

## APPENDIX 2: MINUTES OF THE AGM – 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Tennis Scotland held at the Stirling Court Hotel, University of Stirling, FK9 4LA on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2017.

### 1.0 Present:

Name	District represented/Position/other
<b>MEMBERS (VOTING)</b>	
John McKay	Cumbernauld TC
Pat Reid	Dunfermline Tennis & Bridge Club
Jenny Tattersall	Gannochy National Tennis Centre
Mary Park	Lochmaben Tennis Club
Rhona Alston	Montrose LTC
Colin Bayes	Stirling Lawn Tennis & Squash Club
Mary Byrne-Leitch	Thistle Tennis Club
<b>ASSOCIATE MEMBERS (VOTING)</b>	
Mary Byrne-Leitch	East of Scotland LTA
Mary Park	Tennis Dumfries & Galloway
Alan Christie	Tennis Central
Rhona Alston	Tennis Tayside
John C Shemilt	Tennis West of Scotland
<b>OBSERVERS</b>	
Dennis Carmichael	Honorary President
Andree Hawke	Honorary VP
David Duncan	Barnton Park TC
Michael Robson	Dalkeith LTC
Stuart Raeburn	Falkirk Community Tennis
Ian Conway	Tennis Tayside
John Stevenson	Honorary VP
Christine Lawrie	Honorary VP (St Boswells LTC)
Roy Lawrie	St Boswells LTC
Rick Gardner	Vice President Tennis Scotland (Designate)
Bill Duff	Montrose Tennis Club
<b>DIRECTORS/STAFF</b>	
Blane Dodds	Tennis Scotland Chair
Pete Nicolson	Interim Chief Executive Officer
Gordon Robertson	Company Secretary
Mike Cohen	Regional Development Manager
Lesley Abbott	Executive Administrator (Development )
Linda Gordon	Competitions Officer
Doc McKelvey	Head of Development
Sarah Cruikshank	Digital & Communications Officer
Stuart Brown	Regional Development Manager
Doug MacDonald	Workforce Development Manager
David Mazzucco	President Tennis Scotland
Mat Hulbert	Coach Support
Kirsty Humphries	Regional Development Manager
Colin Fleming	National Coach
Chris Rome	Interim Digital & Communications Officer
John Frame	Director (Tennis Operations)
Leon Smith	Director (Performance)

### 1. Chair's welcome

The Chair of Tennis Scotland, Mr Blane Dodds welcomed those attending the Annual General Meeting of Tennis Scotland. The Secretary announced that currently there were twelve voting cards in the room and twenty one proxy votes making thirty three votes in total.

### 2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Ann Hill	Glenrothes Tennis Club
Rod Scott	Kemnay Tennis Club
Clive Thomson	Honorary Vice President
Scott Martin	Director Tennis Scotland
Sheena Sim	Honorary Vice President
Margaret Hamblin	Kinross Tennis Club
A Barclay	West End TC Dundee
Pia Mackenzie	Director Tennis Scotland
Sarah Birrell	<b>sportscotland</b>
John Lunn	<b>sportscotland</b>

### In memorium

Pete Nicolson, the Interim CEO read out short obituaries of two former Presidents of Tennis Scotland: Eric Duffus and Jimmy Wilson who had sadly passed away over the last year. Those attending the AGM were then requested to stand for a few moments in memory of these two great men of Scottish tennis.

### 3. Approval of minutes dated 17th December 2015

The Chair requested that the minutes of the Tennis Scotland Annual General Meeting dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015 (which had been previously circulated with the notice calling the meeting) be approved. The minutes were proposed by John Shemilt and seconded by Rhona Alston.

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

The Chair, Mr Blane Dodds presented his report to the meeting. The Chair referred to the changes which had taken place over the past year and the results of these changes were now being felt in terms of positive outcomes which included: delivery our Operational Plan; continuing our Transition/ Restructuring against a backdrop of LTA Funding pressures (LTA Performance funding cut by £50k). Tennis Scotland is preparing its Strategy for 2018-22 which includes establishing a timeline with LTA and **sportscotland** for its presentation. It was important that there was one plan taking in both the LTA and **sportscotland** which covered both Capital and Revenue funding. The Chair noted that tennis in Scotland ended 2016 with its highest-ever profile. In summary some of these had been:

- Extraordinary success on the world stage – 7 Grand Slam titles, 3 Olympic medals, a very busy Awards season for Tennis;
- Excellent Growth in participation – club members, inclusive tennis, coaches;
- Achieved exciting £15m Indoor Tennis Fund to help transform the shape of tennis in Scotland.

In addition; Leon Smith the Great Britain Davis Cup Captain had joined the Board and Colin Fleming had been appointed as our National Coach.

Although all of this represented good progress; the Chair reminded the meeting that challenges remain. The reduction in funding from the Scottish Government would place more reliance on LTA funding. The Chair wished to explore other streams of funding to support increases in expenditure. The Chair concluded by expressing his appreciation of the support that had been shown by the tennis community over the past year.

