

Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting of Tennis Scotland held at the Stirling Court Hotel, Stirling on Thursday, 20 April 2023 @ 7pm.

### 1.0 Present:

Name	Club/District represented/Position/other
Alison Lunn	Sportscotland
Andrew Raitt	Tennis Scotland, Head of Participation
Anna Myatt	Tennis Scotland, Workforce Manager
Barbara Southern	Tennis Scotland, Company Secretary
Blane Dodds	Tennis Scotland, Chief Executive
Christine Windmill	Tennis Scotland, Honorary Vice President
Claire Kinloch Anderson	Tennis West of Scotland
Denise Irvine	Tennis Scotland, Head of Operations
Dennis Carmichael	Tennis Scotland, Honorary President
Derek Quirk	Tennis Scotland, Board member
Dr Fabian Haut	West End LTC Dundee
Graeme Gault	Tennis Scotland, Board member
Graham Watson	Tennis Scotland, Chair
Grant Shearer	Tennis Scotland, Participation Development Manager
Jack Ganley	Tennis Scotland, Participation Development Manager
Jason Atkins	Tennis Scotland, Head of GBNTA
John Wilson	Tennis Scotland, Vice President, Tennis Ayrshire
Karen Ross	Tennis Scotland, Head of Performance
Kirsty Cannon	Tennis Scotland, Operations Manager
Kirsty Humphries	Tennis Scotland, Head of Facilities
Lynne Barbour	Tennis Scotland, Corporate Services Manager
Marta Krauze	Tennis Scotland, Participation Partner
Mary Byrne Leitch	Thistle Tennis Club
Michael Robson	Hatton Sports Club
Mike Cohen	Tennis Scotland, Head of Competitions & Events
Mike Kolacz	Tennis Scotland, Participation Development Manager
Orin Forbes	Montrose LTC
Rhona Alston	Montrose LTC
Susan Whiteford	Tennis Tayside

### 1. Chair's welcome

The Chair of Tennis Scotland, Mr Graham Watson, welcomed those attending the Annual General Meeting of Tennis Scotland. The Company Secretary announced that there had been a total of 40 proxies received by the deadline of 18 April 2023. These proxies more than fulfilled the quorum for the business proper of the AGM to be conducted. There was also a total of 4 voting cards in the room and hence a total of 44 votes for the 2022 AGM resolutions.

### 2. Apologies for absence

Formal apologies for absence had been received from Sheena Sim, John Stevenson, and Deborah Hood. In addition, 19 notes of non-attendance per Appendix 6 of the AGM papers had been received.

### 3. Approval of 2021 AGM minutes dated 21 April 2022

The Chair requested that the minutes of the Tennis Scotland Annual General Meeting dated 21 April 2022 (which had been previously circulated with the notice calling the meeting) be approved. The minutes were duly approved with no amendments noted.

### 4. To receive the report of the Chair

The Chair, Mr Graham Watson presented his report to the meeting;

“It is pleasing to see the continued growth of tennis in Scotland – membership has increased from 57,000 to 75,000 in the past 5 years, with an accompanying increase in revenue from £1.8m to £3.1m.

Many people are responsible for this growth – our members, volunteers, sponsors, key partners – sportscotland and the LTA – and of course the staff of Tennis Scotland. To all, I offer the thanks of the board for their support of our long-term vision of *‘tennis opened up to deliver the legacy in Scotland’*.

The governing body is fortunate in having such a strong executive team, led so professionally by Blane. It is all too easy to take for granted the work that goes on every day to grow the sport here in Scotland, and too often we can forget how many people go above and beyond their day-to-day responsibilities to deliver the outstanding results that Blane will speak to in a few minutes.

It is exciting to see building progress on the combined £6m development of new indoor facilities in Edinburgh and Moray, supported by the TSIT fund, as well as progress in investing the public parks regeneration funding.

However, it is disappointing that the very successful GB National Tennis Academy here in Stirling will be moving south of the border. Nevertheless, as we transition from hosting the GB National Academy, we expect the LTA will wish to continue supporting a new Scottish focused National Player Performance Pathway with significant investment.

We were delighted that the recent audit of the governance arrangements of Tennis Scotland, conducted by KPMG on behalf of sportscotland, delivered the highest possible level of assurance.

