

## **Minutes of Club Committee Meeting**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 @ 18.00**

**Present:** Nick Rimmer (NR) President, Trish Harrogate (TH), Luke Van Zijl (LVZ), Margaret Elston (ME), Simon Goldsmith (SG) Nick Rimmer (NR), Chris Jones (CJ), David Balch (DB), Vicki Rogers (VR), Geoff Fidler (GF)

**Representing the Board:** Geoff Bush (GB)

### **1. Welcome**

The President welcomed Vicki and Geoff (new golf captains) to the committee and also welcomed newly elected member David Balch.

### **2. Apologies**

Natasha Adams, Veronica Barker, Mandie Rose, Jon Sharpe.

**Minutes of meeting dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

Agreed

### **3. Matters Arising**

GB thanked everyone involved in the discussions around non member coaching.

### **4. Management Report** - Report attached.

### **5. Presidents Report**

My first CC report for my Presidents year 2023/24,

I was voted in at the Club AGM on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February and firstly, thank you to CC members who were able to attend. It was half term week, so many members couldn't make it but I was pleased with the turnout in general. I will include below some of my acceptance speech for reference.

Firstly, welcome everyone to my first Club Committee meeting as President, I'm looking forward to working with you all for the common good of our club.

Secondly, welcome to David Balch who joins us as a newly elected CC member, Vicky Rogers as the new ladies golf Captain and Geoff Fidler the new mens golf Captain, looking forward to working with you all and hearing your ideas and input. Sadly, my year has started with 2 Disciplinary procedures to 2 golf members. I was asked by the previous President to conduct these while I was VP and I'm continuing to oversee them now.

The position is: One member was given a written warning for his conduct on 30<sup>th</sup> December but allowed back into club the other was expelled from membership as his conduct was worse on same evening and he has had a previous incident in 2012.

They have both appealed, Deborah has conducted the one misconduct appeal and based on the process being queried the Board have now decided not to renew either

of their memberships in April. Their grievances are ongoing. The Board and management will look to simplify this section of the rules in due course. You will notice a new agenda item inserted this evening. Ideas for “increasing revenue and cutting costs” I want to task the CC with coming up with ideas that we can discuss and put forward to management and Board (like the one extra coffee per week per member idea from Cliff which I think is very powerful!) I have asked the Board and management to accept these in the spirit in which they will be put forward! They may be crazy, unworkable, ridiculous but they will be put forward with the best intentions of a team of people who all have the best interests of the club close to their hearts. It is certainly NOT our intention to tell the management team how to do their jobs! But I’m hopeful of a positive flow of ideas over time, I have agreed with Chris to keep this in for 2 meetings and see how we get on, if we have explored every avenue then we will delete it from future agenda, if anyone has any burning ideas they can bring up under AOB. I attended a Squash and Racket ball committee meeting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup>, 2 really positive things came out of it: Firstly, Mike has been successful in having starter RB sessions (as reported by GM in his notes) where we converted 12 out of 18 participants to full Squash/RB members where they had not been members before. We are looking to promote this success across the wider membership and social media, they are doing a short video from one member who was really enthusiastic to promote this. The committee are currently arranging this with the management team. Secondly, the club is looking to promote Tin and court sponsorship and you will have seen an e mail to this effect recently. I have been in touch with some section Captains regarding me attending your committee meetings if ok with you all? This will enable me to get a feel for what’s going on and If I can help with or attend any events, please let me know. Finally, extracts from my Speech on Thursday for reference. Thank you all for your kind endorsement to Vic’s proposal for me to be your next President, it is indeed an honour to be President of this great club. Firstly I would like to thank Vic as your immediate past President for the last 2 years and his tireless work and dedication to the Exeter Golf and Country Club on behalf of all of us, it’s not been easy !! I joined in 1981 to play Squash originally when I moved to Exeter from Bristol with my work and the rest, as they say, “is history “Our boys Ollie and David grew up here, learned their sports here and both worked here, Sal and I are both always grateful to the club for helping to shape their formative years. As has been mentioned, I have been a main board Director of the EGCC company and served junior squash committees, the golf and ProAm committees and play golf, Racket Ball, Tennis, swim and use the Gym so hopefully I should have a good understanding of how the club works and what makes it tick.

I want to have a sort of theme or mission statement for my year as President and that is that membership of the Exeter Golf and Country club is for Fun.

It’s not our job or vocation, we don’t earn our living here, we come here to play competitive sport, to get or stay reasonably fit, meet and socialise with like-minded people and interact with other human beings in a generally pleasant environment.

Sadly, it seems at times that we can forget why we are here and I want, as far as possible, for all club members to have fun here and enjoy this special place that is fairly unrivalled in the local area. Of course, it's not perfect and improvements can always be made and I will be tasking the Club Committee to continually review what we do, to feed in your ideas and thoughts and take these to the club management and Board of Directors where appropriate. Finally, in my year as President I would like to nominate my chosen charity as ELF (Exeter Leukaemia Fund) which is a charity we have supported for a number of years. As a family we have had personal experience of this dreadful disease losing Sal's dad to it 14 years ago.

### **Board Report**

GB welcomed Nick and Mandie to their new roles on behalf of the Board. GB thanked the Club Committee for their work on the Club rules. Planning permission on the practice ground will be decided by Exeter City Council on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The budget is difficult to determine with so many factors to be considered. The gas bill was previously 5-6k a month, last month it was £22k. Cost saving is imperative and all ideas are welcome.

