

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BARBADOS TENNIS ASSOCIATION INC HELD AT THE BARBADOS OLYMPIC CENTRE, GARFIELD SOBERS SPORTS COMPLEX, WILDEY, ST. MICHAEL, ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017.

Present were:

Dr. Raymond Forde	Mr. Sydney Lopez
Mr. Damien Applewhaite	Mr. Harry MacKenzie
Mrs. Keisha Applewhaite	Mrs. Karen McGuire
Mr. Ryan Batson	Mr. Warren Mottley
Mr. Brian Cadogan	Mrs. Shawn Mottley
Mr. Alvin Chambers	Mrs. Patricia Murray
Mr. Peter Date	Ms. Sandra Osborne
Mr. Duncan Evanson	Mrs. Sheryl Peter-Kirton
Mr. Bernard Frost	Ms. Helen Roper
Mr. Chris King	Mr. Lloyd Slocombe
Mrs. Lisa Estwick	Mrs. Suzette Slocombe
Mr. Junior King	Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Symmonds
Mr. Kodi Lewis	Mrs. Margot Thomson
Ms. Gabriella Lopez	Mr. Andrew Thornton
	Mr. Owen Williams

Clubs:

Barbados Yacht Club (represented by Mrs. Karen McGuire)
Ocean View Tennis Club (represented by Mr. Sydney Lopez)
Windward Cricket Club (represented by Ms. Lee-Anne Lingo)

The President, Dr. Raymond Forde, presided.

1 CALL TO ORDER

A quorum having been established, the President called the meeting to order at 6:17 pm.

Apologies of absence were received from Mr. Peter Symmonds, Dr. Adrian Lorde, Mr. Orson Simpson and Mrs. Rosemary Gittens.

A moment of silence was requested for the passing of members - Mr. Algy Symmonds (former President and father of the immediate Past-President, Mr. Peter Symmonds), Mr William Gittens and Mr Dennis Cumberbatch (father of the Davis Cup Captain, Mr. Damien Applewhaite) as well as Mrs. Alma Forde (mother of the President, Dr. Raymond Forde).

2 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Owen Williams noted two omissions from the previous minutes which he requested to be minuted.

-) Mr. Owen Williams had requested that there be umpires and officials at National tournaments.
-) Mr. Owen Williams had requested that consideration be given to including clay courts in the long-term development plan of the National Tennis Center (NTC).

Subject to above, the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on September 13, 2016 were confirmed on a proposal by Mr. Warren Mottley and seconded by Mr. Andrew Thornton.

3 MATTERS ARISING

Mr. Owen Williams asked about the progress on greater involvement of members. He noted that he had been on a list but not contacted. It was agreed that Council would reenact the list and contact members as appropriate for assistance.

Dr. Forde once again noted that to implement new suggestions made at the AGM, Council would need members to come forward to assist with these additional tasks which were in addition to the current activities being undertaken by the Council.

Mrs. Shawn Mottley recommended that Council consider a new date for Nationals and to having a tournament immediately prior to the International Tennis Federation (ITF) Junior tournament. It was noted that Jamaica and Trinidad held their Nationals immediately prior to their annual ITF tournament.

Mrs. Karen McGuire suggested that an interschool tournament should be held, at the primary school level. Mr. Applewhaite noted that his club held such an event and that St. Gabriel's School had won it in 2016.

Mrs. Symmonds noted that following last year's AGM a list of ideas received from members had been brought to Council for consideration and many suggestions had been implemented.

Dr. Raymond Forde noted that having received no Nominations for Council by July 31, 2017 he would invoke By-Law 9.1.0 and invite nomination from the floor for Agenda Item #7.

4 PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS AND REPORT OF COUNCIL

The President's Address and the Report of Council for the year ended December 31, 2016 were presented by Dr. Raymond Forde, President, and Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Symmonds, Secretary, respectively. Copies are attached and form part of these Minutes.

Following these presentations, various queries were addressed as necessary.

Mr. Owen Williams noted that the Report of Council was comprehensive and colourful but not printer friendly. He also noted that many opportunities were highlighted in the report, including the achievements of Barbados' Davis Cup promotion to Group 1. He asked that some thought be given to make the latter a marketable opportunity.

5 FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Helen Roper, Treasurer, presented the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 (which were previously circulated and posted on the Association's web-site).

She referred members to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and advised that the Association had made a surplus for the year of \$7,434 compared to the surplus of \$5,463 in 2015. She gave the following explanations for significant changes in the 2016 Income Statement items compared to 2015:

-) Both 2016 tournament income and expenses had decreased considerably as the Davis Cup team played their two ties during the year against Ecuador and Dominican Republic away from home, compared to hosting all three ties in Barbados during 2015. Tournament income also included competition grants from the Barbados Olympic Association (BOA) and National Sports Council

(NSC) which had assisted in reducing the shortfalls incurred for both the ITF junior tournament (which was again without a title sponsor) and other overseas junior team competitions. An overall net surplus for tournaments and team events of \$7,028 resulted in 2016 compared to a net loss in 2015 of \$9,059. See Note 12 on page 9 for full breakdown.

-) Total grants received from the NSC, BOA and ITF for administration, representation and travel expenses totaled approx. \$73,000 and were comparable to 2015.
-) Funds from donations and fund raising events decreased in 2016. However a successful Fun Day held at Divi Southwinds raised \$19,787 and the inaugural Apes Hill tennis fundraiser organized by Lady Mary-Ann Williams in aid of senior and junior Davis Cup team travel expenses raised \$25,039.
-) 2016 court rental fees had again increased compared to 2015 due to improved controls on collections.
-) Tennis Centre wages and NIS, repairs and utilities totaling approx. \$100,000 were comparable to 2015.
-) The combined Junior Development and Schools programmes made a net loss of \$4,390 compared to a surplus of \$2,645 in 2015 primarily due to reduced numbers in the Junior Tennis Initiative (JTI) groups.

