

Sydenham Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club Limited

DIRECTORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2018

Contents

Chair's Report	2 - 5
Directors' attendance at Board Meetings.....	6
Directors' Report.....	7

Company information

Registered office:	Lawrie Park Road Sydenham London SE26 6ET
Company number:	1280576 (England and Wales)

Chair Report 2018

Last year I reported that 2017 had been a year of positive change and development and I am pleased to report that this trend has continued.

Club Management Team

The two paid members of the Club Management team have increased their hours this year. Dez Lewington's paid hours have been increased to 35 hours a week. Dez also continues to give more time to the club on a voluntary basis, both in his management role and also running the tennis leagues and as a team captain.

Liam Hindson has now increased his hours from 10 to 12 hours per week, which he fits in around his main job. Over the last year Liam has worked on many projects that have benefitted the Club, including updating the website and posting on social media platforms and forums.

Chris Brooks continues to work from home, dealing extremely efficiently with the issuing of cheques and general financial administration. Through his choice, this is now on an entirely voluntary basis. The Board would like to thank him for all of his assistance.

Financial position

The financial position of the Club has improved again. I reported last year that the total income, before expenditure, had increased from £130,888 to £178,319. This year the income increased again to £216,965 and the operating surplus was £22,581, against £4,627 last year. Further details will be provided in the Financial Director's report.

Tennis Activities Programme

One reason for the increase in income has been that, in September 2017, the Club took over the running of the adult and junior tennis group coaching programme from The Parklangley Club. This means that the Club can now organise the coaching sessions for the maximum benefit of both members and other participants. Further, the Club is now able to retain all of the profit from this programme and reinvest this in the Club for the benefit of the members.

Dez manages the programme and deals with the administration and invoicing, whilst Toby and Toussaint support by handling the coaching enquiries and placements into the programme. The use of the ClubSpark software has simplified the collection of payments and administration generally.

The junior holiday camps continue to be popular. A new development this year has been the offering of full-day camps, as well as half-day sessions. A considerable number of children have attended the longer hours, which includes supervision during lunchtime. In addition, the Club has arranged day camps for adults, run by Toby and Toussaint, with lunch cooked by our in-house cook Dez, which have been very successful.

The Community Tennis programme, for both members and non-members, continues to thrive, now as part of the full activities programme. The drop-in sessions cover all playing levels and include a new Advanced Members' session. Fun Friday after school club for juniors also continues to be well attended, as does the Tots Tennis for pre-school children, which is now a permanent part of the programme.

Croquet & Squash

Jane Sheridan replaced Michael Wheeler as Chair of the Croquet section during the year. Michael continues to support as Vice-Chair and acts as a liaison with the lawn contractors, adding to his long and valued contribution to the Club.

The Croquet Section has been involved in regular friendlies and league matches and tournaments with other clubs.

The Squash and Racketball section has a large membership and continues to be active with well contested leagues. It would be beneficial, for the development of the section, to have additional members on the squash committee and anyone who would like to join, please contact the squash committee chair, Pete Edwards.

Bar & Lettings

Income from the bar has remained steady, supported by a range of events. The Bar is open for longer hours Monday to Friday evenings and Saturday mornings, not only for drinks, but also as a reception for enquiries, a sales area for balls, grips and other accessories and for taking the fees for community tennis activities and visitors. There are currently three bar staff working varied hours on worker contracts.

Lettings' income has continued to grow, almost £5000 more than the previous year. Yoga classes have expanded with workshops and extra classes and the Witty Kiddies Pre-school and Rivers of Jordan church group provide a regular source of income, making the Club much less reliant on one-off bookings.

Membership

The Club has also introduced the ClubSpark software, supplied free of charge by the LTA, for tennis court bookings and membership as a whole this year. All members have now been incorporated into the system and are able to renew their membership through ClubSpark, either annually, or monthly. Tennis members can also book courts free of charge and this has proved to be a very well used service.

Total Club membership in April 2018 was up to a record of 586 individual members, of which 301 were adult tennis members, 135 junior tennis members, 136 squash members and 28 croquet members. Over the last year tennis membership has seen an increase in numbers of 30 adults and 38 juniors alone. Over the last two years the total membership has increased by 30.8%.

Dez has also formed a strong relationship with Kitewood, who are developing the housing site opposite on Springfield Road and Lawrie Park Road and this should lead to opportunities for new residents, including juniors, to join, or participate in, activities at the Club.

Clubhouse & Grounds

At the EGM in June 2017, members voted overwhelmingly to proceed with plans to build a new clubhouse on the site near the croquet lawn. The Club has now formally instructed Fraher Architects Ltd to proceed with the pre-planning stage of the project with London Borough of Bromley and the area where the proposed Clubhouse will be situated will be cleared soon. Subject to receiving favourable feedback from the Council in pre-planning process, the Club will then be able to proceed with the full planning application.

Club members should be aware, however, that the Club cannot proceed with the project unless funding can be obtained. In order assist with to raising funds for this project, the Club is setting up a Fundraising Committee. In this respect, I am making an urgent appeal for volunteers to join this committee. We need more people to assist with this project. Although it would be useful if those joining the committee had some experience in fundraising, this is by no means essential and anyone who has enthusiasm and commitment to the project is welcome. Please contact Dez if you think you could help in any way at all.

