

# The Northumbria Squash Rackets Association

## Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 19 May 2015, 7.00pm  
At The Northumberland Club, Jesmond

### Minutes

#### 1. Present

##### Committee Members

Dave Barnett, Glenn Ward, Colin McNestrie, Jim Douglas, Simon Ho, Clare Woroniuk, Eric Mok,

Dave Buxton, Mike Cherryman, Alan Coates, Dave North, Richard Vitty, Steve Drummond,

#### 2. Apologies

Liam Gutcher, Dave Elsender, Dylan Younger, Alex Storey

#### 3. Chairman's Welcome

DB Welcomed everyone to the meeting

#### 4. Minutes of previous AGM, 20 May 2014

Minutes of the AGM 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014 were distributed and discussed

#### 5. Matters Arising

##### **9.7 Formalise the option for equal strength teams for clubs with more than one team in the top division and to extend to the Men's premier division.**

This led to a discussion re rule of being tied when you have played for a higher team. The rule re being tied will be re-worded by S Ho and John Thompson to address this so that the player will be tied to the next highest team. E.g. a third team player cannot be tied to the first team.

##### **9.10 For a change in scoring system to two clear at 14 all in PAR 15 scoring.**

It was decided that for the new season in PAR 15 leagues in every game the player who reaches 14 first can choose to play to 15 or to 17.

#### 6. Treasurer's Report – Jim Douglas

- JD presented the accounts dated until April 2015 with a closing balance of £17226.4 this is an increase from last year of £2743.63 he did note that a number of invoices including from county closed courts and presentation evening were yet to go out.
- The ESR rebate is marginally down from last year £1368.19 2014 to £1297.63 2015.
- The income from the county closed for both juniors and seniors is steady.
- There has been an increase in Northumbria Open Senior entry fees from £888 in 2014 to £1042 2015.

#### 7. League Secretary's Report – Simon Ho

- SH reported that overall he was pleased with how the leagues have run this season.

- There were a couple of incidents of playing out of order as teams adjusted to the new rules. Some instances occurred where points were deducted.
- One notable dispute was Sunderland 1 who were deducted 20 points for forfeiting two matches.
- Cup competitions were very well supported this season with clubs putting out strong line ups.
- Summer leagues are now in the second season, there are 18 teams competing in 2 divisions. This year there are 4 man teams, and the season will operate between May and July, followed by play offs and several new clubs have entered this year which is positive.

#### **8. Election of Officers:**

- Richard Vitty has expressed an interest in joining the committee this was seconded by Dave North and Glenn Ward
- Asmat Ullah Bajwa also expressed an interest in joining the committee this was seconded by Simon Ho and Glenn Ward.

#### **9. Discussion of Proposals:**

##### **9.1 Clubs entering multiple teams into the leagues.**

**Clubs should not enter multiple teams into the leagues when due to circumstances they cannot fulfil their fixtures. This of course refers to the clubs lowest league team, who by no fault of their own, due to players being tied and no other players to come in cannot subsequently turn out a team.**

**The reason this is important is of course should you be unlucky enough to play them early each part of the season they have a chance of fielding their best side. Then due to the above their opponents are awarded 20 points, potentially each half or at least gain a better points total and gain an advantage over the rest of the league.**

**The point is made to highlight the situation not to discredit any of the competing teams.**

*Proposed by Dave Buxton Seconder David Brown*

It was decided that a change in date to ensure you play one team at the beginning of the first half and the same team at the end of the second half is not possible due to constraints on fixtures. It was agreed that SH will email captains/team managers at the beginning of the season and ask them to ensure that they will be able to fulfill their fixtures.

##### **9.2 Is Northumberland Club large enough to host Presentation evening? Perhaps better in the downstairs lounge at Northern, subject to Northern's views.**

*Proposed by Tim Barker*

It was discussed that there are pros and cons of each venue but with the stage and the band, the layout Northumberland club works well. It was agreed that ticket sales should be organized differently, perhaps offering to clubs who won a prize first so that prizewinners do not miss out on tickets.

##### **9.3 For a change in League One scoring to PAR 15 or 13**

*Proposed by Damon Watts*

**With the current scoring PAR 11, games have been won and lost easily going to 11 points and the matches can last between 15-20 minutes. 33 points versus 45 is nearly a third of a match, meaning less court time.**

**The inter club competition is used as a way of keeping fit and when you don't get a work out, it can be more disappointing than the result. An hour or more drive to Tynemouth, Sunderland or Alnwick for a 20 minute game and night away from the family does not appeal.**

It was agreed that the scoring in Division 1 will remain PAR 11, as Division 1 feeds the Premier division.

**10. Any Other Business**

- Food- Teams which cannot provide food should let the opposing team know as courtesy before the match to avoid additional costs to the home team. S Ho will email team captains before the start of the season.
- County shirts on none county players- DB will address
- O60 County team will be entered this season captained by Alan Coates.