As you would expect, the board exercises close governance over the finances of Tennis Scotland, but as the accounts for last year show, it is increasingly challenging to deliver a break-even outcome, let alone generate surplus for future investment.

So, while terrific progress is being made in growing the sport, there are a few darker clouds on the horizon. The fragile economic situation and stretched public finances mean that our funding from the LTA and sportscotland is not growing as we would wish, and not at a level commensurate with the growing demand we are seeing across Scotland. Equally, despite the valuable support of existing sponsors, market conditions and external restrictions make it difficult to recruit major new partners.

Existing funding arrangements are insufficiently flexible to enable agile management of an ever-changing environment.

Slower investment of the TSIT fund than we would like – largely due to the inability to find private sector partners willing to invest on the terms demanded by the fund - is evidence of this inflexibility.

Looking to the future therefore, a priority and responsibility for the Board is to examine all options that will enable us to fund continued growth of the sport in Scotland. As these discussions progress and conclude, we will of course keep the membership updated on our thinking.

Thank you again for attending the AGM and for your continued support of Tennis Scotland. I will now hand over to Blane to present the annual report and accounts. If I may, I will suggest that you leave questions on Blane's presentation until the conclusion of his remarks."

## **5. To receive the Annual Report of Tennis Scotland for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

Blane Dodds, the Chief Executive, presented the 2022 Annual Report with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. The Annual Report will be distributed to all members following the AGM. A summary of the key areas covered included;

- Facilities; Club membership from 57,494 in 2018 to 74,560 in 2022, 257 new coach qualifications completed, 507 School teachers trained in LTA Youth Schools. Increasing the number of covered indoor tennis courts. Improved Park tennis provision
- Participation; Davis Cup success in September 2022; 83 Schools involved, 2,584 children attended, 295 sports leaders trained in advance, 16 Open Court disability venues
- Participation; Billie Jean King Cup – Tennis Scotland profiled female participation and workforce, 2870 tickets made available to schools, 70 schools took advantage of free schools tickets and a transport grant
- Community; Opening tennis up in Scotland; SERVES – changing lives with tennis in Scotland, Rackets Cubed, Tennis4RAD (Race Against Dementia)
- Workforce; coach education and CPD courses attended by a huge number of coaches and coach qualifications achieved. Spotlight on Tennis Scotland Apprentices, Luke Turnbull, Katie McKay, and Euan Donegan
- Disability & Inclusion; 25 active open court disability venues, 59 entries for Scottish Closed and LTA Regional disability tournament at Newlands. 2023 target for 25+ open court venues to be funded by Tennis Scotland
- Educational Activities; Teacher Training, Schools events and competitions, University partnerships, Tennis Scotland Schools roadshows fund
- Performance; Scottish Player Pathway/ Scottish National Academy – process and outcomes
- Performance success; Gordon Reid, Cameron Norrie, Andy Murray, Jamie Murray
- Performance 14+ players; Matt Rankin, Charlie Robertson, Ben Hudson, Jack Deveney, Ellie Robertson
- Performance – doubles spotlight, Ali Collins, Maia Lumsden, Scott Duncan, Jonny O'Mara, Connor Thomson, Jacob Fearnley
- GB National Tennis Academy highlights: 19 Junior ITF titles won by GBNTA players, 3 players represented Team GB, 4 GB NTA players gained straight 'A' Grades
- Competitions: 6,210 competing players, 148 local tour events delivered, 230 LTA matchplays delivered, 861 total Grade 5 and 6 events, 4 World tennis tour events delivered

- Media communications: 248 pieces of coverage across the 12 months. Key announcements included; Tennis Scotland Awards, TSIT, US Open trophy tour, Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup. TSIT £1.63m and £4.5m funding for indoor courts in Moray and at Oriam respectively. Social Media – Twitter +337 to 9,654 followers, Instagram + 654 to 5,072 and Facebook + 360 to 12,014
- Finance: Tennis Scotland accounts for 2022 showed an increase in turnover of £786k to £3.125m, a small deficit of £37k made for the year to 31 December 2022 with reserves remaining stable at £471k.
- Strategy 2022 – 2026: Vision “Tennis Opened up to Deliver the Legacy in Scotland”. Develop, Ambition, Culture, Strategy for 2023. Looking ahead the priority areas being Padel, Facilities, Capacity building – retention and growth, Scottish National Performance Pathway, Performance Players, Commercial, Culture development, District Review, Resource development, Position TS, Political engagement, Maximize outcomes for all.

