**Minutes of Sligo Tennis Club AGM**

**21st March 2023**

Apologies received from Ita Brady, Cathryn Toner, Deirdre Moylan, Karen Kelly Conor Gormley, Kay Curley, Sinead Gallagher, Phil Conheady and Anne McKiernan.

A Minute’s Silence was held in memory of all deceased club members and their families over the past year.

**Previous Minutes of 2022 AGM:**

* Minutes were read out by Brian Henry proposed by Graeme Watt and seconded by Pauric
* Hackett.

**Secretary’s Report:**

* PJ Tivnan listed the committee members who met during the year.
* The Committee held 8 meetings since last year’s AGM which was held on the 26 July 2022.

Main issues discussed during the year were as follows:

1. Significant rise in Energy costs compared to the previous year.
2. Increase of meter fees to combat rising energy costs and temporary suspension of vouchers on Club Nights.
3. New maintenance person employed to replace John Mannion through Sligo Leader – Oisin Raymont.
4. Angus Lyons personal injury case against STC.
5. Updating of Club Website.
6. Sports Capital Grant Programme, progression of allocation of funds for re-surfacing work to tennis courts from first SCP grant and preparation of tenders for works to be carried out from second grant fund allocation.
7. Tender received for new heating system for Sports hall, Men’s changing rooms and ancillary works.
8. Signing of Contract with Arken for work to commence on heating system for Sports hall and Men’s changing rooms.
9. Child Protection – Updating of policies and Garda vetting
10. West of Ireland Competition
11. Fund Raising – Race Night 25th February - first fundraiser since November 2019
12. Ascertain what grants are available that can generate money for the club.

**Financial Report- Mel McKeown:**

* Income for year was €146,728 and Expenditure was €103,294 giving a surplus of €43,434.
* Income breakdown as follows:

1. Membership €60,307 (net of capitation).
2. Net clubs income – €31,226.
3. Hire of hall - €17,715.
4. Light Meters - €15,813.
5. Acebook Courts - €9,631.
6. Other Income - €2,536.
7. Grants - €9,500.

* Membership is comprised of 342 adults and 218 juniors (336 adults and 240 juniors in 2022) – tennis = 250 adults plus 170 juniors, squash = 37 and badminton 55 plus 48 juniors and IBC.
* Net club income was €31,226 broken down as follows - €8,108 for Weekly competitions and Ladders, €2,405 from Mixed Doubles and Team Events, €1,540 from Sunday Leagues, €5,632 from West of Ireland, €127 Junior Tennis Net Income, €9,228 Junior Coaching Net Income ,
* Adult Coaching €167, Senior Badminton €2,195, Junior Badminton €2,604, Squash €120 and Acebook €900.
* Total Expenditure was €103,294 broken down as follows - €34,197 for wages, €13,203 for depreciation, €9,921 for Insurance, €20,137 for repairs and maintenance, €15,444 for light and heat, €4,026 for bank charges and interest, €6,366 for other expenses. Electricity is going to be a very high cost going forward and will have to look at increasing rate for light meters to meet said costs.
* Net Cash Outflow was €86,463 (see slide for further detail),
* Current Account €124,234. Bank loan €94,320. Loan service cost €20,000per annum, Large loan €1,662 per month. Large loan repaid by 2027.
* Sports Capital Programme Funding– Indoor Works €136,000, Sports Capital Grant (€95,000), Shortfall €41,000, Tennis Courts €130,000, Movement in Working Capital (€110,000). Shortfall €20,000. Total Shortfall €60,000.
* Sundry Creditors - Water Charges €15,090 and Members Loans €14,132.
* Fergal Bourke has agreed to stay on as the Club auditor. Proposed by Brian Henry and seconded by Mel McKeown.

