

Padel committee meeting 3 June 2026

Present : M Brown (MB), R Chipperfield (RC), J Samra (JS), D Sidaway (DS), L Lazarou (LL)
M Hughes (MH), N Prosser (NP)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Previous minutes

- Reviewed and approved as drafted

Safeguarding and health & safety

- No new matters arising

Board matters

- MB updated on board related matters specific to padel; see section

Padel governance

- Second draft largely approved; some coaching amendments to come from MH

Padel metrics

- May headline data review and April key statistics discussed

Pay and Play

- Need to improve communicate with PP

Marketing

- Update on recent events and approach to Padel Mix
- New initiatives – Lottery, schools and local running club

Internal leagues

- Second league has backlog; extension of one week and then summer break

Padel programme

- Cancellation policy; consistency of pricing. Numbers on sessions.

Padel pod and grounds

- Signage updated; minor court issues

Club championship

- Working party model adopted as first framework for championship

AOB

- No other matters raised

Padel committee meeting 3 June 2026

Present : M Brown (MB), R Chipperfield (RC), J Samra (JS), D Sidaway (DS), Liz Lazarou (LL)
M Hughes (MH), N Prosser (NP)

Agenda circulated in advance of meeting.

Last minutes – approved as seen.

Safeguarding and health and safety

No matters reported. NP to check Nigel Springthorne injury was in accident log book.

Padel board matters

MB listed the following issues from the May main board:

Financials were still strong; profit of £28.3k for the half year

Issue of music being played on padel was again debated as possibly disruptive late in the evening and if tennis matches were in progress. Clear by-laws will hopefully remedy this.

Graham Loader reported that the centre line had lifted on court one. NP will arrange for Dave Pope to deal with rather than getting Alan Jordan of the contractors out.

Racketworld deal finalised so they would be exclusive provider; Babolat to be used for padel.

The board approved an approach to Padel Mix for hosting of corporate events at the club.

Governance

MB had drafted the second version of club padel by-laws and emailed them to the committee.

MH to discuss some changes to coaching section and then proceed to final approval.

NP/MB had drafted key by-laws sign which was now by the entrance gate to courts.

Detailed by-laws would be put up in the padel pod once finalised.

Padel metrics

April final position and flash May data had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Most statistics were consistent and hence positive given April was the strongest month to date:

Utilisation **48 %** (Apr 47%) (cumulative **33%**)

Played in month **357** (Apr 359); Guests **232** (176); **33** net new Pay & Play (PP) now totalling **214**

Income in month **£9.5k** (Apr £11.8k) and cumulative **£55k**

The reduced income is mainly due to the reporting periods as April had more reporting days.

Average cumulative club income per session is currently at £18.80 (last month £17.08) against financial target model of £18 per session so this continues to trend in the right direction.

JS raised the issue of early member loan repayment being made once first year of padel was completed as would reduce debt and further interest. LTA loan was potentially more long term as no communication. Contractual issues may arise with members but worth asking about it.

Pay and Play

PP registration numbers continue to rise reaching 214 at the end of May.

We are still working on means of engagement by the club with the PP community.

To a large extent it is still an unknown group as many have not played and it is presumed that standards will vary considerably.

MH had emailed the PPs to see if they were interested in a Sunday style matchplay session to meet others but this gained no traction.

MH commented that Mycourts does not make integration with PPs all that easy.

MB to work on further means of communication as their value is vital to the model.

Padel marketing

Website now done but not formally launched as some final adjustments needed. MB encouraged everyone to look at the padel section and provide any input for improvements.

The early bird discount for weekday play had not been a success as bookings in these slots were virtually identical to previous months.

The meeting with Padel Mix on 7 May had been productive and they were impressed by the club's facilities and organisation so that it was a viable venue for their style of corporate events.

The board had agreed to let us approach them for costings and dates and it was agreed that NP would email them to progress this further and copy DS into communications as well.

Given the link with Racketworld it would not be possible to use them for equipment etc due to the exclusivity of that contract; NP would again email them to explain the situation.

Reformer club pilates event had gone well and some were now joining beginners sessions also.

JS outlined a project through his contacts whereby there was £1,000 of lottery funding available to provide padel facilities for disadvantaged people and he proposed The Haven as a local charity that might benefit from this. It was agreed that this should be followed through and would be a way of running say 25 off peak sessions to utilise court capacity and perhaps use Leon as the coach and provide some refreshments as well.

