

Castlebar Tennis Club

 Committee Meeting

MINUTES – 18th January 2024

**Present:** Patrick Quinn, Alma Egan, Grainne Cashin, John O’Malley, John Feerick, Niamh Kilroy, Emer Dunne, Tony Mannion, James Durkan, Paul Meldrum

**Apologies:**

* **Review & adoption of previous minutes –** Proposed by

Seconded by

* **Chairperson’s Update – PQ**
* **Pedestrian Access –** Patrick spoke with Bernie Caulfield. Pedestrian entrance on wrong side. John O’Malley to see if an entrance can be put on the other side of the gate.
* Another issue is drivers driving in the wrong way. Can bollards be put in place to direct traffic the correct way?
* Also pedestrian gate should be open(needs a new lock-the one on it has seized).
* **Insurance** issue here – what would happen if someone was knocked down?
* What about someone getting injured while playing tennis?-you can’t sue yourself (green fee and visiting tournament players can’t sue either as will have signed disclaimer)
* **Wheelchair Ramp –** Should be near enough ready to go.
* **Agreement on TOU –** See ‘Terms of Use’ h/o from John, Grainne and Alma.
* **Additions:** Court bookings now possible between hours of 6am-11pm.
* 2 names(singles) or 4 names(doubles) required to make a booking, which can be amended by the lead booker.
* John O’Malley to investigate a plunger switch for outdoor court lights to be put on outer wall of clubhouse(changing room end)
* Use rising energy costs as another reason to encourage members to cancel court bookings that they can’t avail of(lights will still come on if a court is booked even if no one is playing on it)
* For serving practice there will be an option to select ‘serving’ as your second player.
* **Committee Update for Coaching Team –** see h/o from John, Grainne and Alma.
* Points made: Committee need to review the coaching agreement.
* Committee need a point of contact . Update it’s Garrett.
* Committee need communication about block-bookings(eg Glenageary,etc)
* Additions: Coaching:Along with Beginners and Improvers, run some clinics (eg serve, doubles, backhand, forehand). Update, James has spoken to Garrett who will organise a coaching clinic and look at when best would suit to run beginner/improver sessions
* Funding/Grants: We need more transparency here. Monetary compensation for the club needed from initiatives such as blind tennis.etc (it’s not always happening)
* Courts – Terms of Use: Junior coaching: 3 courts up to 7pm can be used for coaching, 2 courts up to 8pm. Junior elite players(certain players named by coaches to be displayed)allowed to play outside these hours
* There was discussion on protecting slots for groups of adult players. It was decided that groups with a minimum of 8 players could make a submission to the committee to block-book 2 courts at off-peak times(before 3.30pm and after 8.30pm). Update message went out to players on 19/01/24.
* **AGM Prep –** Date is Tuesday 6th February 7pm. Reports are being put together.
* **Treasurer’s Report - NF**
* Finances – State of play
* Other
* **Secretary’s Report - ED**
* Membership – YTD
* Other
* **Coaching Report – GB/O’OT**
* **Captains Report – NK/TM**
* Tennis Update
* **PRO Report - GC**
* **Child Protection - BC**
* **AOB –** other suggestions/discussions:
* Should we cover courts 1 & 2 as a priority?(vote taken and resounding ‘yes’ was the result). There’s a 2 court dome for sale in Belfast(2nd hand) which would probably cost less than 30k. It’s a single-skin dome, perhaps easier to take down for the summers. John F to contact Alan Dillon to see if we can use our existing Sports Capital Grant application for a dome on the 2 outdoor courts. Tony mentioned that maybe we could get funding through Abbvie Funding(social inclusion, blind tennis, wheelchair ramp,etc)
* We still need to find a **Club Manager.** May be better to have someone with no link to the club. Someone fresh!
* Box of salt at steps down to dome for when it is slippy.
* Have orientation nights every 2 months (for new members so they can become familiar with the clubhouse,etc)
* Get the burco out in the evenings for teas & coffees, then encourage a newer member to cover it, again get them used to the clubhouse
* Display a wall planner with calendar of upcoming events in front office & outdoor display cabinet.
* Sports Partnership would fund daytime tennis for older players, which would pay a coach