

Redmarley Tennis Club
Minutes of the AGM
Held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 14th April 2026
At The Village Hall, Redmarley

Present Robin Notley (Chair)

Jo Clarke
Guy Savage

Sue Jones
Phill Primett

In Attendance

Richard Jenner
Sophy Darlow
Jon Cockerill
Rachel Hibberd
Phil Claridge

Caroline Notley
Garry and Kathy O'Keeffe
Aleks Buszewski
Nigel Jones
Jane Darrah

Apologies Jill Williams

1. Welcome and Apologies

Robin welcomed everyone and apologies are noted above.

2. Minutes of the 2025 AGM

The minutes were accepted.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Membership Report

RJ presented the Membership report for the year and he was delighted to inform us that memberships have increased from 91 for the year ending March 2025 to 113 for the year ending 2026. Of the increase, the recently introduced Walking Tennis programme has generated 11 new memberships. Prospects for the 2026/27 season look promising with 16 new "interested" enquiries received.

The membership breakdown shows a total of 185 members, up from 156. Of particular interest is the growth in Junior members, up from 37 in 2025 to 51 in 2026. The growth of the membership has been one of the 6 key focus points for 2025/26 and the increase over the last year has more than hit our target of a 20% growth over the next 5 years. The focus now will be to maintain the numbers. Robin congratulated the membership team for this great result and thanked all involved.

The key driver behind the increase appears to be "word of mouth". This has proven far more successful than any other method of advertising employed.

5. Coaching Report

RJ presented the Coaching report and headlined with Chris Ferns who is to be congratulated on achieving his Level 2 LTA Coaching qualification and is now part of our very active team of coaches.

Activity and interest in attending the coaching sessions has continued to grow and there are now circa 70 active participants. This is despite the poor weather endured during the autumn and winter months. RJ illustrated the fall off in Saturday coaching sessions with a graph showing a continual reduction in coaching occasions from 40 in 2022/23 to 33 in 2025/26. Numbers attending the sessions have continued to increase and there are now an average of 30 participants attending coaching on a Saturday morning with a peak of 38. Adult Coaching is now completely full and there is only space for more in the Under 9's group.

2026/27 plans are to increase the successful Hitting Practice sessions offered during a midweek evening and to explore ways to cope with the increased demand for coaching on a Saturday morning. Cardio and holiday camps have been dropped for the year, Cardio due to a lack of attendees and holiday camps due to the amount of work required to run them.

Kathy proposed a vote of thanks for the coaches and a big thank you was given and endorsed by all present and extended to the organisers and all who have helped to deliver the coaching programme over the last 12 months.

6. Welfare Officer's Report

RJ reported that the basics are in order and that the new court surfaces have reduced the chances of falls and slipping when playing tennis. It is expected that the impact of moss should also be greatly reduced.

A policy is being developed to manage the consequences of increasing climate temperatures and the adverse impact this has on players. This work is in progress and a wet bulb globe temperature (WBGT) instrument has been purchased to assist in the development of a policy.

RJ announced that he intends to stand down as Welfare Officer at the end of this coming year. Applicants are welcome to express their interest via the Club's email address.

7. Social Committee's Report

The Club took part in the village 11th May VE celebrations providing refreshment and bacon sandwiches and a venue for the village tug of war competition. The courts were set up for junior tennis play which proved very popular with the many youngsters who took part.

Our quiz night on the 29th November had a record attendance of 71 participants and raised £710 for the club funds. Thank you to our quizmaster, Mike Manning, and to Jo Clarke and the ladies for serving the puddings.

A request will be made to all Club members to let the Social Committee know what events they would like to see in the coming year.

8. Treasurer's Report

The revenue stream remained high and met budget at £20.6k. This was 10% down on last year due to reduced fundraising activities. Membership income was up on last year by £1.2k at £9.3k and coaching subs were £7.8k, up by £1.2K.

The refurbishment of the court surfaces saw a 1-off cost of £47,382, in line with the original quote. Our insurance policy has been increased by £253 to cover replacement costs should there be a loss due to damage. The courts will now be locked when not in use to comply with the insurance conditions.

All other costs were kept to, or below budget, coming in at £7.6k and the Club finished the year with a net balance of £7K in the reserve fund.

A liability of approximately £1k has come to light for the cost of ground rent payable to the Redmarley Parish Council. The Club has not been invoiced for 5 years and discussions are on-going with the Parish Council to remedy the situation.

A full set of the 2025/26 unaudited accounts is available on the website.

9. Chair's Report

RN is delighted to announce that Richard Jenner has been awarded the 2026 Cathie Sabin Volunteer of the Year award by the LTA. Richard was nominated by Kathy for the "Development, implementation and management of the Club's coaching programme". This programme has transformed not only the Club's coaching offering, but also the Club's finances through the increase in coaching revenue and memberships.

RN commented on the Strategic Projects 2025/7 Plan as follows:

Financial Stability – With a £7k reserve after resurfacing and a net contribution in 2025 of £13k with little additional fundraising activity the foundations have been laid.

Club Membership Growth by 20% in the next 4 years – Membership growth last year was 24%, largely down to a 30% increase in Juniors. Adult member growth is 12.6% year on year. – A great start!

Court Resurfacing – Completed, after a major supplier hiccup, on 20th March at the original quoted cost of £47,382. Initial comments have been very complimentary and with the right care and maintenance it should have a life of 12 – 15 years.

Coaching Resource – the Club has a new Club sponsored Level 2 and congratulations are given to Chris Ferns.

Expand the Sporting Offer – Walking Tennis has been introduced and has brought in 11 new members: - Hitting practice has been successfully introduced and will continue this spring: - Cardio tennis is on hold.

Increase the Members Activity – the Club Summer Tournament has been relaunched for this year and details have been circulated by the organisers, Sue and Jo.

Participation continues to grow in the Glos LTA Tournaments, as well as 3 mixed doubles and a Ladies over 60's team, we also entered a Mens over 60's team for the first time this winter. The 6 LTA summer league teams have already started their matches and many members are participating.

Membership Costs will remain at the same rates as 2025/6: Family £146; Adult £90; Student £30; Junior £25 + 2nd Junior at £15. This is the third year in a row that fees have been held.

Vacancies - More volunteers are needed to help in running the Club, we have vacancies for the following positions: Administrator; Welfare Officer; Social Committee; Club Team Captain; Club Kit Manager. More details will be published on the website in due course.

Robin thanked the committee, the coaching team and helpers, the pavilion cleaning team and the grounds team for all the volunteering they did during the year.

10. Election of Officers and Committee

Standing down this year are: Sally Loynes; Caroline Bennett and Bernie Davies. RN thanked all three for all their help and support in helping to run the Club.

Standing for re-election: Chair – Robin Notley; Treasurer – Phill Primett; Jo Clarke: Guy Savage; Sue Jones. Proposed by Richard and seconded by Kathy.

11. Proposed Amendments to the Constitution

There are no proposed amendments to the Constitution

12. AOB

A request was made by RH to publish more information on the scope of the roles the Club is looking to fill. It was agreed to add this information to the RTC Website.

An issue was raised regarding grass cutting by GO'K. RN clarified the current situation explaining that the grass was cut 5 times by a contractor last year at a total cost of £150. This was due to a very wet early spring resulting initially in excessive grass growth, the very poor state of the Club's mower, and a lack of volunteers. This year, a new list of volunteers was provided by KO'K. In addition, RN has requested that grass cutting is included in the ground rent the Club is paying to the Redmarley Parish Council. A response from the RPC is awaited.

The meeting concluded at 8.00pm and the Club provided refreshments for all attending.

Robin Notley
May 2026