



## **ANNUAL REPORT 2017/2018**

### **SUMMARY**

The Club continues to maintain a healthy financial and membership position. It is still very much the case that the committee continue to be aware of the decline of Squash and Racketball and the continued struggle for media profile. The Club continues to invest in improvements for the benefit of all the members and maximise resources.

Rates relief which for many years had been allowed by Amber Valley Council was removed last year, after much hard work by both to mitigate this, an 80% relief has been attained via CASC status awarded to the Tennis Section of the Sports Club, our thanks for all the hard work go to all involved in handling the application, particularly Chris Hubbard (Tennis Section Club Secretary). In addition our gratitude should be recorded to Andy Lyon and his team at Ashgates for their invaluable help and guidance throughout the application process.

Our teams in the Derbyshire League continue to do well, and thanks go to the players, coaches and captains for all their hard work, not just for last season but for continued years that has taken and maintained the club to the level it consistently achieves.

### **COMMITTEE**

During the year committee meetings were well attended and there have been some interesting discussions. Our thanks once again go to all committee members old and new for all their work on behalf of the club.

Phill Harrison continues to perform admirably in the role of House Manager, ably assisted by the House Team.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The table below shows the membership numbers for this year and the 4 previous years. Please note that in some of the previous year's figures Gym only members were included with restricted membership numbers.

<b>Membership Category</b>	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>Full</b>	305	303	333	305	307
<b>Restricted</b>	60	65	106	125	128
<b>Gym Only</b>	51	57	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Junior</b>	41	42	39	43	56
<b>Student</b>	13	13	24	19	35
<b>Social</b>	71	67	68	60	72
<b>Total</b>	541	547	570	552	598

## **COURT USAGE AND BOOKINGS**

Court usage remains very strong during midweek peak hours and members who are unable to book premium courts are urged to consider off peak and especially week-end courts.

## **FINANCES - DSRC Treasurer's 2018 Annual Report.**

The club continues to do well and once again the Treasurer can report a good set of results for the year ended the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

### **Squash Account.**

#### **Income:**

Our income increased last year by 9.4% from £86,077 to £94,173, mainly due to an unexpected rise in the bar profits, as noted below, and some extra court revenue, which the modest increase in court fees delivered. The number of adult members, both full and restricted, held up well over the year. We still have fewer juniors than we need for a club of our size, and we are now looking further at trying to address this issue. Court usage during the popular times was only slightly down on 2017, so

provided members show a degree of flexibility for when they wish to play courts are usually available.

### **Expenditure:**

Generally our expenditure over the year was within budgets with the exception of Utilities. For the first time in their history the clubs have had a demand to pay business rates, after many years of 100% rate relief. This was removed in 2017 by Amber Valley, as referenced in the opening paragraph.

There were two areas of significant under spend, these were Admin/Office and Infrastructure. Part of the Administration under spend was attributed to Sara Elliss, who handled Marketing for us and who has left due to other commitments and has not been replaced. Another under spend was accountancy, which was well below the previous year. On Infrastructure the significant under spend was on the gym budget. A survey was carried out on what changes should be considered to improve the gym. Under the chairmanship of Grenville Holt the Gym Sub-Committee have put a detailed plan together, and the first element of this involved installing air-conditioning. This is now up and running but slightly later than planned and so falls into this years budget, but was completed in time to catch one of the hottest summers for many years.

### **Bar Account:**

This is the second year of running the bar as a separate entity from the two clubs. In February 2017 Adrian Shepherd and George McMain took over managing the bar and in May 2017 we ceased to be tied to Marston's Brewery. This year a further change has taken place in that Linda Harrison, who is a joint member and a retired accountant, has kindly agreed to audit the bar accounts. The audited accounts are attached as a separate item to the clubs main accounts.

Under George and Adrian's stewardship the bar now serves a wider range of beers and spirits and this has been well received by members. This new 'free house' buying policy has also resulted in more competition between suppliers and lead to an overall reduction in costs. The net effect has been an unexpected rise in profits. Sales increased by 8.5% from £74,233 last year to £80,519 this year, and the profits from £1,497 to £7,949 this year.

It is not our intention to continue to make a significant profit from the bar and HMRC have their ways of making sure this does not happen. If our bar sales exceed £85,000 per year in the future we will have to register the bar for VAT with HMRC. This will mean we will have to pay VAT on our gross profits, which will cost us many thousands of pounds, not to mention more time and effort on paperwork. This is a situation we are keen to avoid. Despite our improved buying power, costs each year will continue to rise. So this will inevitably mean profitability will suffer. This is not all bad news by any means, and will result in members continuing to enjoy low prices for the foreseeable future.

