

AGM Agenda, Notes & Actions

Oxford University

Sunday 27th September

1pm

Attendees – Keith Lesser, Duncan Stahl, Ray Jordan, Dave Ridout, Alex Du Noyer, Fiona Sime, Dominique Ford, Richard Middleton, Daniel Busby, Barbara Capper, Johnny Bispham, Jonathan Spinks, George Roberts, Dianne Baker, William Coley, Julian Kashdan-Brown, Edward Harvey, Gary Jackson, Rachel Pitson.

Apologies – Paul Mathieson, Malcolm Boden, James Pope, Jack Bishop.

- 1. Welcome – David Ridout**
- 2. Racket Masters Feedback – Raymond Jordan leading with input from others additionally via email including those listed in Appendix 1**

1. Non playing volunteers better at world champs. Steve Bispham and Sally Middleton were important. Struggled on the Friday with players only.
2. Steve Bispham already confirmed for 2016. Rachel checking 2016 dates for major tournaments as no clash with wedding.
3. Separate Tt and badminton court stations
4. Didn't have enough for drivers but weren't needed
5. Need more foreign entries. Great domestic entry.
6. Finances and sponsorship
7. Best venue but expensive. SSP meant to be building indoor tennis but don't know when.
8. Great social media impact
9. Some aspects of Athlete's Village could have been improved. EG out of date milk and cold showers
10. Whatsapp communication worked well between organisers
11. Barrie Keeley continues to be a good contact at SSP
12. Good to have new additions to the team like Jack & George plus others.
13. Players dinner need to be more flexible on timing and price & quality to be considered whether as a discrepancy with individual meals compared with ordered on bulk with regards to price & quality.
14. Poor elite female entry
15. Squash arguments. Players misbehaving and some inexperienced markers.
16. Periscope & Video Streaming to be considered further.
17. Incredible tournament. More regional tournaments should have a team of people working rather than individuals.
18. Use of racketlon clothing EG Kent County Kit & Logo
19. Need a Racket Masters logo
20. Seating worked well once again

21. Umpiring worked well in the main

22. Would be good to organise some exhibitions and make the Racket Masters a bit different with some more special touches on the social side.

23. Prize money issues and links into wider debate regarding point 14) on the AGM agenda FIR %State+ Report.

3. George joins ERA in Feb 2015 – George Roberts

1. Contacting local clubs and businesses when running tournaments

2. University tournament in BUCS. Any university can enter. 5 universities at least. One day event. 2016 or 2017.

3. Sponsorship discussed

4. Malta Quick Update – Duncan Warwick Stahl

Will hopefully become an annual event and the best on the tour. Is this weekend.

1. Good venue

2. Potential to be an annual event and one of the best on the world tour

3. Nice weather, king of rackets blueprint

4. Tourist place

5. National media coverage

5. Finances – Keith Lesser (accounts not yet complete)

a) Bit of a mixed year . some tournaments generating profits, others break even ish and World tour events losing money

i) Increase in entry fees from October 2015

ii) Focus on bigger and cheaper venues for 2016

b) Fixed costs also to cover like website, tournament software, FIR Country Membership

c) Hard to find the money at the moment to properly reimburse volunteers for time spent. Many voluntary hours spent from many passionate people so a big thank you.

d) 2015 England Team Entry fees not funded by ERA

1. Playing catch up from 2014 due to England team fees and FIR membership

2. Could bring forward entry deadline. Some discussion.

3. Early 2015 not great financially. Racket masters and Malta lost money. End of 2015 strong. 2016 planning going well

6. Sport England Quick Update – Duncan Warwick Stahl

Awaiting feedback from Sport England

7. James Pope 2015 UK Tour Statistics / Thoughts – Keith Lesser

Statistics

1. More regulars on the UK tour
2. Need to look at retention

8. New website – Duncan

1. Attract new players on front page
2. Better than existing website which is more about existing players
3. Priority after Malta

9. England Team Selection – Richard Middleton

1. Selection panel picked teams
2. Note on website
3. Need another under 21 male as josh unlikely
4. Players haven't all met selection criteria

10. Rankings – Keith (if Richard B absent)

1. Bonus system introduced
2. Some people still not happy

11. 2016 UK Tour – Keith/George/Duncan/All

Major events already sorted.

Limpsfield 4th September

Kent 24th July

Nottingham in January - George to confirm

Database of venues to be sorted . Dan Busby working on

Sponsorship friendly structure of UK tour as per Duncan's idea

Regional ERA structure %blueprint+

West of England . 8th April

Batley . Mid March

York University . awaiting news on refurb

Letchworth . awaiting news

Dudley . tbc

Haileybury - tbc

12. 2016 World Tour – Keith

Latvia added. World Champs in Denmark & Germany. Racket Masters tournament congestion. Links into other agenda points.

13. 2016 Racket Masters & Malta – Duncan

Dates confirmed

14. FIR RACI & changes following Marcel's departure, FIR "State" Report – Keith

Job roles and recruitment process to be published on racketlon.net by Graham King following sub group Keith joined after EGM.

Keith writing a report on the state of the sport to galvanise and act as a Launchpad for significant reform and progress as several regulations are now out of date and make little sense.

15. ERA RACI Project – Keith 1 min

ERA to carry out roles & responsibilities exercise.

16. Any new volunteers, who wants to get more involved – All

Johnny Bispham

17. AOB – 1 min

Appendix 1

Email discussion on racket masters

Keith Lesser, Duncan Stahl, James Pope, Daniel Busby, Paul Mathieson, Jack Bishop, David Ridout, Richard Middleton. Highlights of discussion incorporated into summary in agenda point 2).