

EBBISHAM TENNIS CLUB

AGM – SUNDAY 18 MAY 2025 – 12 NOON

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Attendance: see attached list

Apologies: Evelynn Ansell, Rob Crouch, Pete Willis, Arran Knight, Luis Moore, Jon Tasch, Anil Gogna, Rob Jones, David Joyce, Martin Creasey, Sheila Finnigan, Steve Finnigan, Callum Macarty, Jason Moss, Glynis Mann, James Mann, Chris Harding, Rachel Allen, Sarah Evers

2. Minutes of the last AGM

These had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were no comments and the minutes were duly approved and signed as a true record.
There were no matters arising.

3. Chairman's report

Gill presented her report (copy attached)

4. Coaching report

In Callum's absence this was read out on his behalf (copy attached)

5. Election of committee

Of the present committee, Gill Fitcher, Lesley Coles, Viv Nash, Evelynn Ansell, Sam Johnson, Shaun Dominetto, Chris Harding were all willing to continue for the coming year, but Alex Barker was standing down. An appeal had been made to members asking if any were willing to join the committee and Simon Dennis had stepped forward.

Lesley proposed, seconded by Viv, that the existing committee, plus Simon, be elected en bloc. This was unanimously agreed.

Lesley pointed out that the committee also included a parent rep, Sarah Evers, and Callum in his capacity as Head Coach.

6. AOB

6.1. Hitting wall. Lesley stated that a member, Sheila Finnigan, had requested that a net-height line be added to the hitting wall. She wondered what others thought. The wall had been installed thanks to grants from Bright Ideas for Tennis and Surrey LTA at the request of members, but had not been greatly used. When the wall, which has a net height line marked on it, was erected the wind break was behind it rather than on the court side as at present and she suggested we could revert to the original layout. Action: The committee would look into this.

6.2. Condition of the court surface. Hugh was concerned that we had reached a tipping point where if the courts were not maintained correctly, they would rapidly deteriorate. They needed regular six-monthly maintenance using a tractor and a deep brush. Clay was just laying on the surface, lines were being obscured and courts were becoming slippery. Gill pointed out that Trevor May the contractor did carry out maintenance twice yearly, but wondered if this was being done

correctly. Action: Gill to consult with Hugh on details and follow up with the contractor if necessary.

- 6.3. Light post. Gill mentioned that the work to stabilise the light post had been approved by management. The netting between courts 1 and 2 would be taken down and refixed to another post. The work needed to be completed before September when it was likely to be windier. Action: Gill to chase up with Owen the club maintenance man.
- 6.4. Finances. Simon asked why there was no mention of finances on the agenda. Gill explained that in these matters the three sports sections formed part of the overall Ebbisham Sports Club which provided a set of accounts at the Club AGM. She did point out that the Club was at present in a good financial position.
- 6.5. Membership numbers. In reply to a question from Simon, Gill said that while the Club management wanted us a 10% increase in our numbers, we had to bear in mind we are a 3-court club with limited court time, so a balance had to be struck. We had recently welcomed several new members, but we could do with some more women. Sam thought we should focus on retaining our juniors and Diego asked how we were marketing at student level, suggesting we target further education colleges during Freshers Weeks. Action: The committee to look into this for implementation next September.
- 6.6. Club charity. Simon then asked how the charities we supported were chosen. Gill explained that the overall club charity (this year the E&E Food Bank) was chosen yearly by members of the whole club in August. In addition, the Tennis Section supported other charities on a one-off basis such as a cancer charity in conjunction with the Alan Baggett Trophy and the Bright Ideas for Tennis charity for the recent 24-hour marathon.
- 6.7. Master classes. Lesley explained that as mentioned by Gill in her report, the club was being rewarded for raising the highest amount in support of the Bright Ideas for Tennis charity. In addition to the individual prizes for those taking part in the marathon, ex-Davis Cup player and charity manager Danny Sapsford and former tennis pro James Aukland would be coming to Ebbisham on 6 June to deliver 2 x 1-hour masterclasses for our members. There would be no charge for these sessions. A list was opened and members not at the meeting would be notified how they could sign up. If the sessions were oversubscribed, a ballot would be held.

The formal meeting then closed and those present enjoyed the traditional light refreshments of cheese courtesy of tennis member Jon Tasch of Neal's Yard and other goodies supplied by members of the committee.

Tennis AGM – Chair Report 2025

Overview

I can't believe a year has passed already! During that year our teams have won trophies, our membership is slightly up and we have helped raise significant amounts of money for Charity!

