

# Portsmouth & IOW District LTA Annual General Meeting

Date: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Venue: Avenue Lawn Tennis Club

## Present

Jim Skinner (Chairman)  
Michael Isaacs (District League Secretary)  
Carrie Bateman (Committee Secretary)  
Paula Fuge (Ladies Winter League Secretary & Committee)  
Alan Best – (Treasurer)  
Maureen Parker – Stubbington  
Lilah Lidgate – Alverstoke  
Tony Lidgate – Alverstoke  
Sally Goodwin – Alverstoke  
Irene Knott – Alverstoke  
Gill House – Rowlands Castle  
Tim Clark – Southsea  
Dawn de Wilde – Southsea  
Fiona Farley – JEM Hamble  
Liz Hanratty – Warsash  
Anne Tapley – Ryde Lawn  
David Fothergill – Ryde Lawn  
Sara Robson – Avenue  
Phil Tusler – Avenue  
Rob Mort – Avenue  
Linda Jones – Ventnor  
Michelle Parker – Ventnor  
Gwen Isaacs – Sarisbury Green  
Angela Stafford – Southsea  
Lois Nash – JEM Hamble  
Karen Harrison – Warsash  
Nicky Eldridge – Warsash  
Matt Olive – Ryde Lawn  
Jaimie Fothergill – Ryde Lawn

Meeting commenced at 7.40pm

## Apologies for Absence

Karen Downie (Warsash & Committee)  
Simon Baughan – Ryde Mead  
James Green – Seacourt  
Mel Davis – Carlton

## The Minutes of 2013 AGM

The minutes of the 2013 AGM were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

## Matters Arising

None.

## Chairman's Report

Jim welcomed and thanked all those attending the meeting. He stated the league looks very healthy and was pleased to announce despite the bad weather through the winter most matches had been played.

He went on to say that the Trophy Presentation evening celebrated its 3<sup>rd</sup> year and was well supported by most clubs but would like to encourage more players to attend. He highlighted the excellent buffet. This year's Presentation Evening would again be at Lee-On-The-Solent Club on Thursday 16th October.

He informed the meeting that the inaugural Solent Cup was contested at Warsash TC last April. After two very close matches P&D Ladies champions Ryde Lawn and Mens champions Warsash lost their relevant matches to Winchester Ladies and Mens. The 2014 Solent Cup would again be hosted by Warsash on 12th April. It will be between Lee Ladies against Winchester and Warsash Mens against Warsash. He wished the P&D teams good luck.

Jim sadly announced the sudden and tragic death of the P&D League treasurer Colin Manvell last September. He added that Colin had worked tirelessly and gave his time generously without any need for personal recognition or reward. He was held in the highest esteem by all that knew him and dealt with him. Jim remarked that many had fond memories of the Colin and he will be sadly missed. The committee has thought long and hard how to note his contribution to The League and as a tribute to Colin and have decided an annual award should be given for Sportsmanship in his name.

The Chairman informed the meeting that Alan Best had been appointed Acting Treasurer and thanked him for stepping in the role at such short notice

#### Acting Treasurer's Report

Alan handed out financial reports and reported that the league had made a small profit for the year including purchasing the two new Solent Cups jointly with the Southampton LTA. He added that although The League had reasonable funds in the bank there may be additional costs to the league in the future. However, he confirmed entry fees and affiliation fees would remain unchanged for year commencing March 2014.

Alan confirmed that the Colin Manvell tribute award was an excellent way of remembering Colin as he always played in the right spirit, he believed in \*fairness"! He informed the meeting he would administer the Colin Manvell Sportsmanship Award in which all team captains would be asked to vote at the end of the summer season on the most sporting teams they played against. Votes should be cast on a 1st/2nd/3rd basis and would be strictly confidential. The winning club would be announced at the presentation evening in October.

