

Minutes of Squash and Racketball Committee Meeting

Wednesday 8th April 2026

Present

Kate Corey (KC), Mike Harris (MH), Thomas Hepworth (TH), Amelia Bywater (AB), James Birch (JB), Jason Smith (JS), Pete Roberts (PR), Kate Fuller (KF), John Hollingsworth (JH)

Apologies

Gary Morton (GM)

Finance

- Financials not ready for meeting so informal discussion was had
- Easter camps have made an estimated £500 profit

Easter Camp

- Successful this year with new starters
- Camp was delayed by a week to catch Tettenhall College, Wolverhampton Girls High and Wolverhampton Grammar easter holidays too which seems to have paid off
- Issue with parents having to wait quite a while after drop-off to place lunch orders with bar at 9am
- KC to speak to Nikki about asking bar to take lunch orders extra 15 minutes early in the morning so parents can leave swiftly after drop-off

Juniors

- Prices have increased for next term
- KC asked MH to do graphics for summer camps so that advertising can begin asap
- Plan is to do more camps and extend to 5 days a week rather than 3 days – KC to add this to school leaflets
- Junior classes in September to be confirmed
- Committee agreed to continue 'early bird' offer
- Discussion was had over MH conversations with Dan Amer from Shropshire – they have discussed sending their juniors over to WLTS for camps. MH also to discuss link with our juniors playing in Shropshire programme organised by Dan Amer

Adult Classes

- Beginners Squash class is continuing to go really well – currently making around £50 per session and lots of non-members are attending
- Beginners Racketball class is not quite as successful – we need to push this Committee agreed that pushing social media for S&RB would help with this
- Team Training has mixed numbers – Leon is continuing with rule that class will be cancelled if less than four people are signed up by 4pm
- Squash Mix-In – appears that some people are not paying for this, MH to chase individuals
- Racketball Skills and Drills moved to Friday 4pm (from Monday lunchtime) from January 2026 onwards – **to be kept on minutes and reviewed/monitored each month** – numbers are increasing and committee will continue to encourage people to attend
- MH proposed to stop Team Training during summer holidays and have a break before build-up to next season
- MH also proposed S&RB fitness and training programme in September for build-up to next season with three sessions a week for a month (Mix-In, Team Training and Court Fit or similar) with attendees able to pay lump sum for month and Leon to be involved

Social Events

- Four summer social events currently lined up – dates to be rejigged and programme to be confirmed:
 - Team Squash Night
 - Team Racketball Night
 - Team Doubles Night
 - Adults and Juniors Night
- First City Club Champs now live – Draws now on board and MH to post on socials. TH to sort out livestreaming for finals night

Squash Strategy

- Committee discussed how to promote S&RB with JH.
- JH noted big opportunity to capture padel players in colder months/when raining etc
- KC to speak to marketing to push awareness of squash courts when padel not available
- JH suggested board in Padel Hub to promote S&RB – KC to speak to Nikki on this
- Committee discussed commitment to team matches from players – JS to draft wording for home and away matches to prevent same people playing home games and lack of away players

End of Season Awards

- Friday 8th May 2026
- MH to send out information and nominees
- Coaches to decide winners this year based on discussions with other members
- Platform to sponsor event
- Trophies to be ordered
- MH noted that purchase of tickets on Eventbrite adds a booking fee taking ticket price to £11.62. MH to put message up to say tickets can be purchased from reception for £10

Leagues/Teams

- Leagues ending Sunday – squash has 34 players over 3 divisions, RB has 18 players over 3 divisions
- Warwickshire 1st Team in Division 2 still
- Staffordshire team are 4th
- Shropshire 2nd Team are 2nd from bottom
- Shropshire 1st Team have won their league – cup starts in May

Social Media

- Committee discussed that Wednesday is squash day for social media posts
- Two weeks' notice so we need to plan what we want posting

AOB

- MH asked for suggestions on 'fun awards' for End of Season Awards night
- More regular women's events following success of International Women's Day event. Also discussed Beer and Burger event or BBQ in June. To be discussed at next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 13th May 2026 @ 18.30