



RRC AGM 2024 – Meeting Minutes

Date: 20th June 2024.

Location: Remuera Rackets Club, 17 Dilworth Avenue, Remuera, Auckland.

Welcome & Introductions:

Board Members Present: Dave Mee (President), Hamish Paterson, Graeme Richardson, Emma Eccleton.
Apologies from Hugh Faris.

Life Members Present: Heather Worley, Richard Purser.

Members Present: George Linnell, Richard Purser, Amy Miller, Ant Faris, Richard Seifert, Hamish Paterson, Phil Horne, Brittany Teei, Ollie Bartosh, Heather Worley, Walter Todd, Sharon Rochford, Jono Judd, Ben Unger, Jasmine Deacon, Emma Eccleton, Amelia Wong, Barry Davidson, Dave Mee, Isa McGowan, Colin McGowan, Simon Johnston, Charles Jones, Rob Wills, John Paul Penny, Jen Furguson, David Overend, Tim Cantlon, Ian Gunthorp, Mark George, Richard Lyne, Yash Kant, Jesse Matthews,

Apologies Received: Don Cotter, Margaret Cotter, Jenny Williams, Ron McCapra, Hugh Faris, Joanne Palmer, Dave Hyland, Matthew Clark, Bruce Darwin.

There were no questions regarding the 2023 AGM minutes.

MOTION – Approval of the of the 2023 minutes.

MOVED – Simon Johnston

SECONDED – Rob Wills

REPORTS:

[Presidents Report](#), [Managers' Report](#), and [Sports Report](#) are as read.

[Financial Report:](#)

Dave Mee thanked Graeme Richardson for his help with all the financials over the past year and acknowledges that his accounting experience and expertise has elevated our process and procedures.

- **Graeme Richardson:**

-Repairs and Maintenance is high – due to the clubs deferred maintenance. This year, we decided to write off what previous boards had capitalised. The auditors challenged us on it but then agreed. I believe that it is truly R&M. Going forward, we need to make sure that we are not capitalised things that are actually R&M. If something is not adding value (for example the roof repairs), we should not capitalise it.

Ian Gunthorp – Agrees with Graeme - Suggests a revaluation category or value to show in the balance sheet.

- **Phil Horne** – Mentions that on page 25, there is a typo error under the 2023 cheque account. It should read 220,910 instead of 20910. This error made by the auditors was picked up and changed for the online annual report, however we could not change it in time for the printed copies.

- **Tim Cantlon** – When did Padel start up?

Graeme Richardson – November 2023.

Tim Cantlon – Do we have an idea on what is Padel worth to the club? Has anyone evaluated the numbers?

Dave Mee – For some background information, the agreement with the guys who bought in padel (Mark and Walter Todd – Game4PadelNZ) is until April 2025, 90% revenue goes to them, and the club gets 10% of the revenue. Also, a part of the agreement is that up until April 2025, if we think it was not a good investment Game4Padel would remove the court at their cost

-At the moment, we are very pleased with the progress, and the new board will be looking at a proposal looking at the future of Padel at the club.

Tim Cantlon – Agrees that the addition of Padel has been great for the club. It has been great to see some of our top tennis players winning various tournaments.

-Suggests the transparency around the agreement is known to all members. I am supportive of padel and open to the conversation of where it goes. However, is the process the club followed relative to our constitution (around taking courts away). Did the club seek views on the idea and installation of Padel?

Dave Mee – Apart from socialising within groups, yes, we had a well publicised open evening advertising that we were going to have an open meeting discussing padel with the builders, owners etc. We will also do this again for any future developments, if there are any.

Tim Cantlon – Thank you. I am not the only one that missed it.

Dave Mee – There is no intent to slip it in. The intent is to always ensure that the members are informed. If the members want it as a collective, then it is something that we will do if not, then we would be highly unlikely do it.

- **Simon Johnston** – Before the current board, in the squash expenses sponsorship, we made a sponsorship payment for the squash academy that was not approved by the board. Did the current board approve the \$10,000 funding.

Dave Mee – Yes, and it is fully funded by sponsorship.

Simon Johnston – Last year, it wasn't funded.

Dave Mee – The \$15,000 that came in this year covers the first period of last year. The full board is aware of it.

Simon Johnston -What happened to the non-agreed payment from last time as it did not come through me as the past chairman, it went through Lottie (external accountant). Are the auditors of this year aware of this?

Dave Mee – It was agreed by the current board. It was not registered as an issue with the auditors this year.

Phil Horne – The auditors were across all the minutes during that period.

- **Amelia Wong** – There was a lot of deferred maintenance, is there going to be more this year? In the most recent heavy rain, the club got quite wet. Are we looking at spending more on maintenance?

Graeme Richardson – It is ongoing. Especially the roof, it really needs replacing but we are currently patching it up as we go.

