



Draft Minutes of the Essex Squash & Racketball Association AGM and Presentations

Held at Hamptons Sport and Leisure Thursday 24th July 2019

Present (committee): David Neller, Geoff Went, Barbara Sanderson, Elaine Oddie, Chris Vine, and Dave Lazarus, Sue Woodhouse

Apologises: Mark Kirkman

Present (clubs):

Essex Squash and Racketball Association 2019 AGM attendance		
	Club	Representative
1	Bishop Stortford	Steff Burkwood
2	Maldon (park Drive)	Geoff Went
3	Clements	Elaine Oddie
4	DW Fitness Brentwood	Barbara Sanderson
5	Epping	Carey Adams
6	Frinton	Chris Vine
7	Kingswood	Tony Savage
8	Ongar	Shaun Lamont
9	Old Brentwood	None
10	David Lloyd(Gidea Park)	None
11	Redbridge	Dave Lazarus
12	Tilbury	None
13	Walthamstow	Luke McLaughlin
14	Woodford Wells	Sue Woodhouse
15	Hamptons(Marconi)	Dawn Robinson
16	Connaught	Alan Chan
Clubs attending (13 of 21 Essex affiliated clubs)		

League clubs non attending:

Two Non-league clubs did not attend: Essex University, Saffron Waldon, - *No apologies received*

Items requiring constitutional voting are inset, underlined and note Proposer, Seconder and Club.

Dave Neller opened the Main Meeting and welcomed everyone; he thanked Hamptons for hosting, and provided an overview of the previous minutes. All Clubs also collected copies of the county report.

Matters Arising - There were no matters arising from 2018 minutes, no discussions were needed.

Adoption of Previous Minutes - There were no comments, the meeting was asked to approve the 2018 minutes:

Proposed – Barbara Sanderson (DW Fitness), Seconder - Sue Woodhouse (Woodford wells)
Adoption of the minutes was carried unanimously.

Matters Arising - There were no matters arising from 2018 minutes, no discussions were needed.

Chairman's Report – David Neller

County Report – Highlights from the County report were covered via a power point presentation, with special reference to the detailed County Report which is on the website paper copies were also available at AGM.

The Committee – Committee meetings were held during the year at approximately 2/3 month intervals, ESRA also attended all ES council meetings (including AGM) and SE regional forum meetings.

Essex Closed Squash - The 48th Essex County Closed Squash Championships at Club Kingswood in January saw the most entries ever for an Essex Closed Event (163)

Biggest prize pot ever (£3000) Most matches played (193).

Richie Fallows, made it three wins out of three defeating long-standing rival, Ben Coleman, and Elise Lazarus, claimed her second County Closed by defeating junior rival, Alice Green.



Essex Squash & Racketball Association



Thanks to the Safwat family, all of our sponsors, the Club Kingswood staff, and everyone in Team RACKETUP.

CONGRATULATIONS

Essex Ladies 2nd in the IC Finals (Silver).

Elise Lazarus (Jnr.)

Alex King

Sarah Neller (Cap)

Alice Green (Jnr.)

Eleanor White (Jnr.)

Players to Note - Elise Lazarus and Alice Green

Alice and Elise, our highly rated 18-year-olds, are still producing excellent results at both junior and senior level.

Both were members of the winning England team in the European Team Championships in April.

Players to Note – Lauren Briggs (Connaught)

Lauren won the o'35 World Masters' in Charlottesville, Virginia, last August

Players to Note – Sarah Neller (Kingswood)

Sarah won the Gibraltar Open Ladies Competition in June this year

Players to Note – Alice Green

Alice won u19 Gold at European Junior Open in Cologne this July.

Players to Note – Yusuf Sheikh

Yusuf was selected to play for England in the European Championships and was part of the U15 team that lifted the trophy for the 13th Consecutive Team Title.

Players to Note

In other events 6 Essex ladies took part the best results were **Maureen Duke** and **Barbara Sanderson** (4th in their respective events).

PSA World Rankings

Daryl Selby (19)

Alice green (144)

Richie Fallows (51)

Elise Lazarus (203)

Ben Coleman (54)

Inter county Finals

- Ladies Seniors 2nd in IC Finals (Silver).
- Ladies 040's 8th in IC Finals
- Men's o60's 4th in IC Finals

Group Playoffs (did not reach finals weekends)

- Men's Seniors 2nd in group
- Men's o35's 2nd in group
- Men's o50's 2nd in group
- Men's o55's 2nd in group
- Ladies o50's 3rd in group

Essex Squash57 2018-2019

Competitions:

Essex: we ran the County SQ57 Singles Championships on Sunday 7th April 2019 at The Woodford Wells Club. There were over 40 competitors, 16 in the O50's, from 10 clubs chasing the 6 titles on offer

Inter-County: off the back of the Essex Closed we entered 3 teams (Open Men, Open Women, O50) into the inter-county championships in Nottingham in June. All teams were competitive and Essex came away as the National O50 Champions, congratulations to Patrick Osborn, Marc Thornley, Fred Cooke, Pascual Dibattista & Paul Fennell. A big thank you to the captains Daniel Weights, Zoe Fennell and Patrick Osborn for all their organization effort.