### **Balance Sheet**

With income up and expenditure below budget this is good news for the bottom line. We achieved an operating surplus of £17,705 and with the provision for depreciation added, there was a book surplus of £1,886 for the year.

Our savings accounts are also in good shape, having risen from £50K at the beginning of the year to £62K.

### **The year ahead**

Under the Gym upgrade programme air-conditioning is now installed and the gym has been redecorated. The full programme involves putting in some new flooring and removing and replacing a number of the machines. The total cost will be over £20K and the cost and work will be spread over two years.

Following our survey of members we have now installed a new larger tv in the lounge and continuing with our subscription to BT Sport. The original lounge tv has been moved to the meeting room area and a Amazon Firestick installed. Both tv's now have access to the club's internet. This work has been lead by Vic Malysz, who is also working on improving the sound and PA system in the club lounge.

As members will be aware we have now replaced the floor on court 1, which was at the end of it's life. Steve Milward now looks after court maintenance and has a rolling programme of work on all courts over the coming years to keep them up to our usual high standard.

We have been aware for sometime that the balcony flooring is past its sell by date and needs a major refurbishment. We hope to put a plan in place in the coming weeks.

Another improvement, which is about to happen, is that the gas cooker in the kitchen is to be replaced. Despite a lot of effort over the years the existing cooker has been unreliable. Thanks to the generosity of one of the Tennis members a same size electric oven with a gas hob has been offered to us as a replacement. This will be installed shortly.

### **Squash and Tennis Social Account**

Seven functions were held during the 2017 calendar year and these resulted in an operating profit of £315.58 thus increasing the bank balance as of the 31.12.17 to £1587.04. Well done to all concerned for the effort put in.

The Social Committee, chaired by Louise Walker, have very kindly given £600 to the two clubs as a donation to help with improvements.

### **MARKETING**

Our thanks go to Sara Ellis for all her hard work, but Sara has decided to stand down from her role.

The marketing strategy is currently under review.

### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

A number of events of different nature have taken place during the year that have proved very successful, and more are planned. Please keep a watch for notices in the Club, on the Club website and through social media. All support for these events is greatly appreciated and members are encouraged to socialise and support the club.

### **BAR**

Our joint bar managers Adrian Shepherd & George McMain have really settled into the role and the bar has gone from strength to strength, we hope they

continue to enjoy their joint role and wish them continued success. If any member is interested in helping staff the bar please contact Adrian or George. The arrangement for free membership in the year following volunteer bar duty remains ongoing (subject of course to there be no change in the Taxation Legislation).

## **GYM REPORT 2018**

The gym has enjoyed another successful year with increased revenue and usage. Following last year's AGM, we re-formed the gym sub-committee and Grenville Holt volunteered to manage gym affairs while developing a plan forward to upgrade equipment and facilities.

An estimated income statement was developed with the Treasurer in order to understand costs and allocate appropriate funds for a staged development within a budget of approximately 25K. Following a questionnaire of both tennis and squash users and non-users, the gym team agreed a two-stage plan comprising the following items:

### ***Stage 1 - 2018***

*Installation of temperature control/air-conditioning and safety alarm*

*Redecoration*

*Creation of distinct strength and stretch training area with upgraded flooring*

*Withdrawal of abdominal air-resistance machine*

*Purchase of two new bikes and weights*

*Improved communication with users through website, e-mails, posters and leaflets, and including education and help through the transition*

### ***Stage 2 - 2019***

*This stage will include the purchase of the new treadmills and functional equipment. The remaining air resistance machines will be withdrawn.*

Enhanced facilities ensure that the gym continues to help existing members keep fit and healthy in the coming years, as well as enabling the club to better serve the community by attracting more members who are primarily gym-focused. Russell continues in a leadership role and the house team provide input and support in effecting the improvements to the facilities. To date we have installed the air-conditioning and completed the redecoration and are waiting for the electricians to install the safety alarm.

