

Shropshire Squash - End of Season Review Meeting 2019

Date: 9th May 2019

Venue: Shrewsbury SRC

Attendees:

Committee - Ian Dinwiddy (CH). Don Wallington (LS). Guy Scott (RDO) (ShrewsSRC)

Clubs Representatives – Adam Pierpoint / Paul Clark (BS), Dan Aimer (ShropsSRC), Jean Appleby / Graham Burnett (BC), Keith Hansell (LLS)

Clubs not represented – Market Drayton, Club 72, Castle Country Club, Wolverhampton LTSC, Llanfyllin, Bridgnorth.

1. Apologies: Beth Grinsell (Wolverhampton LTSC).
2. Introduction – DW initially introduced the meeting and ID added that these meetings were to be used to review the previous seasons competitions and leagues and give everyone a chance to have their input into any proposed rule changes or competition rule changes. ID was disappointed with the level of attendance this year.
3. Trophies – Several trophies were awarded that had not been awarded at the main presentation.
4. Leagues –
  - a. DW gave a brief overview of the seasons leagues –
    - i. Div 1 – 9 Teams generally ran smoothly. Less issues this season with postponements / walk overs, only one we are aware of. C72 dropped out with only one game played which caused issues with many free weeks which the teams did not enjoy.
    - ii. Div 2 – 9 Teams generally ran smoothly. Only 2 w/o.
    - iii. Div 3 – 10 Teams again ran reasonably well. LFD dropped out before the first game, this again caused issues with free weeks.
    - iv. Squash 57- 7 Teams – Generally ran smoothly again.
  - b. League Entries – How can we stop drop outs?
    - i. The general consensus was to ask for league entry fees when the team is entered, thus getting a firm commitment from the club. Refunds would only be possible with agreement from the committee in extenuating circumstances.
  - c. Where would returning teams be placed?
    - i. The discussion focused on where teams had pulled out of the leagues because they couldn't field a team and then decide to enter again the following season should they be allowed to be placed in the same league that they withdrew from? It was felt that any returning team should be placed in the league below where they were previously placed.
  - d. Rule 17 Walk overs – How can these be dealt with?
    - i. The discussion concluded that a strict penalty needed to be applied to the defaulting team whilst giving the non-defaulting team a reasonable score, the

- proposal was minus 10 points to defaulting team, with 14 points to non-defaulting team.
    - ii. Notice needs to be given to the league secretary prior to any postponement and an agreement gained.
  - e. Rule 15.1 & 15.2 Team Nominations – The discussion was around how teams should seed / nominate their players especially where the clubs had multiple teams in the same league?
    - i. The outcome was that we should go back to having team seedings confirmed at the beginning of the season and then have a re-seeding window during the Xmas break.
    - ii. Seed all players nominated for a team. SportyHQ allows any number of seeded players
    - iii. Clubs could be asked to provide a full list of club seedings?
  - f. Rule 18.1 Order of Merit – How could we ensure teams provide their playing order in accordance with the rules?
    - i. Conclusion was to apply a penalty of minus 5 points to any team not providing the team playing order on SportyHQ by the start of play of the fixture.
  - g. Rule 11.1 Cup tied rule – Did this new rule work?
    - i. The conclusion was that it was felt this did not work and penalised smaller clubs, so the conclusion was to remove this rule?
  - h. Rule 9.1 Eligibility – How can we ensure a more equal way for this rule to work that provides a solution to allow it to happen but not penalise the smaller clubs?
    - i. The conclusion was to amend the rule so that where there are multiple teams in a league from the same club any player playing 'up' for the other team can only do so twice before being tied to the higher team. Where a player plays up a division the current rule 9.1 applies.
    - ii. Seeded players cannot play for another team in the same division?
5. County Competitions –
- a. Overall all competitions were run over the season with a few issues. Thank you to Ian Tanner for organising and Shropshire SRC for hosting the junior closed. Alex Whitehouse for organising and Shrewsbury SRC for hosting the county closed. Don Wallington for organising and Shropshire SRC for hosting the Knock Out Cup Finals and Trophy presentation.
  - b. Team knock out cup –
    - i. The format of all finals being played on the same night continued to work well and all agreed to keep this format.
    - ii. A proposal was put forward to possibly running the competition in a block rather than over the season, either in the middle or at the end of the season.
  - c. Junior County Closed –
    - i. Hosting – Worked well this season and well organised with reasonable entries. It is proposed to move the date to the spring to coincided with the school's squash term to boost entries. It should be noted that the entrants still need to meet the entry criteria, but additional entries would be welcome.
  - d. Senior County Closed –





There being no further business Ian / Don thanked everyone for their attendance and support and closed the meeting.