Minutes Sussex Squash and Racketball Committee Meeting Weald Squash Club 04/06/2010 7.30PM

<u>Attendees</u>

Simon Tunley (ST) (Secretary), Fiona Western (FW), Chris Markham (CM), Paul Millman (PM) (Chair), Mike Harris (MH); Paul Fennell ESR (PF), Karl Manning (KM) and Mike Tonge (MT)

Apologise

Paul Fennell ESR (PF), Karl Manning (KM), Ian Robinson (IR), Mick Sheeran (MS) and Mike Tonge (MT)

		Action
1.	Matters Arising Fixture meeting now on the 24 th June 2010 instead of the 17 th June 2010. AGM confirmed date is the 15 th July 2010 7pm at the Olympos Burgess Hill (Triangle). CM to catch up with John Parr to see if we can invite him to the AGM, so we can thank him for his services to Sussex Squash and Racketball.	СМ
	The issue of Chichester squash club, pulling out of the Sussex leagues, was discussed in detail as there were concerns raised by committee members both at the meeting and also at the recent coaches forum. It was agreed that Paul would contact ESR and see if there is a precedent that prevents clubs playing in a county other than theirs if they do not field a team in their own county leagues; there was also reference to whether on this basis the club could still have ESR gold charter status. Paul agreed that we should also speak to the Chair of Hants squash and make it known that we were are far from happy about the proposed changes; it was further agreed we should speak to the Chichester manager Heather Lock and try and appeal to the clubs conscious and see if there is any way they could at least enter a number of teams.	PM/ST
<u>2</u> .	<u>Website</u>	
	MH mentioned having terms and conditions for the blog similar to those that are used on the http://www.squashsite.co.uk . Discussions were had over the logo and it was agreed that FW/CM would liaise and possibly involve Giles Cowdell to see if they can reproduce a copy of the standard SSR logo which could be used and sent to KM.	FW/CM
	CM was keen to get clarification from KM on how the racketball league will look on the LMIS as he was keen it did not get confused with the squash leagues. ST mentioned Hants have racketball leagues and perhaps it was worth copying what they do seeing as they use the same system. KM to confirm.	KM

		Action
3.	Facebook Discussions were had on who best to do this based on the work involved and concerns on child protection issues. However all agreed on this age of social networking it was needed. MH suggested seeing if Ben Hutton would be prepared to do it with the support of an U19. MH agreed to speak to Ben on this	мн
4.	Senior and Junior County Closed Events MH confirmed that the junior closed (25 th /26 th September 2010 Corals SC) was now finalised and entry forms were ready to go out via the various mailing lists that we have and on the website. MH to send electronic copies to ST who will disseminate via his contact lists.	мн
	The senior event is also booked in at Corals SC for the 2 nd and 3 rd October 2010. MH stated this would be run as a graded event.	
	Discussions were had on junior events as Crowborough are keen to host one. MH agreed to speak to MT about options.	MH/MT
5.	Coaches Forum MH discussed the minutes that he sent around (see Appendix A below). MH to set up a draft pathway to present at the next coaches forum on the 25 th September 4pm at Corals SC. MH discussed the budget which was focused on schools and then creating open days and six week type programmes at the local clubs. PM stated we should perhaps in the interim put a sum on the table and see if ESR would match it and then from this agree a budget which we would get clubs to buy into.	
	The committee agreed a sum of £2,500 and ST is to contact PF to see how this fits with his proposed contribution towards Sussex squash and racketball. MH did mention over time the opportunity to seek sponsorship which all agreed would be a positive move.	ST
	The level 1 coaching course was discussed and it was agreed the best applicants to get subsidy based on what they could give back to Sussex Squash and Racketball as it is not possible to fund all Sussex applicants for the course. We would confirm beneficiaries by the AGM on the 15 th July 2010.	
6.	Junior County Squads/Development MH mentioned that himself Ben and Graham were to run two open days on the 4 th July and the 22 nd August 2010 at Corals SC. The idea was to get clubs to nominate their better junior players who perhaps have not been involved in county squads and see if they would be keen/good enough to join squads for next season. Ben with the help of MH and ST will be sending around a letter to all clubs confirming the detail shortly.	вн/мн/sт
	ST raised the issue of cost and location of county squads and MH confirmed that they were looking for next season to try and have more coaches at sessions to ensure players got more attention/support.	
7.	Treasurers Report CM passed around end of year accounts which showed no major variations compared to predicted budget targets. CM also passed around a draft budget for 2010/2011 which the committee were happy with.	
8.	England Squash and Racketball (ESR) PM asked if anyone could attend the council meeting on the Saturday 12 th June in Birmingham on his behalf. MH said he would confirm if this was possible. PM stated	

he had been asked by the chair of ESR if he would join the ESR board and he has agreed to do so on an interim basis which might actually help SSR. He believes he has had some success in persuading ESr to look at Dunnings Mills case for funding and has also secured money for Crowborough SC.