### **5. To receive the Annual Report of Tennis Scotland for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

Pete Nicolson, the Interim CEO presented the 2016 Annual Report with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. The Interim CEO noted all the excellent achievements of the past year which he considered to be the most successful on record. The PowerPoint slides covered the following areas:

- **Headline success** (including growth in participation and seven Grand Slam titles);
- **Successes in Participation** (including increase in the weekly number of disability players);
- **Performance success** (including nine scots competing at the 2016 Wimbledon Championships);
- **The 2016 Tennis Scotland Award winners;**
  - *International Player of the Year*
  - **Andy Murray, Jamie Murray & Gordon Reid**
  - *Junior Player of the Year*
  - **Aidan McHugh**
  - *Senior Player of the Year*
  - **Christine Lockhart**
  - *Team of the Year*
  - **North of Scotland Over 35 Men's Team**
  - *Tournament of the Year*
  - **Strathgryffe Road to Wimbledon**
  - *Young Volunteer Award*
  - **Ross Taylor**
  - *Official of the Year*
  - **Andree Hawke**
  - *Special Award*
  - **Alan MacDonald**
  - *Club Award*
  - **Rutherglen LTC**
  - *Coach Award*
  - **Jonny Wilcox**
  - *Community Award*
  - **Queen's Park Community TC**
  - *Disability Programme*
  - **The Tennis Aces**
  - *Education Award*
  - **School of Tennis Pilot (Liberton HS, Firrhill HS, James Gillespie's HS)**
  - *Outstanding Achievement*
  - **Karen Ross**
  - *Volunteer Award*
  - **Ian Main**

The Interim CEO noted that the Award winners came from all over Scotland.

There then followed an audio visual presentation which showed the work of Tennis Scotland in growing the game of tennis and what was being done in the field including tournaments. This was well received by those in the room.

### **6. To receive the Accounts of Tennis Scotland for the Financial Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

The Financial Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 were received by the meeting. Pete Nicolson gave a PowerPoint presentation which highlighted the key figures from the 2016 Accounts. There were charts showing the split of the income across the various sources and a breakdown of the expenditure in to its component parts. The charts revealed that the LTA and Tennis Foundation funding contributed 52% of Tennis Scotland's operating income while **sportscotland's** figure was 23%. Pete Nicolson remarked that 40% of the operating expenditure was spent across participation. It was noted that as 2016 was a fifteen month reporting period; valid comparisons were difficult to make to the previous twelve month reporting period and the change whereby the Regional Development Managers were now employed through Tennis Scotland rather than with-in The Scottish Lawn Tennis Foundation. The loss for 2016 was attributable to exceptional items resulting from the restructuring costs. The company's Balance Sheet showed a position of financial strength with Reserves of £493K at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. The Interim CEO confirmed to the meeting that the Tennis Scotland Accounts had been approved by the Board on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017.

John McKay (Cumbernauld Tennis Club) raised a question regarding a shortfall in funding for a canopy for courts in his area. There had been funding in place from the LTA and **sportscotland**, but there remained a £100K shortfall. This query prompted a response from the Chair who had knowledge of North Lanarkshire Leisure Trust's involvement in this project. The Chair explained that there was no one left on ground to drive this project and he would be prepared to discuss the matter personally after the meeting with John. The Chair cited the example of indoor courts being built at the University of St Andrews as one which worked because of having the people there to deliver the project through to completion.

Rhona Alston (Montrose Tennis Club) wondered whether more money could be generated from sponsorship income. The Chair commented that attracting sponsors through his own business experience was a "tough business". This income stream presented challenges to Tennis Scotland in terms of budgeting as it was sometimes difficult to know the amount of sponsorship income in future years. There was also the impending issue that the rules around the use of Wimbledon tickets would be tightened making it less attractive for sponsors to be involved. The Chair stated that other income streams were currently being explored and this would be addressed later in 2017, after consultation around the Strategic Plan.

### **7. To fix the rate of Fees and Subscriptions Rates for 2018**

The chair confirmed that the Board proposes no change to the subscription rate of £130 per court for the financial year 2018. The £130 includes a £20 per Court County Activity fee. John Schemilt (Tennis West of Scotland) asked for information regarding how much individual Districts were levying on their clubs as an additional fee. Pete Nicolson did not have this information to hand but agreed to find this out and pass it on. Bill Duff (Montrose Tennis Club) remarked that Tennis Tayside no longer charged an additional fee.

The meeting was requested to vote on this matter.

The voting was recorded as being:

<b>VOTE</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Total</b>
Voting cards in the room	9	0	9
Proxies	21	0	21
Total	30	0	30

Gordon Robertson confirmed that more than 50% of the votes cast were in favour so the Ordinary Resolution was duly passed.

