

TENNIS WALES LIMITED (TW)
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023
SOPHIA GARDENS, CARDIFF, AND VIDEO CONFERENCE

PRESENT:

Ann Powell – Company Member Allt-yr-yn LTC
Annette Roberts – South Wales Committee member (virtual)
Anthony Phillips – Director TW
Baroness Amanda Sater – Tennis Wales President
Bethan Lewis – Director TW
Chris Hart – Member of Stow Park TC
David Foster – South Wales Committee member and Company Member Penarth LTC
Ellinore Lightbody – South Wales Committee member (virtual)
Geoff Scott – Committee member and Company Member North (virtual)
Graham Webster – Company Member Cardiff LTC (virtual)
Glyn Walters – Company Member Garw TC
Hannah Ward – Director TW (virtual)
James Armstrong – Director TW
Jeremy Cross – South Wales Committee Member (virtual)
Jim Calvert - Company Member Stow Park
John Denton – Company Member Rhondda Cynon Taff
Julie Greenslade – Company Member Aberaeron Sport Club
Julia Mortimer – Watts Gregory Auditors (virtual)
Linda Sawyer – Company Member Wrexham TC and North Wales Committee Member (virtual)
Lucy Cohen – Director TW (virtual)
Lucy Scott – Director TW and North Wales Committee Member (virtual)
Maria Rees – Staff Member (minutes)
Michael Gibson – Director TW (virtual)
Neil O’Doherty – Chair of Tennis Wales
Nigel Jones – Company Member of Glynneath TC
Paul Arkontopoulos – Company Member Dinas Powys
Peter Arguile – Company Member Usk TC
Rachel Evans - Company Member Radyr LTC (virtual)
Simon Clarke – LTA Councillor
Simon Johnson – Tennis Wales Chief Executive Officer
Sophie Hughes – Director TW
Stephen Blunt – Company Member Ruthin LTC (virtual)
Victoria Floyd-Ellis – Committee Member and proxy for Bridgend.

The meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m.

1. Welcome

Neil O’Doherty (NO) welcomed attendees to the Tennis Wales (TW) AGM.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from David Clarke, Windsor LTC Penarth, Mike Harpin, Bridgend LTC, Pam Alford, Ruthin TC, Patsy Roseblade – Board Member and Nigel Osborne – Board Member.

24 voting Directors and Company Members attended the meeting, with an overall number of votes of 38.

3. Minutes of the AGM of Tennis Wales Ltd held on Saturday 14th May 2022

The minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were unanimously approved.

4. Annual Report for 2022

Simon Johnson (SJ) stated that the annual report for 2022 was available online via the website and thanked everyone who helped to pull together the document. SJ confirmed that the report had helped to reflect on the achievements over the last year and highlighted the incredible growth of tennis in Wales. SJ asked attendees to share the report with their venues. Key headlines within the report included:

- Participation increases for adults playing annually and monthly, as well as increased in child weekly participation.
- The number of L1 and L2 coaches being trained had increased, with TW delivering all coaching qualifications for Wales.
- LTA Serves and Open Court have helped to take tennis into untraditional places, giving new people more opportunities to play.
- Increase in revenue since the pandemic with up to £1.3m turnover, because of an increase in investment from Sport Wales, the LTA and commercial income, as well as revenue from CDC, park activation and successful external funding applications i.e., WAG anti-racist fund.
- Successful year on court, with 54 Welsh players playing at national and international events, and four nation and wheelchair tennis successes.

SJ thanked those present for their support and commitment to Welsh tennis, highlighting that without the support from the volunteers, coaches, board, and committee members, as well as the energy and drive from the venues the team at TW wouldn't have been able to achieve everything they have done over 2022.

Jim Calvert questioned TW's mechanism on accessing data. SJ confirmed that data was obtained from numerous sources including annual venue membership declarations, LTA You Gov style tracker to track adult participation, the Sport Wales School Sports Survey and Club Spark.

5. Audited Accounts for Tennis Wales Ltd and the Finance Director's Report

SJ confirmed that the draft audited accounts provided within the packs would be taken to the Board for formal approval following the meeting. The accounts showed a small loss; however, this had been budgeted for and was agreed by the board in advance. SJ stated that though income was increasing, TW were consistently looking for additional ways to increase levels of external funding i.e., via additional Sport Wales pots and Welsh Government projects.

SJ thanked Julia Mortimer from Watts Gregory for their support with preparing the accounts and dealing with the challenges of online fraud.

6. Note election of Tennis Wales Non-Executive Director Sophie Hughes for her second term

The AGM noted the appointment of Sophie Hughes onto the Board for a second three-year term.

7. Note election of Tennis Wales Independent Non-Executive Director Lucy Cohen following external recruitment process

The AGM noted the appointment of Lucy Cohen (LC) as an Independent Director following an external recruitment process at the end of 2022. NO stated that LC was founder of very successful financial company and added a lot of expertise to the Board.

8. Note appointment of Hannah Ward as Senior Independent Director on the Tennis Wales Board.

As recommended during the Sport Wales Capability Framework, and to assist with good corporate governance, the TW Board had agreed to the replacement of the Board Vice Chair role to that of a Senior Independent Director. Hannah Ward had been appointed to the position and would lead the recruitment of the Chair of Tennis Wales in the new year. NO thanked LS for her time as Vice Chair.

9. Speech by Tennis Wales President Baroness Amanda Sater

AS confirmed that she was delighted to have served another year as TW President and had enjoyed representing the organisation at meetings and events, visiting venues and meeting with volunteers. AS stressed through the commitment of the sports volunteers, venues, and coaches, as well as the passion and energy of the TW team, TW had an incredibly successful year.

AS stated, that she had the pleasure of attending the TW Awards to present two awards and urged everyone to attend in future years to celebrate the many achievements within Welsh tennis. AS confirmed that she was extremely proud to support the Welsh senior team in Glasgow last month at the Four Nations and praised the determination, skill, and passion of the Welsh team.

AS thanked NO and the Board for their guidance and support.

10. Election of Amanda Sater as Tennis Wales President for third year

Voting members voted unanimously in favour of AS serving a third year as TW President. NO thanked AS for her support.

11. Auditors - Tennis Wales Limited

NO thanked Watts Gregory for their valued efforts in the provision of advice and the auditing of the TW accounts and proposed that they be appointed for a further year.

Watts Gregory was unanimously appointed for a further year.

12. 2022-2023 Registration Fees

The attendees noted the 2022-2023 registration fees for Place to Play - £120 per court including Padel (£60 grass courts) capped to 12 courts and £60 per court for LA/Parks and Operators.

Any of business

The meeting concluded at 11:02am.