**SQUASH & RACKETBALL SECTION – CAPTAIN’S REPORT**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 9th NOVEMBER 2022**

The last AGM was held 25th November 2021, and, in the usual manner, we have been asked by the General Committee (GC) to convene our Squash Section AGM in advance of the main club AGM on 7th December 2022.

**Committee**

During the year Kathy Leahy has re-joined the as Secretary and I am delighted to welcome Jagdish Bains and Kate Pittel as Treasurer and Social Secretary respectively. This leaves two positions vacant, Section Captain and Competitions Organiser.

**Squash Captain** **VACANT**

Secretary Kathy Leahy

Treasurer Jagdish Bain

Men’s Captain Jonathan Peak

Ladies Captain Jessamy Linford

Squash League Organiser Andrew Campbell

Racketball League Organiser Jonathan Partridge \*

**Competitions Organiser** **VACANT**

**Social**  Kate Pittel

**Welfare**

As the designated Welfare Officer for the Squash Section, I can confirm that no incidents have been registered or brought to my attention since our last AGM meeting.

**Membership**

Our membership numbers have remained broadly consistent against the number report last year with c.500 ‘entitled to play’ across all WBC membership categories) and a ‘core’ number of regular players in the Section of c.90 players. A point to target for the coming year will be to convert those juniors attending the coaching sessions to fully join the club.

**Finances**

Our annual budget for the year to 31/03/2023 shows a small surplus for the year. For the six months to 30th September 22 we are showing a loss of £1,029 (£400 less than budget) as a result of repairs and maintenance, which has been ‘front loaded’ in the first half of the year.

**Team Squash**

Following our entry of one’s men’s team last year, we have this year submitted two men’s teams (divisions 5 and 7) and a ladies’ team (division 2). The intention remains to re-introduce a men’s third team as the squad continues to expand. (Pre-season) team training sessions have been introduced for both the men’s (Monday evenings) and ladies’ squads (Sunday evening)

Catering is now provided by Dough & Brew and excellent feedback has been received notwithstanding the increase in match fees from £6 to £8.50 per person.

If you are interested in playing team squash, please contact either Jonathan Peak, Jess Linford or myself. What you must have is an activated England Squash account in order to be eligible, details can be found at [www.englandsquash.com](http://www.englandsquash.com)

**Coaching**

Adult 1-2-1 (Thursday evenings) and Saturday group coaching sessions (4pm to 6pm) continue and it is particularly pleasing to report the progress in developing the junior section, assisted by the Warwickshire Squash All-Stars programme, which has brought in over 180 junior in the County over the last 12 months. A particular thank-you to Jonathan Peak and Alison Insley in driving this. Max Peak has been selected for the Warwickshire junior squad and some friendly matches are being lined up with other local Warwickshire clubs. We have also signed up to deliver mixed ability coaching sessions for non-members with sessions planned for the 12th and 19th November 2022.

**Competitions & Leagues**

The Spring Competitions were held successfully earlier in the year with Paul Jennings (Squash) and Jonathan Partridge (Racketbell) winning the ‘blue ribbon’ events. It is with great pleasure to report that the Autumn Team Competition has just re-started for the first time post-COVID. The finals afternoon/evening is scheduled for Saturday 10th December 2022.

The internal leagues continue to run. Should you wish to join please contact either Andrew Campbell for squash or Jonathan Partridge for racketball.

**Court Availability**

An issue that we resolved to keep under review. There have not, at the time of writing, been any issues raised with any of the Section Committee since the last AGM.

**Maintenance**

The Committee have approved a proper clean, sanding and remarking of both courts to be carried out by Wearwell Courts at a cost of £2,060 + VAT. The intention is to book the works during the spring half-term break or failing that as soon as the winter squash season has finished.

Recently, a roof leak has been identified that has caused the heating system to trip. FM Serv will be erecting scaffolding on the ‘Court 11 side’ to examine the roof to ascertain what repair works are required. Otherwise, standard maintenance has taken place on the French drain pumps, heating system and the water cooler.

I have raised the issue of cleaning of the squash block (non-court areas). This is not being carried out but only requires attending to once a week.

**WBC Development Proposals**

There has been continued discussion about the extent of development proposals. Realistically, a third squash court will not feature but the intention remains to link the squash court block to the changing rooms. Plans are still being finalised the Development Committee and will be presented to the wider membership in due course.

**Social**

Below are some highlights from the last 12 months and upcoming events, with hopefully more to be added:--

* Weekend squash friendly with Shropshire Squash CluHost our annual contest with Porthcawl Squash Club.
* Participated in World Squash Day 2022.
* Annual summer BBQ
* 4 day squash camp at Lake Bled, Slovenia.
* Commonwealth Games – games on glass exhibition court at New Street Station to promote the sport.
* Commonwealth Games – Jonathan Peak and Alison Insley were involved in taster initiative for the duration of the squash schedule.
* Participation in the annual Brophy Trophy.

It is with regret that I report no-one has come forward to take over the role of Section Captain. However, after over four years at the helm, it is time for someone else to take up the baton and drive the Section forward. I would like to formally thank everyone for their support and guidance whilst I have been ‘in post'. The Committee continue to put in time and effort to try and provide the best squash/racketball experience; please remember, the Section is what we all make it. Therefore, if you are interested in getting involved in any of the matters above, serving on the Committee , or have any ideas or constructive comments, then please contact one of the Committee members.

Regards,

**Graeme Mascall**

**Squash Section Captain**

**Enc.**