Amelia Wong – What is the plan?

Phil Horne– We are in a contestable infrastructure fund through the council supported by Tennis Auckland to assist with deferred maintenance - roof, drainage, LED tennis court lighting, and two new replacement tennis courts. However, we won't know the outcome of this until next March. In the meantime, until we know we can get that funding, we are as Graeme has mentioned, doing patch up work and taking action to work on repairs. With the most recent repairs on the internal guttering and plumbing, we should be ok with heavy rain.

Additional to that, we received a grant of \$13,000 from New Zealand Community Trust to put flood barriers up in front of the building if we think that there is going to be an event. They come from Italy and are not cheap, and we hope to have them here in August.

-Again, with mitigation one of our members Barry Davidson has been doing work with what we can do in the interim with the front entrance of the building and car park to stop excess water coming onto the property.

-We can't just wait, so we are taking a lot of action around keeping the building sustainable.

- **Sharon Rochford** – Has the council been approached about our drainage issues?

Phil Horne – Yes. The council has provided very little response, so we have made the decision to take action ourselves. I have contacted them recently about the state of the leaves and the blocked drains, so they have got that booked in to do.

Tim Cantlon – We need to keep on the council and keep reminding them. Ask the media, reporters, and Deputy Mayor, Desley Simpson, to help us raise these issues.

Dave Mee – Agrees. Would you assist in that process?

Tim Cantlon – Agrees. I am happy to help, talk to Desley and the reporters in the area.

- **Richard Lyne** – This has been a problem for many years. What about taking in revenue to help fund not only the maintenance but also the club in general?

– Where are the funds coming from that operate the club. There is no reporting around membership or churn. What are our plans on seeing revenue streams come through that we need to ultimately take responsibility for.

Dave Mee – Our membership has increased by 171 since last year, so we are using that to put more money into repairs and maintenance. This is a short-term fix; however, I agree with you that we need to look at what funds we can put aside to help maintain the club long term.

Richard Lyne – There should be other sustainable revenue streams.

Dave Mee – It is not just about the board members; it is also about everybody. Would you help develop this department?

Richard Lyne – Absolutely, I'm sure that there are a lot of members who would also help.

Graeme Richardson – Yes, we certainly must increase our revenue, especially our biggest revenue stream, subscriptions to make this club more sustainable in the long term.

Mark George – The club's revenue has stayed static over the past 25-30 years and the club has continued to tire. Suggests that the board sets a revenue target to make sure that the club is sustainable to go forward in the future. The board needs to make sure that this is communicated to the members so they can get behind our mission and help. If the board were transparent with the numbers and their plan or vision, I'm sure there would be a lot of members that would get behind the initiative to help.

Dave Mee – Agrees. The board has recently been looking at our revenue targets as we have been sitting on break-even for many years. We need to make changes. We always focus on the little tasks.

Mark George – What we have done with the money that we have is great. As an example, another tennis club I went to has a diagram on their wall with their club goals as in what they are aiming to do to with their money.

Richard Lyne – If the club tells members what we are fundraising for, if it interests them, members might be more likely to offer their help or services.

Phil Horne – The board does have a current project list of around \$225k of short/medium term projects we want to do. This includes squash court LEDs, court sanding etc.

Mark George – Suggests that we publicise it so that the members are aware and can pitch in.

Dave Mee – We have a budget, and we can publish it to members.

Richard Lyne – It would be great for members to add their feedback and let you know what we think needs to be prioritised.

Phil Horne – Our priority of these projects comes from a health and safety perspective. For example, sanding on all squash courts, LEDs on squash courts 3-5 really needed doing. We just resurfaced the tennis courts too. It then feeds down from there. We will put this out to members along with the increased subscriptions.

- **John Paul Penny** – Along with what we have achieved, it would be great to have communications from the board or office on updates on what's going on with the club personally. For example, we don't hear much about subscription numbers, future tasks, current tasks etc. I would like to see regular updates on what is going well, or not so well similar to what we are talking about now.

Tim Cantlon – Agrees. Suggest that we should have a quarterly report. This also might increase interest in members, so they are more likely to get behind projects.

Phil Horne – Agrees. Hopefully we also have a calmer year to focus on this stuff.

- **Graeme Richardson** – This year there was a new statement of bar trading added. The bar revenue is one of our highest revenue streams, so it is interesting to break down. A statement of movement and cash fund was added to see where the cash is coming from.

Barry Davidson – Where does the function money go? Is it included in the bar takings or is it included somewhere else?

Graeme Richardson – It goes into the bar income.

Barry Davidson – Other clubs seem to bring in a lot of revenue with functions. As an example, the Remuera Bowling Club does well in private functions – what about our club?

