

YORKSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION (YLTA) **Annual General Meeting and Awards Evening** **held at the Holiday Inn Leeds-Garforth on 9 December 2019**

2019 Awards Evening

The Association's Annual Awards for 2019 were presented immediately prior to the start of the 126th Annual General Meeting by Mr Geoff Newton, Vice President of the All England Club and the YLTA's President, Mr Chris Day. Various categories of awards were presented to County Champions, County Teams, and Yorkshire League Winners.

Mr Adrian Waite presided over the presentation of this year's County winners of the British Tennis Awards. County-level winners were presented with their awards and Mr Waite explained that the prize winners would now proceed to the Regional Finals and if successful in the Regional Finals, the prize-winners will proceed to the National Finals. Mr Waite concluded by encouraging Clubs to submit nominations in future years and to recognise the invaluable work of volunteers in clubs.

Mr Chris Day offered his thanks to Mrs Liz Wilson, Ms Jess Redfearn and the Awards Evening Committee for their hard work in preparing for and delivering a very successful event.

Mr Martin Gilmour was also thanked for acting as Master of Ceremonies for the awards presentations.

Minutes of the 126th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Yorkshire Lawn Tennis Association, held at the Holiday Inn Leeds-Garforth on 9 December 2019, commencing at 8.00pm

1. Presentation of LTA Meritorious Service Award to Mr Ian Hargreaves

Mr John Crowther highlighted the outstanding commitment that Mr Ian Hargreaves has given to the management of Yorkshire Club, District and County tennis as a volunteer over a period of 43 years and gave a summary of the roles Mr Hargreaves has undertaken during this time.

Volunteering is in his lifeblood and he gets on with the job in hand, retaining the loyalty and co-operation of those with whom he deals. In his current role as YLTA Treasurer the financial affairs of the association have been excellently managed.

Mr Hargreaves has built a firm foundation for the YLTA to undertake the Advantage Yorkshire programme, whereby the County is investing £600k over three years in clubs and County training.

In conclusion Mr Hargreaves deserves full recognition by way of receiving the LTA Meritorious Award for his outstanding contribution to Yorkshire Tennis.

Present:

Councillors	John Crowther, Carolyn Rothwell, Sue Stent, Adrian Waite, Liz Wilson
Officers	Alison Steel (County Administrator) Dave Kitchen (Tennis Administrator), Trevor Reed (Wimbledon Tickets Administrator) Jess Refearn (Project Administrator)
Trustees	Stephen Freegard
Vice Presidents	Bob Lamb, John Ramsbottom, Colin Tuffs, Peter Wilkes, Geoff Newton

Life Patrons	Jonathan Tuffs	
Other Attendees	Lorraine Crowther, Tom Loughton, Val Newton, Dot Ramsbottom, Paul Sheard, Gavin Sutcliffe, Andrew Wilson	
Representatives from Registered Venues	Alice Robson Chris Day* Helen Carbutt Andy Corfield Trevor Stent* Matt Whitaker Paul Layfield Toby Mettam Martin Gilmour* Wendy Hurworth* Jess Redfearn* Tim Ryan Gordon Milne Nigel Bentley Don Stewart* Kyle Brassington Chris Brown Andy Hutchinson Ian Hargreaves* Brian Smith* Jean Lamb Dave Kitchen Chris French* Sally Bickerton Paul Johnson Chris Place Howard Copley Katharine Siddons Jill Stephenson Richard Stephenson Claire Wood Tawona Moyo Szuzsanna Puskas Stephen Jones Paul Hardy Caroline Harding Donald Oates John Linfoot* Ackworth TC Barnsley LTC Batley Bubwith TC Chapel Allerton LTC Chapel Allerton LTC David Lloyd Hull Doncaster TC Ecclesall LTC Eskdale School TC Fulwood LTC Great Ayton TC Harrogate Racquets Club Harrogate Spa TC Heaton T&SC Ilkley LTSC Ilkley LTSC Ilkley LTSC Knaresborough King James TC Linton TC Mexborough TC Nuffield Tennis Academy Pocklington TC Rawdon LTC Roundhay TC Rufforth TC Sandal TC Sandal TC Shadwell TC Shadwell TC Stocksbridge TC Thornhill TC Thornhill TC Wetherby Castlegarth TC Whitkirk LTC Whitkirk LTC Whitkirk LTC York TC	

