

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BARBADOS TENNIS ASSOCIATION INC (BTA) HELD AT THE BARBADOS OLYMPIC CENTRE, GARFIELD SOBERS SPORTS COMPLEX, WILDEY, ST. MICHAEL, ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2018.

Present were:

Dr. Raymond Forde	Mr. Ryan Moseley
Mr. Damien Applewhaite	Mrs. Patricia Murray
Ms. Karey Batson	Mr. Ian Odle
Mr. Ryan Batson	Mrs. Sheryl Peter-Kirton
Mr. Priestley Blunte	Mr. Roderic Roach
Mr. Brian Cadogan	Ms. Helen Roper
Mr. Alvin Chambers	Mr. Russell Ruck
Mr. Richard Edghill	Mr. Orson Simpson
Mr. Kwame Griffith	Mr. Lloyd Slocombe
Mr. James Johnson	Mrs. Suzette Slocombe
Mrs. Irene King	Mr. Craig Smith
Mr. Junior King	Mr. Roger Sparrock
Mrs. Cornelia Kregeler	Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Symmonds
Mr. Sydney Lopez	Mrs. Margot Thomson
Dr. Adrian Lorde	Mrs. Lee-Anne Thornton
Mr. Oneal Marshall	Mr. Owen Williams
Mr. Roger Millar	Mr. Damon Wilson
Mrs. Fiona Anthony (by invitation)	

Clubs:

Barbados Yacht Club (represented by Mr. James Johnson)
Ocean View Tennis Club (represented by Mr. Sydney Lopez)
Windward Cricket Club (represented by Mr. Michael Hutchinson)
Paragon Tennis Club (represented by Mr. Craig Smith)
Tennis Center Club (represented by Mr. Roger Millar)

1 CALL TO ORDER

The President, Dr. Raymond Forde, presided. A quorum having been established, the President called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Rosemary Gittens, Mr. Andrew Thornton, Mr. Harry MacKenzie, Mr. Peter Symmonds and Dr. Maurice Walrond.

A minute of silence was requested for the passing of past members – Ms. Kim Branford (former Fed Cup player and Summerhayes member) as well as Mrs. Bonita Morgan (past Secretary).

2 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Corrections

The previous minutes did not note the passing of Sir Clifford Husbands, former Governor General and former Patron of the Barbados Tennis Association.

Page 2, second paragraph should state “Mrs. Suzette Slocombe” (not “Mr. Owen Williams”) asked about the progress etc. The second sentence to say “Mr. Williams concurred and not (“He”)”.

Page 3, second paragraph after bullets. Add sentence “Mr Williams asked why the court rental income had increased, and Dr. Forde explained that the collection procedures had been tightened up”.

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Page 4, sub-section Councilors should say “three” vacant positions (not “two”).

Subject to above, the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on September 20, 2017 were confirmed on a proposal by Mr. Owen Williams and seconded by Mr. Junior King.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mr. Owen Williams asked whether consideration had been given to having a clay court at the National Tennis Center (NTC) and Dr. Forde explained that it could not be accommodated in the current expansion plan.

Regarding the progress on greater involvement of members, Dr. Forde stated that an email requesting volunteers had been circulated, and that those members present were also being asked to note the areas they wish to volunteer to assist in on the list that was being circulated.

Regarding the use of umpires and officials during National tournaments, Dr. Forde noted that due to lack of resources it was not feasible to do so. It was noted that National Teams had been kindly allowed to practice on the Royal Westmoreland clay courts, in off-peak times, prior to overseas ties on clay.

Mrs. Symmonds confirmed that a list of suggestions made at the AGM had been provided to Council for consideration annually.

Mrs. Murray confirmed that, with the assistance of the new inter-club sponsors, the BTA would receive score cards so that they would be available for use during tournaments.

Mr. Williams questioned whether the amendment to the By-Laws approved at the 2016 AGM would have made the election of officers null and void, given that the ratification occurred after the elections at that meeting. It was agreed that since there had been no objections to the amendment that there was no issue.

A discussion ensued on whether members preferred to have nominations from the floor. Mr. Craig Smith asked for a vote from members present on whether they wanted this amendment changed back and 15 of 33 people present supported his suggestion. It was noted that a change in By-Laws could not be made by a simple vote at the current AGM but could be done at a Special or Annual General Meeting (and that a Special meeting could be called at the request of members). Dr. Forde explained that the former Vice President Ms. Sandra Osborne had recommended the change in By-Laws to conform with best practice per the Companies Act. He noted that the current regulation was consistent with the Barbados Olympic Association (BOA) By-Laws and that it was considered their best practice. Dr. Forde agreed that Council would seek legal advice and look into this matter again.