The membership numbers have increased slightly with around 170 active members (including juniors). We have 5 adult men's teams, 2 ladies' teams and a mixed team competing in the Surrey Leagues all year round and, additionally, the Dorking and Leatherhead leagues in the summer. As well as a variety of very successful junior teams.

As some of you may know, we had a safeguarding review from the LTA which was led by Sam, Lesley, Evelynn and Lorna. While they were happy with nearly everything that we have in place, we fell down on not having our level 1 coaches DBS checked. Thanks to funding from the club, this has now been remedied and we are hoping they will come back and regrade us. I would like to thank Sam, Lesley, Evelynn and Lorna for all their hard work on this. We also have 2 young ambassadors, Eloise and Ryan, who will be completing their project work once their exams are finished.

I have included full reports from each group but would like to pick out a few major highlights from the last year.

Some of you may remember a freezing afternoon in April when Rob Wood provided hot water bottles for the spectators! And our mixed doubles team, led by Rachel, won the Surrey Tier 2 mixed doubles semi-final in a nail-biting finish. This was followed by the final being held at Ebbisham on a much warmer afternoon in April. Our team of Rachel, Liz, Pete and Leo played magnificently and won another hard-fought, but slightly less nail-biting, match! Congratulations to them and also to all the other players that helped them get to the final. I would also like to thank Martin Creasey for providing scores updates and to Lesley and Shaun for the BBQ.

I would also like to give a major shout out to Robbie Crouch and the rest of the Ebbisham Misfits team who took part in the Bright Ideas 24 hr Marathon at the end of February. The goal was to raise enough money as possible to help fund and put on disability tennis sessions for those in need. Robbie got a phone call 2 1/2 weeks before the event asking if he could get a team together as another team had dropped out. Obviously, he said yes despite it being the graveyard shift of midnight to 4 am! Our team was Robbie, Rachel, Bridget, Colin, Leo, James Lawton, Ollie Evers and 3 guests. This event involved former pro players being on court for the full 24 hours, they were joined in 4-hour windows by other ex-pros and celebs and different fundraising teams. Not only did they battle with and against the ex-pros they also got a chance to try their hand at some of the projects funded by such work like Visually impaired tennis and wheelchair tennis. As well as participating in the event, the team, with the help of the rest of the Ebbisham family, raised £10,100 and were the highest fundraising team! As well as thanking everyone for their individual contributions, I would like to thank our BBQ team for cooking the sausages and burgers provided by Porky Whites for contributing to this. In addition, Ollie Evers was the second highest individual fund raiser.!

As a reward, Ollie has won a special trip to Wimbledon and the whole team are invited to play on the grass there. In addition, the club will be receiving masterclasses provided by ex-Davis cup players on 6th June. Lesley will talk more about this. And we have a permanent reminder of the signed shirt which is on display in the bar. An amazing result from a last-minute team and special thanks to Robbie for organising it.

The Ladies 1st team wone their Surrey Division (14 West) and, in addition, 4 of the team were in the top 7 of 54 players! And their captain, Liz, was ranked number 1!

At the end of last summer, the men's 1st team led by Leo, were promoted from Div 6 to Div 5 but had a less successful winter season. They are currently building up the squad so that they have more depth. The men's 2nd, 3rd and 4th teams had mixed results but have helped support the men's 1st team and have also supported junior members in playing in adult teams. Thanks to Robbie, Jon and David for organising these teams.

I would also like to congratulate the Ladies on their excellent Dorking and Leatherhead second place. The Ladies second team provided most of the players for this and our captain, Glynis collected our trophies at the meeting last month. This demonstrates that Ebbisham is successful at all levels and how inclusive the tennis section is as even old codgers like me contributed to this success!

And our junior teams have also had great success with the U14 team winning their summer league last year and the winter league. In addition, the U12 and U16 boys won their winter league. Callum has continued to provide them with excellent coaching and some of the more advanced juniors are now playing for the adult teams. Ebbisham is also hosting junior LTA tournaments and we have had 2 champions and 2 runners up!

Over the past year we have had record turnouts at all our bank holiday and other fun tournaments, the Alan Baggett trophy was over-subscribed, last summer's club champs had a record number of entries (62 players entering one or more events) and this year's has even surpassed that with 70.

And I would like to mention again the generosity of our members. As well as the Bright Ideas fund raising events, you have donated considerable sums to various charities on the occasion of various tennis events:

- Alan Baggett trophy - £391 to MacMillan cancer charity
- Tinsel tennis – 4 large carrier bags of food to Epsom & Ewell Food Bank
- May bank holiday tournament – 2 crates of food for E&EFB plus a donation of £27

I would like to thank our committee, team captains and Callum (our coach) for making all the above happen. I would also like to thank our "catering" team of Lesley, Shaun, Stefan and Charlie who have passed their exams and man the kitchen and BBQ.