**Special Olympics Report:**

* The Shuttle Stars Special Olympics resumed on Monday the 19 Sept 2022 which was the first time since March 2020 due to the Covid 19 pandemic. We have now 15 athletes taking part on the Monday nights and all are delighted to be back.
* A Cake sale fundraiser was held in the club in December and €500 was raised which will go towards the running costs for the Monday nights and also towards the purchase of new sports gear for the athletes for the upcoming Irish games. Thanks to everyone who supported this fundraiser on the day.
* The first competition of the season will take place this Tuesday 28th March in the Tennis Club where we will have teams from outside the Tennis Club taking part which always make it a bit more competitive.
* The Special Olympics is now in its 16th year in the Tennis Club and we would like to thank the management committee for the use of the hall and the support that they have provided in the last 16 years.
* Committee members for 2022/23 PJ Tivnan (Chairperson), Francie Mahon (Secretary), Kay Curley (Treasurer) and Lea McDaid (CPO)

**Tennis Report – Alice McNasser (on behalf of Deirdre Moylan)**

* I took over as Tennis Captain in October and I want to thank Hilary for all her work during her time as Captain and for her advice to me since taking over the role.
* The Tennis committee is very active and hardworking and I’m very grateful to them for their interest and enthusiasm. We meet once a month and the committee is made up of a mixture of experienced members and newer members. Our overall aim is to ensure that there is playing time for everyone, at both competitive and social levels, with a particular focus on helping new members fully integrate into our club.
* The Tennis Section is going from strength to strength with a playing base of 226 adults and 170 juniors and we are always trying to attract new members.
* Our club nights run from Monday to Friday and continue to be a huge success and provide opportunities for all to play at a level they’re comfortable with. A sincere thank you to all the organisers for their continued effort and commitment,
* It was great to be able to return to our fun & social events last year – firstly the Bank Holiday Mixed Doubles events which are always so enjoyable. They have proven so popular that we had to adapt the usual format to cater for the level of interest. Our inaugural Love- All event in February proved to be a great success with 36 players instead of the usual 24. Ladies Day is also one of the highlights of the tennis calendar, thanks to Marie and Kay for continuing to organise this event. We believe a very enjoyable Men’s Day was organised by Conor this year too for our male players. Thank you to all the sponsors of these events and we ask members in return to support their businesses.
* Our Autumn and Spring Leagues cater for those of us who hop out of bed gleefully on a Sunday morning to play tennis! Sincere thanks to Liam Farrell who runs these leagues so efficiently and calmly and again thanks to our sponsors of these events, Wehrly’s & The Wine Buff
* Our Winter and Summer Singles Ladders, sponsored by Crawford Architecture are also very popular with many members who enjoy the challenge of a singles match. Many thanks to Aoifin and Denis for organising these and we are looking forward to seeing how our new scoring system goes.
* The West of Ireland took place on the May Bank Holiday in 2022 with a record number of entries of 204. This event is organised each year by the West of Ireland committee which is capably chaired by Emer Concannon. Preparations for this year’s event started in January and we are looking forward to hosting another successful tournament in a few week’s time. Thanks to our sponsor Brian Mullins who has generously sponsored the event for the last number of years.
* The Club Championships took place in September and this was the first year that we ran a Junior Club Championship the same week which proved to be a great success. It was a very enjoyable week for all and thanks once more to Pat Grimes of Bistro Bianconi for his continued sponsorship of this event.
* Congratulations to all our players who represented our club at different external tournaments around the country coming away as prize winners frequently. Our Connacht / Munster Teams all reached their finals – a great achievement. We would like to encourage more club players to participate in some of these events and to help encourage you, Aoifin will give a talk on Tournament Participation on Wed, 29th March at 7.30pm.
* Also a sincere thanks you to Daire Heffernan for all his interest and effort in developing the coaching programme in the club and especially his work with the Junior Section. We were delighted that all his efforts were acknowledged when he was the winner of the Connacht Coach of the Year in December.
* **….**and to the Future!
  + - Newly resurfaced courts! Many thanks to all tennis players for their patience over the last few weeks. We look forward to lots of play on our new courts. Thanks to Emer and Liam for securing the Sports Capital Grant and for liaising with the contractor. Sincere thanks also to the Management committee for their help, input and support.
    - A proposed new Lighting App for court lights which will make life easier for all.
    - A return to vouchers for winners of club nights – this temporary measure was introduced this year to help with escalating costs to run the club but hopefully the vouchers will be reinstated as soon as possible - it’s surprising how very competitive players can get when there is a 5euro voucher at stake!
    - Kay Curley’s impending Award ceremony for her Sports Volunteer Award – Congratulations and we wish her a lovely day. We are so delighted to see her getting the recognition she truly deserves.
    - A new Club President – Wishing Brian King every success in his new role and many thanks to the outgoing President, Brian Henry for all his hard work and dedication over the last 2 years.

