



Minutes of Board Meeting held 19:00 Tue 12 September 2023 virtually on Microsoft Teams

**Present:**

Trustees: Howard Bennett (Chair), Cristian Winder, Maurine Lewin, Lisa Watch, David Pagliaro, Roger Waite

Apologies: David Harrison

In attendance: James Mills (Managing Director), Luke Barker (Head Coach)

Howard welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Howard handed over to James to present his report.

Managing Director's Report

**Safeguarding**

James outlined the in-house trustee safeguarding Trustee training scheduled for October. A doodle poll has been shared to capture availability. The meeting in October will also provide an opportunity to formally adopt some draft policies.

**Operations Team**

Sagal, Moses & Fahad all passed their ERSA (European Racquet Stringers Association) practical exam and now have their theory test on Wednesday 20 September. If successful they will qualify as ERSA Stringers.

**Coaching**

The junior and adult summer camps were well attended and ran very smoothly. In addition to the regular camps, we also ran a free camp at London Fields in partnership with Badu Sports for local young children taking part in Badu's summer sports programmes.

James explained that the free tennis camp scheme for Hackney primary school children has not brought many children into the programme yet. The information is sent out to local schools who are asked to communicate the offer to qualifying families, but James believes that the system of offering the places needs to be adapted ahead of the October half term.

HT's Autumn term started last week and attendance across HT's 113 courses looks good and has started very smoothly.

**Pavilion First Floor Refurbishment**

James proposed commencing the second phase of the pavilion flooring refurbishment this Autumn previously quoted against two other companies at £12,043 by Hackney Flooring. The works were agreed unanimously by the board. As part of the refurb James said he will get a quote for a new smart TV for the lounge and a quote for a storage area for gym equipment to be built into the semicircular hollow in the lounge.



## Competitions

### **HT Championships**

James reported that under Luke's supervision, the adult and junior events have been progressing well and we have the Championship finals this Sunday from 1pm at Clissold Park. The mini events were successfully completed in July. LTA umpires will be supporting the event and for now the weather forecast looks good.

Howard asked for approval to move forward plans to amend HT's objects and the board unanimously approved progressing Roger's drafted simpler option 1 with the charity commission.

James proposed to that the AGM be held on Mon 20 November and his was unanimously agreed.

Howard asked if anyone was stepping down this year and all confirmed they were intending to stay on the board so seek re-election. Howard confirmed that one third of the board needed to step down each year.

Lisa suggested a meeting to review what skills the board needs for the future priorities and how best to utilise the existing skills of the current board members. Lisa said she felt she could add more value, particularly with HT's school and disability programmes. Howard suggested the creation of sub-committees to assist the club management.

James was actioned with putting an initial draft advert for Trustees and send to David and Lisa for review. In addition to sending out the advert in the HT newsletter, Lisa suggested that we advertise externally for local Trustees, and it was agreed to proceed with this.

James said that he has circulated all the HT policies to the Trustees for review and this needed completed by the safeguarding meeting scheduled for October.

Howard brought the meeting to a close.