Dave Mee – Acknowledges that our space definitely has potential. We have our new bar manager Matt step into the bar and hospitality space to focus on this. Unfortunately, Matt has had a severe concussion and is out of action for at least the next 6 months, so this is slightly paused.

We also have 1000 members, and the members don't necessarily want a function on all the time as it affects them having a drink at the bar after squash or tennis. It is a bit of a juggling game to balance, but I acknowledge that it is a good revenue stream that we can focus and develop on.

Graeme Richardson – Agrees that we can increase our revenue significantly from functions.

- **Ian Gunthorp** – Needs to be a separate page of the clubs' budgets. It has been suggested before.

Graeme Richardson – Don't think it is part of the annual report.

Ian Gunthorp – Thinks that it needs to be part of the annual report (not necessarily the auditor's report) for the members to see.

- **Mark George** – What and where is squash coaching income coming from?

Phil Horne – Income from our junior squash coaching programme.

Mark George - So not from coaches renting our courts?

Dave Mee – No, it's the revenue coming in from their coaching.

- **Simon Johnston** – Rob Roche Development fund should be another \$3500 more from the Paul Coll event as we have only spent \$2500.

Dave Mee – It will be noted and added.

MOTION – That the minutes of the AGM Financial Report be accepted.

MOVED – Ian Gunthorp

SECONDED – George Linnell

Election of Officers:

- **Dave Mee** - We have two new officers and thank you for standing up for election.

Dave Mee mentions that it is great to see the enthusiasm for people wanting to be involved but it is also disappointing that no one puts their hands up. A lot of members have a lot to say, but it does not reflect the nominations we received.

Dave Mee invited and welcomed the new board members Brittany Teei and Charles Jones to introduce themselves.

Life Membership – No nominations for life membership

Elections of Auditors – JSA Auditors remained the auditors for the second term.

MOTION - That JSA be appointed our auditors.

MOVED – Simon Johnston

SECONDED – Rob Wills

General Business:

The floor was opened for general business. The following matters raised were:

Constitution:

- **Dave Mee** – We have a passionate group of people Hugh Faris, Ben Unger and Ian Gunthorp working on updating our constitution. They have been doing an excellent job and thank you for all the hard work and time you have put into it.

-The group did not get it done in time to approve it by the members today, so the constitution subcommittee have written a statement to read out at the AGM.

"That Members at this Annual General Meeting approve the distribution to Members of a proposed new Constitution, prepared by a sub-committee of the Board comprising Hugh Faris, Ben Unger and Ian Gunthorp, on or before 17 July 2024 and that a Special General Meeting be called for Thursday, 22 August, in terms of the current Constitution dated 8 June 1998, to consider and, if agreed, accept, with or without amendments, the new Constitution for the Club".

-We will need 50 people to approve the new constitution in August.

-Need to get everyone to engage and get it distributed to get input, feedback and approval.

- **Ben Unger** – It is a positive thing to change the constitution and it only gets done once every 20-30 years. Feedback is necessary and we have already had some good feedback from selected people that we have implemented.

Mark George – How did you receive this feedback?

Ben Unger – We approached certain people.

Dave Mee – Everyone will get a chance to look at the constitution and give their feedback.

Phil Horne– Acknowledged Hugh, Ben and Ian on their hard work.

Ian Gunthorp – Reiterated the importance of getting the members feedback in July and August.

Barry Davidson– Can we get leeway to vote if we are not here on the July and August dates?

Ben Unger – In the current constitution we cannot.

Dave Mee – We can't please everyone on the dates, so the dates we have set are the best we have come up with.

MOTION – That the new constitution is set to be voted on the 22nd of August 2024.

MOVED – Ian Gunthorp

SECONDED – Ben Unger

- **Simon Johnston** –With our bar licence, who is our bar new manager?

Dave Mee – Matt Clark was doing his qualifications, however with his concussion and headaches, he hasn't completed them.

Phil Horne – I spoke to one of the local licensing inspectors last week and told them of our situation with Matt away, so we have organised an acting and temporary manager.

- Jasmine has done her Licensing Controller Qualification (LCQ) and is expecting her results any day now. She can then apply for a manager's certificate.

- **Simon Johnston** – Currently, we are using different people to repair the roof. Are the roof builders registered?

Phil Horne – Yes.

- **Simon Johnston**– On the 'Our People' page, Sam Carey is not mentioned but he resigned after the 2023 AGM.

Dave Mee – Apologies, he will be added.

- **Simon Johnston** – With the 'Sub Committees' section the life membership committee is not added. They consist of Dave Hyland, Heather Worley, and Graeme Richardson and should be added. It was approved by the board that all subcommittee members were valid up until 2027.

Phil Horne – Not sure if it was approved by the board. I will check the minutes.

With there being no more general business, Dave Mee concluded the meeting and formally closed the meeting at 7:30pm.