#### League Secretary's Report

##### Winter Season

On behalf of Paula and himself Michael reported that the winter season entry was a new record with 81 teams, five more than last year. Due to an incredible amount of rain affected weekends through the winter, the season had quite a few matches still to be completed and urged clubs to make a concerted effort to get fixtures completed by the end of March.

There had been very many close matches and FOUR tied matches throughout the season. Most divisions had been closely contested.

He highlighted that there were too many walkovers given and particularly concerning mainland teams not travelling to The Island. It was mentioned that whereas the Island teams have to make the journey several times a season, most mainland teams would only have to make the journey once, if that! And as the Island teams are an integral part of the league it was important for clubs to get support to make the journey.

Michael also referred to The Solent Cup, informing that Lee Ladies and Warsash Men had been invited to represent The P&D LTA in this year's contest. The event would be held at Warsash TC on the 12th April, 11am start, all spectators welcome.

##### Summer Season

He was delighted to announce the number of teams entering the summer leagues was a new record. With 83 teams it is eight more than last summer. All three leagues Ladies, Mens and Mixed will be competed for in FOUR divisions. In deciding the make-up of the divisions he stated his prime objective is to try and achieve a balanced and competitive season for the teams involved.

It was confirmed the "catering cups" would again run through the summer season, so get those recipe books out!!

### General Points

Michael raised concerns that matches are being called off before the day of the match or too early on the day for “potential” weather problems. , He requested that Captains make good sense decisions, check the Met Office for weather advice, and liaised with their counterpart to discuss prospects of play. Very often the weather has been good when bad weather is forecast.

The League Secretary thanked all the Captains for sending in their scorecards mostly on time. He requested that any queries or questions requested by him throughout the season be responded to as quickly and if there are any postponements to inform him ASAP to enable a more efficient system. He also urged captains to rearrange postponed matches quickly rather than leave it until towards the end of the season.

### Portsmouth News

Michael was delighted to announce The Portsmouth News had agreed to offer P&D LTA space for a weekly report on league matches in the sports section every Saturday (space allowing). This will enhance the status of the league and hopefully give some good coverage to ALL divisions and ALL levels.

Alan Best will be the conduit between the league and The Portsmouth News. He will liaise with the clubs for information and photos and supply weekly copy to the paper.

### Website

The website continues to be developed. It is an essential tool to all club administrators connected with the league. It is a good advert for the league and reflects the commitment The Committee have to ensure the smooth running of the P&D LTA.

### Wighlink

Michael informed the meeting that he was once again in discussion with Wightlink to see if a P&D preferential rate for match crossings could be arranged. Although there had been communication in the previous year, a more hopeful line of dialogue had been discussed in the last few weeks. He will continue to pursue this cause!

Finally he gave thanks to his fellow committee members for their support including thanking Alan Best for stepping in the role of Acting Treasurer. He also offered his appreciation to all those club members for their co-operation

### League Rules

There were four proposed rule changes and one new rule put forward by The Committee for consideration by the clubs. These are detailed on a separate paper and can be seen on request. However a summary of the voting is as follows:-

- Rule 8 Fixtures – Agreed and Adopted
- Rule 9 Postponements/Re-Arrangements of Fixtures – Agreed and Adopted
- Rule 11 Players – Agreed and Adopted
- Rule 13 Match Results – Not Agreed
- New Rule Condition of Courts – Agreed and Adopted

### Election of Officers

Alan Best (Rowlands Castle) was voted on to The Committee as Treasurer.  
Lois Nash (JEM Hamble) was voted on to The Committee as Committee Member.  
All other officers have agreed to continue in their roles.

AOB:

Alan Best informed the committee that as The Portsmouth News have agreed to cover the P&D league matches in a weekly article, he would be contacting various home teams throughout the season to get photographs and a short commentary of their match for a weekly "featured" games which will be from ALL divisions.

He added he hoped he could depend on the co-operation of the clubs, as the more information he receives will enable him to provide a better and comprehensive weekly article which will be a credit to The P&D LTA.

**Meeting ended at 9.11pm**