*Also YLTA Councillors

2. Apologies for Absence:

Councillors	Angela Crossley, Karen Mitchell	
Vice Presidents	John Andrews, Philip Brook, Christine Dalton, John Forster, Mike Hann, Joyce Howden, Pauline Longbottom, Sue Mappin, Mike Rogers, Ken Sainty, Professor Jo Smedley	
Registered Venues	Barbara Macaulay Robert Brech Pamela Smith Lorraine Bishop Diana North Liz Douthwaite Jane Robinson Will Smith Sue Pugh Almscliffe TC Alne TC Bradfield TC Cawood TC Cherry Burton TC Collingham TC Dacre TC Galtres TC Graves Tennis Club	

Registered Venues (continued)	John Shackleton	Harlow TC
	Anne Gray	Heworth TC
	Laura Molloy	Holmfirth TC
	Imogen Jones	Longley TC
	Dave Sykes	Marsden TC
	Margaret Fenwick	North Allerton TC
	Jan Hornby	Pelican Park
	Belinda Turnbull	Poppleton TC
	Diane Hutchinson	Ripon TC
	Martina Daly	Rustlings TC
	Miles Flather	Sledmere TC
	Alison Hudson	South Cave TC
	Sallie Weighell & Jayne Preece	Stokesley TC
	Maxwell Los	Sutton Upon Derwent TC
	Simon Lee	Swanland Tc
	Angela Horsfall	Thongsbridge TC
	Ann Rushworth	Whellholme TC
Patrons and Life Patrons	David Armitage, Liz Beaton, Julia Burrows, Michael Burrows, Liz Collinson, Eva Lambert, Barbara Leopard, Bob Lewis, Caroline Lewis, Margaret Whitehead	
Other Apologies	Kevin Beaton, Margaret Bottomley, Roger Howden, Alex Prytulak, Don Saul, Sarah Thomas, Heidi Wragg	

3. Minutes of the 125th AGM, held on 10 December 2019

A misspelling was identified on page 5.

Subject to the above correction, the Minutes of the 125th Annual General Meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

Mr Chris Day introduced the Association's Chairman, Mr John Crowther, and invited him to deliver the Chairman's Address.

5. Chairman's Address

Mr John Crowther welcomed and thanked everyone for giving up their spare time to attend the AGM.

Mr John Crowther reported that 2019 had been a 'cracking year' for the association. The Yorkshire Tennis balance sheet remains very strong as the Advantage Yorkshire programme of grants, loans and other initiatives has completed two successful years and by the end of next year, it will have invested £620,000 of funds back in to clubs. The financial stability of the association gives the association the confidence to pursue the two strategic objectives – the first is to be in the top 3 Counties as listed in the LTA County Cup Race.

Mr Crowther confirmed that Yorkshire has finished in second place in the County Cup race with some brilliant performances from both the women and men. This year has witnessed the U18 & U12 boys being crowned national champions and the U18 girls finishing as runners up. The Summer Ladies County Cup team retained a Division 1 place whilst the Men's team gained promotion to Division 2.

Mr John Crowther passed congratulations to the captains and team members for such outstanding performances.

Yorkshire has had tremendous individual results with Paul Jubb winning the NCAA Tennis Championships, the USA University Championships, being the first ever Brit to do so. Phoebe Suthers won gold in the junior mixed doubles World Deaf Championships and a bronze medal in the singles.

Mr Crowther highlighted other Junior successes and encouraged everyone to read the performance section in the Annual Report.

Jason Torpey and Georgina Jackson have stepped down from their captaincy roles after many years of contribution and thanks should be recorded for all they have achieved.

To underpin this performance objective Yorkshire Tennis has invested in County training and established a Regional Player Development Centre (RPDC) at John Charles Centre for Sport in Leeds. The RPDC takes the most talented 10 – 14 year old players and gives additional exposure to other better players in the Region. Yorkshire attracted £110k in sponsorship, which enabled a bid to the LTA to launch the RPDC on 1 September with Richard Crabtree as the Head Coach and Elliot Chang and Tom Loughton as his assistants. Elliot and Tom have also been appointed as joint County Head Coaches, this creating a virtuous circle, where County training and the RPDC link together. The team have spent time establishing links with other coaches and the Local Player Development Centre's across the County and this structure will underpin this strategic objective.

