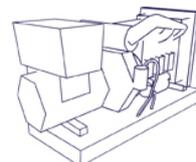


**Draft Minutes of the Yorkshire SRA Annual General Meeting Held on
Wednesday 22nd May 2013 at the KC Stadium, Hull**

Present

Eddie Docherty	Appleby Frodingham
Gill Choyce	Pontefract
Peter Keen	Abbeydale
Matt Stephenson	Dunnington
Robert Field	York
Jayne Robinson	Pontefract
David Hymas	Queens, Halifax
Mike Clemson	Ferriby Hall
Jim Lynch	Queens, Halifax
Paul Walsh	Queens Halifax
Simon Middleton	Malton
Terry Wilson	Malton
Mike Catlin	Malton
Jonny Everitt	Malton
Marc Thomas	York
Mark Birtles	Riding & Humber Squash

The meeting was opened by Yorkshire Squash & Racketball Chairman, Mike Clemson who welcomed all to this auspicious venue where the 2013 Allam British Open is being staged. He then proposed to suspend that part of the constitution which requires that such meetings be held in June or July. This was unanimously approved.



Apologies for Absence

Sue Preston	York & District Ladies
Peter Edwards	Racketball Contact and Chapel Allerton
Steve Ridge	Pontefract and junior IC representative
Mark Shipley	ES & R NE Area Manager
Murray Scott	Abbeydale
Neil Guirey	Abbeydale
Jonathan Duffield	Wigginton

Minutes of last meeting Monday 9th July 2012

Minutes accepted as true record, proposed Peter Keen, seconded Matthew Stephenson

Presentation of Trophies

Made by James Willstrop, World Number 4 and Robert Field of Italik, Yorkshire sponsor

Yorkshire League

Premier Division winners – Queens (David Hymas)

Division 1 winners – Abbeydale 2 (Peter Keen)

Division 2 winners – Malton (Simon Middleton)

Reports on YSRA activities and achievements in 2012-2013

Men's Inter County

Matt Stephenson reported on the successes of the Yorkshire Mens teams.

1st team, promoted last year and finished 3rd in the Premier Division

O35's withdrew

O45's relegated

O 60's and O65's both Inter County Champions

Racketball Inter County

Read in Peter's absence. The **MO40** team won the inaugural Inter County title.

Racketball continues to grow from strength to strength with an increasing number of players and clubs taking up the sport. The 10th Yorkshire Championships held in September with 75 entries saw Mike Tolman (Huddersfield) winning the Men's title and Claire Walker (Chapel Allerton) retaining the Women's title for the third year running. The 2013 Championships set for 14/15th September will be sponsored by the sports company Head. Yorkshire also dominated the North East Regional Championships held in March – Mike Tolman Men's A winner and Claire Walker the ladies winner.

The Yorkshire Team KO Cup winners were – Men's Chapel Allerton, Ladies



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Hallamshire and Over 50's Huddersfield

Women's Inter County

Gill Choyce ran through the ladies results.

1st team finished 5th in the finals and remain in the Premier Division

2nd team promoted to Division 1

WO 40 Championship Winners, retaining their title

WO 50 Championship Winners, retaining their title

Juniors

Read in Steve's absence.

My role in the past 12 months and has been limited to organizing and coordinating the county Championships and Inter County Championships for Junior Squash.

County Closed Championships

This year's event was held at Pontefract Squash Club and attracted a healthy entry in most age categories. The boy's event was better attended than the girls and the total entries were only slightly less than last year. This year tee shirts were not issued which resulted in a slight financial surplus. Tee shirts may be introduced at the next event but the entry fee will have to be increased and/or a sponsor needs to be found to cover costs.

All clubs will be circulated details of the next County Closed Championships which will be held at Pontefract again and the entry form will be available on the YSRA web site.

Inter County Championships;

Teams were entered into all age group categories including 2 teams at U17 level. From the 8 age groups, Yorkshire progressed through the 2 regional events in 7 categories to qualify for the finals weekend. Only the GU19 and BU17 second team missed out.

BU13 Championship winners

BU15 Championship r/up

BU17 Championship r/up

GU13 Championship winners

GU15 Championship winners

GU17 semi losers

BU19 Championship r/up

So out of 8 possible categories Yorkshire were champions in 3 and runners up in 3 others – no other county was anywhere near as successful as we have been this year.



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Development

Any activity outside these two areas has received very little if any attention due to a lack of voluntary participation. The future development of junior squash at the highest level is catered for by club and regional/national training sessions. The development of junior squash in Yorkshire at a lower level is an important area which is not receiving the attention it requires and so I would urge anyone who has time to devote to this role to consider getting involved. I am happy to assist anyone who does volunteer but I do not have sufficient spare time to take on this role myself and do it justice.

