

ENGLAND SQUASH MASTERS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT BURY ST EDMUNDS

PRESENT: Martin Pearse (Chairman), Stuart Hardy, Mike Clemson, Alison Goy, Jon Gliddon, Peter Alexander, Dave Hardern, Robert Smith and Brian Brock

APOLOGIES: Steve McLoughlin and Chris Nutley

NEW MEMBER: Zoe Shardlow had agreed to join the Committee

MINUTES: of the meeting held on 3 June 2016 were approved, proposed by Robert and seconded by Stuart

HOME INTERNATIONALS: Dave reported that dates and venues for 2017 were on the website. There was some discussion about match planning, and Dave would explore the options for improvement. Alison offered to assist Dave with the organisation of the Home Internationals, with the aim of taking over full responsibility next year

WORLD MASTERS 2016: The Fitness Assessment Clinic had gone well, but a date for the remaining four people had yet to be arranged. Martin would ask Ian Graham to do an article for the website, which could include an invitation for any Masters player to express interest in undergoing the Assessment, the cost of which could be subsidised from Masters funds. The World Masters has an entry of about 950, of which 44 are from England

REGIONALS 2016-17: Dates and Venues have been confirmed, although Brian is still awaiting details of accommodation, car parking etc. from Vivo in Bristol. Brian is in touch with Martin Roberts about Referees, and Martin will organise physiotherapists for the remaining regionals. Stuart would take over responsibility for the provision of glass trophies and bottles of wine. It was agreed that we would trial the system of losers marking the next match at Pontefract. Brian would action the survey of players, with the aim of having the results available at Pontefract

BRITISH OPEN MASTERS AND NATIONALS: There was no information about date or venue for the 2017 Open Masters. It is assumed that the Nationals will take place in Manchester from 8 -12 February

FINANCE: Steve had reported that the current balance is £8900, from which should be deducted £600 for wine for Players of the Year for the past two years; £1000 for World Masters kit, and £500 for updated screen equipment for Brian, leaving a balance in hand of £6800. It was agreed that Steve be asked to produce an Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for 2015 -16 for the Committee, which would also be available for the general meeting of players due this season, and for Martin's forthcoming meeting with the senior member of ES staff. A breakdown of the costs for each regional tournament would also be appreciated

It was noted that the policy on use of ESM funds had been agreed at a previous meeting

OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) The Glen Ragou day had been very successful, and congratulations were recorded to the Organisers. It was suggested that in future years, it could also include mention of other Masters players who passed away during the year, subject to the approval of their next of kin
- (b) Martin had received neither an acknowledgement nor reply to his letter to the Chair of England Squash, Joy Carter. Robert would draft a follow up for Martin to send. Martin is

meeting Darren Bernstein from ES in early October to discuss the relationship between ES and ESM. It was agreed that, if possible, Martin should be accompanied by another member of the Committee to record the discussion

It was noted that Chris Nutley and Paul Houghton were leaving England Squash. It was agreed that the Chairman should send them each a letter of appreciation for their work and support for Masters squash over the years, and that they should each be sent a case of wine

(c) Brian reported that he is continuing to update the website, whose address now ends in co.uk, utilising new technology

(d) Jon Gliddon put forward some thoughts for discussion on how ESM could be better publicised. They included

- Using England Squash to access ICC Masters players to send email fliers etc.
- Creating a Digital Press Pack template for host clubs to send information to the local press before and after events
- Seeking the views of the ES Director of Marketing and Communications

It was noted, however, that we need to be clear about what we are trying to achieve – a higher profile, more entries, attract sponsorship etc.

(e) Peter Alexander reported that he is retiring from squash and is therefore resigning from the Committee forthwith. He would be consulted about appropriate recognition of his services to the game over many years

Arrangements for the next meeting were left open, and the Chairman declared the meeting closed