9. County Teams

ST confirmed he was in the process of doing the Sussex entry for 2010/11 and it looked like there would be no changes apart from the fact there would be no U19 boys team and that Phil Ayton has stepped down from captaining the 045 and Paul Wykes from Chichester has taken this on. Our thanks go to Phil for his stirling work in captaining the team for a number of years.

10. <u>AOB</u>

Next meeting to be scheduled for the 7th September 2010 at the Weald SC

Action points on next page

Paul

 To contact ESR; Chair of Hants squash and the manager of Chichester SC about Chichester pulling out of the Sussex leagues

Simon

- 1. To help PM draft letters/emails regarding Chichester SC see above.
- 2. To contact Paul Fennel about match funding towards SSR development plan
- 3. To send out information on the junior county closed and the open days to all clubs.

Chris

- 1. To contact John Parr about possible attendance at the AGM
- 2. To send SSR logo to Fiona

Karl

1. To confirm with CM/FW how the racketball league will be shown on the LMIS system

Fiona

- 1. To liaise with Gile Cowdell to see if he can improve the quality of the SSR logo.
- 2. To send updated logo to Karl

Mike Tonge

1. To discuss options of running a junior event with Mike Harris at Crowborough

Mike Harris/Ben Hutton

- 1. To talk to Ben Hutton about doing a Facebook page for SSR
- 2. To send information about the county closed events to ST.
- 3. To discuss with MT about hosting a junior event at Crowborough SC.
- 4. To send information about the open day to ST

Appendix A

Sussex Squash Forum Sunday 6th June 2010 10.00am – 1.00pm

Brief Minutes

Attendance

Mike Harris – West Worthing Giles Cowdell – Dunnings John Millard – Copthorne

(ESR)

Paul Fennell – ESR Oliver Pett – Christ Hospital Ben Hutton – Coral Dave Meagher – Bognor Paul Butcher – Bognor Graham Stevenson

Mike Tonge – Crowborough Colin Flack – Copthorne Alex Over – East Grinstead

Apologies

Malcolm Johnson (General Manager) & Kevin Higginson – Cooden

Tony Cleary – Withdean/Brighton SC

Sarah Naish – Weald

Mick Sheeran

Ian Wilson – Southdown Sports Club/Lewes

Simon Tunley – Sussex Uni

No Replies

Chichester Horsham Storrington Bexhill Crawley (K2)
Arun Dolphin Burgess Hill Middleton Midhurst

Brighton Racquets (Falmer) David Lloyd (Eastbourne)

<u>Introduction</u>

MH – The purpose of the forum

- a) Apathy in the county
- b) How we can make changes together
- c) Create sustainable structured squash programme for Sussex

Attendees introduced themselves and informed the group as to there reason's on being at the meeting — All were keen to see there clubs develop and are looking for ideas on how to do this. Graham Stevenson and many round the table were very angry about Chichester leaving the Sussex Junior and Adult Leagues adding they should only be allowed to play Hampshire League if they competed in the Sussex League. Colin Flack explained how players at Copthorne play in the Sussex league and play out of Horley Squash Club in the Surrey League.

MH – To create a programme we need examples of good practice. Though Coral's is a successful club, things that are happening at Coral's might not work at a smaller 3 court club and vice versa. So it is important that we put together a Structured Pathway for all clubs that shows the link from school to representing your county.

MH – Challenged the group by saying why can we get 1000 juniors trying squash at clubs within in a year!!!!!

MH – I have a goal to get 200 players to try squash at West Worthing in the next year.

Mike Harris 200 player Programme at West Worthing

Created links with Jon Mills (West SSSP) & Mike Fisher (Worthing Sports Development)

Sports Unlimited – 32 children (10 week programme £1 a week funded by Worthing Council)

Durrington Youth Project – 40 Children (7- 12 years) (Free session) (Parent Participation on one court)

Sports Unlimited – Course 2 & 3 (2 x 10 week programmes - 32 children - £1 a week funded by Worthing Council)

More to do!!!!!

