tennis and junior tennis in your advertising remember this is the future of your clubs. I would like to thank Nigel Willard for his help, advice, time, patience and enthusiasm as a TMK Junior Committee member. Finally, not forgetting a big thank you to Jim Warner, who refereed our Junior KO Cup finals day, Thank you both again. Peter Tolaini TMK Junior Organiser.

**Winter 2011/12 League Winners**

**Summer 2012 Winners League &**

U12 Div 1 Stony Stratford A  
U12 div 2 Olney B  
U12 girls DLMK  
U14 div 1 DLMK  
U14 div 2 Olney B  
U14 div 3 Olney D  
U16 div 1 Olney A  
U16 div 2 Olney C  
U18 div 1 Olney A

### **Cup**

U9 Olney Bears  
U10 Stony Stratford  
U12 div 1 Milton Keynes  
U12 div 2 Stony Stratford B  
U14 div 1 Stony Stratford  
U14 div 2 Stony Stratford B  
U14 girls Wolverton  
U16 div 1 Olney  
U16 div 2 Woburn Sands  
U18 div 1 Not awarded  
U18 div 2 Not awarded

### **Junior KO Cups**

U9 Winners Stony Stratford runners up Olney Bears  
U10 Winners Milton Keynes runners up Olney B  
U12 Winners Stony Stratford runners up Olney B  
U14 Winners Stony Stratford runners up Olney C  
U14 Girls Winners Wolverton Tennis Club runners up Olney  
U16 Winners Stony Stratford runners up Linslade

5. **Treasurer's report:** David Higgs **who was unable to attend** provided a **written** report and provided a set of accounts which are reproduced below as Appendix A. These accounts had been circulated in advance of the meeting. David made a number of observations about the accounts, noting that the summer junior fees had never arrived in the post and as the cheques had not been cashed, they were assumed lost and therefore the funds would be credited to the Tennis MK in the future. David stated that the funds allocated to the presentation evening and finals day can be somewhat mixed, but in total they represent the costs for the two events. David also explained that a one-off cost had gone on the account for committee meetings expenses which was submitted by the former Chairman and therefore should have been in the 2012 accounts. There was also a one-off expenditure on printing. David explained that with sponsorship money coming in for 2013 and efforts to reduce printing and postage costs the current deficit should be significantly reduced. The bank balance as at 29 February 2013 was £4800.00  
The accounts had been audited by Mr. G McCarthy.
  
6. **Chairman's report:** David Marchant provided an oral report to the AGM supported by a Powerpoint presentation.

David thanked clubs for the good spirit in which over 800 matches had been played over the year. The newly introduced complaints procedure had only been used 3 times during the year and a further three issues had been investigated by TMK. On each occasion three people, independent of the clubs

involved review the cases. Where lessons can be learned, information is shared or used to amend / clarify the rules.

Congratulations were extended to all league and cup winners and thanks extended to Stony Stratford for use of their facilities for Finals day, and to David Lloyd for the venue for the AGM and Champion of Champions event.

We have launched a Vets social play initiative. Thank you to the clubs who have offered their courts and extended a warm welcome to other clubs.

We have started to modernize our communications which we hope will help both TMK and clubs cut their costs and will make it easier for match secretaries and captains to pass on details and communicate within their own club.

We have also introduced a trial sponsorship arrangement of £500 plus administrative support. Volunteer support was requested, particularly for a volunteer for press/marketing who could work with the NHBC marketing department to develop their skills. No immediate suggestions or commitments were made from the attendees.

A number of issues were discussed on how to get best use from the online scoring system and advice given how to ensure player names are added and rearranged match dates are entered. This is important to ensure there is no inadvertent use of ineligible players.

A brief update was given on links with Bucks LTA and the potential for an MK based indoor centre.

## 7. **Proposals to AGM**

A number of proposals had been put forward for consideration at the AGM. The full list is give below as Appendix B. These included a number of proposed rule changes requiring approval and some idea which were put to the vote in an advisory manner since no rule change would be required to implement the idea.

After much discussion, the following proposals were approved:

<b>6.</b> <b>(Advisory vote)</b>	The Knock Out Cup tournaments for teams in the Open Divisions will be run on the basis of 3 separate competitions contested by Divisions 1&2, 3&4 and 5&6, commencing summer 2013.
<b>5.</b> <b>Change to</b>	Teams shall consist of four players and may contain any proportions of men or ladies except in the Ladies or Mixed Divisions. For the

<b>rule 3</b>	winter Medley leagues, teams shall consist of two men and two ladies and the mixed pair rubbers shall always be played first. Variations may be considered for junior matches in both summer and winter leagues
<b>1. Amendment to Rule 14 (a)</b>	If a Club has more than one team in any Section of the League, (i.e. Open, Ladies, Mixed), a player who has played in higher ranking team(s) more than once is not allowed, in that season, to play in any lower team in the same Section. [ <b>Note:</b> the original proposal was subject to proposed amendment and passed on the above wording]

The following proposals detailed in Appendix B below were not approved:  
**Items 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8**

**8. Election of Officers:**

The following were re-elected en-bloc:

David Marchant as Chair  
Peter Tolaini as Vice-chair  
Bob Poole as Secretary  
David Higgs as Treasurer

**9. Election of Management Committee members :**

The following were re-elected en-bloc:

Anne Harris, Kathy Sumpter and Gail Fulcher.  
Further support from participating Clubs is welcomed.

