D&C June 26th Minutes 2023

Meeting opened at 7.00 pm

Present:

D Andrews, G Smith, B Duke, N Collins, D Geldart, J Buckton, G Watson.

Apologies for absence:

J Rowsby, T McKay.

Accept previous minutes as true

Proposer: B Duke. Seconder: J Buckton.

Matters Arising:

CIO status update, Brian has been in contact with the Charities Commission again with the commission coming up with a possible way to close the CIO account. **On Going**

England Squash has moved the launch of their new membership scheme to the spring of 2024. J Buckton and N Collins are inter acting with England Squash over the changes.

Safeguarding:

Clubs will be informed again to ensure their Safeguarding officer and policies are easily found or obvious on their websites and or notice boards as some have not done so.

Louise Pickford's (England Squash) reply to a safeguarding admin query in the situation where a club does not have an independent safeguarding officer: Ideally a club safeguarding officer should be independent of a specific club role however we absolutely appreciate this isn't always possible and sure its better to have a club safeguarding officer than not. I think this situation is ok as the club has identified a secondary individual in the event a situation arises that compromises the (squash) safeguarding officer's position. If policies are clearly displayed alongside your contact details too. I think the club has made appropriate efforts to mitigate risk.

Treasurer's Report:

Not being able to attend, the treasurer sent the committee an update of accounts prior to this meeting.

The accounts have been audited. A couple of items require attention to be signed off.

League Report:

Clubs to be contacted with a closing date of 7th to submit their men's teams for this year's county leagues. Ladies will also be contacted to find out if a three or five player team is possible.

A couple of clubs cannot play some of their games on specific dates. Dispensation will be allowed.

A box of twelve squash balls will again be supplied by the county to every team entering the county leagues this year.

Tournaments:

Yarm will host the County Closed 21st to 24th September.

Nunthorpe will host the County Masters. A date to be confirmed for 2024.

The Junior County Closed will be held in September. A decision on host and dates to be decided at the next meeting.

Unfortunately, the Handicap County Cup sponsor will not be renewing his sponsorship for the coming season. Sponsors of the other competitions have indicated they are happy to continue.

Funding update:

Nothing to report.

Juniors:

Nunthorpe were host a junior county coaching session. Unfortunately, the weekend picked was a particularly busy one and many juniors were unavailable. A date in July is to be finalised and hosted by Yarm.

Yarm are hoping to run a Junior Bronze Open Competition in either October or November.

County Website:

The Honours Board is still not working and the policy documents tab is empty.

Council Report:

No council meeting this month.

AOB:

1. Information has been drafted for borrowing the county junior equipment and the equipment has been ordered.
2. Review what we can do to promote the county presentation evening. **Carried over.**
3. A person in the northern area who takes coaching courses for England Squash has been contacted and given a list of people from D&C interested in taking their Level 2 coaching course. The person is amicable for it to be held in our county and will start the ball rolling. The course will be displayed on the ES website with those interested above being put on.
4. For those people who take the Level 2 coaching course and pass, they will be gifted £170.00 towards the cost by the county on the same lines as the offer given to those who took their Level 1 course. A draft of the offer to be reviewed by the committee.
5. Sponsors scoring tablet covers have been ordered. Awaiting delivery.
6. The South African Knights are hoping to start touring again this year. They usually visit our county around January. Redcar have offered their courts if they do come. If overnight accommodation cannot be offered by generous club members, the county will look to supplying Airbnb accommodation or such like, paid by the county.
7. There is a keen squash player in Northumbria who is using Twitter to promote all that is happening in their county. Is there someone in our county that is willing to do the same?
8. With having a healthy bank balance, everyone was asked to come to the next meeting with ideas, suggestions on what we can spend some of it on.
    - 2 off Go Pro cameras for anyone to use.
    - Starter packs of safety glasses per club for the start of the season.
    - Free open nights around the clubs to bring in new members using club or county coaches.
    - Run our own D&C County Open with A, B and C events. It will cost around £3,500 to run.

Next Meeting:

August 21st @ 7:00 pm

Meeting closed at 8:30pm