

TENNIS WALES LIMITED (TW)

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON SATURDAY 27TH APRIL 2019
AT SPORT WALES CARDIFF WITH SKYPE LINK TO WREXHAM**

PRESENT:

Cardiff:

Barry Cawte – Tennis Wales (TW) Chair
Simon Johnson – Tennis Wales Chief Executive Officer
Mike Dunn - Director TW, South Wales Committee Chair, and Windsor LTC
Martyn Lewis – Director TW, James Alexander Barr Tennis Centre and North Wales Committee Member
Ann Powell – Tennis Wales President and Allt-Yr-Yn LTC
Michael Jones – Director TW
Neil O'Doherty – Director TW
Stephen Clarke – Director TW
Mike Buck – Director TW and Abergavenny Tennis Club
Alex Brown - Director TW and Usk LTC
Nigel Jones - Glynneath LTC and South Wales Committee Member
Glyn Walters – Garw Valley LTC and South Wales Committee Member
Katrina Clarke - Radyr LTC
Mike Clarke - Radyr LTC
Anthony Phillips – Windsor LTC
Graham Webster – Cardiff LTC
Tyrone Davies – Swansea Tennis and Squash Club
Leanne Mclellan –South Wales Committee Member
Jim Calvert – Stow Park LTC
Maria Rees – Office Manager TW

Wrexham:

Pam Griffiths – TW National Participation Manager
Tim Manson – North Wales Committee Member
Vicki Broadbent – North Wales Committee Chair and Mold LTC (joined at end of meeting)

The meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m.

1. Welcome

Barry Cawte (BC) welcomed those present at the meeting both in Cardiff and Wrexham

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Pam Alford, Rosemary Bernard, Stephen Blunt, Tom Hoyt, Peter Hawke, Simon Clarke, Liz Parry, David Clarke, Owain Rees, Gordon Clark, Kevin Phillips, Richard Jones, Mike Rowe and Mary Hunter.

Proxy forms received from Liz Parry (Director), Rosemary Bernard (Director), Thomas Hoyt (Llanelli LTC), Peter Hawke (Usk TC) and Kevin Phillips (Abergavenny TC) resulting in there being 15 Members present with 27 votes in total.

3. Minutes of the AGM of Tennis Wales Ltd held on Saturday 28th April 2018.

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

4. Annual Report for 2018

Simon Johnson (SJ) confirmed that the Annual Report had been circulated with the meeting papers and was available on the website. SJ gave an overview on his first few months with TW as the Interim and then permanently appointed CEO.

SJ explained that he was receiving strong messages from both clubs and the coaches, who were highlighting their concern at being able to keep juniors in the sport as they grow older. The TW team would be putting together workshops and meetings over the summer to help work on solutions to the key areas of concern.

The team would be meeting with the local authorities to improve the park sites and to discuss their potential for growing the game.

The Sport Wales Strategy was expected within the next week which would see a big focus on education.

The Chair thanked SJ and the team at TW for their continued effort and hard work especially over a period of uncertainty.

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

Tyrone Davies (TD) provided a summary of the audited accounts which had been approved by the Board on behalf of the current Finance Director, Rosemary Bernard. TD confirmed that by the end of 2018, TW had £460,000 in cash reserves.

6. Election of Tennis Wales Directors following the South Wales Annual Open Meeting

The Chair reported that Mike Clarke (MC), Mike Buck (MB) and Mike Dunn (MD) had been elected as Directors at the South Wales Annual Open Meeting held on 24th November 2018 in accordance with TW Article 12.2(1) and 17.4. MC would be commencing his first three year term, with MB and MD commencing their second and final term.

The Chair confirmed that Stephen Clarke (SC) would be stepping down as a Director, having completed his 6 years. The Chair thanked SC for his dedication and support over the previous years.

7. Election of Independent Tennis Wales Directors

Those present unanimously approved the election of Liz Parry (LP) for a second three year term as an Independent Director of Tennis Wales Limited in accordance with Articles 12.2(3) and 12.12 as recommended by the directors.

Members also approved the election of new Independent Directors Tyrone Davies (TD), Michael Jones (MJ) and Neil O'Doherty (NO).

TD brings finance expertise, with MJ having vast experience in sponsorship and commercial income and NO bringing extra HR experience to the TW Board.

The Chair confirmed that Rosemary Bernard (RB) would be stepping down as Finance Director, having completed her full 6 years. The Chair thanked RB for her hard work and support over the years.

8. Appointment of Simon Johnson as Chief Executive Officer

Those present noted and welcomed SJ as the new CEO of TW.

9. President - Tennis Wales Limited

Those present unanimously agreed to the re-election of Ann Powell (AP) as the TW President for the second year. The Chair thanked AP for her support in representing Welsh tennis throughout the past year.

10. Auditors - Tennis Wales Limited

The Chair 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 with no abstentions.

10. 2019 Registration Fees

The Registration Fees for 2019 were confirmed to be £110 per court for all places to play (£55 per grass court), up to a maximum of £1320 and £200 total for a place to play registering for the first time.

The Chair confirmed that the fees were set by the LTA and had not been increased by TW.

Any other business

BC stated that the Welsh community had lost two well respected members over the last year; Chris Rudkin and Marjorie Lightbody. They would be missed by all those that had worked with them.

Questions

- (Jim Calvert – Stoke Park) **Concerns and uncertainty over club facilities**
SJ confirmed that TW would be looking to condense all of the information with regards to what was available from partners over the coming months. Following a meeting with Sport Wales, the Welsh Assembly Government had invested more into Sports. TW were working on a GAP analysis to try to invest strategically with help from Sport Wales and the LTA, for clubs, parks and indoor courts. It was hoped that further information would be available soon.
MC explained that the South Wales Committee had a vast amount of experience between them and would be happy to link in with any clubs who had any queries over facilities.
- (Anthony Phillips – Windsor Penarth) **Any new forums planned for clubs?**
SJ confirmed that TW would want to create an opportunity for all clubs to get together to discuss any key issues that they are facing and to share best practise. If clubs had any agenda items they would wish to cover, SJ requested that they be forwarded to him. SJ had visited a lot of venues over the past few months.
- (Mike Buck – Director and Abergavenny TC) **Following disappointment of the last Welsh Championship event, what plans were in place for this year?**
SJ explained that he saw the Welsh Championships as the flagship event for Wales. A competition review was completed at the beginning of the year with the Championships at the forefront.

SJ expected the event to be bigger this year, with a new committee being set up, a new referee hired, a bespoke Championship website and social media channels. Fun activities were being looked into with a better structure to assist with the creation of a better

atmosphere. A major challenge highlighted was that the event was running on a £9,000 deficit. A profit was needed to ensure re-investment opportunities.

The meeting concluded at 11:06 a.m.

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