### **Membership report / Election of new members**

Circulated.

**Health & Safety** - Report attached

### **Safeguarding**

Nothing to report

### **Any other business**

VR asked if it was permitted for the ladies golf section to have a first aid CPR demonstration session run by a qualified doctor. CJ agreed that this could go ahead.

### **Section reports**

#### **Mens & Ladies golf**

Mr. President. ladies and gentlemen, I am delighted to inform you that Vicki Rogers and I have commenced our tenures as golf captains Our service, as captains commenced from a very successful AGM.(actually Vicki commenced her duties some two days before the AGM) Both Vicki and I have worked closely over the past year as vice captains, and we have decided to work together for our chosen charity, both of us have personal reasons for our choice. Our charity is the Royal Devon & Exeter Oncology Department, who daily deal with patients suffering from various cancers. Hopefully we can make a difference for all patients and we are aiming to raise as much as we can.

We are both looking forward to our drive in on Sunday 12th March albeit somewhat different from tradition, but believe this is the way forward for the majority of golf members, who we are proud to represent. Our thanks go to management and all staff involved in helping us to make this day a time to remember, and the support given by all. Thank you.

We were called upon for our photo shoot and we are sorry you will need to put up with our mugs for the next year.

To date both the ladies and men's pro-am days are underway, and support for both is strong so far.

We are both honoured to be representing this great club, and are committed to ensure we are good ambassadors throughout.

## **Tennis report**

### Courts 1 and 2

We are hopeful that work to complete the resurfacing of courts 1 and 2 will take place before the summer season begins. The issues with the production of the artificial clay should hopefully be resolved this month which will allow the project to be completed.

We will then be able to install the Wingfield system on court 1.

### Winter Tennis Season

The final few matches of the winter season are due to be played in the next few weeks. The highlight of this season has been the men's A team winning division 1 for the sixth year in a row.

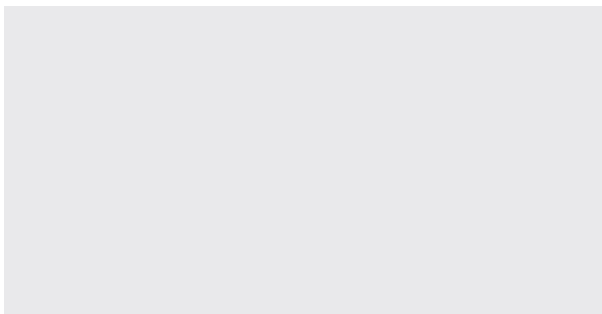
The mixed A team are well placed in their division with a good chance of finishing top, depending on the results of their final two matches next week.

### Prime Video LTA Youth Girls

The club will benefit from being able to be a part of a new nationwide campaign to increase participation for girls within tennis.

The programme is funded by a seven-figure donation from Amazon Prime to the LTA with the aim of getting 20,000 new girls playing over the two years.

There are only a handful of venues in Devon with coaches who were selected to take part so the section are hoping to be able to make the new initiative a success at the club. The first courses will be arranged for the summer term.



Prime Video and the LTA launch a new girls-only programme to inspire the next generation of female British tennis players  
[lta.org.uk](https://lta.org.uk)

Our AGM is taking place next week, at which time Veronica Barker will be stepping down as our Ladies Captain. I would like to go on record my thanks for her captaincy – we have worked well together and I look forward to her successor continuing the strong partnership.

### **Rackets report**

February was again a busy month for squash and racketball.

Adult Group and Junior Coaching sessions remain well subscribed and our men's and women's teams continued their ascent to the summit of their respective leagues. The intro to Racketball sessions have gone very well with new section members entering double figures. Mike has done a sterling job with attracting and retaining these players. What's really encouraging is the amount of women joining, and competing in leagues too!

We have announced that the club will be hosting another PSA, professional tournament in August this year, attracting players from the UK and beyond - plus a few of our own club players!

The Men's Inter County Championships take place in March, with Mike Harris, Ioan Sharpe and Mike Gregory all being selected in what looks like a very strong squad, hoping to progress back to the UK Premier League this season.

Our Juniors have been very busy, with several of our juniors being selected for the Devon Junior teams. Ioan Sharpe has also been selected to play No1 for Wales U19's at this year's European Championships in Zurich in April.

**Meeting closed:** - 19:45

**Next meeting date – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 @ 18.00**

## ACTION LOG 2022/2023

Date first discussed	Action	Who?	Completion date	Details
April 2018	Men's golf lockers to be repaired	CJ	To be added to next year's Capex list 22/23, which will then need to be signed off by the board	Ongoing, discussed in 2018 and was added to 2019 Capex list, it didn't happen as other expenditure was more important/urgent, then Covid in 2020 and no Capex budget in 2021  New locks fitted to all male lockers in the basement golf changing rooms
Jan 2019	Sports Captains and managers to provide information for a rolling Junior's screen that will be on a TV in the Hub	All Captains, Managers and sports section HODs	No new TVs with linked PC will be added to the Hub now as this area will become the sports changing rooms next year. Either this doesn't happen or a new place for this to be decided upon when the development in this area is complete	Ongoing
Feb 2020	Golf Honours Boards	CJ	To happen when the corridors and development has been completed in the Hub, and sports corridor areas. Golf Captain and Director of Golf to liaise with GM and Board about this when we know what space we will have to use. Honours boards and anything similar that is golf related is a sensitive subject so it is important that the design team are aware of what is wanted by the golf committee.	Prices/styles will be sought for new boards