

NORTH WEST COUNTIES SQUASH LEAGUE

MINUTES OF THE 46th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT WARRINGTON SPORTS CLUB ON TUESDAY 20th MAY 2004 AT 7.30 PM

Present: John Hugall	Chairman
Dave Goulden	General Secretary
Henry Stone	Honorary Legal Advisor & Treasurer
John Cunningham	Division One Representative
Andrew Nicheas	Chairman of Cheshire
Bernie Gill	Chairman of Lancashire
Andrew Beeston	Chairman of Merseysied & Vice President
Gordon Nicholson	Vice President
Norman Astbury	Vice President
Brian Oswald	Vice President
Norman Chatburn	Vice President
Sponsors	Powerplay Sports
(Alan Edge, Steve Cooper, Keith Mahon, Kelly Allen & Pasquelle)	

Apologies were received from President, Graham Horrex, Vice Presidents: Antony Fielden, Bob Ireland, R Coope.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman, John Hugall, who introduced the personnel on the top table, the Vice Presidents and Sponsors.

There were approx. 75 clubs represented, at some stage, during the evening.

1. Apologies for absence – received from 17 clubs
2. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 20th May 2003 were taken as read and approved by the meeting.
3. Matters Arising – There were no matters arising
4. Presentation of Accounts
The Honorary Treasurer, Henry Stone, presented the accounts to the meeting.
Income had remained the same as previous years, at just over £13000, excluding the Sponsorship money. Expenditure showed an approximate increase of £1700 over the previous year. The majority of the increase, £1300, was a result of a necessary redesign the web site, along with other promotional costs. Referee fees showed an increase of £470, the new computer had been depreciated by approx. £280 (1/3rd of its value), whilst various other expenses showed an overall decrease of £300 over the previous year. County grants had remained at the same level of £7800.
This all resulted in a deficit of just under £600 on the year.
All of the sponsorship money, £3000, had been returned to the clubs which had made application for a junior grant.
The Treasurer thanked the auditor, Simon Westhead for auditing the accounts on our behalf.
Following the Treasurer's explanation of the Income & Expenditure Account and the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2004, acceptance of the Treasurer's report and figures were proposed, seconded and duly approved by the meeting.
5. Re-application from associate members
Re-applications were approved from Deeside, Glossop, New Mills and Tollgate.
6. Application from new clubs and additional teams
There were 2 new club applications, previous members Gt Manchester Police & Liverpool Racquets, and additional team applications from Concorde, Sugden Metro & Winsford, although further additional team applications will only be fully known at a later date.
7. Constitutional and Rule amendments

Constitution
A total of 9 propositions were proposed and passed at the AGM. The majority of the propositions dealt with the re-wording of the constitution, whilst two new sentences were added at the end of it.

“The Committee shall have the power to decide on all matters that are not specifically provided for in the League Rules.”

“The General Secretary must be informed in writing (which may be by letter or email) of any changes to a Club Representative, either before or during the season, within 7 days of the change taking place.”

Rules

The following rule amendments were also proposed and passed at the AGM.

Rule 4.1

Clubs must select and play available players in order of merit and in accordance with the clubs' playing order. If any team in a club shall not have a match on the relevant day, the club in question shall select players for that team as though it has a match so that the order of merit of other teams is maintained.

Where any team plays a league fixture on a different day in any week, no players in that team shall be eligible to play for another team during that week without the prior permission of the Committee or the General Secretary. The Committee may require any club to produce its selection of players for the team which does not have a match.

Rule 7.1

Any person playing in a league match ('a player') must be a bona-fide member of the club for which he or she plays **and must be registered on the League's web site or with the General Secretary no later than 7 days after the first match in which he or she has played for the club in question. If he or she is not so registered, the team for which he or she has played will be deemed to have played with a missing player and Rule 4.3 will apply.**

Rule 7.2

No player may play more than once in the same league match or in more than one match in any recognised England Squash (~~S.R.A.~~) league on the same day. **Players playing in the 1st Division on a Tuesday night are NOT eligible to play again for a lower team on the Thursday night of the same week.**

Rule 7.6

No player may play in a league match after **31st December in any season** without the permission of the General Secretary, the Committee or of one of its sub-committees duly designated for that purpose, unless he or she has already played in a league match during that season.

No player may play in the last four league matches of a division or the play-offs for that division unless he or she has played in at least four league matches in that division, or a lower division, for that club earlier in the season.

Rules 13.1; 13.3; 14.1

The wording **(by letter and/or email)** was added to allow official communication to Club Representatives to be by email where appropriate.

8. Presentation of Certificates, Trophies & Shields

Our Sponsor, Powerplay Sports, carried out the presentations of plaques to the winners of each division that were present at the meeting (24 out of the 30 division section winners).

Plaques, shields and presentation glasses were made to each overall divisional winner by Alan Edge of Powerplay Sports.

Mrs Phil Rhodes presented the “Brian Rhodes Memorial Shield” to Division 1 winners Preston Grasshoppers, congratulating them on their close win over rivals Monton by 1 point.

Preston grasshoppers were presented with the “Brian Rhodes Memorial Shield and trophies,
New Brighton 2 with the Division 2 shield and trophies,
Village Cheadle with the Divisions 3 shield and trophies,
East Lincs 2 with the Division 4 shield and trophies and
Winsford 2 with the Division 5 shield and trophies
as the overall winners of their division.

A presentation was also made to Frank Fahy for completing 20 years service as a divisional representative to the League.

9. Election of Officers

President - Graham Horrex Proposed: Preston Grasshoppers

Chairman	-	J.Hugall	Seconded: South Shore Proposed: Sale
Treasurer & Hon. Legal Advisor	-	H.Stone	Seconded: Stockport Proposed: East Lancs Seconded: Warrington

were elected unopposed.

The Chairman also then proposed that Phil Taylor, Ian Bradburn and Frank Fahy should be elected as Vice Presidents, along with the current VP's, which was accepted by the meeting

10. Any Other Business

Team Captains Meeting – The Chairman gave notice of a team captains meeting to be held during September, before the start of the season, at Warrington Sports Club, to which all clubs are expected to attend.

The Sponsors, Powerplay Sports were thanked for their support to the NWCSL.

The meeting was drawn to a close by the Chairman at 9.45pm, who thanked Mrs P Rhodes, Vice Presidents and club representatives who had attended, Warrington Sports Club