Anyone wishing to work on or with the gym team, please contact Grenville Holt on, 07881 265259 or [grenholt@btinternet.com](mailto:grenholt@btinternet.com)

### **DUFFIELD SQUASH CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2017/18**

Finals Night was held in March and proved very popular, particularly the introduction of the Doubles Competitions, the results following were the result of much hard work in organisation and many hard battles on the court:

<b>Tournament</b>	<b>Winner(s)</b>
2018 Squash Mens Open	Matthew Walker
2018 Squash Mens O35	Christopher Alcock
2018 Squash Mens O45	Jeffrey Davenport
2018 Squash Mens O55	Steve Grainger
2018 Squash Mixed Handicap	Ben Holden
2018 Squash Ladies Open	Lesley Sturgess
2018 Squash Ladies O40	Lesley Sturgess
2018 Racketball Open	Christopher Alcock
2018 Racketball Mens O40	James Foulk
2018 Racketball Mens O50	Ian McKinnon
2018 Racketball Mens O60	John Cunningham
2018 Racketball Mixed Handicap	Rob Sillett
2018 Squash Boys U13	Robert Lewis

2018 Squash Boys U15	Chris Jerram
2018 Squash Boys U17	Matthew Gregory
2018 Squash Boys U19	Oliver Lowe
2018 Squash Junior Mixed Handicap	Chris Jerram
2018 Squash Doubles Open	John Slater & Samuel Yallop
2018 Racketball Doubles Open	Garry Holmes & James Foulk

## **2017/18 Winter Derbyshire Leagues**

### Men's Squash

All teams have now completed the Winter League season, here are the Final positions of all teams entered.

In the Premier Division our Men's 1st team finished Second behind Burton. They then played Princes in the Playoffs semis where they lost 3-2. Top ranked player was Greg Loach at No5.

In Div. 1 Division our Men's 2nd team finished top having won with 3 matches to spare. Top ranked player was Adrian Watts at No 3

In Div. 1, our Men's 3rd team finished a respectable 4th. Top ranked player was Dean Gregory at No 3

In Div. 2, our Men's 4th team finished bottom. Top ranked player was Neil Nightingale at No.16

In Div. 2, our Men's 5th team finished 4th (2nd bottom). Top ranked player was Dave Debney at No 11

In Div. 3, our Men's 6th team finished 4th . Top ranked player was Andrew Pilkington at No 8

In Div. 3, our Men's 7th team finished 2nd . Top ranked player was Josh Yallop at No 6

In Div. 4, our Men's 8th team finished 3rd. Top ranked player was Rob Cope at No 2

## Ladies Squash

The Ladies team finished top of the Premier league having won all their matches. Top ranked player was Molly Tomlinson at No 1

## Racketball

Two Racketball teams were entered this Winter.

Duffield 1 finished 3rd. Top ranked player was Chris Alcock at No 7

Duffield 2 finished 5th. Top ranked player was John Holmes at No 10

## Coaching

Coaching has continued throughout the year for all standards of squash and racketball. This has been organised and implemented by Lesley Sturgess and has been helped by Oliver Lowe who passed his level 2 coaching qualification this year.

Several initiatives have been tried throughout the year to encourage more people to become interested in Squash and or Racketball and join the club.

Many new members have been introduced to the club through club nights, after school clubs, group sessions and individual lessons.

Over the last few months we have managed to gain some more women members. As with the juniors we have very few compared to the male members.

This year the main focus is to try and get the schools in the area to be more involved with the club and hopefully introduce more juniors.

Thank you to everyone who has helped this year with playing new members or helping the juniors along. If you are interested in helping and we haven't found you please let us know.

Congratulations go to Lesley Sturgess for her many achievements during the course of the year, these are:

Derbyshire Women's champion

U.K. Racket Ball National 050's and 055's champion  
Squash 57 National 055's champion.  
Winner of 2 masters regional events. The West of England and the North West of England  
Representing England for the 15th consecutive year, winning all her matches.

### **INTERNAL LEAGUES**

Another positive for the Club is the continued popularity of the internal squash and racketball leagues. We continue to encourage all our members to join the leagues, especially new members to the Club. Our thanks go to Vic Malysz for running the squash leagues, and also for organising the club competitions via the My Courts section of the website, once again the number of entries were strong, and the finals was well supported alongside the Club Beer Festival, which again was excellently organised by Stuart McLean. Thanks again to Lesley Sturgess and Gill Ford for their help with the competitions Finals night. The Racketball leagues administered by Nigel Stone continue to be well supported.

### **HOUSE MATTERS**

Phil Harrison in his role of house manager has ensured the continued high standards of the club.  
and thanks go to Phil's support team.

The major upcoming project for Phil and his team is the refurbishment of the balcony.

### **SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING**

The Club benefits from a significant amount of sponsorship and advertising displayed on the courts, and the Club remains grateful to all our sponsors for their support.

This concludes my report and I hope I have acknowledged everyone who has contributed to another successful year.

**Nigel Stone**  
**Club Secretary**