

NORTH WEST COUNTIES SQUASH LEAGUE

MINUTES OF THE 44th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT WARRINGTON SPORTS CLUB ON THURSDAY 23rd MAY 2002 AT 7.30 PM

Present: John Hugall	Chairman
Graham Horrex	President
Dave Goulden	General Secretary
Henry Stone	Honorary Legal Advisor & Treasurer
Bud Foster	Division One Representative
Martin Wren	Chairman of Cheshire
Bob Ireland	Vice President
Norman Astbury	Vice President
Ron Coope	Vice President
Brian Oswald	Vice President
Sue Walker	England Squash

Apologies were received from Vice Presidents: Norman Chatburn, Andrew Beeston, Gordon Nicholson, Colin Cary, George Westbrook and Bernie Gill (Chairman of Lancashire)

The Chairman opened the meeting by offering condolences, on behalf of the NWCSL, to the families of a number of members who had passed away during the year

There were approx. 80 clubs represented, at some stage, during the evening.

1. Apologies for absence – received from 16 clubs
2. Minutes of the previous AGM held on 24th May 2001 were approved, along with the Minutes of the EGM held on 6th March 2002.
3. Matters Arising – There were no matters arising
4. Presentation of the 1st Division Shield (Brought forward in the Agenda by permission of the meeting)
Our President, Graham Horrex, following a tribute by him about Brian Rhodes, introduced Mrs P.Rhodes to the meeting.
Mrs Rhodes, the wife of the late Brian Rhodes, presented the renamed 1st Division Shield, “The Brian Rhodes Memorial Shield” to the Liverpool CC, who were the NWCSL Champions.
5. Presentation of Accounts
The Honorary Treasurer, Henry Stone, presented the accounts to the meeting.
Income had remained much the same from the previous year. Expenditure showed an increase of £600 over the previous year. County grants had been increased by £200, the combined printing, stationery, postage, trophies & engraving were all much the same in real terms. Handbook costs were slightly up from last year and various other expenses showed either small increases or decreases. £336 of computer parts, ansaphone and printer/copier had also been depreciated. Miscellaneous expenditure was well up on the previous year by £400, although it had been significantly down on the year before. This all resulted in a net gain of just over £800 on the year
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 2002, acceptance of the Treasurer’s report and figures were proposed, seconded and duly approved by the meeting.
6. Presentation on England Squash New Membership Scheme
Sue Walker of England Squash gave a presentation of England Squash new membership scheme.
Following some limited discussion and a question & answer session; Club’s were invited to contact Sue Walker if they required further information.
7. Re-application from associate members
Re-applications were approved from Deeside, Glossop, New Mills, Sports Connection and Tollgate.
8. Application from new clubs and additional teams

There was 1 new club applications from JJB Wigan and a small number of additional team applications, although further additional team applications will only be fully known at a later date.

9. Rule amendments

Rule 3. EQUAL POINTS

[In the event of two or more teams at the end of the season having the same number of points, the teams having won the most matches shall be placed higher. If the teams concerned have also won the same number of matches and promotion or relegation is at stake, then there shall be a play-off.]

Proposal

3.1 In the event that at the end of a season two or more teams have the same number of points, the teams shall be placed in order by reference to the number of matches won so that the team which has won more matches shall be placed higher.

3.2 If any of the teams concerned have also won the same number of matches, those teams shall be placed in order by reference to the number of points scored against them so that the team which has had fewer points scored against shall be placed higher.

3.3 If any of the teams concerned have the same number of points both for and against and promotion or relegation is at stake, then head to head matches between the teams concerned will determine which team shall finish higher. A play-off will only take place if the head to head matches between the teams concerned are equal on all counts.

Proposed by the Committee

Motion: PASSED

Rule 7. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Delete rules 7.3 & 7.4 and Renumber rules 7.5 to 7.8 accordingly

Proposed by Peter Astbury

Motion: FAILED

Rule 13. APPEALS TO THE COMMITTEE

13.2 The Committee shall decide all questions which may arise under the Rules and which may be referred to it under Rule 13.1 and may (except where the Rules specify the penalty) impose such penalties on clubs and/or individuals as it deems appropriate (including, without limitation, the allocation of points and/or the imposition of bans and/or fines) and shall delegate its powers under this Rule 13.2 to a Disputes Sub-Committee which shall comprise not less than 3 members of the Committee and be selected at the first committee meeting after the Annual General Meeting in any year. Other members of the Disputes Sub-Committee may be co-opted during the relevant year as the Committee may decide necessary.

Proposed by the Committee

Motion: PASSED

Rule 14. AFFILIATION FEES

14.1 Each club must pay to the League a fee of £33 per team payable on or before the Annual General Meeting. The Committee may change the affiliation fee providing that the clubs are notified at least thirteen (13) weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

14.2 Each team in the first division shall deposit with the League prior to the Annual General Meeting such sums of money as shall be decided by the Committee. Fines and/or fees imposed by the Committee or the Disputes Sub-Committee shall be deducted from this sum and the balance refunded to the teams concerned at the end of the season.

Proposed by the Committee

Motion: PASSED

10. Presentation of Certificates, Trophies & Shields

Our President, Graham Horrex, carried out the presentations of plaques to the winners of each division that were present at the meeting. It should be said that it was rather disappointing that some clubs were not present to receive their plaque without even offering the apologies for not being present, after being specifically requested to do so.

Plaques, shields and presentation glasses were made to each overall divisional winner by a number of our Vice Presidents, Bob Ireland, Brian Oswald & Ron Coope

Liverpool CC were presented with the Division 1 trophies,
Monton with the Division 2 shield and trophies,
New Brighton 2 & 3 with the Divisions 3 & 4 shields and trophies respectively, and
Preston Grasshoppers 4 with the Division 5 shield and trophies

as the overall winners of their division.

11. Election of Officers
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| President | - | Graham Horrex | Proposed: Preston Grasshoppers
Seconded: South Shore |
| Chairman | - | J.Hugall | Proposed: Sale
Seconded: David Lloyd Cheadle |
| Treasurer
& Hon. Legal Advisor | - | H.Stone | Proposed: East Lancs
Seconded: Warrington |

were elected unopposed.

The Chairman also then proposed that Robert Forde, Tony Parker & Bud Foster should be elected as a Vice Presidents, along with the current VP's, which was accepted by the meeting

12. Any Other Business

Referees/Referee Courses – further referee courses would be held at the request of Clubs.

Team Captains Meeting - The Chairman gave notice of a team captains meeting to be held during early September 2002 at Warrington Sports Club. All clubs/teams are expected to send representatives. The Chairman again commented that during the past two seasons, the Disputes Committee had handling a number of cases, which should have been sorted out on the night of the incident. Virtually in every case, the teams involved had NOT sent a representative to the team captains meetings in September 2000 & 2001, where these issues were discussed in detail. It was the Disputes Committee's belief that if they had have done so, then the majority of these cases would NOT have reached the Disputes Committee's stage.

Robert Forde, Titan Sports, had once again kindly donated a squash racket for the draw.

The meeting was drawn to a close by the Chairman at 9.50pm, who thanked Mrs P Rhodes, Vice Presidents and club representatives who had attended, Warrington Sports Club for the use of their premises, Robert Forde for donating the squash racket for the draw.

Dave Goulden
General Secretary to the League