**DRUMMOND LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

**Minutes of 97th AGM**

**16th October 2018, 8pm at Drummond Clubhouse**

**Present:** Alexina Mason (chair) and 18 members.

1. **Apologies:** Tom Nelson, Julie Williams, Anne Marie Greaves, Kevin De Bere and Ildi Didikama Molnar
2. **Minutes**: the minutes of the 2017 AGM were approved and signed.
3. **Matters arising**: none
4. **Captain’s remarks**: Alexina informed the meeting that the resurfacing of Court 5 would commence during the following week and that the painting of the court would take place in the Spring with temporary lines for the winter. The new coaching team were presented including the new coach Ross Askell. Alexina informed the meeting that two of the committee officers would not be standing again. She pointed out that the club is a members club run by volunteers, and thanked the members who were present at the AGM for their support. She stressed that the committee needs full membership in order to continue the running of the club and to take the club forward in the future. She confirmed that committee members could be co-opted during the course of the year. It was also suggested that some committee roles could be shared. In reply to a question regarding vacant roles, Alexina explained the committee requirements and gave a description of the type of role the Junior Secretary would be - one that would enhance the Junior section of the club perhaps with teams, tournaments and fun activities as well as being a link between the Juniors and the committee as a whole. She added that it would be hard to have quorate committee meetings if there are three vacant officer positions.
5. **Treasurer’s report**: Martine presented the accounts. Rob Wallis completed an audit of the accounts. Rob was thanked for auditing the accounts. Martine commented that income was up by £5000 due to membership, coaching and the social fund. She thanked Kate for her hard work. £100,000 has been set aside for resurfacing and floodlight provision. The last payment to the LTA for the loan taken out for the installation of the floodlights is due to be paid shortly, and henceforth the club will not be tied to the LTA’s conditions for membership rate increases. She thanked everyone who helps run the club. The type of resurfacing agreed was explained to the meeting and that the committee were following LTA advice. The raising of the practice wall was discussed, but as planning permission would be required this would be reviewed in the future. Alexina was asked if there was funding available for a mini court. When the possibility of building a mini court was considered in the past, committee decided not to pursue it. This could also be reviewed in the future. Alexina explained why only one court was being resurfaced and the complications of doing multiple courts at the same time. The current decision not to change the type of surface could also be reviewed in the future, as new types of surface might be developed. Alexina thanked Martine for her hard work and thanked Rob for doing the Audit.
6. **Subscription rates for 2019**: Alexina explained that we are no longer tied to the LTA and therefore the committee recommended that all rates and offers remain unchanged. Alexina informed the meeting that she had looked at the rates and offers at other clubs. Drummond is similar, but all clubs have different categories and provisions. Martine pointed out that there is always financial help available to members if needed. The committee proposals (see AGM letter) were adopted unanimously.
7. **Coaching report**: Ross introduced himself and thanked the club for the warm welcome he has experienced. He said that his coaching sessions are purposeful and he encourages a hard working ethic. He looks forward to developing the coaching programme at Drummond. He informed the meeting that the company Head had offered to sponsor him and he will discuss the benefits of this for the club with Alexina.

Edwin thanked Ross for joining the coaching team, adding that feedback from members has been positive. Hepresented his report along with Ildi’s. He informed the meeting that there have been changes within the coaching groups and two new groups have been introduced in line with LTA guidelines. He said that Juniors should now be in groups according to their age and skill. Three squads have been introduced as an incentive to develop talent and enthusiasm. A friendly tournament for Juniors has been arranged with Buckhurst Hill club. He described the Rally awards as set up by the LTA to help Juniors track their progress and hopes parents will support this. A parent has been taking photos of Juniors and Ildi will update the notice board. He asked the committee to consider whether a new group for Little Stars could be set up. Edwin would like to encourage Juniors to play at the club outside of coaching lessons. It was suggested a form of Junior Social run by a coach might encourage this. The Athenaeum Cup will take place on 11 November and will include new age groups to encourage more participation. Alexina thanked the coaches for their hard work and their report.

