

Minutes of the Grange Dyvours LTC AGM, Wednesday 12 November 2008
The Long Room, Grange Club Pavilion

Attendees: Lindsay McDonald, Neil Ross, Chris Close, Heather Anderson, Andrew Carnwath, Steve Mellor, Tony Kirkland, Maggie Kirkland, Robin Pollock, Gordon Tolland, Stephen Davey, Colin Smith

1. **Apologies:** Richard & Nicky Horsfall, Emily Price, Alison Fraser, Sally Cownie, Julie Docherty, Barbara Moore
2. **Approval of minutes of 2007 meeting:** Minutes were approved.
3. **Matters Arising from the previous minutes:** None.

4. President's Report:

Lindsay reported another successful year for Dyvours and thanked the 2008 Committee for their efforts in making this happen.

East of Scotland League Results: Both Ladies and Men entered 3 teams each in the East of Scotland leagues. Captained by Barbara Moore and Stephen Davey, results were:
Ladies 1 won all 10 matches to finish at the top of Division 3A. They will be promoted in 2009.

Ladies 2 retain their place in Division 4A, winning 3 and drawing 2 out of 9 matches.

Ladies 3 remain in Division 6B.

Mens 1 played in Division 3A and won 2 out of 10 matches, however drop a division.

Mens 2 played in Division 5A and won 6 out of 10 matches, therefore staying.

Mens 3 played in Division 6B and won 1 out of 10 matches, therefore dropping a division.

Dyvours also played host to the Pringle Cup. Under the guidance of Stephen Davey, who was responsible for the revised format, Dyvours were again the winners and will host the tournament again in 2009.

Congratulations to all who played for Dyvours throughout the season.

Social tennis remains one of the mainstays of the club, the continuing popularity of Sunday afternoons and Friday evenings being testament to this. These events not only allow players of all abilities to mix but also contribute to the social aspects of the club, characterised by the ever popular Sunday afternoon tea, that makes Dyvours the club it is. Continued participation in these events cannot be encouraged enough.

The tennis ladder has remained popular, ensuring that players have the opportunity to continue to play matches throughout the year. Thanks go to Avril Kunzel for organising and to Robbie Hitchcock and Stephen Davey for organising the annual club tournament which again attracted a record number of entrants.

Facilities: One of the most notable improvements this year has been the installation of flood lighting on Court 8, our third all weather court. The installation itself ran as smoothly as it did, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Neil Ross, Grounds Convenor. The lighting has allowed a significant increase in usage of the court over the winter and will continue to pay dividends into the match season. Other improvements have been the replacement of the windows in the tea hut and addition of windbreaks to the grass courts during the summer season. In addition, a bike rack has been installed as a result of suggestions at the 2007 Dyvours AGM. It is hoped that it will be well used and from an environmental perspective reduce the number of cars being brought to the club.

Membership has remained healthy with an increase again in the number of tennis players, welcoming 36 new members this year.

Finance: Under the direction of Treasurer, Andrew Carnwath, Dyvours remains firmly in the black. Capital projects for next year for the tennis section are under consideration, albeit the ongoing VAT issues will continue to constrain the section's spending.

Events: Not all the social events had been well attended and it is therefore the intention next year to reduce the number of events arranged specifically by the tennis section.

Future: The 2009 Committee will focus on coaching provision, development of communications including online court booking.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Copies of the accounts are available from the Treasurer. Andrew highlighted net tennis section assets of £4660, no liabilities and 1 small debtor. Club championships brought in £256, Finals night £258 and court hire £280. Thanks were made to those who continue to support the 150 club.

6. Team Captains' Reports:

Stephen Davey wished to thank all those who had participated in the teams over the season and in particular to Pete Tweedy and Paul Dale who shared the second team captaincy and Graham Docherty who captained the 3rd team with the assistance of Norman Gibson. The Mens' 1st team came 5th in their league and were relegated. Mens' 2nds narrowly missed out on promotion and the Mens' 3rds came 4th in their division.

Steven also pointed out that this year the club championships were run over 4 weeks and this is the intended format for future years due to the large number of matches needing to be played and the fact that the championships do clash at times with scheduled inter-club matches. Unfortunately with the poor weather, keeping the matches to schedule proved very difficult. Grange Tennis also hosted the Pringle Cup at the end of the season and this was won by Rob Hendry and Barbara Moore.

No ladies' match reports were available. It was noted teams will be captained next year by Barbara Moore, Dawn MacBrayne (*post meeting note*: subsequently replaced by Sara Lamond due to injury) and Avril Kunzel.

7. Social Secretary's Report:

The Strawberry Cup had attracted a great turnout, however in general, it was felt attendance at the various social events had been disappointing. Following discussion it has been agreed that the number of social events organised will be reduced with the focus on those events continuing being social tennis i.e. Friday evenings, Sunday afternoons etc. Events will be arranged likely in response to requirements e.g. fund raising.

8. **Motions:** No motions had been received.

9. Nominations for and Election of the 2009 Committee:

President: Lindsay McDonald

Treasurer: Andrew Carnwath

Grounds: Neil Ross

Committee: Steve Mellor, Chris Close, Heather Anderson

Emily Price was thanked for her contribution and wished the best for her new role as Grange Club Social Secretary.

10. AOCB:

1. Stephen Davey voiced concern re. the light level from court 8 (very good) highlighting the less good levels on court 7 which can make playing on court 7 slightly difficult when the lights are on on court 8. It was agreed that there is no feasible solution to this other than upgrading the lights on courts 6 & 7 which is not a priority spend for the club at present.

2. Gordon Tolland announced the appointment of Lee Spendlove to the position of Groundsman. Lee has a wealth of experience and will make an invaluable contribution to the Grange.
3. The use of windbreaks was discussed and Neil confirmed that should there be continued use then it is likely the fencing will need strengthened. This will be added to the list of priorities for Ground maintenance. Ongoing consideration of their use will be required given potential issues with moss, shadows and frost.
4. Coaching provision was discussed and agreed to be one of the issues for the 2009 committee to address in response to enquiries from members.
5. Junior Membership it was noted was diminishing. There was discussion as to whether this was due to a perceived lack of facilities for young people at the club. However Robin Pollock pointed out that the Cricket section has developed a healthy junior membership. This was noted for the 2009 committee.
6. Future AGM's. The poor attendance as noted and it was agreed that future AGMs will be held closer to the end of the tennis season. Robin Pollock suggested catering was included as had been successfully trialled by the Cricket section.
7. Electronic Bookings: The success of the Squash section's on-line booking system was noted and it was questioned as to whether this could be adopted by the Tennis section, particularly for the all weather courts. It was agreed that the current system of singles players inviting waiting players to join them was the fairest way to continue to use the grass courts. Neil Ross will discuss further with Christy Looby including the possible use of the sharing the squash terminal.