

VICTORIA PARK CLUB
140th Annual General Meeting
27 February 2020 at 6 pm

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence: Jeanne Bradbury, Diana King, Debbie McNeile, Judie & Kai Kin Yung
2. Minutes of the 139th Annual General Meeting held on 21 February 2019
3. Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Membership Classes

Proposed: That Membership Classes be amended to the following:

Reason: To allow for all likely possible combinations. Already agreed by the General Committee but subject to ratification by the Membership.

Adult Tennis – Unrestricted
Adult Tennis – Restricted (No weekdays after 1800hrs)
Student Tennis – Full-time education under 25
Junior Tennis – Under 18
Young Junior Tennis – 10 or younger by 1st April
Coaching – Accompanied by recognised coach
Bridge – Unrestricted
Associate Bridge (Not Monday or Thursday evenings)
Bridge and Adult Tennis
Bridge and Restricted Adult Tennis
Associate Bridge and Adult Tennis
Associate Bridge and Restricted Adult Tennis
Distant Friend – Tennis

Proposed: That Members engaging in both bridge and tennis shall pay a subscription equal to 100% of the appropriate tennis subscription and 25% of the appropriate bridge subscription.

6. Treasurer's Recommendations for 2020/21 Membership Subscriptions

Proposed Subscriptions:	£
Adult Tennis – Unrestricted	144.00
Adult Tennis – Restricted	82.00
Student Tennis	74.00
Junior Tennis	74.00
Young Junior Tennis	58.00
Coaching	41.00
Bridge – Unrestricted	63.00
Associate Bridge	32.00
Bridge and Adult Tennis	160.00
Bridge and Restricted Adult Tennis	98.00
Associate Bridge and Adult Tennis	152.00
Associate Bridge and Restricted Adult Tennis	90.00
Distant Friend – Tennis	72.00

7. Report from the Bridge Section
8. Report from the Tennis Section
9. Election of Officers:
 - Peter Cornelius is proposed for the position of Bar Manager on the Bar Sub-Committee
 - Nigel Parker is proposed for the position of Honorary Treasurer
 - Don Mitchell and Tim Cartwright are, by their elected positions, deemed to be elected to the General Committees (rule 8.3 refers)
 - Edward MacMullen, Liz Bell, and Vicki McAndrew are prepared to be re-elected and are proposed for the positions they hold currently
10. Nomination of Life Honorary and Temporary Honorary Members (if any):
 - Jon Rycroft, chief coach, is proposed for temporary Honorary Membership in recognition of the coaching work he will undertake during the forthcoming year.
11. Any Other Business
 - i) **Proposed:** That an addition be made to Paragraph 28.3 of the Club's Constitution thus amending it from:

"No Member shall at any time entertain more than two playing guests on the premises and the same person may not be introduced as a playing guest on more than six occasions in any calendar year."

to:

"No Member shall at any time entertain more than two playing guests on the premises and the same person may not be introduced as a playing guest on more than six occasions in any calendar year. However, where guests from other Clubs attend Victoria Park Club as part of a reciprocal agreement or initiative with Victoria Park Club, this restriction will not apply."

Reason: To allow guests from any Clubs taking part in reciprocal agreements or initiatives with Victoria Park Club to attend for more than six sessions per year.

See detailed proposal attached.
 - ii) **Proposed:** Edward MacMullen proposes a moratorium on the granting of Honorary Life Membership until a review of the processes and procedures can be completed by the General Committee and approved by the membership in general meeting. (A majority of the General Committee have indicated their agreement with this).
 - iii) **Proposed:** Alan Grateley proposes that the Committee consider allowing members to vote by proxy at both the full Club and Bridge Section AGMs. Currently there is no provision in the Club Constitution which allows such action. It is asked that General Committee members discuss the merits of such a change in the Constitution and report their opinions to members at a general meeting. If such a change is agreed, thought should also be given to allowing members to vote by email to the respective secretaries.

iv) Motion for a proposal to vote by email at Victoria Park AGMs

Proposer: Paul van der Linden
Seconder: Vanda van der Linden.

Motion: *That voting by email be allowed at Victoria Park Annual General Meetings. We would like members to be allowed to vote by email on AGM motions and nominations by sending an email from the address that is registered to their membership. We propose that a cut off of two days before such AGM for email voting be made to allow the Committee members time to count and record the email votes. The number and intention of email votes for each motion or nomination would be announced at AGM and included with the attendee votes. The Committee will ensure, as is current practice, that motions are published no less than seven days before an Annual General Meeting, so that members will have time to vote on them by email if they so wish. If a motion is substantially altered at a meeting by discussion, then the email vote will not count towards it.*

Background

Many clubs suffer from a poor attendance at AGMs, which can be disappointing for the hardworking members of the Committee. The members attending the VP AGM tend to be those that attend a session on the same evening. Members who normally attend at other times have to make a special effort to attend. Some members are elderly, or are working, and getting to an AGM starting at six o'clock will be difficult. Some members may find it difficult to vote against a motion proposed by the Committee in a show of hands vote at the AGM.

The English Bridge Union, in their Model Club Constitution Notes, suggests that clubs wishing to ensure that their members are involved in the decisions reserved to general meetings might wish to consider the provision of email voting.

- v) Proposed:** Edward MacMullen proposes that the General Committee examine the possibility of establishing a hardship fund to aid members who might otherwise have to leave the Club due to financial pressures.
- vi)** Jane Barclay, who has recently moved to France, sends her warm wishes to everyone and asked us to say how much she has enjoyed almost twenty years as a member of VP.