**10. AOB:**

i) Phil Cooper (Stony Stratford) asked if it was possible for the League to change the designation of a team so that they can remain in the right order in the leagues i.e. if a Club's B team goes into a Division below the Club's C team, that they be reallocated e.g. they switch so that B becomes C and vice versa. Pete Tolaini said that it wasn't normally done in the first year but the management committee agreed to discuss.

Chairman, David Marchant, gave his personal thanks to all the Officers and Committee Members for their support over the year.

Meeting closed at approximately 9.45pm.

## Appendix A

### TENNIS MK

Income and Expenditure Account Year Ending 31st December 2012

<b>Income</b>	2012	2011
Summer League fees, Senior	£1,206.00	£1,036.00
Summer League fees, Junior	£0.00	£75.00
Winter League fees Junior	£0.00	£51.00
Junior Tournaments	£0.00	£0.00
Winter League 'Senior	£365.00	£364.00
Wimbledon Tickets	£304.00	£480.00
Hall Refund	£50.00	£100.00
Bank Interest	£0.00	£2.00
Total	£1,925.00	£2,108.00

### Expenditure

League Secretary Admin (2012&2011)	£170.46	£65.34
Bucks LTA Fees	£30.00	£0.00
Ball Purchases	£54.00	£119.99
Trophies & Engraving	£583.27	£379.50
Wimbledon Tickets	£304.00	£480.00
Finals Expenses	£112.64	£61.29
Court Hire (Stony Stratford)	£50.00	£50.00
Drinks Bar AGM	£123.73	£47.95
Sports Council (MK)	£25.00	£20.00
Auditor	£0.00	£0.00
Presentation Drinks Etc.	£184.99	£120.00
Tennis MK Grant	£15.07	£134.82
Website Tennis MK	£269.26	£261.02
Website On Line Scoring	£642.67	£794.23
Hall Presentation	£100.00	£150.00
Website late payment	£0.00	£447.91
Refund	£0.00	£8.00
Committee Meetings (2011)	£140.02	£0.00
Total	£2,805.11	£3,140.05
Surplus/Deficit at 31st Dec	-£880.11	-1,032.05
Bank Balance at 31st Dec	£3,621.32	£4,501.43

Prepared by  
D Higgs

Audited and found correct

Treasurer

Appendix B

**Tennis MK - Proposals to AGM 2013**

<b>Proposer</b>	Peter Tolaini. Wolverton Tennis Club
<b>1.</b> Amendment to Rule 14 (a)	If a Club has more than one team in any Section of the League, (i.e. Open, Ladies, Mixed), a player who has played in a higher ranking team more than once is not allowed, in that season, to play in any lower team in the same Section. A player who has played once for a higher team may not play for any team more than 2 Divisions lower than the higher team. In any Division, if a player plays for a club's A team then playing for the club's B team means that the player cannot play for the C team, they must play for either an A Team or B team. Juniors playing in senior leagues are subject to the same rule. League and Knock-out cup matches are regarded as separate for this rule.
<b>2.</b> <b>(Advisory vote)</b>	That Tennis MK should form a 'Premier League' for the Summer Open Divisions restricted to 5 Clubs and promotion and relegation restricted to one team. (This to start in the Summer Season 2014)
<b>Proposer</b>	Andrew Soul. Gilpin Tennis Club
<b>3.</b> Amendment to Rule 14 (a)	Clubs who have more than one team entered in the League (and Knockout Competition) have to nominate their best players. These players would not then be eligible to play in a lower team. For example, a Club with two men's and two ladies teams have to nominate their four best men and four best ladies. A club with three men's and two ladies teams would have to nominate four men for their first team, four men for their second team and four ladies.
<b>4.</b> Amendment to Rule 14 (a)	(In the alternative to 3 above) Once you have played for your club team you cannot then play for another club team in that Division or Knockout competition against the same opposition team.
<b>Proposer</b>	Tennis MK Committee

<p><b>5.</b></p> <p>Change to rule 3</p>	<p>Teams shall consist of four players and may contain any proportions of men or ladies except in the Ladies or Mixed Divisions. For the winter Medley leagues, teams shall consist of two men and two ladies and the mixed pair rubbers shall always be played first. Variations may be considered for junior matches in both summer and winter leagues.</p>
<p><b>6.</b></p> <p><b>(Advisory vote)</b></p>	<p>The Knock Out Cup tournaments for teams in the Open Divisions will be run on the basis of 3 separate competitions contested by Divisions 1&amp;2, 3&amp;4 and 5&amp;6, commencing summer 2013.</p>
<p><b>Proposer</b></p>	<p>David Marchant – Chairman Tennis MK</p>
<p><b>7.</b></p> <p><b>New rule</b></p>	<p>To promote inter club competition a maximum of three teams from any individual club shall be allowed to participate in a single division. In the event that promotion from one division to another would mean a club exceeds this number, the third placed team would be promoted instead. In the event that relegation causes this number to be exceeded, the lowest positioned team in that division will be relegated in place of the team in second to last place.</p>
<p><b>8. Amendment to rule 14</b></p>	<p>Irrespective of rule 14a, where a club has more than two teams in a single division, an individual player may not play in more than two teams against another club. For clarity, whereas under rule 14a, a player could play in the C, then B, then A team before they are unable to play in the C team again, they may not do this if it results in them playing more than twice against the same team.</p>