Essex Squash & Racketball Association



Nationals:

- Doubles: in December Essex players went to Nottingham to participate in the National Doubles and came away with 4 of the 6 titles: Women - Amber Marshall & Zoe Fennell; Mixed - Zoe Fennell & Patrick Osborn; Men O40 - Marc Thornley & Adam Grilli; Men O50 - Marc Thornley & Patrick Osborn.
- Singles: Essex had players at the National Squash 57 Singles at Edgbaston Priory with most falling to ultimate finalists but Patrick Osborn was himself RU in the O55 age category.

Facilities to Note & Thank

Club Kingswood

Hosting the Essex Closed

Hamptons

Hosting Quiz Night, ESRA meetings & 2019 AGM

Connaught

Hazel Marsh Memorial Event

Lexden & David Lloyd (GP)

Held PSA events this year (first for long time!)

Referee & Marking

- 2018/19 only one R&M Workshop was run involving Essex League Teams which is very disappointing. This was at Southgate SC. Seven candidates attended and five were successful in obtaining their Club Grade Referee status.
- A further R&M Workshop is planned at Gidea Park in July/August.
- The current rules (2019 version) effective 1st January 2019 VI. can be downloaded from the worldsquash website. www.worldsquash.org
- Please contact : Sue Woodhouse Tel: 0208 505 7094 email: sueden41@yahoo.co.uk.

Development - The committee continues to follow its Development Plan and has many initiatives to increase the numbers playing around the county. Quarterly data collected from 27 Essex clubs has shown sustainable growth over the last few years, player per court ratio continues to rise despite loss of courts at Springhealth.

ES Membership & Affiliation – Players (£12.50, £10 via club, £7.50 Junior), Coaches (£40) Benefits

- £10 million of PL, PI & D&C insurance cover
- Other enhanced value & member benefits
- Coach membership provides essential tools and resources to support coaching delivery
- Enhanced rebate to CA's for affiliated clubs & players
- ES had a very positive annual review with Sport England
- 2,860 New adult & 8,477 junior players registered on ES App
- Nottingham University & Squash Club will host the u15/u17 European Junior Team Championships May next year
- Two of the greatest ever English players retired after the British Open –Laura Massaro and Jenny Duncalf
- Edgbaston Priory and Birmingham University hosted the National Squash 57/Racketball Championships with a record number of entries (238)

Looking ahead

- The next edition of the England Squash Magazine is due at the end of July
- The England u19 team will compete in Malaysia at the World Junior Championships



Essex Squash & Racketball Association



Financial Report - Elaine Oddie

The accounts up until 31st May 2019 were presented. Income and expense elements were reviewed in detail and show a surplus of £967 with reserves of £18143 as of May 31st 2019 (full accounts available on request)

Elaine went on to the 2019/2020 budget, I/C team expenses are continually reviewed and the budgets allocated accordingly, 2019/2020 will field the same number of teams as 2019/2018, a small amount of the reserve may go towards funding development which to date has been covered through ES grants.

Dawn Robinson (Hamptons) requested that due to the surplus was there a possibility of Team shirts for the next county session being funded by ESRA – this was accepted for review at the next committee meeting

Adoption of Accounts - There was some discussion, the meeting was asked to approve the accounts and proposed 2019/2020 Budgets:

Proposed – Carey Adams (Epping), Seconder – Mark Kirkman (Epping)

Adoption of the Accounts was carried unanimously.

Election of Officers - Geoff Went confirmed that, he would like to step down as secretary but if no volunteers then he would continue. Also there were nominations from the floor to fill the vacancies Greg Foxon was proposed. There was some discussion and the meeting was asked to approve the proposed ESRA committee for the coming year:

Proposed 2019/2020 ESRA Committee:

Chairman & ES Council Delegate	David Neller
Treasurer and Deputy Chairman	Elaine Oddie
County Secretary	Geoff Went
Junior Representative & Junior Committee Chair	Mathew White
Referee & Marking Coordinator	Sue Woodhouse
County Development Officer & Coaching	Chris Vine
League Secretary	Geoff Went
Ladies Coordinator	Barbara Sanderson
Men's Senior Captain	David Lazarus
Intercounty Coordinator	Mark Kirkman
Media Secretary	Vacant
Greg Foxon	Member
Web site	David Neller
Masters Off Peak Secretary	TBD
Racquet Ball Manager	Vacant

Election of ESRA Officers - There was some discussion and requests from the Chair for nominations to fill other vacant positions, the meeting was asked to approve the proposed ESRA committee for the coming year:

Proposed – Carey Adams (Epping), Seconder – Mark Kirkman (Epping)

New elections were carried unanimously.

