

THE RADLETT LAWN TENNIS AND SQUASH CLUB

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2017. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1117605

Principal address

425 Watling Street
Radlett
Hertfordshire
WD7 7JG

Trustees

Mr S Spalter	Honorary Chairman	
Mrs M Barton	Honorary Secretary	Resigned 22 March 2017
Mr D Wickham	Honorary Secretary	Appointed 27 April 2017
Mr S Hancock	Honorary Treasurer	
Mr M Moghul	Honorary Membership Secretary	Resigned 27 July 2017
Mr M Jaffa	Honorary Tennis Chairman	
Mr K Costi	Honorary Squash Chairman	
Mr N Jacobs		
Mr S Middleton		Resigned 17 January 2018
Ms S Lynch		

Independent examiner

Daniel Wolfson FCA
Daniel Wolfson & Co Ltd
Chartered Accountants
34A Watling Street
Radlett
Hertfordshire
WD7 7NN

Bankers

Barclays Bank
Baker Street
PO Box 45D
93 Baker Street
London
W1A 4SD

President

Mr B Hardy (Resigned 4th November 2017)

Club Administrator

Ms J Taylor

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT - Governing document

The Club is an unincorporated association, constituted under a deed dated 19 March 2006. The Club obtained its charitable status from the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 17 January 2007. Prior to that date, the Club was an unincorporated association registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club.

The constitution provides that a General Committee will manage the club and that the members of this committee will be trustees of the charity. The General Committee shall comprise not more than 13 committee members who will be elected individually by the Members of the Club at the Annual General Meeting.

Trustees are required to retire annually and are entitled to offer themselves for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. Any Member of the Club is entitled to stand for election to the General Committee at the Annual General Meeting provided he has two sponsoring Members of the Club.

The General Committee will normally meet at least four times a year to review the management of the Club.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT - Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the Club are to promote the amateur sports of tennis and squash in Radlett and the surrounding area and community participation therein by the provision of facilities for both of these sports.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

In the year to 31 December 2017, RLTS continued to maintain its playing facilities and to provide opportunities for local people to play tennis and squash. Notable improvements to the facilities in 2017 were:

- the internal renovations to the club house including moving the office and upgrading of the bar area;
- new external cladding and upgrading of the exterior of the club;
- replacement of the lights in the squash courts to better LED lighting with lower running costs; and,
- implementation of a new membership and court booking system (MyCourts) allowing the club to move away from the incumbent system which was causing ongoing issues.

The club offers juniors and adults term-time and holiday courses, social tennis and squash sessions and endeavours to ensure that all local children and adults can participate in some way, regardless of ability and/or means. The club continues its 'pay & play' scheme, which, whilst requiring prior registration with the club office to meet club safety/security standards, provides two of its tennis courts to all-comers free of charge plus off-peak squash courts at low affordable rates (to cover heating and lighting). In addition, the club held an open day to attract local people who could take advantage of tennis and squash courses including those aimed at those falling within a range of disabilities, such as visual impairment, or wheelchair users. The day was a huge success and the disability programme continues. The club supported local Schools initiatives and supported School Fairs.

Jordan Miles, our head tennis coach, has been particularly active in building a solid structure for the junior tennis players and expanded the number of group coaching sessions available to junior members. The results of this are already apparent in the performances of some of our top performing junior players. Adult Tennis programmes are now being expanded. During 2016 two free sessions were introduced for members: a play and coffee morning on Thursdays and Rusty Racquets on Monday evenings. Both these have proved popular to existing members and have helped to attract some new members.

The move of the squash social to solely Monday evenings has proved popular and both this and the Wednesday evening tennis social continue to be well supported. Jordan and the committee have also been developing initiatives to bring tennis and squash at the club closer together and will continue to do so.

The trustees continue to respect at all times the need to incorporate the public benefit in their running of the club. The club strives to offer the best possible playing facilities to the broadest number of people, through such measures as mentioned above, by offering means-tested memberships and by building up a bursary fund to help those who may not be able to pay a membership subscription. [At present four local juniors are receiving bursary support to enable them to pay tennis] IS THIS STILL CORRECT. The junior subscription level extends to all those up to age 30.

RLTSC constantly strives to attract new members, as this is recognised to be the best way of keeping subscription levels affordable for the maximum number of people and the trustees believe that a constant healthy membership income will enable the club to offer its facilities to the greatest number of people, such as those now taking part in disabled tennis, and those who take advantage of the new 'pay & play' scheme.

The club is looking at opportunities to improve facilities at the club for both existing and new members at its current location to ensure the long-term health of the club for the benefit of the community.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The trustees are satisfied with the club's financial performance this year, judge the club to be in a strong financial position and are confident that existing reserves are adequate to meet operating needs. However, it is recognised that additional effort needs to be devoted to recruiting and maintaining membership at a time when national participation in racquet sports is in general decline. Continued careful cost management is paramount and the club continues to assess its ongoing operational and known capital expenditure requirements.

The accounts show a net profit of £38,431 and a pre-depreciation profit of £93,832 with a healthy cash balance of £238,870.

The balance on the unrestricted fund stands at £449,044 plus restricted funds of £75,295 relating to the unspent portion

of two donations from Mr John Apthorp, a benefactor to the club. These were an amount of £20,000 made in a previous year, to enable the club to explore development opportunities, of which only £4,705 has been spent to date. Mr Apthorp made a further generous donation of £60,000 in the year ended 31 December 2017 on the proviso that this will be used towards the refurbishments of tennis courts 7-9. It is anticipated that this work will take place towards the end of 2018.

The balance on the unrestricted fund has accumulated over the years through careful cost management, the continued willingness of members to volunteer their services thereby keeping administration overheads to a minimum and the generosity of Mr John Apthorp in co-funding certain larger projects.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 21 March 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr S Spalter - Trustee