**Junior Tennis Section Report – Daire Heffernan**

* 2023 Current Programme numbers – 177.
* September 2022 – Retained 153 from 176 – 87% Retention rate.
* April 2022 – Retained 141 from 171 – 83% Retention rate.
* Jan 22 – 180.
* 229 for all 2022.
* In the last year 14 juniors played in an official Tennis Ireland Tournament and 11 other Juniors played in a Go Tennis Event - Meaning 25 kids played in events involving players from other clubs.
* 38 Juniors played in the Junior Club Championships
* Junior West of Ireland in July - numbers were down, will go back up - 13 of our own kids played in that.
* Club Friendlies - The performance squad travelled to Galway last June to play in a Friendly and 18 kids also travelled to Irvinestown last November to play a Friendly.

**Badminton Report – Karen Kelly: ( Graeme Watt on behalf of Karen Kelly)**

* The 22-23 season began well with a popular open night in September. Roughly 40 adults signed up with 20 going into our club nights and 20 beginners starting a six week beginner program. We now have three club nights running each week for adults with 18-25 people attending each session.
* Junior Badminton is doing really well this season with three classes running each week with 58 kids playing. This is fantastic. I want give huge thanks to Graeme who has been instrumental in driving Junior Badminton. I also want to acknowledge all the wonderful volunteers, coaches and parents that contribute to the success of junior badminton.
* Special Olympics Badminton also returned this season after a long break. 15 players come together and enjoy a game of badminton every Monday night. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful volunteers that make this happen, Francie Mahon, Kay Curley, PJ Tivnan, Lea McDaid & Conor Caheny. The players love it and thank you all for looking after everyone so well.
* Some key accomplishments & events of note this season:
  + - Successful open night with an influx of new members to the club.
    - An additional junior badminton class introduced.
    - Two team event competitions that were very well supported.
    - New heating system installed in the badminton hall.
    - Two newly qualified Badminton Ireland level one coaches.
    - Winter Clusters event that is happening Saturday 25th March
    - Special Olympics competition taking place this week.
    - Planning for our club championships is underway.
* I want to acknowledge and thank the club management and sub committees for their work in securing the sports capital grant for the heating system in the badminton hall. We are delighted with the heating system, it makes a huge difference to the hall. This is a key accomplishment and would like to sincerely thank all those who were involved in the process from start to finish
* To finish, I would like to thank the badminton committee for their support this season. Anne, Graeme, PJ, Marie, Francie, Kay, Liz & Bobby, thank you all for your help and guidance. They have been a huge support helping in all of the areas mentioned above, Club Nights, Competitions, Junior Badminton and Special Olympics. Without the committee it would be very difficult to deliver all these wonderful programs. Thank you for your time and efforts this season.

**Squash Report – Marcin Konieczny**

* Several players have returned to the weekly Monday night Open Hit after long absence.
* Ladder competitions were organised throughout the year-averaging 1 per quarter.
* During the summer heaters were replaced on courts 3 and 4 which along with a new floor installed in 2021 improved overall condition and playability of these back courts.
* In Q4 Fiona Parker had stepped into a role of squash coach which helped boost the numbers significantly, especially for new members.
* Larry Gallagher had stepped down as a Squash captain – and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Larry for his great efforts and commitment to the club during the last 2 years which as we all know were very challenging.
* Recent initiatives included a 5 weeks introduction course for women lead by Fiona Parker -ongoing and the 1st ladder games of 2023 have been completed with 22 participants.
* Plans for 2023 include:
  + - * Continue to bring more members to the club.
      * Explore opportunities for creating a junior section.
      * Restore Squash committee.
      * Organise ladder games (min 1 per quarter),
      * Organise opening night for new members in Q3.