Ms. Roper also gave a brief review of the balance sheet, there were no major variances. She noted that the Funds held were broken down by category on Page 3 – the Court repair fund increased by approx. \$6,000 from interest and fundraising activities, and funds held for Elite and Emerging Athletes reduced with grants received having been passed onto the players.

Mr. Williams noted his pleasure at seeing that there was an increase in court rental income.

The Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 were approved on a proposal by Mr. Bernard Frost and seconded by Mr. Harry MacKenzie.

6. RE-APPOINTMENT OF INCUMBENT AUDITOR

Ms. Roper thanked Mr Martin Frost for again acting as Honorary Auditor.

Ms. Helen Roper stated that Mr. Martin Frost had agreed to remain as Auditor for another year but would like the Association to find a replacement. She confirmed that Council was making inquiries to find a suitable replacement.

On a motion proposed by Mrs. Patricia Murray and seconded by Mr. Brian Cadogan, Mr. Martin Frost was duly reappointed Honorary Auditor for the ensuing year.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2017-2019

Dr. Raymond Forde declared vacant the offices of Vice-President (Ms. Sandra Osborne), Treasurer (Ms. Helen Roper), Assistant Secretary (vacant), and three Councilors (Mr. Bernard Frost, Mr. Harry MacKenzie and one vacancy). He appointed Mrs. Patricia Murray as the Presiding Officer.

Vice President:

Ms. Sandra Osborne was nominated for the office of Vice President by Mrs. Suzette Slocombe and seconded by Mr. Warren Mottley. There being no other nominations, Ms. Sandra Osborne was duly re-elected as Vice President for a term of two years.

Treasurer:

Ms. Helen Roper was nominated for the office of Treasurer by Mr. Damien Applewhaite and seconded by Mr. Stephen Slocombe. There being no other nominations, Ms. Helen Roper was duly re-elected as Treasurer for a term of two years.

Assistant Secretary:

Mr. Owen Williams, Mr. Andrew Thornton, Mrs. Karen McGuire and Mrs. Keisha Applewhaite were all nominated for the office but declined.

Mrs. Sheryl Peter-Kirton was nominated for the office of Assistant Secretary by Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Symmonds and seconded by Mr. Damien Applewhaite. There being no other nominations, Mrs. Sheryl Peter-Kirton was duly elected as Assistant Secretary for a term of two years.

Councilors:

Four persons were nominated for the two vacant positions of Councilor:

Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Mr. Harry MacKenzie	Mrs. M-J Symmonds	Ms. Brian Cadogan
Mr. Junior King	Mr. Stephen Slocombe	Mr. Harry MacKenzie
Mr. Andrew Thornton	Mr. Owen Williams	Mr. Sydney Lopez
Mrs. Lisa Estwick	Ms. Sandra Osborne	Mr. Stephen Slocombe

Mr. MacKenzie received 29 votes, Mr King received 23, Mr. Thornton 18 and Mrs. Estwick 16 respectively.

Mrs. Murray declared Mr. Harry MacKenzie, Mr. Junior King and Mr. Andrew Thornton duly elected as Councilors for a term of two years.

Dr. Forde thanked Mrs. Murray and congratulated the successful candidates. He also thanked Mr. Bernard Frost for serving on Council and hoped that he would consider returning in the future. He suggested that Mrs. Estwick could get involved by assisting on various committees.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Davis Cup Update

Mr. Williams expressed appreciation for the service of the outgoing Davis Cup Captain Mr. Kevin Yarde, and congratulated the newly appointed Barbados Davis Cup Captain, Mr. Damien Applewhaite.

Mr. Williams also requested that score cards be put on courts during all tournaments to assist viewers. Mr. Duncan Evanson reminded those present that, in matches without umpires, players are required to call the score after each point and that the officials should ensure this happens. Ms. Osborne noted that the quality of press reports had improved since the introduction of tennis players in the media area to provide analysis of the matches during Davis Cup. Mr. Junior King suggested that these procedures be implemented for the Association's premier event, Sol Nationals, and that feature matches be scheduled at prime times.

Mrs. McGuire thanked the Association for inviting school children to Davis Cup and said that her students were looking forward to returning again. She suggested that neighbouring organizations should be notified of events to minimize disruption from distractions such as weed-wacking during Davis Cup.

8.2 Change of By-Laws

Mr. Williams asked for clarification on when By-Law changes come into effect and Ms. Osborne explained that any By-Laws changes come into effect once Council approves the amendments, but must be brought to the next AGM for ratification.

8.3 Communication with players

Mr. Russell Moseley identified the following areas “behind the scenes” that Council needs to improve:

-) interaction with team players and handling of certain team selection issues which has resulted in discouraging players
-) communication with players – they should be notified (particularly those in contention and not selected) before the press

He noted that the Coaches Advisory Committee (CAC) had also committed to improving their communication. Mrs. Murray stated that Council would take note of these recommendations.

8.4 Top 8 Invitational

Mr. Alvin Chambers was pleased with the December 2016 introduction of a Men’s Top 8 event and asked that a similar Ladies event be introduced. Mr. Applewhaite confirmed that attempts had been made to have the Ladies event and that it was cancelled due to lack of player availability.

It was noted that the event was very important for CAC to get to see the potential Fed Cup and Davis Cup players in action since most were based abroad.

Dr. Forde thanked members for attending and participating in the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 8.35 pm.

Confirmed this October 24, 2018.

President