

# LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION LIMITED (“LTA”) COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13 March 2024 at The National Tennis Centre, 100 Priory Lane, Roehampton, London, SW15 5JQ at 9.30am

## Present

Sandi Procter (President)

## Voting Council Members

Graeme Adams, Ian Alexander, Ronald Allan, Bridie Amos, Elizabeth Bissett, Heather Bottomley, Andy Bradley, Simon Brand, Naomi Cavaday, Yasmin Clarke, Anne Clayton, Roy Colabawalla (Deputy President), John Copsey, Robert Cresswell, Ash Cudlipp, Richard Cutler, Jonathon Dawes, Blane Dodds, John Doe, Andrew Farnworth, Keith Gill, Jane Grey, Malgorzata Grzyb, Richard Johns, Simon Johnson, Simon Jones, Anne Keothavong, Ben Knapp, Sarah Langford, Judith Loffhagen, Chris Mansour, Joanna Marks, James Marsalek, Garry Morris, Adrian Packer, Shiv Paul, Mike Piper, Alison Taylor, Michael Thomas, Stephanie Trill, Phil Veasey, David Vinall, Denise Walker, David Walrond, Julia Waters, Steven Winyard and Julie Wych.

## Alternates for Voting Council Members

Stephen Biggs (representing Venetia Cottman for Buckinghamshire), Gerald Hough (representing Rick Denton for the Channel Islands) and Mike Jones (representing Paul Marks for Essex)

## In attendance

### Non-Voting Council Members

Lord Mervyn Davies (LTA Chair), Sanjay Bhandari, Anil Jhingan, Nigel Jordan, David Rawlinson (immediate Past President), Sir David Tanner

### Others

Alex Beaumont (Volunteering Manager) for item 8, Sophie Colwell (Communications and Content Manager, LTA Tennis Foundation) for item 9, Emily Fryer (minutes), Tom Gibbins (Head of Programme Strategy and Foundation Development) for item 9, Abbie Lench (Head of National Delivery) for item 10, Scott Lloyd (Chief Executive), Olly Scadgell (Participation Director), Hannah Simpson (Fundraising Lead, LTA Tennis Foundation) for item 9, Sam Foakes (Head of Region for the North), Sharon Heeley (Head of Region for South and South West), John Golding (Head of Region for London and South East), Jill Osleger (Head of Region for Midlands, Central and East), Vicky Williams (People Director), Pamela Woodman (Head of Legal).

## In attendance (as observers)

Peter Vann (proposed new Voting Council Member for Yorkshire).

## 1. Welcome, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interests

Sandi Procter welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Peter Vann, proposed new Voting Council Member for Yorkshire, and 3 alternates.

Apologies for absence were received from: Stephen Baddeley, Simon Clarke, Venetia Cottman, Rick Denton, James Grindell, James Keothavong, Paul Marks and Christine Windmill.

Councillors were asked to declare an interest as appropriate when a relevant item was discussed.

## 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2023 and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

There were no matters arising not covered on the agenda.

### **3. LTA President's Summary**

The President's summary included in the Council papers was taken as read. Sandi Procter gave a presentation covering her recent activities including County and Club Award ceremonies, the Australian Open, disability programmes and inclusion, International Women's Day events and the LTA Inspire Programme for Women Volunteers. Sandi Procter also reminded Councillors of key elements from the 2024 Council Plan.

### **4. LTA Chair's Report**

The Chair's report circulated in the Council papers was taken as read.

### **5. LTA Chief Executive's Update**

The Chief Executive's business update included in the Council papers was taken as read. Scott Lloyd reminded Councillors of the successes from the 2019-2023 strategy – growing recreational participation, park growth, tripling the size of the LTA fan community and the increased number of men and women in the top 100. Scott Lloyd presented the VMOST for the 2024-2026 3-Year Plan and how this will be communicated, focussing in particular on three key words included in the mission – Welcoming, Enjoyable and Inspiring – demonstrating recent successes and the 2024-2026 focus for each.

Scott Lloyd then answered a number of questions on topics including pickleball, coach workforce shortage, the upcoming Paris Olympics, covered courts and investment in the sport from Saudi Arabia.

### **6. Development Tennis Advisory Group ("DTAG") Update: County Communications and Engagement**

Nigel Jordan gave a brief update on progress of DTAG workstreams so far in 2024, showing the priority tactics for the 2024 LTA Business Dashboard and where DTAG workstream objectives support these.

