

Suffolk SRA AGM

Held at Ipswich Sports Club

Wednesday, May 18th, 2022

1. Present: Alec Livingstone, Emily Ison, John van Heuman, Stuart Lipscombe, Sarah Bartley, Chris Lockwood, Grant Bryant, Rob Marsh-Feiley
2. Apologies: Kristian Day
3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, May 26th, 2021 were accepted. There were no Actions arising.
4. Chairman's Report [AL]: After the enthusiasm generated by the relaxing of the lockdown restrictions, the current season seems a bit flat. There is good activity within the clubs but little 'county' activity. Partly it is down to the small number of active clubs which makes it difficult to generate any kind of competitive spirit. AL to approach ES to see if it would be possible to run competitions on a Regional basis. There has been little involvement by ES at the county level, their efforts seem to be aimed at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. There was the usual debate about value for money from ES.
5. Treasurer's Report [KD]: There was no verbal report due to KD's illness. However the summary is as follows. Despite a significant drop in income from leagues and events, we managed to keep the overall loss to a minimum.

Income = £2,465
Expenditure = £3,303.48
Loss = £838.48

There is more detail on the attached page

6. League Secretary Report [JvH]: Winter 2021/22. In Division 1 there were some great battles but ultimately Martlesham 1 outlasted the other teams and won the division with a game to spare. In division 2 it was an extremely close battle all season between Moreton Hall 2 and Moreton Hall 3, which was decided in their last game between these two outstanding teams. Each team beat the other once, but Moreton Hall 2 managed to get just 2 points more than Moreton Hall 3. No doubt this will be continued at the Supercup. In division 3 Martlesham 3 slowly pulled away from the other teams as one by one the competitors came up short. They were deserving winners of the Division 3 Title.

Season 2022/23. By having 3 leagues and a FA-cup style format, we could consider reducing the League fee and still have "extra" money for trophies, prizes and awards, such as Best Junior of the winterleague, Best female player, e.g....

CL suggested handing out the awards at an evening event next year. JvH thought we might combine this with an exhibition/coaching session with a 'name' to hand out the awards to teams and individuals.

JvH to see if Essex University wishes to join next year's winter league. Kieran, ass. coach at Ixden plays there, as well as Henry Booth (Martlesham).

It was agreed that 'light refreshments' would be the offer in the Summer League.

7. County Coach Report [EI].

8. Election of Committee.

The current committee was re-elected en masse:

Chairman and County Secretary: Alec Livingstone

Vice Chairman and Treasurer: Kristian Day

League Secretary: John van Heuman

County Coach: Emily Ison

Ordinary Members: Sarah Bartley, Chris Lockwood

Club Representatives: Josh Turmel (Martlesham), Stuart Lipscombe (Ipswich Sports Club)

The League Secretary will be assisted by a sub committee yet to be announced.

10. AOB. Nothing to report.

Alec Livingstone

County Secretary

May 20, 2022

**Suffolk Squash & Racketball
Treasurers Report for 2022 AGM**

Summary

Income	
Funding from East Region Forum via England Squash	£ -
England Squash Rebate	£ 360.00
County Programme	£ 1,505.00
League Fees	£ 600.00
	£ 2,465.00
Expense	
Social Media Payment - Lucie Selby	£ 350.00
Quarterly Website Hosting & Marketing & SSL Certificate	£ 414.34
Regional Support to County Coach	
County Programme 2020	
	£ 764.34
Surplus	£ 3,229.34

Updated Report on Suffolk Squash leagues 2021-2022.

Key focus is to maintain participation in an aging sport, whilst maintaining the competitive nature of the sport for individual and our teams to enjoy a night out in safe and good social setting.

PARTICIPATION levels

Winterleague

	2021-2022	2019-2020	2018-2019
Divisions	3	3	3
Teams	19	22	23
Players	183	177	161
Players (1 match only)	39	32	13

Summer League

	2022	2019	2018
Divisions	2	2	2
Teams	15	14	16
Players	tbc	164	159

Comments:

- No Officers clubs and no Lexden in Div 1
- increase in players but reduction of teams

Competition (winterleague):

Division	Champion Summer 2019	Champion Winter 2019-2020	Supercup 2020
1	Ipswich 1	tbc	Tbc
2	Martlesham 2	Ipswich 2	Tbc
3	n/a	Moreton Hall 3	Tbc

Below is an indicator of the competitiveness of leagues (note div 1 is not yet finished)

Division	Points gap between 1 st and last team	Previous winter
2	73	89
3	128	106*

*8 teams in division

Observations:

- Division 3 a few teams suffered delays in second half partly due to COVID19
- playing levels in all divisions have become more balanced, making wins/results less predictable and more entertaining.
- Division 2 finished on schedule with a minimum of cancellations and no walk-overs.
- Division 1 suffered relatively more cancellations as well as a few walk-overs.
- A few dispensations for players and teams were required this year to enable teams to compete and field teams in accordance with the playing schedule.

- The use of What's app groups by division to share/post results has worked really well both in the Summer as Winter league and will continue.
- Compliments to all captains for their efforts to field teams and minimize postponements to the schedule (reflected in the increase of players that only played 1 match).

Plans and challenges for the near future for the leagues :

1. Revitalize the Supercup format ; date to be announced when guidelines allow it.

Moved to early September

2. Maintain/increase participations levels by reviewing or trying new formats(p.e. Over60's competition format)

Developed FA cup style format but unable to plan, will go to 2022-2023, racketball league explored but not sufficient participation as yet.

Publish annual Squash calendar and increase games per team by having two winter competitions, one in 2022 and one in 2023, Play-off between both Winners to determine Winter Champion (if not the same team).

3. Encourage with a minimum amount of rules changes, the impact of postponements or walk-overs on the outcome of the competition.

Experiment in Summer with losing winbonus upon postponements barring exceptional circumstances

4. Engage with players, captains and clubs to keep the interest going by always exploring what can be done different or better (survey, transparency, e.g)
5. Enable captains to add players, scores and results via their smartphones, which at this moment is limited in its use.

Starting this Summer.

- 1.