The Tennis Scotland Award Winners were announced as:

- *International Player of the Year*
- **Cameron Norrie**
- *Junior Player of the Year*
- **Matt Rankin**
- *Senior Player of the Year*
- **Mary Byrne-Leitch**
- *Senior Veteran Player of the Year*
- **Anna Brogan**
- *Competition of the Year*
- **The Nairn 90<sup>TH</sup> Tournament**
- *Official of the Year*
- **Vikki Paterson**
- *Club of the Year*
- **Montrose Tennis Club**
- *Communities and Parks Award*
- **Musselburgh Tennis Club**
- *Disability Award*
- **Carol Jones**
- *Education Award (University)*
- **University of St Andrews**
- *Education Award (School)*
- **Strathallan School**
- *Lifetime Achievement*
- **Mike Aitken**
- *Volunteer of the Year*
- **Michael Goldie**
- *Young person of the Year*
- **Emma Howat**
- *Development Coach*
- **Graeme Walker**
- *Performance Coach*
- **Karen Lamb**

The Chief Executive in conclusion of his presentation extended a vote of thanks to Graham Watson as Chair, the Board of Tennis Scotland, all the staff, partners of Tennis Scotland including sportscotland and the LTA, all TS commercial partners.

Graham Watson invited questions from the floor, there were none tabled.

Graham Watson continued the meeting with a vote of thanks to Blane for his presentation and overall thanks from the Board to Blane as Chief Executive.

#### **6. To receive the Accounts of Tennis Scotland for the Financial Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

The Financial Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 were included in the papers issued prior to the AGM. The presentation of outline numbers had been considered in point 5 above.

#### **7. To fix the rate of Fees and Subscriptions Rates for 2023**

The Chair confirmed that the Board proposes no change to the subscription rate of £120 per court for 2023. The Company Secretary confirmed there were 37 votes for and 7 against. Result being approval of subscription rate.

#### **8. Announcements**

The following appointments were intimated to the meeting:

- Michele Mair appointed Non-Executive Director
- Graeme Gault appointed Non-Executive Director
- Anja Vreg appointed Non-Executive Director
- Sean Lineen appointed Non-Executive Director
- Derek Quirk – appointed for second term as Non-Executive Director
- Rhona Alston – appointed Vice-President
- John Wilson - assumes President from Vice President
- John Stirling -retires as President

Graham Watson extended a vote of thanks to John Stirling as outgoing President.

#### **9. Ordinary Resolutions**

##### **(a) The Honorary President**

That Mr D Carmichael OBE was re-elected unopposed as Honorary President of Tennis Scotland with forty-four votes.

**(b) The Honorary Vice-Presidents**

That the under-noted were re-elected unopposed as Honorary Vice-Presidents of Tennis Scotland with forty-four votes.

Mrs M Adams

A G Christie

Mrs A Hawke

G B Kerr

Mrs C Lawrie

P C Nicolson

R S Paterson

Mrs P A Reid

C M Robertson

Mrs S Sim

J A E Stevenson

I S Wiggins

Mrs C Windmill

R Gardner

J Frame

J Stirling

**(c) Auditors**

That the firm of RSM Chartered Accountants was re-appointed unopposed as Auditor of Tennis Scotland with forty-four votes.

Following closure of formal resolutions Graham Watson took the opportunity to extend a vote of thanks to Christine Windmill who was retiring from Seniors Tennis.

**10. Vote of thanks**

The Honorary President, Mr D Carmichael OBE, presented his vote of thanks to all in attendance and a separate acknowledgement of thanks to all officials and executive of Tennis Scotland for a successful and enjoyable year.

Thanks were extended from all attendees via applause.

**11. Close of Meeting**

The Chair, Graham Watson announced that the formal AGM proceedings were concluded and thanked those present for attending and gave a vote of thanks to all.

Meeting closed at 19.50.

Barbara J Southern  
Company Secretary.