1. **Reports**:

**Secretary**: Maria informed the meeting of the developments at the club this year: the toilets were refurbished, the resurfacing of Court 5 was researched and organised, the floodlights were serviced and research into Floodlight provision on Court 5 concluded that this should be reviewed at a later date, and the overhanging tree on Court 5 will be pruned. She thanked Alexina for her hard work looking for a new coach to make up the current coaching team and welcomed Ross and congratulated Edwin on obtaining his Level 3.

**Match Secretary:** Joan reported that we had 6 teams in the Summer South West Essex League - one mixed, two ladies teams and two men’s teams. There was also one team in the Winter Floodlit League. The Mixed team captained by Monica finished 2ndout of 5 in Division 4. The team narrowly missed top position. The Ladies A team captained by Joan finished 3rd out of 5 in Division 3. This was an achievement considering the effect of injuries on the squad. Joan thanked Jackie and Julie for their co-operation in organising movement of players from one team to another. The Ladies B team captained by Jackie and Julie finished 5th out of 6 in Division 4, one place higher than last year. The men’s team captained by Darren Ashcroft had a fantastic season finishing 2nd out of 7 in Division 3. Joan expects the team will be promoted. The new team, Men’s B, captained by Peter Rains, won Division 4. Joan praised the team for their effort and thanked Peter for his hard work running his team and liaising with the A team. The Winter Floodlit Team finished 2nd in Division 2 and gained promotion to Division 1. Joan thanked Phil for captaining this team and giving all players match experience.

The club ran two teams in the Essex League, one ladies and one mens. The ladies captained by Alexina, had a very tough season with injuries to players. They finished 7th out of 8 in Division 3 and will probably be relegated. The men’s team, captained by Phil, finished 5th out of 8 in Division 4b. Joan praised the team.

Joan pointed out the problems caused when 2 teams are scheduled to play on the same night but this cannot always be avoided.

Joan thanked the captains for their hard work, the committee for their support and for everyone that played in the matches. She wished for the continued success of the teams and wished the next match secretary good luck adding that the role is a rewarding one.

Alexina thanked Joan for being super-efficient.

**Social Committee:** Kate thanked the social sub committee and all the helpers. She informed the meeting that the social committee plans fun activities to help social interaction with other members outside of coaching and social play. The socials are self-funding and non-profit making, although profits are made which enabled a new fridge to be purchased and the Dinner Dance to be subsidised. Events this year included meals after tournaments, a quiz night and the forthcoming Dinner/Dance and Presentation evening. Steve Price was thanked for cooking the barbeque after the Dallimer tournament. The social committee are looking for prizes or luxury food and drink items for the presentation evening raffle, which can be dropped to 45 Leicester Road. Kate welcomed any members who would like to help the social committee arranging events. Alexina thanked Kate and the Social committee for their hard work.

1. **Election of Officers and Committee Members**: the committee for the forthcoming year was unanimously elected as follows:
   * Captain Alexina Mason
   * Vice Captain (L) unfilled
   * Vice Captain (M) Tom Nelson
   * Treasurer Martine Welsman
   * Secretary Maria Price
   * Match secretary Paul Mussett
   * Junior secretary unfilled
   * Committee members Ruth Barnett, Anne-Marie Greaves, Lucy Grey, Monica Nelson and

Kate West

**Election of Honorary Auditor**: Rob was unanimously elected.

* Honorary Auditor Rob Wallis

Alexina thanked all committee members and the gardener and administrator. Joan was thanked for her time and efficiency, and Debbie was praised and thanked for the contribution she has made to the club over many years.

1. **Any other business:** Paul Mussettvolunteered to be the Match Secretary and was voted in unanimously. Maria asked the coaches to talk to parents about standing as Junior Secretary. Theresa offered to help the coaches with laminating photos and volunteered to help on the Social Committee.

Alexina thanked members for attending the AGM and closed the meeting at 21.20