**President’s Report – Brian Henry:**

* Brian welcomed everyone to the AGM and outlined the Management Committee members for 2022/2023 and thanked them for all their help and support throughout his 2 years as Club President.
* Congratulations was extended to Kay Curley who was named as the 2022 County Sligo Recipient of The Federation of Irish Sports Volunteers in Sports Awards.
* Congratulations to all who took part in the various Tennis Interclub league games.
* Congratulations to Daire Heffernan on winning Connacht Coach of the Year 2022.
* Congratulations extended to Siobhan Parker, Keith Moran and Michelle Heraughty (Squash) for representing Ireland. Also to Siobhan and Keith on various events which are too many to mention.
* Congratulations also to Cliona Walsh for a hat-trick of titles at the 2022 Junior Lawn Tennis Championships.
* Thanks to Conor Gormley, Brian King and their committee for organising a Men’s Day Competition where all sections competed together and which was kindly sponsored by EJ’s Menswear.
* I would like to thank every member who volunteers their time to help run the various event held in the club. Without their commitment to the club things would not get done.
* The club membership has continued to improve and long may this last. It does cause some problems for the various committees but to be fair it is a good problem to have.
* I would also like to thank Conor Gormley for all his hard work. I found Conor a very helpful person who always found the time to sort out any issues that arose. I would like to wish him the best on becoming a father.
* Retiring Committee Members – Graeme Watt, Micheal O Broin and Ita Brady. I would like to thank them for all their hard work over the last number of years and I found them to be very professional in everything that they did for the club.
* I would like to thank everyone from the Management Committee members and the general membership for your support during my term as Club President.
* Also thanks to the various members of the development committee who have got the funding to help improve the club.
* Finally I would like to wish Brian King every success as he takes on the role of Club President. Brian is a very popular member in the club with years of experience of volunteering to help support both tennis and management committees. I think Brian will help to further improve the standards and ethos of the club.

**New Management Committee 2022-2023:**

* Nominate Brian King as President – proposed by Brian Henry and seconded by Mel McKeown.
* No Nominations for Vice-President.
* PJ Tivnan will remain on as Secretary - proposed by Brian King and seconded by Brian Henry.
* Nominate Brian Henry as Treasurer – proposed by Mel McKeown and seconded by Alice McNassser.
* Cathryn Toner will remain on as Child Protection Officer - proposed by Graeme Watt and seconded by PJ Tivnan.
* Deirdre Moylan replaces Hilary Kilcawley as Tennis Captain.
* Karen Kelly remains on as Badminton Captain.
* Marcin Konieczny replaces Larry Gallagher as Squash Captain.
* Ita Brady, Micheal O’Broin and Graeme Watt have all now left the committee.

**Motions and AOB:**

* Anne Barry complimented on the Race Night that was recently held in the Glasshouse. A very successful event with an overall profit of €9000.
* Query was made though is that a policy to use an external venue and could we use the bar area to host a function like this?
* However as we have no longer have a bar licence we can’t sell alcohol. Rates for the bar were roughly €20000pa and that’s the reason that the bar licence was cancelled as this was unsustainable.
* Query was made if upstairs can be hired out or is it hard to hire out? Point was made then that if we were to rent out upstairs we may have no control over it then when we needed it.
* Current Lighting system is inefficient – project to be carried out for new lighting system. Possibility of grants in the future for new lighting installation
* Heating system in hall – Some issues still so Arken not to be paid full amount until all the issues are sorted.
* Brian Henry thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting concluded.