IDEAS FROM FORUM

Squash Festivals / Roadshows – Bognor

Carnivals – Lions Club Days / Parks – Mini Squash Walls – Coral's (Any funding to purchase Mini Walls)?

Getting into School's - All

Creating Links School Sports Partnerships / Council SDO's - MH

Inter - Schools Competition Programme

Developing Girls and Women's Squash – Fiona Western

Girls only Classes aimed at 7 – 9 year olds - MH

Schools Programme Idea

School Assembly (15-20mins – Interactive Demo) ESR DVD, Children Hitting Targets, etc...... School PE Class (Half or Full Day in School)

Free Open Day

4-6 - Squash Course (Numbers depending on courts, time etc.....)

Squash Festival (Last Week of Course)

MH- There is a need for us all to learn how to deliver this type of schools programme, I certainly need to learn!!!! MH – asked John Millard to help teach us.

Mike Tonge – Explained how difficult it was getting squash into schools.

Paul Fennell – Explained that the reason we have had difficulty getting into schools was that we have to go through the County Sports Partnership (Active Sussex)

CSP's have 4 regional Sussex School Sport Partnerships within Sussex

West East Crawley Bexhill

John Millard has contacts for these and will pas these to MH

PF - No Sport can access primary schools without going through CSP's but is very happy to speak with contact (Sally Harper) at Sussex CSP and set up meeting with MH and J.Millard to create link.

The Forum was very excited at the prospect of an Inter School Competition and felt this was really important area to explore.

Funding

MH – Explained there is possible funding through Sussex Squash / ESR / CSP / Councils.

PF – Explained the possible funding and help accessing funding through ESR and other external sources

MH – Explained to group that clubs maybe able to access funding but each club must show that they have a structure in place but that we would help them to develop their club.

MH – Also explained this is not a quick process and that going through the right processes may take 6 months before we can even get into the schools.

After The Break

Dave Meagher – Bognor, felt that it was important that we should treat this forum and our goals like a business. Not to rush but to take our time, 3 years to see the first signs of growth. The forum fully agreed.

PF & MH – Added that each club should initially only work with 1 or 2 schools and not over commit themselves and the club.

MH - County Development Idea Document - Main points

- a) Coach Education Either GS, BH, MH or guest coach to come in and run a coach workshop to coincide with the forums. Coach to be paid for time. Cost to be discussed???
- b) Coaches were offered an open invitation to learn and assist at all Sussex Junior Squads
- c) Sussex Junior Closed A need to increase participation with a goal to have 100 players competing
- d) Sussex Grand Prix Events Series of graded events held all over Sussex Clubs for juniors including A Grade (County Players) B Grade (County Squad Players) C Grade (Non County Squad Players)
- e) Sussex Junior Squads BH discussed the Sussex Open Days and increasing the number of players attending Squads.
- f) Sussex Representative Honours BH explained that he would like to see separate Sussex Kit being given to players representing Sussex instead of the same shirt being given to all squad players. Representative players would then stand out with a hope in encouraging the players below to strive for this accolade.
- g) Sussex Junior Leagues Everyone was delighted with the format of the Sussex Junior League, though all would like to see an increase in the number of players and teams competing
- h) Sussex Junior Team Cup Team Club Event to be developed
- i) MH Example Club Programme

Other Comments

- Graham Stevenson asked that MH get paid for his time and be given a title within Sussex Squash
- Sussex L1 Coaching Course Discussed
- Colin Flack Worried about being able to develop Copthorne (LA Fitness) due to membership and access issues......long term talk about may having to move across to K2 Crawley.
- Clubs that did not attend should be encouraged to attend meetings, minutes to be sent to all clubs and it was felt that a personal approach should be made to these clubs to discuss what the forum is trying to achieve.
- Brighton Squash Club / Withdean looking for a coach to run sessions (MH spoke with Nicky Salmon Brighton SDO)
- MH We have only discussed Junior Development but we have to address our adult development, Racketball, Doubles etc......

Actions

MH – To create a pathway to be agreed at next meeting PF to arrange a meeting with CSP (MH & JM to attend)

Goals

Create Structured Pathway Set up Inter School Competition Programme

<u>Date of Next Meeting – Saturday 25th September 4.00pm Sussex Junior Closed Championships Venue – Coral Health & Fitness</u>