The second strategic objective is to provide Yorkshire Tennis members with products and services they need to develop their club and through the Advantage Yorkshire programme the association has helped nearly 50% of clubs in Yorkshire one way or another through this. Mr Crowther congratulated Don Stewart and his committee in the very professional way in which they have managed the project. Two notable Yorkshire projects have secured support from the LTA for developments at Harrogate Spa Tennis Club and Almscliffe Tennis Club. The volunteers at both clubs should be congratulated on making these developments possible.

Yorkshire Tennis continues to work in partnership with the LTA North Regional Team, which is responsible for rolling out 'Tennis Opened Up' in our area. One of the LTA's principal objectives to increase the number of people playing tennis is challenging, however other sports face similar challenges. Next year will see the launch of the LTA's Junior Strategy and a toolkit for clubs to assist in attracting new members and Yorkshire Tennis will work with the LTA to help them with the roll out.

John Crowther highlighted the success of the Ilkley Trophy Challenger and congratulated the club for the professional way in which the tournament was run. Dave Kitchen ran the most successful County Championships in the Country this year with 543 entrants.

Four further issues were highlighted and Mr John Crowther signposted those present to the new Yorkshire Tennis website and confirmed plans to roll out the Yorkshire Tennis community intranet site to clubs in 2020. Safeguarding remains a high priority and many clubs in Yorkshire have received Safeguarding Support visits this year, however the LTA are grappling with the issue of non-registered clubs playing in leagues and the impact of insurance of member clubs.

The final point is that a Coaches Commission has been established with the aim of giving coaches a voice in what the County does.

In conclusion Mr Crowther thanked the many club volunteers, Councillor colleagues, committee members and chairs of committees in addition to an excellent Management Committee.

As President Mr Chris Day's term of office is coming to an end and thanks should be recorded for all he has done, but he will be continuing as chairman of the Initiative Committee which is responsible for the raising of sponsorship funds.

The retiring chairman of the Initiative Committee is Mr John Ramsbottom who has been volunteering in tennis for over 35 years. He has served on the LTA Main Board, chaired the county and done numerous other roles. We wish him well in his retirement; however, he will be continuing in his Trustee role and will be available for advice when needed.

Mr Trevor Reed is also stepping down as the Wimbledon Ticket Administrator and thanks were passed to him for all his hard work.

Mr Crowther confirmed that he has served as Chairman of Yorkshire Tennis for the past five years and will be seeking re-election in January 2020, so hopefully he will be back next year reporting on another successful year for Yorkshire Tennis. The future is challenging but very bright as the association has laid the foundations for future success.

Questions were welcomed from those present.
There were no questions.

Following his address, Mr Crowther asked the meeting to adopt the Annual Report. The Annual Report was adopted on a show of hands.

Mr Day thanked Mr Crowther for an excellent address.

6. To receive, consider and adopt the independently examined financial statements of the Association for the previous year, and the Treasurers report as to the financial position of the Association

Mr Ian Hargreaves referred to the accounts on Page 27 and 28 of the annual report and confirmed that the Independent Examiner Mr Rod Macaulay had accepted the financial statements for the previous year.

It was confirmed that whilst the operation of the RPDC is separate to Yorkshire Tennis the LTA contribution and the sponsorship monies go through the Yorkshire Tennis bank account.

The Balance Sheet shows a balance at the end of the year of £668,773 and approximately 50% of this is out on loan to clubs. The ceiling point of £400k for loans has been reached and future loans will be awarded based on repayments.

There was a year-end small deficit of £1,015.00

A major item of expenditure were the grants awarded to clubs under the Advantage Yorkshire project of £41,000.

There were increased costs associated with the Yorkshire Championships due to the events growth this year.

County training was intensified with consequent increases in both players' fees and costs of court hire and coaching.
Participation in County Cups cost £56,547.

This year has seen 59 schools taking a Yorkshire Tennis Associate membership.

Venue registration fees of £71,000 were noted and this was a slight reduction on the previous year. A loss of 12 registered venues could possibly be attributed to the new LTA Safeguarding standards for clubs introduced last year.

Initiative contributions reduced to £103,000 due to the loss of a big donor.

