

## FAMILY FORUM MEETING

4<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 11.30am in the Garden Room

Forum: Oliver Milton, Amber Dupont Liot, Alyssa Penwell and Marc Newey

Online: Colin Hector

In attendance: Simon Baker, Debora Drago, Stuart Reeks, Ana Leal, Peter Georgiou, Dan Lott and Carolyn Ward (minutes)

Apologies: Joy Stevens, Susie Hock, Esther Van De Pette and Ricky Pharo

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were noted.

### 2. Minutes from previous meeting to be approved and noted

#### May Actions

- Reminder message to be sent to members about the indoor pool closure as positively as possible – **Complete.**
- Ana to speak to Stuart re Snorkelling to see if this would be possible, session to be run late Sunday at 4pm for little ones – **it was noted that there were no bookings.**
- Check dates for the Summer with RP and DL and add flyer in Juice Bar – **Complete.**
- MN to investigate if a portable climbing dome can be purchased.

It was noted that the new area could have a climbing frame. OM asked if in the meantime a portable climbing dome could be purchased and put on the grass area. OM explained that this was a commercial frame and not a domestic one but can be easily installed. MN commented that they would have to put some kind of mat under it.

**Action Oct24/01: OM to send a picture of the dome to MN so he can investigate if this is possible to purchase, to be erected as a temporary thing.**

Marc to speak to DL and OM regarding the Liveball sessions to confirm that it is club policy to run a programme for a minimum time, e.g. 6 months to allow momentum despite initial low uptake – **Complete.**

SR informed the Forum that he is trying to speak to the school regarding the climbing wall, as tried several times to set up a meeting. **Action Oct24/02: SR to email the school again, copying in the Bursar, Marc Newey and Simon Baker.**

**Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024 were approved.**

### **3. Update**

#### **3.1 Golf**

*SB talked through Ricky Pharo's report.*

The Junior Golf Academy has proved popular with 85 – 100 kids across the term.

Summer Holiday Camps are going well and Family Fun Events have been popular.

Only 10 Juniors are playing in Club Championships. A lot of Juniors play with their parents or siblings. MN commented that if someone shows exceptional talent then they can be developed, thinks it is important for kids not to get too hung up on competitions but to play for fun. MN asked if we were doing enough activities (keep under review) and find out why kids are not participating, is it the timing or is it not fun.

Junior Interclub Matches – We hosted Royal Mid-Surrey in a new annual match in 2023 and we will have a return fixture at RM-S in the October half-term. The Club has also introduced a new match against Richmond golf Club.

It was noted that there are some young players that are playing at the weekends in competitions.

ADL commented that her kids play golf but they are not golf members themselves and asked if a parent wants to go round with them, if they can. It was noted that the Family Fun Events have been set up for this purpose which take place every other month.

There was a discussion around children who have not played golf but would like to do so but were children of parents who did not play golf so how can the Club encourage them to come and try.

CH commented that in the past his children had problems getting access because of their handicap levels. It was noted that the handicap rule for persons aged 23 is still in place at the weekends but the forum thought from a junior prospective they should look at having a buffer zone and SB commented that the Golf Committee were looking at this.

MN informed the Forum that Issy Simpson wants to join the Golf Committee and she would be a welcome addition as she is 22 so a good representative for younger people at the club and is respected by all as an England International.

#### **3.2 Health Club**

*AL talked through her report.*

##### End of the Summer Pool Party

The Health Club hosted their first end of Summer Pool Party in August at the outdoor pool, complete with cocktails for adults and juniors, where they had approximately 100 people in attendance. AL is keen to do another end of the summer party next year.

### Junior Duathlon

Three junior members participated in the Health Club charity event which consisted of a 3km run, a 5km cycle and a 1km run, managing to raise £220 for the Club's charity. The participants received a certificate with their respective time, a club t-shirt and a voucher of their choice. AL would like to continue encouraging juniors to participate in these events. **Action Oct24/03: Event to be highlighted in the Recorder.**

### Upcoming Events

High Performance Parenting Workshop – Sunday 24th November. **Action Oct24/04: AL asked the Forum if they could help advertise.**

### Swim School

It was noted that there are 317 kids that our in swim school. They are now advertising early bird prices. SB asked if we can just have this for those booking online. It was noted that payments are through the website.

There is an upcoming Internal Swim Gala scheduled for Saturday 23rd November.

### Rookie Lifeguard Pathways

Peter has been facilitating the Bronze lifeguard award, and will offer kids to go on and complete their Silver and Gold award.

MN commented that we could look to encourage those kids who have their Gold, level 3 to work at the Club as a casual when they are older. It was noted that the hourly rate for a lifeguard is £12.50. DL said that they run something similar in tennis where they have a Tennis leaders class where some young qualified members are now tennis assistants.

AL informed the Forum that they also offer Scuba diving and waterpolo for those kids who do not want to enter swimming competitions. It was noted that Scuba diving is just a taster and not a qualification. AL explained that if kids want to get qualified that there is a lot of commitment from the parents to ensure that they complete everything and they have up to 1 year to do their final dive (outside of the UK) to be fully qualified.