MB had been approached by a member enquiring if schools could utilise the courts for organised school sessions in the autumn term upcoming. This was also regarded as worth pursuing and MB would obtain further details and report back.

LL had previously outlined a link with Tettenhall Running club and would again pursue this to utilise three courts early morning or off peak at weekends and to see if food and drink could be tied into the ticket price. LL will liaise with NP on this.

Padel internal leagues

MH commented that the second league appeared to have a bigger backlog. RC noted that some players who had previously been keen on arranging games had now hardly played. This would lead to a rush at the end and more disputes than necessary on unplayed matches etc.

It was agreed that MH would send an email to push players to complete their matches.

In view of the level of backlog it also felt sensible to extend the play by deadline by one week which MH would also cover in an email.

A discussion ensued on unplayed matches and it was deemed appropriate to enforce the position that teams playing fewer than three matches risked exclusion from the next league as we needed genuine participants to maintain standards of play and integrity and to minimise arguments over promotion and relegation due to inactivity. MH to include this in email.

Padel programme

The programme was still doing well and additional daytime sessions had been added for Ladies on a Friday morning and by MH for Beginners on an occasional basis.

Main issue was still the inconsistency and ownership of the cancellation policy. Coaches were still working on the old policy of midday on day of session giving time to fill the gaps. The new basis of at least 24 hours cancellation previously agreed was not being implemented and particularly so to the Friday Improvers class which had variable attendance. The Friday class had also not been removed from the programme and MH felt this was not his remit as he was not Head Padel coach. After discussion it was agreed to leave the programme as before and retain Improvers and cut Wednesday social to 2 courts. This would then be reviewed in September for the new six month programme. Meanwhile MB was charged with drafting an email to the coaches regarding the operation of cancellations and the programme in general.

RC commented on some pricing differentials that had been mentioned to him regarding some classes. The relevant points were noted and for consistency the charge would be £3 for Friday Ladies and £3 for Sunday 12pm matchplay and MH would amend on Mycourts.

A further observation from RC concerned that some classes were being extended from 12 to 15 and 8 to 10 due to demand but this resulted in sitting out time and members feeling they were getting a different class to the one they had signed up for. MH explained that players being on the sideline was kept to a minimum due to rotation and Leon was now adopting this as there had been negative feedback on some of his sessions. It was accepted that numbers need to be clear so when possible the class should state 15 from the outset and not be amended after players had already signed up on Mycourts.

There was also a discussion on how to implement a system for classes dependent on standard of play. Obviously Playtomic and Padel Levels are indicators but are governed by players who generally play a lot in competitive format. The internal leagues are our main guidance as to form but it might be possible to develop a chart for self assessment of an individual's padel skills to put up in the pod.

Padel courts and grounds

Key signage had now been put up beside the main gate regarding booking and court etiquette.

There was now signage in the pod that no balls were supplied in lockers but available in the vending machine or from reception.

Sanding required again on 1&2 but not critical. Sand retained better on court 3.

Per MH some corner gaps developing and just need to be monitored.

Club championships

Working party of RC MH LL DS had met earlier in week and emailed a framework for discussion.

The plan was discussed at length and the following adopted:

Format

Two events; Unisex and mixed doubles probably A/B/C draws and plate competitions

Entry of £10 per pair for one event

Rules

2 tie break sets and a champs tiebreak as decider and silver deuces to be played

No pairs of coaches allowed and no seeding to be adopted

Finals Day

Set for Saturday 12 September with semis and finals all played on one day

Trophies and honours board

DS to be in charge of sourcing these

Sponsorship

SITU group £300 and funding honours board

Launch

Entries to open 4 June; MH to send email and LL to devise poster promoting the event

Entries close on 15 June and working party meet on 16th to assess entries and draws

Leagues being extended by 7 days to 22 June so event will start after that

Format of finals day

Initial discussion but key points to date are that catering to be done inhouse with food and drink down by the courts (assess again after tennis finals). Access to grass court will be necessary.

Viewing and seating to be addressed. Need for the marquee to be involved. Possibly a touch tennis tournament for juniors on the day. Find a way to involve PPs. Streaming of matches might be possible. All to consider and discuss further at next meeting.

Any other business

No matters raised

Next meetings

Provisionally set for Wednesday at 5pm on:

8 July (Board 20 July)

5 August (Board 17 August)

9 September (Board 21 September)