### **8. Announcements**

The Chair announced Rick Gardner as Vice President of Tennis Scotland and welcomed him to the Tennis Scotland Board. The Chair provided a biographical note which included the following:

- A licensed Tennis Referee, tutor, mentor & evaluator;
- A Fair Play Ambassador;
- A member of Tennis Tayside Board;
- A previous Tennis Captain and Chairman at Moor Park LTC;
- Currently plays league tennis at St Andrews LTC;
- A former TV Director/Producer - covering entertainment, comedy, and sport, including the BBC TV coverage of Wimbledon.

Rich Gardner made a short address to the meeting saying that he was very much looking forward to working with everyone and thanked people for this opportunity.

### **9. Elections**

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

That D D Carmichael was re-elected unopposed as Honorary President of Tennis Scotland for 2017/18 with thirty three votes.

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

That the under-noted were re-elected unopposed as Honorary Vice-Presidents of Tennis Scotland for 2017/18 with thirty one votes.

Mrs A Hawke

Mrs C Lawrie

Mrs M Adams

A G Christie

A G Grosset

Mrs L B Hamilton

G B Kerr

P C Nicolson

R S Paterson

Mrs P A Reid  
C M Robertson  
Mrs S S Sim  
J A E Stevenson  
C M Thomson  
I S Wiggins  
Mrs C Windmill

### **(c) Auditors**

That the firm of RSM Chartered Accountants was re-appointed unopposed as Auditors of Tennis Scotland for 2017 with twenty nine votes.

The Chair confirmed that Pia Mackenzie joined the Board in January 2016 and Leon Smith in July 2016.

The Chair confirmed that Scott Martin joined the Board as a Non-Executive Director in February 2016.

The Chair highlighted the imminent recruitment process for Director of Participation and Director of Governance. The Chair requested that attendees promoted these opportunities as widely as possible so that Tennis Scotland can ensure that we get the right mix of skills on our Board over the upcoming critical period. The Chair wished to receive a good set of applicants by the closing date of 22 May.

### **10. Vote of thanks**

The Honorary President, Mr D D Carmichael, thanked the meeting for confirming his re-appointment. Mr D D Carmichael then referred to his first meeting of the SLTA when there was no funding from the LTA and no money in the bank while the amateurs did all the work.

### **11. Close of Meeting**

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

### **12. Strategic Plan**

The Chair confirmed that the Board has been developing a Tennis Scotland Strategic Plan for the period 2018-22, and had mapped out a variety of consultation exercises over the period from November 2016 to June 2017. The aim is to present a detailed, costed plan to both our key funding partners, sportscotland and the LTA, in order to agree 4-year funding agreements that will allow us to 'Deliver the Legacy' from the current period of extremely high profile of the game in Scotland. An ambitious plan is critical as we aim to make a step change in Scottish Tennis over the upcoming period. The Chair introduced Pete Nicolson, Doc McKelvey, and Colin Fleming to take the meeting through the key elements of the current version of the Strategy. Pete Nicolson confirmed that he was happy to receive any comments/ideas at the end of the session tonight, but equally happy if attendees wish to consider the Strategy further and either feedback separately, or else join one of the detailed consultation exercises scheduled for the period May/June around the country.

Tennis Scotland's Strategic Plan for 2018 – 2022 was then presented to the meeting as a PowerPoint presentation by Pete Nicolson (Interim Chief Executive), Doc McKelvey

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(Development Manager) and Colin Fleming (National Coach). Hard copies of the presentation were made available at the meeting for all of the attendees.

At the end of the presentation; there were the following comments made.

<b>Comment made by:</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Rhona Alston (Montrose Tennis Club)	That the ranking system as currently operated by the LTA was contributing to the loss of players who wished to play in competitions but were ruled out. PN noted this point and stated that he was aware of this issue. The Chair also acknowledged this point and mentioned the related issue of court capacity.
David Duncan (Barton Park Tennis Club)	That Rogy tennis competitions were a means to increase the number of competing players and had been a success in the East.
John Shemilt (Tennis West of Scotland)	That he wished to see more child centred competitions.
David Duncan (Barton Park Tennis Club)	That it was important to keep adults in the sport once they had stopped playing in competitions.
Ian Conway (Tennis Tayside)	That the new CEO once appointed may wish to adopt a new strategy. The Chair stressed that this would not be the case as the current strategy proposals formed part of the four year funding bid and could not readily be changed.
Michael Robson (Dalkeith Tennis Club)	That there was a lack of places for children wishing to get onto the Tennis for Kids programme. Peter Nicolson acknowledged this was indeed the fact and was a reflection of the programme's success and was happy to find a solution.

Ian Conway (Tennis Tayside) wished to know when the new CEO would be appointed. The Chair while acknowledging the process was taking time; stated that the correct decision had to be made and no final decision had yet been taken and the Board was committed to finding the best calibre of person for the role.

The Chair then concluded this part of the meeting by thanking the staff, Peter Nicolson and the Directors for their contribution throughout the year.