County Championships

Held at York this year with a good men's entry, though less so for the ladies. Adam Taylor won the Men's and Katie Smith the Ladies' titles. Our thanks go to Marc Thomas, also a winner in the 'B' event, for organising and coordinating this event.

County Masters

Dave Clarke was the Tournament organizer, held at Barnsley and attracting 23 entries of all age groups. The winners were;

Ladies	Sue Preston
O35	Mick Stead
O40	John Hanson
O45	Ian Cawthorne
O50	Steve Blacksell
O55	Kingsley Child
O60	Mark Thompson
O65	Adrian Wright

Thanks again to Dave for continuing to run this event.

Promotion of Women's squash

Jayne Robinson provided an update. With the demise of the Women's Yorkshire league a few years ago, ladies competitive squash in Yorkshire is unfortunately in a decline at present. Many of the higher standard ladies have moved to the men's leagues playing both Y/L and Metro and Jayne outlined areas which she feels would help in attracting more ladies back or into the game. This includes:

- ~Looking at what activities are going on in clubs across Yorkshire specifically aimed at women and teenage girls.
- ~Link to ES to look at examples of good practice across the country
- ~Develop a program at grass roots level to encourage women to play and build for the future
- ~Look to link across the Leagues in Yorkshire to try and strengthen these leagues.
- ~Look at developing friendly matches between clubs for club players rather than the better players.



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Yorkshire League

In his first year as Y/L secretary, Marc reports a successful season with few problems.

Marc cleared up some confusion over player and team qualification - in each team 2 players must either live in or be qualified to play for Yorkshire. A registered player must play 1 match during the first half of the season, unless unable to play through injury, before being eligible to play in the second half.

Squad orders were sometimes somewhat askew, mostly down to lack of knowledge - the rules are accessible on the Yorkshire site. Also, a registered player for a team may play up 6 times only before becoming tied to that higher team. It was suggested that that 5 maybe a better figure.

Until all entries have been received for 2013-14 season it is not possible to give a definitive structure to the Division distribution. It was agreed to defer to the committee and that flexibility should reign. If there is any dispute once the divisions have been drawn, this is to be resolved at an extraordinary meeting.

The committee will also discuss the problem of missed matches which some clubs in a 'safe' position in their division adopt towards the season end.

Many thanks to Marc for his success in the smooth running of the league during the season.

England Squash and Racketball activity in Yorkshire 2012-13

In a bid to increase player numbers at all levels and age groups, The 'Big Hit' was organized and racketball participation is being promoted as a sport to attract players from community groups, U3A and leisure centres in particular making use of day-time courts. There is a need to coordinate regional offices and county committees.

Financial Report

Peter reports that at present we have a net surplus of £689 - this may be reduced considerably when all finals claims forms have been received. He again asked that claim forms be submitted as soon as possible after the match and certainly within 1 month.

ESR 'rebate' (12.5% of affiliation fees) received can be increased by a further £800-£900 when all clubs have paid their affiliation monies.

Inter County expenses from subsidizing our teams continue to be the biggest expenditure, this is the flip side of producing such successful players and teams.

On behalf of the Association, the Treasurer thanks Italik for their sponsorship of county activities over the last 5 years, without which we could not hope to continue in our success at county level.



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Election of Officers and Committee members for 2013-14

The committee comprises:

Mike Clemson	Chairman and Venues Communicator
Peter Keen	Treasurer
Marc Thomas	Yorkshire League Secretary and Web Site Coordinator
Gill Choyce	Secretary and Women's IC Coordinator
Matt Stephenson	Men's IC Coordinator
Peter Edwards	Racketball Contact
Jayne Robinson	Women's Squash Promotion

Co-opted:

Robert Field	Italik
Mark Shipley	ES&R NE Area Manager

There were no other nominations and all the committee members present agreed to continue in post for a further year.

Website

Marc has taken over the management of the Yorkshire Squash website and has begun altering the design to make it 'cleaner' and easier to update. At present he is the input contact for any information. He is also working on sources for the provision of the county 'T' shirts.

Plans and Priorities for 2013-14

ES, our NGB have been having talks on the importance of county associations in the role of promotion of the game. At present of the 131 venues in the county, only 40% are affiliated to England Squash. We would hope to encourage more clubs to affiliate so that the county can benefit from the associated rebate monies. Yorkshire has 8 local leagues to link into.

In relating to a common aim of promoting squash and racketball, organizing competitive activity and representing ES&R, promotion at grass roots level is a high priority to ensure that the sport continues to thrive. To this end, a small pot of money from ES via Sport England, has been set aside to be used solely for grass root usage. Continued funding from SE is dependent on ES showing increasing participation numbers at all levels and particularly in the 25-35 age groups. If this is not achieved, there will be less funding in the future. As an association we are best placed to work on the grass roots of the game with players and coaches and by communication network.

Mike thanked all those for attending and the meeting closed at 8pm.



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