Dr. Forde noted that shortly after the 2017 AGM, Ms. Osborne had resigned as Vice President to take up the position as President of the BOA. In accordance with the By-Laws the position became vacant and Mrs. Lisa Estwick had been co-opted as a non-voting member to assist Council in 2017/18.

4 PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS AND REPORT OF COUNCIL

The President’s Address and the Report of Council for the year ended December 31, 2017 were presented by Dr. Raymond Forde, President, and Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Symmonds, Secretary, respectively. Copies are attached and form part of these Minutes.

The Report of Council was delivered first, using power point presentations. Following these presentations, various queries were addressed as necessary.

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Mrs. Margot Thomson gave an update on the SOL Schools Program which saw three nearby schools participating in a day-time tennis initiative thanks to our sponsors, SOL Caribbean Ltd. It was agreed that a similar update would be included in the Report of Council next year.

Mr. Sydney Lopez asked that the BTA be very careful in awarding prize money since any juniors accepting prize money could jeopardize their ability to get school scholarships. Dr. Forde concurred and explained that juniors would be awarded educational grants not prize money. Mr. Damien Applewhaite noted that the NCAA allowed players to receive up to US\$10,000 in prize money per annum.

Dr. Forde noted that the BTA was still reviewing whether to include 3 or 4 courts in the expansion plan.

Mr. Williams thanked Council for the comprehensive reports.

5 PRESENTATION ON STRATEGIC PLAN

Mrs. Sheryl Peter-Kirton, Assistant Secretary, presented the draft Strategic Plan 2018-20 using a power point presentation (which forms part of these minutes). During the presentation, various queries were addressed as necessary.

Mrs. Peter-Kirton acknowledged the presence of Mr. Roderic Roach, a former VP, who had previously prepared a strategic plan (SP) for the BTA some years ago. That SP provided valuable input for the current 2018-20 strategic plan.

Mr. Craig Smith suggested that changes should be made to the By-Laws and composition of Council to have Club representation on Council. He expressed concern about the low level of participation in senior tournaments and the use of wine as prizes. He also noted that water was not provided on court during the recently concluded Nationals (2018).

Mr. Williams noted that there were many new initiatives mentioned in the strategic plan which would require financial resources. He asked that a budget be prepared by Council (Treasurer) to allow members to understand what is needed and the cost of the new strategic initiatives. He proposed that the budget be presented to the AGM for approval. He further stated that the BTA would not thrive if ideas only came from Council.

Mrs. Peter-Kirton welcomed ideas from the floor and in particular thanked Mr. Craig Smith, Mr. Ryan Moseley and Mr. Owen Williams for their comments. She agreed to circulate the presentation for comments and to set a date for a further meeting on the Strategic Plan with interested members.

6 FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Helen Roper, Treasurer, made the following presentation on the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017 (which were previously circulated and posted on the Association's website):

She referred members to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and advised that the Association had made a surplus for the year of \$8,664 compared to the surplus of \$7,434 in 2016. She gave the following explanations for significant changes in the 2017 Income Statement items compared to 2016:

- i) Both 2017 tournament income and expenses increased considerably due to higher costs incurred in playing two of three Group II Davis Cup ties (GUA and VEN) in the year at home compared to playing just two away ties in 2016. The assistance of new sponsor (C.O. Williams Group) was greatly appreciated for the Junior ITF tournament which meant all costs were covered. Part of the

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sponsors' funding was also allocated to assist teams attend one of the major overseas junior tournaments. Funding was also received from the BOA, NSC and the ITF in support of Davis Cup home and away ties plus other teams travel expenses, and is included in tournament income.

An overall net deficit for tournaments and team events of \$1,122 resulted in 2017 compared to a net surplus in 2016 of \$7,028. See Note 11 on page 10 for full breakdown.

- ii) Grants had been received from the NSC for the first time in several years in respect of administrative support, from the BOA for administration and representation, and from the Arts and Sports Promotion Fund for domestic competitions. The grants from the ITF were for Facilities - court repainting US\$10k, travel and JTI.
- iii) Funds received from donations and fund-raising events increased in 2017 compared to 2016. These included donations from Emera and Edghill Construction towards the new floodlights on court one, a donation towards the Dominica Hurricane relief arising from the Barbados Cup Exhibition in September 2017 and other donations from kind members to be used at the Association's discretion.
- iv) The second Apes Hill tennis fundraiser organized by Mary-Ann Lady Williams in aid of senior and junior Davis Cup team travel expenses raised \$16,530 and was well attended again.
- v) The first Online Auction was held in 2017 with proceeds of \$10,655 going towards Junior team competition expenses.
- vi) 2017 court rental fees fell marginally compared to 2016 due to the courts being out of commission for Davis Cup ties and other competitions and therefore unavailable for rental across the year.
- vii) The total of \$50,426 for repairs includes the monthly bills for cleaning, maintenance and gardening, a new tent, and a reserve for club house repairs.
- viii) Costs of \$28,233 were incurred for the new flood lights on court 1.
- ix) Courts 2 and 3 were repainted at a cost of \$37,541.
- x) New windbreaks and repairs to the net posts were included in other court repairs costing \$19,589.
- xi) The combined Junior Development and Schools programmes made a net loss of \$2,445 compared to the deficit of \$4,390 in 2016.