The outdoor seating area adjacent to Tennis Court 1 has been upgraded and an additional bar/picnic table installed for long, hot summer days!

Board Directors

I have to report that Peter Lewis has decided not to put himself forward this year for election as a director. Peter first became a director on the Board in 1978. He had a brief period of five years in the 1990s when he had a rest from the role but, since he was re-elected in 1997, he has served continuously as a director. Since 1978, he has served three 5 year terms as the Chair of the board, only resigning in January 2017, when I took over this role and he became Vice-Chair. Despite his departure from the Board, I am sure that we will still be able to call on Peter for advice, if needed. I am sure that everyone will want to join with me in thanking him for all that he has done for the Club in this time and wishing him the best for his retirement.

Gary Lord who has served as the tennis director from March 2016 and also Jay George, who served as squash director from April 2017, both retired in June 2018. The board would like to thank them both for their services to the Club in this period. We were pleased to welcome Katharine Beaudry as a co-opted Tennis director in July and, as reported in the Directors' report, David Burrow is standing for election as Events Director at the AGM. We currently do not have any nominations for a squash director. It is important for all sections of the Club to be represented on the Board and any squash member who is interested in this role (and also prepared to join the squash committee), please do not hesitate to speak to either myself, or one of the other directors, for further information.

Presidents/Vice Presidents

This year Barbara Seabrook's two-year term as President of the Club comes to an end but she will remain as a Vice- President. At the AGM the members will have to elect a new President from the current Vice- Presidents. For the long service and commitment that he has given to the Club, the Board has decided to nominate Peter Lewis for this role.

Volunteer of the Year Award

The winner of the Club's Volunteer of the Year Award 2018 will be announced at the AGM. If any member considers that there is a member of the Club who has shown outstanding commitment this year and would like to nominate them for the award, please let me know, either in person, or by email on gillian.bartlett@sltcc.co.uk by 16th September. The winner of last year's award was Pete Edwards in the Squash Section of the Club. Full details of other previous winners of this award are in the bar area.

Amendment of Articles

Members will have seen the Special Resolution for the amendment of the Articles of Association. This resolution is necessary because to remain eligible to be a Community Amateur Sports Club ('CASC'), which gives significant tax benefits to the Club, it is necessary to update our Articles and

to include, in particular, clauses to show that the Club does not discriminate in any way in membership and that the funds would be distributed to another CASC, charity, or sports' governing body, in the event of the dissolution of the company. We have taken the opportunity to propose other updates to the articles at the same time.

Thanks

Once again I would like to thank all volunteers who have contributed to the running of the Club, or who have assisted with or run an event, this year who I do not have room to thank individually here. The Club couldn't run without you. I would also like to thank the paid staff, who have made the Club run so smoothly and be such a welcoming place for members

Gillian Bartlett

19th August 2018

DIRECTORS' ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS FROM 1.4.17 to 31.3.18

Director	History	Summoned	Attended	% Ratio
Gillian Bartlett		8	8	100%
Victoria Courtney	App 3/7/17	6	5	83.3%
Ray Franklin		8	4	50%
Jay George	App 10/4/17	8	7	87.5%
Christine Hensby	Res 22/5/17	1	0	0%
Peter Lewis		8	8	100%
Gary Lord		8	7	87.5%
Hamish McDowell	App 27/11/17	3	3	100%
John Sheridan	Res 27/11/17	5	3	60%
Jon Sherman	Res 22/5/17	2	1	50%
Simon Taylor		8	8	100%

Sydenham Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club (limited by guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2018

The Directors hereby present their 42nd report and financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2018.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY: The Company's principal activity is that of a sports club.

RESULTS: The results for the year are shown on pages 4-10 of the attached financial statements.

SHARE CAPITAL: The Company has no share capital and the liability of members is limited by guarantee.

CLUB PRESIDENT: Barbara Seabrook retires at the end of her term as President and the Board nominates Peter Lewis for election as President until the AGM 2020.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The following have served as directors of the Company since the last meeting and currently hold office, unless otherwise indicated below:-

Gillian Bartlett	Peter Lewis
Katherine Beaudry (appointed 23/7/18)	Gary Lord (resigned 11/6/18)
Vikki Courtney	Hamish McDowell (appointed 27/11/17)
Ray Franklin	John Sheridan (resigned 27/11/17)
Jay George (resigned 11/6/18)	Simon Taylor

Hamish McDowell and Katherine Beaudry were co-opted as Directors in year and, in accordance with the Articles retire and offer themselves for re-election. Peter Lewis and Simon Taylor retire by rotation and Simon Taylor will stand for re-election. Peter Lewis does not wish to stand for re-election.

David Burrow is standing for election at this Annual General Meeting as a Director of the Board (Events and Social Representative)

BAR COMMITTEE:

In accordance with the relevant statutory requirements, each member of the Bar Committee retires - Paulius Kriksciunas, Keith McMillan and Simon Taylor and, each offers himself for re-election.

Jeff Hinton and Julia Parker resigned from the Bar Committee since the last AGM meeting.

SMALL COMPANIES SPECIAL PROVISIONS: The report of the Directors has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The report was approved by the Board on 23rd July 2018

Gillian Bartlett
Chair