The costs for the new website of £1332.00 were noted along with the increased administration costs of £37,500.

Concluding his report, Mr Ian Hargreaves welcomed questions on the Financial Statements.

There were no questions.

The 2018/19 Financial Statements were adopted on a show of hands. There were no objections.

Mr Chris Day thanked Mr Ian Hargreaves for his continued excellent work over the course of the year.

7. Adoption of Rule Changes

No proposed rule changes.

8. Election of Officers for three-year period 2020 - 2022

- President
- Treasurer

Mr Day said that it had been an honour and a privilege to be Yorkshire President for the last three years and he was truly grateful to have been given the opportunity and he had loved every minute.

As President he met and worked with some wonderful people and would particularly like to thank the Chairman, John Crowther who is doing a fantastic job leading the County forward.

Mr Day invited those present to elect a new President who he believes is an outstanding candidate and will do a brilliant job.

Mr Geoff Newton was proposed as the new President - the appointment was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

Geoff Newton gave thanks for having him on board for the next three years and explained that his family has a long association with Yorkshire Tennis and personally he had previously represented the County as a player.

Mr Newton congratulated everyone receiving awards and said it was evident that everyone is doing an amazing job in a County where the 'bar is set high'.

In conclusion Mr Newton said he was looking forward to visiting and supporting clubs and helping out in any way he can.

Mr Day, explained that Mr Ian Hargreaves was willing to continue in post as the Association's Treasurer.

Mr Hargreaves' appointment as Treasurer of the Association was approved unanimously on a show of hands.

9. Election of Area Representatives and Councillors for 2020 - 2022

The following nominations for Area Representatives and Councillors was approved on a show of hands. There were no objections:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| • Angela Crossley | West Yorkshire |
| • John Crowther | North Yorkshire |
| • Chris Day | South Yorkshire |
| • Chris French | East Yorkshire |
| • Martin Gilmour | South Yorkshire |
| • Jan Hornby | East Yorkshire |
| • Wendy Hurworth | North Yorkshire |
| • John Linfoot | North Yorkshire |
| • Karen Mitchell | North Yorkshire |
| • Zsuzsi Puskas | West Yorkshire |
| • Jess Redfearn | South Yorkshire |
| • Carolyn Rothwell | North Yorkshire |
| • Richard Simpson | East Yorkshire |
| • Brian Smith | West Yorkshire |
| • Trevor Stent | West Yorkshire |
| • Don Stewart | West Yorkshire |

- Adrian Waite West Yorkshire
 - Margaret Whitehead* North Yorkshire
 - Liz Wilson West Yorkshire
- * New Councillor

10. Election of Vice presidents for 2020

New Vice Presidents

The meeting received the proposal of two new Vice Presidents:

- Mr Chris Day
- Mr Ian Hargreaves

The above nominations were approved on a show of hands. There were no objections.

Mr Day drew attention to the YLTA Council's proposals, which had been circulated as part of the AGM agenda. The following nominations were approved on a show of hands. There were no objections:

Vice-Presidents:

J Andrews, R.E. Armytage, Mrs A. Barker, R. Brace, P. Brook, D.J. Cook, Mrs C Dalton, C. Day, Mrs M Durrans, J.R. Forster, S.R. Freegard, J.C Graham, M.P. Hann, I Hargreaves, Miss S.J. Holdsworth, J.B Howarth, Mrs J.A. Howden, Mrs W Hurworth, S. Ickringill, J. Illingworth, The Lord Kirkham CVO, R.A Lamb, Miss C.E. Lindsay, J. Linfoot, Mrs P. Longbottom, Miss S. Mappin, J. Marray, S. McLoughlin, Mrs K. Mitchell, G. Newton, Miss K O'Brien, J.R. Ramsbottom, Dr G Roberts, M.H. Rogers, K. Sainty, R. Taylor, C.S Tuffs, Mrs E. Wagstaff, P.G. Wilkes, Mrs E.R. Wilson.

11. Election of Independent Examiner in 2019

Mr Chris Day highlighted the proposal from the YLTA Council that Mr Rod Macaulay should be elected for a further year to the post of Independent Examiner. This was approved unanimously on a show of hands.

Mr John Crowther thanked the President Mr Chris Day for presiding over the AGM.

The meeting closed at 20:55hrs.