Ms. Roper then gave the following explanations for significant changes in the 2017 Balance Sheet items compared to 2016:

- i) 2017 year-end Cash at Bank totaled \$122,000 compared to \$132,000 in 2016. This amount includes a time deposit of \$40,000 at Globe Finance earning 2% pa which continues to be allocated to court repairs.
- ii) 2017 receivables included 50% of the ITF grant for courts repainting plus local tournament sponsorship – all balances outstanding were collected in 2018.
- iii) Prepayments were in respect of the 2018 ITF annual membership fees, plus Davis Cup flights and hotels paid in advance plus a deposit for court 1 repainting which occurred in early 2018.
- iv) The Building continued to be depreciated at 2% per annum – the lease on the grounds at the NTC was renewed with the Ministry of Lands etc. for a further 25 years from April 1, 2017 at \$2,000 pa compared to the annual rent of \$100 paid previously under the expired lease.
- v) All outstanding Trade Payables were or will be settled in 2018. (Note7)
- vi) Some sponsorship funds received in 2017 in respect of 2018 programmes were treated as Deferred Income.
- vii) Funds held were broken down by category on Page 4 – the Court repair fund increased by approx. \$6,000 from interest and a transfer from fund raising activities, and funds held for Elite and Emerging Athletes rose marginally, but now have since been all been paid away.

She concluded by asking if members had any questions regarding the Financial Statements. There were no questions.

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The Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2017 were approved on a proposal by Mr. Owen Williams and seconded by Mr. Junior King.

7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

Ms. Roper thanked Mr. Martin Frost for again acting as Honorary Auditor for 2017, but confirmed that he was now stepping down after many years. Dr. Forde also thanked Mr. Frost for his years of service, and noted that he would be given a gift from the BTA in gratitude for his years of service.

On a motion proposed by Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Symmonds and seconded by Mr. Craig Smith, Mr. Roger Sparrock, was duly appointed Honorary Auditor for the ensuing year.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2018-2020

Dr. Raymond Forde declared vacant the offices of President (Dr. Raymond Forde), Vice-President (Mrs. Patricia Murray), Secretary (Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Symmonds) and two Councilors (Mr. Brian Cadogan and Mr. Lloyd Slocombe). He appointed Mr. Junior King as the Presiding Officer.

President:

Dr. Raymond Forde was nominated for the office of President by Mr. Richard Edghill and seconded by Mr. G. Ian Odle. There being no other nominations, Dr. Raymond Forde was duly re-elected as President for a term of two years.

Vice President:

Mrs. Patricia Murray was nominated for the office of Vice President by Mr. Richard Edghill and seconded by Mrs. Marie-Jeanne Symmonds. There being no other nominations, Mrs. Patricia Murray was duly elected as Vice President for a term of two years.

Secretary:

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

Councilors:

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

<i>CANDIDATES</i>	<i>PROPOSER</i>	<i>SECONDER</i>
Brian Cadogan	Helen Roper	Patricia Murray
Lloyd Stephen Slocombe	Suzette Slocombe	Cherise Slocombe
Maurice Walrond	Lloyd Slocombe	Suzette Slocombe

Mr. Slocombe received 34 votes, Mr. Cadogan received 27 votes and Dr. Walrond received 22 votes respectively.

Mr. King declared Mr. Lloyd Stephen Slocombe and Mr. Brian Cadogan duly elected as Councilors for a term of two years.

Dr. Forde thanked Mr. King and congratulated the successful candidates. He thanked the membership for showing confidence by electing all the incumbents. He suggested that Dr. Walrond and others could still get involved by assisting on various initiatives.

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Mrs. Thomson stated that as an ex-councilor she appreciated what Council undertakes and would like to thank everyone on Council for their continuing service. She also hoped that someone would step forward to lead a spirited fundraiser in aid of junior team events in 2019.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Williams asked that the minutes record the members appreciation of Ms. Sandra Osborne who served on Council and as Vice President for many years. Dr. Forde confirmed that a letter had been sent to Ms. Osborne to that effect.

Mr. Junior King suggested that the BTA document its past history and asked members to provide pictures to help share the past with youngsters.

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 9.18 pm.

Confirmed this the 9th of September 2019.

President