

**CAMBER LAWN TENNIS CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
5pm, SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025
Venue: The Clubhouse**



Minutes of Camber Tennis Club Annual General Meeting, 2nd March 2025, 5pm
(Held in the Clubhouse)

Meeting started at 17:10

1. Attendees:

(20) Mel Carew, Callum Higgins, Adam Farley, Chris Smith, Colin Mackay, Sandra Mackay, Neil McLeman, Helen Noakes, Nikki Hutchins, Midge Beauchamp, Jacopo Hirschstein, Mark Thurgood, Daniela Sbrisny, Kie-ren Lau, Laurent Compagnon, Nick Bolt, Michael Koureshi, Emer O'Donovan, Elisa Carrus and Lena Grannell.

2. Apologies for absence:

Marion Dewar, Rebecca, Ollie Morris, Gianluca, Pip Shepherd, Anna Brownrigg, Colette Mahieu, Sudir Jude Fernandez, Matthew Webb, Iona Nica, Jill Purkis, Julia DeFabo, Nick Harris, Rebecca Chandler, Malcolm Dunk, Hilary Gomes and John Stephens

3. Election of AGM Chair

Agreed Mel would chair the meeting with no objection.

4. Approval of minutes of AGM held on 5 March 2024

Minutes from the 2024 AGM approved unanimously.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

No matters arising from the previous minutes.

6. Committee Officer Reports - Questions from Members

- a. Chris highlighted that ball prices were increasing as part of his report. Question from Nikki, around should tennis balls be at cost price rather than us making a profit on this? Chris said this was up to the members. Also question around whether we could source them from somewhere cheaper like JD sports? Problem then might be volume and we have worked with our supplier for a long time. Request to at least see if they can price match other suppliers.
- b. It was noted that it was very much appreciated all the work Chris has done.

**CAMBER LAWN TENNIS CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
5pm, SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025
Venue: The Clubhouse**



- c. Mel tested to see if anyone had seen the committee officer reports. Nick Bolt said they were very lovely words. Round of applause for everyone on the committee. Otherwise no questions.
- d. Thanks to Laurent who is standing down as men's captain and joint club captain. He said Rebecca did most of the work. Laurent has really enjoyed talking about toilets monthly for the last 6 years seeing all the things that go on. One of the best things Laurent did, he recommends everyone to do it.
- e. Helen has also done a great job bringing order and alcohol free beer to the bar. Sad loss but freedom for Helen. Special thanks to Midge's help in running the bar. Comment that we now have good connections with local breweries and it is good to support them.

7. Acceptance of Annual Accounts with Auditor's report

No objections to the accounts. These were accepted unanimously.

8. Determination of 2024/25 classes of membership and subscriptions

These were accepted unanimously. All agreed that membership classes and subs should stay the same for the new membership year.

8. Members' Resolutions put to the AGM

1. Establish a dedicated YouTube channel for Camber Tennis Club (Adrian Boland)

Nick Bolt suggested that because of the waiting list is this worth even doing? Data privacy concerns were also raised. Colin suggested there was little demand for this. A case was raised where it was felt proper consent wasn't received previously. Nick suggested a raise of hands to see who is interested in the YouTube account. Agreed to do this but to take further comments first. Colin said it would be more useful to know whether or not courts are free rather than to have the cameras to watch tennis. Adam highlighted the proposal concerns two questions, whether to have a Camber YouTube account versus permission to film yourself / others with their consent. Mark Thurgood thought that anything published online shouldn't have Camber's name attached to the club. Nick highlighted that sometimes he uses bad language and wouldn't want it recorded. After this discussion when a raise of hands was asked for no one was supportive of having a Camber YouTube channel set up and so the proposal was unanimously rejected. Adrian can still film for his personal account with explicit consent from

**CAMBER LAWN TENNIS CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
5pm, SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025
Venue: The Clubhouse**



participants though.

2. Implement suggestions for improving attendance at Thursday club play (George Sin)

With regard to the suggestion that a lack of new balls was discouraging attendance at club play Mel reminded the AGM of the policy that if no suitable balls are available new ones can be opened. Laurent noted low turnout is not because of the balls. Colin asked whether we need a better system of recording balls but it was agreed this was not necessary. Agreed to send a message reminding people of the club play ball policy allowing new balls to be opened when necessary and we will put a note up in the cupboard with this policy also.

Adam commented that one cause could be that in the past people have been invited to team practices and lost club play being the entry into Camber. We should therefore push for new members to attend. Additionally we should try and make it more welcoming as we have heard reports of people not wanting to mix in recently. Weather has been bad as well which could be a factor. Emer wondered if food afterwards like hot dogs would help. The problem is someone has to do it. Midge often does jacket potatoes after Thursday night.

Nick brought up coaching before Thursday club play again as a potential draw. However, Mel highlighted all the reasons why we stopped it before. Nick conceded it must be too difficult. It was highlighted that anyone can organize coaching themselves as a group if they want to. If members want to organize anything around club play themselves the committee would be supportive of this. Reminder from Adam that this is a mixed ability session that is supposed to have a friendly ethos.

3. Increase court availability on weekday evenings (George Sin and Jude Fernandez)

Adam highlighted that the timing of team sessions could be optimized to improve this, either held 6:30-8:30pm or 8:30-10:30pm to allow another match to take place on the court that evening. Some agreement around this. Currently some of these team sessions cut up the evening. Will look into aligning team training sessions with the above to increase court availability. The merging of M1 with Wednesday night may also help with this.

4. Purchase a larger bench for Court 3 (Fin Davern)

**CAMBER LAWN TENNIS CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,
5pm, SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025
Venue: The Clubhouse**



Nikki suggested the bench is too small, that might be why no one is sitting on it. The committee relented and agreed to purchase a new bench. Suggestion this may be related to a certain major birthday the proposer has coming up. Adam suggests that we put a plaque on it in honor of the proposer.

5. Consider a Padel tennis court in half of the car park (Anon)

Chris said it would take up the whole car park. Vicious rumors the proposal was driven by a rivalry with Dulwich tennis club. The AGM unanimously rejected the proposal.

9. Election of Committee Members/Officers

With the exception of the bar manager (and half of the captaincy) the existing committee have all expressed an interest in carrying on in their roles. They were re-elected unanimously.

Alex Mack and Colin Mackay are standing for election to take on the role of bar manager jointly. They were also elected unanimously.

10. Election of Auditor

Ellen Holyhead is happy to do this again. No objections and she was unanimously elected.

11. Election of President and Vice-Presidents

Sandra Mackay will be retained in her role of President. Midge Beauchamp will remain Vice-President. They were elected unanimously. Joke that the role basically mainly involves washing up (as well as being the club's main supplier of cake) which is greatly appreciated.

12. Any Other Business

1. Nikki had to pull out of a tennis match recently and was unsure of the rules for players from other teams being able to play down to make up the team. Agreed this was a Surrey league matter and that Becca can provide any help if needed.
2. Colin raised with the AGM that he had noticed the floodlights on court 1 and 2 are darker in the middle of the court and wondered if the rest of the membership felt the same way and if so whether we should do anything about it. However, no one else at the AGM has really noticed it as an issue.