I would also like to thank Lorna, Emma, Alison and Sarah for their help and support.

In addition, I would like to say a special thank you to Lesley who is the organisational force behind most of these events and, without whom, a lot of this wouldn't happen.

Most of all I would like to thank you, the tennis section members, for turning up in all weathers and making it such a great section to be part of!

Results

Adults

M1 –Leo Morell

Summer 2024 - 2nd and promoted to div 5

Winter 2024/2025 – came bottom of div 6 so have been demoted to div 8

M2 – Rob Crouch(Jon Tasch)

Summer 2024 -Div 20 w and won! One more match to be played

Winter 2024/25 - div 19 finished mid table

M3 – Jon Tasch

Winter 2024/25 - 6th out of 7 in league 24

M4 – David Joyce

Summer 2024 - Div 26w finished 7 out of 7

Winter 2024/25 - Div 28 West finished 3rd out of 4,

L1 – Liz Rowlands /Bridget Jones

Div 12 1 match left , if draw go 3rd if win get promoted.

L2 – Gill Futcher

Summer 2024 - 5th in League after having been promoted 3 leagues

Winter 2024/5 – came last in league but drew most of our games

Mixed – Rachel

Summer 2024 – 2nd in div 8, promoted to div 7

Winter knockout competition tier 2 - winners

Dorking and Leatherhead - Glynis

Summer 2024 - 2nd in league so we have the trophies

Dorking and Leatherhead -Jon

Summer 2024 - 3rd in league

Over 55 Men – Chris Harding

Team has rejoined the leagues

Juniors

Summer league 2024 :-

U10s- 6th in league-

U11 Boys- 2nd in their league –

U12 Boys- 2nd in their league

-U14 Boys - Won their league –

U16s boys- 2nd in their league

Winter league 2024/25:-

U12 Boys - Won their league - lost in quarterfinal of knockout

U14 Boys- Won their league - lost in semi final of knockout –

U18 Boys - Won their league - lost in semi final of knockout

Current season :

We have 6 teams competing

Over the last year we have also seen the integration of more juniors into the adult teams with Hari Gogna, Olly Evers and Ryan Skandamoorthy all representing the adult teams.

School links:

Stamford Green

Epsom Primary

Southfield Park

Shawley Community Primary

2024/2025 Tennis Review from head coach Callum Macarty

Teams:

- Summer league 2024: U10s- 6th in league, U11 Boys- 2nd in their league, U12 Boys- 2nd in their league, U14 Boys - won their league, U16s boys- 2nd in their league
- Winter league 2024/25: U12 Boys - won their league - lost in quarterfinal of knockout, U14 Boys- won their league - lost in semi-final of knockout, U18 Boys - Won their league - lost in semi-final of knockout
- Current season: We have 6 teams competing

Membership and programme review:

Total Players on the weekly programme: 176

Junior (orange and above) -118 Members - 101 Non-Member- 17

Red - 36. Members -0 Non-member -36

Adults - 22 Members - 15. Non-Member - 7

Programme/ Membership Summary:

Over the last year the programme numbers have fluctuated, over the winter they dropped a lot but this term numbers have increased. Numbers are less than last summer but hopefully with the good weather and Wimbledon upcoming the numbers will continue to rise

Over the last year we have also seen the integration of more juniors into the adult teams with Hari Gogna, Olly Evers and Ryan Skandamoorthy all representing the adult teams.

Wednesday cub session:

Since September Alex has taken over from Will running the club session. Weekly numbers vary but on average were roughly 6-8 per week

Tournaments – we held 11 county tour events this year. All were well attended and ran smoothly. We have been allocated 6 more events between now and September 2025

From our club we have had 2 Champion and 2 Runner ups in these tournaments

School links:

Current school links:

Stamford Green

Epsom Primary

Southfield Park















Shawley Community Primary Academy

EBBISHAM TENNIS SECTION

AGM

18 MAY 2025

ATTENDANCE LIST

Name	Signature
Gill Fitcher	
VIVIEN NASH	V. M. Nash
LESLEY COLES	
Diego Gouveia	
Y. Min Peter Gonzalez	
Nicola Nash Hard	
Mimi Colquhoun	
CHARLES PITT	
SIMON DONAIS	
S. DOMINATI	
S. HORSWELL	
K. HILDSBETH	
L. DEALONS	L. Dealons
NICOLE MORRIS	
LEO MORRELL	Leo Morrell
FRANK R	
Sam J	
Hugh Inpy	