

Hackney City Tennis Club Limited – Board of Directors

DRAFT Minutes of Board Meeting held 18:30 Tue 6 June 2021 (Virtual Meeting on Zoom)

Present:

Directors: Howard Bennett (Chair), Christian Winder, David Pagliaro

In attendance: James Mills

Apologies: Lisa Watch, Maurine Lewin, David Harrison

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Managing Director's report

HT's operating profit for the financial year has been reduced to an operating loss of -£2683.43. This was primarily due to the winter lockdown resulting in the winter-term coaching classes being moved over to the summer and the coaching income shifting into the next fiscal year. Additional lockdown grants have come through from Hackney Council. Knox Cropper are currently conducting the annual audit which is progressing smoothly.

James reported that the summer term coaching has gone well with good attendance for most classes. James flagged that the Academy T1 sessions have had lower attendance and that this needs to be looked at ahead of the September term.

David Pagliaro asked if HT provides any mental health courses or material for junior players and parents. Cristian suggested that HT can provide parents and players with appropriate links and resources as a starting point to develop this area.

James outlined a new disability tennis programme HT is initiating at Stormont House School that will deliver term-time tennis coaching to a new year group each term. A funding application has been submitted to the WCI charitable trust who may be able to fund the project for a year.

James reported that the May HT camps were well subscribed.

HT's draft five-year plan was submitted to the council. The council have reviewed the plan and sent over suggestions. Once the plan is finalised it will be sent out to HT players.

The council have not provided any further details on when the Clissold tennis court fences will be repaired. JM to continue to chase this up.

Due to the poor weather in May, court contractors ETC have delayed the court cleaning for Springfield and Millfield courts until June.

James outlined plans to add activity markings on the mini courts at Hackney Tennis which will make the area more fun and help the HT coaches with coaching sessions. HT is awaiting approval for this work from the council.

HT's charity application to the Charity Commission is currently being drafted by Brabners solicitors and will be sent to the Board when ready for review.

The Road to Wimbledon competition was held successfully on Sunday 30 May with 16 players taking part. The winners will be invited to take part in the county finals later in the year.

The Hackney Tennis annual tournament will be opened for entries next week. The entry fee has been reduced to encourage sign up.

Howard mentioned that historically there has been a poor turn out of spectators at the club finals day as only a limited number of participants get to play in the final. Howard mentioned that Highbury Tennis run one day events for their finals day which appears to run successfully.

David Pagliaro said that he would like to see an open day intertwined with the finals day.

David Pagliaro mentioned that the team setup could be more transparent and accessible. James intends to implement team trials, one day doubles tournaments and coach involvement to assist with this.

Regarding the new website, Howard proposed that a sub-committee of Howard, Cristian, David Pagliaro be formed with James in attendance, and it was decided that the potential designers would be given a clear brief and should be asked to present their ideas to the sub-committee before a final decision is made in the next two weeks.

Howard brought the meeting to a close.