

MINUTES

Buxton Tennis Club Committee Meeting - Wednesday 2nd July 2025

1. Apologies: Allan Ramsay, Harriet Grubb
2. Present: Carol Taylor, Lesley Montgomery-White, Dan Osborne, Carol Bassett, and Sue Turnbull. Sue agreed to take the minutes in Allan's absence.
3. Approval of previous minutes – Approved
4. Matters arising (not covered by meeting agenda):

Action points from previous meeting:

- Court resurfacing has been completed (more under Chair report)
 - Constitution. Carol T and Allan have decided there is nothing more to do on this. We are affiliated to the LTA and the main BCBLT and these give the tennis club the various protections and indemnities we need.
- **Ideas for socials using the Clubhouse (TE)**
- **Newsletter. To be done around the time of the court repainting (CT)**

Other matters arising:

- Sue suggested we should change the gate code as it has remained the same for several years and there have been a few instances of non-members coming and using the courts without paying. It was decided to do this to coincide with the reopening of the courts after painting (**ST, AR**) .
 - Sue said a member had asked whether consideration could be given to setting up a midweek social play session. The committee thought this was a good idea and that as the courts are usually only lightly used on Thursdays this would be the best day. Thursdays would also fall nicely between the Saturday morning and Monday evening social play sessions. We would need to arrange for someone to always be there at the time arranged so that anyone turning up to play would be guaranteed a game. We could set up a rota for this. Also maybe provide coffee. It was agreed we should do a WhatsApp poll to gauge if there would be enough interest (**ST**).
 - Lesley said there are some cricket club ladies who might be interested in playing tennis once the cricket season ends in September. It was agreed to think about how best to encourage this (**LMW, CT**)

5. Key areas brief updates:

- Chair update (CT). The court resurfacing has been completed, and all the feedback is that it has been very successful. The committee thanked Carol Taylor for organising this so well, and Carol wanted her massive thanks to Paul Swain to be noted as his help was invaluable. Court repainting is booked in for 21st July, and the courts will be closed for 7 days. If the weather is not favourable then we have a window of 2 weeks provisionally held for us, and it will take place as soon as possible within that window. The timing has been arranged to affect league matches and coaching as little as possible.

The maintenance contract has been signed. This will provide an annual comprehensive clean at a cost of about £1,500 (incl vat). The club will need to keep on top of sweeping etc in between.

No updates from the main BCBLT committee as there has not been a meeting.

- Membership update (ST). Numbers are steady. We currently have 103 adult members and 47 juniors. We continue to have visitors paying and playing and 2 of these are currently thinking of joining. The renewal process went well and Sue explained it was helpful to her to ask everyone to do the online membership form each year as it helps tie in payments to the bank and keeps all the information in one place, as well as catching any changes in contact details and interest in team play.

Carol T has had an enquiry re whether there are any concessions for ex-junior members who are now away at university and home for only a few weeks a year, or whether they can be allowed more than the standard 4 visits a year. After discussion it was agreed to leave things as they are because the Young Person concessionary membership category covers a range of young people and if we make too fine a distinction between their individual situations it would be very difficult to manage and may cause disharmony amongst members.

- Treasurer update (DO). Income from membership is consistent with last year, at about £11,000. It was noted we haven't yet paid the £2,500 to the main BCBLT club. Income from match fees was discussed, and it was agreed that Dan would look at the figures and see whether the £2 paid by each match player per match to us is still enough to cover new tennis balls. New balls are provided by home teams at a rate of 4 balls per court (3 tins for men's team as they play 3 pairs, and 2 tins for ladies as they pay 2 pairs). They are then used for club social play sessions. Dan to build in some leeway so that any team fines can be contributed to from this pot too. **(DO)**

- Safeguarding update (HG). Carol T reported that Harriet is in the process of taking over from Cath. She has been doing the training courses but hasn't completed them all yet. Cath's qualification is still covering us in the meantime. Lesley is going to do a DBS check on herself on the LTA's website, and will liaise with Harriet and Cath **(LMW)**

- Teams (SG, AR, CT). Carol T reported that both "summer" teams have done very well this season (Men in Div 1, and the ladies in Div 3). There will also be 3 teams entered in the "late summer" leagues: 1 x Mens (in Div 5, captained by Chris Grubb), and 2 x Ladies (captained by Sally Gould and Lesley Montgomery-White). The addition of a second ladies team is a new exciting development for the club, and Lesley will liaise with Sally to investigate the rules about playing up/ down between the ladies teams, and so that 2 clear pools of players can be defined.

- Club sessions and coaching (CT). Club sessions continue to go well, with good attendance and a good atmosphere. There has been an increased provision of coaching offered, and feedback has been given on how it is working. Junior summer camps will be held again this year on Tuesday 5th – Thursday 7th August (incl), and on Tuesday 19th – Thursday 21st August (incl) between 8.30am and 3pm. The camps will use only 2 courts, leaving 1 court free for member booking as usual.

- Club affiliations, policies (AR). No information has been sent by Allan.

6. Club maintenance. Lesley volunteered to take on the organising of the annual maintenance tasks. She will make a To Do list with Carol T and gather helpers for each task as they come up through the year by using the dedicated WhatsApp group **(LMW, CT)**. Lesley will start by buying 2 brushes to sweep the courts and implement a system for accessing the club house toilets. Carol Bassett kindly

agreed that she and her husband will trim the large weeds by the visitor gate entrance to make a clear path and will plant up the tubs by the steps **(CB)**.

7. Events and Tournaments. Carol will ask Liz Blyth if she would be willing to organise another social tournament once the courts are painted, as the one Liz had organised earlier in the year was rained off **(CT)**.

It was agreed it would also be a good time to have a different, purely social, event and so Carol T will speak with Tracey to get the ball rolling **(CT, TE)**

8. Club development. Carol stated we needed to get a long term strategic financial plan set up. This will indicate how much money for future projects we will need to set aside **(CT, DO)**.

9. AOB. Sue will send an email out to update on court painting etc **(ST)**

10. Date of next meeting: October 2025 – exact date to be confirmed **(CT)**