Any Other Business (AGM) – David Neller

2020 County Closed – Due to Kingswood not wanting to host the Essex Closed it was opened up to the floor for propose venues - Seff Burwood suggested that Bishop Stratford would possibly be interested but would confirm with the manager of the club and advise if this was possible. It was agreed this should proceed with the January dates (25th & 26st Jan 2020), but was open to change if this did not suit Bishop Stortford.

Masters/Off Peak Leagues – It was agreed this would be a good idea but no volunteers came forward to offer to manage.

IC Team Selection – It was agreed should update the existing squad lists with available players and that each captain should maintain and use these lists.



Player Levy – Driving and maintaining development and consequent growth in the sport requires a funded resource. The current ES funding will end soon, it was agreed that we should continue using existing grants and consider how best to improve/increase income (should it be required) for proposal at the next AGM

Joint League Meeting

Leagues - the men’s and ladies were stable using the Resultsandnews LMS. Again this year Racketball had failed to start as in previous years - this is a great disappointment after several years of progress; some new initiatives are required.

The On-line league management system continues with very few issues. The Ladies league have shown an interest and this will be implemented in the near future.

Clubs - some clubs have been active reporting their events especially Gidea Park and Walthamstow

Punctuality & Late Changes – Home & away teams arriving late for matches, late changes to fixtures has led to some serious issues with venues. This coupled with venues closing earlier means in some instances matches have been disrupted and hosting become an issue. This will be discussed at the separate men’s & ladies league meetings

Paul Howell – proposed a change to the Men’s league rules whereby “**each Team captain would exchange written team sheet sowing their 1-5 for the NIGHT before the matches start**”. This would help to stop the disagreements as to which order of merit some people play – This will be reviewed and discussed at the Men’s league meeting.

Justin Walton from The Squash club business network gave a Short presentation supported by a video explaining how the activity works around the county.

The Key Benefits

- Multiple events across Essex at various clubs between 1:30 -4:00pm
- Monthly events at Hamptons and David Lloyd Gidea park
- Relaxed business networking
- Open to squash players and non-players
- Competitive but fun
- Strong online community
- Fantastic networking opportunity
- 30+ businesses per event
- Members directory
- First event free

Presentation of County Colours

Masters	Season	Name	Seniors	Season	Name	Ladies	Season	name
O50 men’s	2018/19	Simon Whitton	Seniors	2018/19	Eleanor White	Masters	2018/19	Evi Kohl
		Will Brand			Alex King			Susannah Martin
		Pasqual Dilbattista						Alex King

Presentation of Trophies

Trophies were presented for last summer, autumn and winter sessions.

The Ladies trophies were presented by Barbara Sanderson.
The Men’s Trophies were presented by Geoff Went.



Ladies League Results for 2018/19

Essex S.R.A Summer 2018 Division #1 - Hamptons Division #2 - Redbridge [2]	Essex S.R.A Autumn 2018 Division #1 – DW Fitness Division #2 - Kingswood	Essex S.R.A Spring 2019 Division #1 – Hamptons Division #2 - Wlathamstow
---	---	---

Men’s League Results for 2018/19

Essex S.R.A Summer 2018 Premier Selby Champions – David Lloyd[Gidea park] Premier Barker Champions – Kingswood Division 1E Champions – Old Brentwood Division 1W Champions – Bishop Stortford Swifts Division 2W Champions – Bishop Stortford Magpies
--

Essex S.R.A Autumn/Spring 2018/2019 Premier Champions - Hamptons Division 1E Champions – Hamptons [2]
--

Essex S.R.A. Spring 2019 Division 1W Champions - Bishop Stortford Magpies Division 2W Champions – Connaught -[White]

Essex S.R.A. Autumn 2018 Division 1W Champions - Bishop Stortford Swifts Division 2W Champions - Epping [3]
--

Any Other Business

No Items were tabled.

The meeting was closed by David Neller who asked members to convene for men’s and ladies league meetings after a short break. He thanked everyone for making the effort to attend.

Minutes to be approved at 2018 AGM.....Chairman