#### **6.1 Workshop on Council Teams sharing platform**

Nigel Jordan welcomed Bridie Amos, Sharon Heeley, and Simon Brand for a workshop on the Council Teams sharing platform. Bridie Amos explained the context for the Councillor Teams group and a live demonstration took place for Councillors including the use of live documents. It was clarified that this information is for sharing and any content that is not for sharing should be clarified as such when posting. The group is also for Voting Council Members only.

Sharon Heeley expanded on the third objective of the workstream – supporting county and other member organisations maximising their digital presence – and ran a live poll with several questions related to social media channels, websites, and digital support to gather information from Councillors to support this objective.

### **7. Q&A: Get to know the LTA Board**

Sandi Procter welcomed Lord Mervyn Davies, Richard Cutler, Pamela Woodman and Jonathon Dawes for a Q&A on the work of the LTA Board. Lord Mervyn Davies and Richard Cutler answered several questions about their roles on the board, and Pamela Woodman clarified the composition of the board – the specific requirements and the roles of certain people on the board – as well as the categories of Members, Voting and Non-Voting Council Members. There were several questions from Councillors, and Anne Keothavong and David Rawlinson answered

additional questions on the AELTC and ITF respectively.

The meeting was adjourned for a lunch break and then reconvened after lunch.

## **8. DTAG Update: Volunteer Engagement and Support**

Nigel Jordan welcomed Councillors back to the meeting and introduced Heather Bottomley and Alex Beaumont for the LTA Awards workshop.

### **8.1 Workshop on LTA Awards**

*Alex Beaumont (Volunteering Manager) joined the meeting*

Heather Bottomley outlined the areas for discussion – the LTA Award categories, criteria, nominations, timelines, and National Award ceremony. Discussions took place at tables and feedback was gathered for use by the Volunteer Engagement and Support workstream.

*Alex Beaumont left the meeting*

## **9. LTA Tennis Foundation Update**

*Tom Gibbins (Head of Programme Strategy and Foundation Development), Sophie Colwell (Communications and Content Manager, LTA Tennis Foundation) and Hannah Simpson (Fundraising Lead, LTA Tennis Foundation) joined the meeting*

Tom Gibbins gave a brief outline of the work of the LTA Tennis Foundation, detailing how its mission, Improving Lives Through Tennis, is achieved through supporting organisations, developing facilities and supporting communities and schools through LTA programmes and initiatives.

A summary of progress in 2023 was presented, including details of £2.3million grants awarded to organisations, Quick Access Loans awarded to support padel and tennis courts, investment into parks and funding for LTA Youth Schools, LTA Serves and LTA Open Court programmes. Sophie Colwell and Hannah Simpson further detailed plans for 2024.

Tom Gibbins thanked the work of the LTA Tennis Foundation 'Think Tank' and summarised the initial plans for increasing awareness amongst Councillors and Member Organisations in 2024. These included presentations at Council, updates in the County Communications Hub and One Team Bulletin and support for fundraising, promotional material, and local visits.

*Tom Gibbins, Sophie Colwell and Hannah Simpson left the meeting*

## **10. Workshop: Evolving the Regional Volunteer Forums**

*Abbie Lench (Head of National Delivery) joined the meeting.*

Roy Colabawalla introduced the final workshop of the meeting and introduced Julie Wych and Abbie Lench.

Abbie clarified that the current changes to the National Delivery Team would not impact the work of county and other member organisations or Councillors, and the workshop was an opportunity to gather feedback on how the Regional Forums might evolve moving forward.

Discussions took place at tables and feedback was gathered at the end. There will be a further update at the next Council meeting.

*Abbie Lench left the meeting.*

## **11. Corporate Governance**

### **11.1 Member-Nominated Councillors – Recommendations from Nomination Committee (for approval)**

The paper included in the Council papers was taken as read. Upon the recommendation of the Nomination Committee, the Voting Council Members approved the appointment of Peter Vann as a Voting Council Member with effect from 13 March 2024 until 31 December 2026 (unless replaced/removed earlier).

## **12. Any Other Business**

Sandi Procter read out a list of actions which had been noted during the meeting and confirmed that a summary of the actions and key takeaway points would be circulated to Voting Council Members shortly, the contents of which may be shared with respective management committees. Scott Lloyd followed up on some of the questions raised earlier in the meeting following his update.

## **13. Conclusion of Meeting**

The next Council meeting will take place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 at 10.30am and finish at 3pm, preceded by the AGM at 9.30am.

There being no further business, Sandi Procter thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 3pm.

Signed: S.Procter

Date: 23 May 2024