



GWENT SQUASH RACKETS ASSOCIATION
Committee Meeting Minutes - 18th Dec 2018
VENUE: Monmouth Leisure Centre

Attendance

Attendees	Apologies
Steven Thomas(Chairman) (Risca) Peter Sturgess (Treasurer) (Abergavenny) Alex Rowlands (Vice Chairman) (Abertillery) Steve Rowlands (Abertillery) Graham Till (Caldicot) Steve Hewell (Cwmbran) Keith Tudball (Cwmbran) Lewis Fraser (Newport) Nick Edwards (Secretary) (Monmouth) Greg Price (Penybont)	None
Guest: Mike Workman (Squash Wales)	Non-Attendees None

1. Welcome, introduction & apologies

Nick welcomed everyone to meeting; no apologies had been received

2. Review of Minutes & Actions for meeting on September 2nd

Nick went through minutes and actions from September meeting which were accepted

3. League Structure

Nick presented the league structures as at 18th December, but some changes are possible. Post meeting it is understood that East One will have 9 teams with 8 teams in East Two, East Three and both Gwent Leagues.

League structure is shown below

TEAM		Winter 2018	Spring 2019
Abergavenny B		East 2	East 1
Newport B		East 1	East 1
Monmouth A		East 3	East 2
Newport C Vets		East 1	East 2
Penybont A		East 2	East 2

Cwmbran A		Gwent 1	East 3
Newport D		East 2	East 3
Abergavenny C		East 3	Gwent 1
Abertillery A		Gwent 2	Gwent 1
Caldicot A		East 3	Gwent 1
Caldicot B		Gwent 1	Gwent 1
Monmouth B		Gwent 1	Gwent 1
Newport E		Gwent 1	Gwent 1
Risca B		Gwent 2	Gwent 1
Risca A		Gwent 1	Gwent 1
Abergavenny D		Gwent 1	Gwent 2
Abergavenny E		Gwent 2	Gwent 2
Cwmbran B		Gwent 2	Gwent 2
Monmouth C		Gwent 1	Gwent 2
Monmouth D		Gwent 2	Gwent 2
Monmouth E		Gwent 2	Gwent 2
Newport G		Gwent 2	Gwent 2
Risca C		Gwent 2	Gwent 2
Abergavenny A		Prem 1	Prem 1
Newport A		Prem 1	Prem 1
Newport F		withdrawn	withdrawn

Mike Howe will confirm league structures in League Master shortly.

Spring season will start week commencing 14th January 2019 for all teams except for East One teams which will start week commencing January 7th 2019

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4. Squash Wales update

Mike Workman gave an update from Squash Wales - please see Christmas Newsletter on Squash Wales website.

In addition, there was feedback on the Gwent Men's and Women's team event held in September which was very successful with Gwent Men's winning the competition and the Women's team coming second. M

ACTION

Steve to approach Abby Hicks and feedback on timings for her planned move to USA and a potential replacement to lead the Gwent Women's team

Mike Workman to approach Abby Hicks for a suitable replacement for when she moves abroad; Peter Sturges volunteered to run the Woman's team if no replacement for Abby can be found.

Steve Thomas to approach Cory Kearns as potential lead for Men's team.

The Welsh Wizards team is continuing in the PSL with many home games at Sophia Gardens a sell-out. There is potential that live games may be "streamed" but this is a work in progress

ACTION

All clubs to encourage support of the Welsh Wizards and all county competitions to help build and grow support for Squash in Wales

5. GSRA Website

GSRA website is working well. Mike Workman has agreed that rather than duplicate, a link from the GSRA page on Squash Wales website to the GSRA website can be made.

All clubs are encouraged to view the website at

gwentsquash.org

where much useful information can be found

ACTION: any suggestions for additions or improvements or feedback re the site to be sent to Steve

6. Constitutional Changes

No further progress was presented on constitutional changes discussed at last meeting

ACTION

Nick to forward to Steve Rowlands in next week or so the latest versions of Constitution for review and development.

7. Squash Balls and Finances

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Peter distributed squash balls for all teams for the Spring season. It was agreed that Squash Wales is the most effective way of sourcing squash balls for the future and that clubs would be charged accordingly with balls being distributed at meetings to encourage attendance.

ACTION

Peter to confirm likely costs to clubs for each season's squash balls and potential costs for inter county events for coming year.

8. Rule Changes

Nick presented some proposed rule changes to rules 5.7, 3.3 and 6.3/6.4 which were discussed and amend.

ACTION

Nick to amend GSRA rules and circulate to committee.

9. Referee / Marker bonus points

After much discussion it was agreed that in order to raise referee/marker standards for all games the following bonus points would be available. All markers must be qualified and currently members of the Squash Wales Referee/marker group with a valid registration number

1 (one) bonus point available for home teams if a qualified marker marks one or more strings. The marker may be a player at the fixture or a non-player. Only one bonus point is allowed for the home team irrespective of how many strings are marked by home team.

Away teams, if they have qualified markers available, must be given the opportunity to mark at least one string. The Away team can claim one bonus point for marking one or more strings.

A maximum of one bonus point is available for home teams and a maximum of one bonus point is available for away teams.

As more team members become qualified this may rise to 2 bonus points being available for home teams in future seasons

Referee/marker registration numbers must be recorded on the score card and entered into League Master or the bonus point is not allowed.

ACTION

Nick to amend GSRA rule 5.2 to reflect above and circulate to committee

10. Referee Support

Respect for markers/referees was discussed and it was agreed that referees must be given more support in addressing issues on court and that conduct warnings , points etc. should be more effectively used.

ACTION

All clubs to support their referee/ markers and, where conduct issues are witnessed, to support and help them in filing conduct reports.



11. **AOB**

Balls and score pads/score cards were allocated to each club

Attendee league bonus points(10) will be awarded to all clubs who attended meeting and have teams in Gwent One or Gwent Two

ACTION

Nick to alert Mike Howe to allocate points

12. **Dates for next meeting**

Next meeting (i.e. the AGM) was briefly discussed and will be mid-May when all Spring season fixtures have finished. Venue is potentially Newport Squash Club (TBC)

AGM will be qualifying meeting for each team's 10 bonus points for Winter 2019 season

Meeting closed 9.00p.m.