### Teen Camps

Busy with Summer camps and will continue with teen camps and find that half-term is the most popular time and will try again in October and carry over in February, were positive and bookable on-line.

OM shared his idea of having a camp that also incorporated some kind of learning, i.e. maths. OM thought it could potentially attract more kids.

**Action Oct24/05: AL to explore the possibility of having a ½ day camp combined with tutoring.**

SB advised that they did a homework club years ago, but interest petered out.

MN thought sport offered a way from pressures of schoolwork and thought that this idea may appeal to parents but didn't think it would appeal to the kids.

### Parent & Baby Yoga Classes

It was reported that the classes lesson time had changed to a different time to allow parents to do the class and still pick up their older children from school. Occupancy is under review as the time was changed due to members feedback but has not been very successful. MN said that we must be careful of members requesting different times just to suit themselves.

**Action Oct2406: AL to keep occupancy numbers under review for Parent & Baby Yoga Classes.**

### Monkey Music Workshop

They have trialled this music session which has proved very popular and will aim to do one or two sessions per term.

### Other Activities

MN commented that Daniella has been working very hard on producing leaflets and advertising all activities which are bookable online. SB asked if you could have a QR code that would upload the content straight to your diary and OM thought this would be possible.

SR mentioned that there is a noticeboard for Juniors which is full of posters, but some members just walk by and do not really notice them.

MN advised the forum that the Top 10 flyer is also emailed out to members.

DL informed the forum that unfortunately many members do not read what is coming out.

**Action Oct24/07: SR to encourage Reception to give out the timetables to members.**

OM told the forum that Membership and Marketing were working on more of the marketing side of things so there is less content.

MN asked if we were linking the activities to the creche.

OM asked if we could have a dive in movie, connect 'Family Day' with the Health Club.

MN informed the Forum that next June the Family Day will be in the ITC and OM asked if instead this could be on the new extended terrace.

MN asked PG how the kick-boxing sessions were coming along, and it was noted that they were going well.

MN thanked Ana and Stuart for all their hard work.

## **3.3 Rackets Sports**

*DL talked through his report.*

It was noted that a mini racquet programme has started where they intake kids from 2 years old until 4 years old. This programme is always full.

DM informed the Forum that Juniors play once a week, but a lot of kids want to play a bit more but do not necessarily want to compete.

It was noted that there are 3 different levels under the Junior Tennis Programme which are Development Squads, Selective Squads and Competition Squads. Term time goals have been emailed to the parents.

They have also put together some Junior socials that will be open to all junior members. The first one is being held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October. It will be a fun social doubles tournament led by the coaches. There are various socials planned throughout the year and they will deliver one each half term.

Junior Activities Poster – OM asked if the other side could have a golf and tennis timetable.

The forum discussed the possibility of having a one sheet of paper that not only had all the Health Club activities but on the opposite side to have Golf and Tennis upcoming events advertised monthly. **Action Oct24/08: MN to speak to Daniella to see if she can add the Golf and Tennis monthly events to the Activities poster.**

DL mentioned for members to look at the Liveball as all new activities will be on there for Juniors.

Airhalls – it was noted that they would be going up mid half-term.

Parents Performance Workshop – it was noted that there would be a specific one for Tennis which will be scheduled Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm.

Liveball – OM commented that this was not popular but didn't think it got a fair shot and should have been given more time to build momentum.

### **3.4 Social update**

DD advised the Forum that there were some events coming up, one of those being the Magic Carvery. It was noted that the Magician for Fireworks night was not particularly good. **Action Oct24/09: DD to look for an alternative magician for Fireworks night.**

Fireworks – it was noted that this is a big social thing and would need to be careful with room allocation. It was hoped that the food queue can come down.

Juice Bar – People seem happy with the offerings, kids mainly like the pasta.

## **4. Items for discussion**

### March Actions

- Reaction Pads – SR has been looking into this. OM asked if we could get a good set. It was noted that they have them on walls which is expensive, or you can get portable ones. **Action Oct24/10: SR to purchase Reaction Pads through the Capex system.**

- Discuss having a horticultural area and workshop – AL and PB are looking at dates, will look at doing something towards spring. **Action Oct24/11: AL / PB to finalise a date for the Garden workshop.**

## **5. AOB**

### Ideas for the 125 Anniversary

MN informed the group when the Gala dinner was taking place and advised that they were looking for ideas from each section. **Action Oct24/12: CW to send 125 minutes to the Family Forum members.**

Family Day on 28.6.26 – it was noted that they would like either a huge assault course or inflatables.

Softplay – It was asked if an area had been found and would there be any possibility for a space to be allocated in the Club House after the new refurbishment had taken place. It was noted that a 'softplay' area could possibly be in the IGC underground if they have to wait for it to be kitted out.

Pods – The Family Forum were notified that there is one pod being installed in the Reading room and there will be two in the Bandstand.

## **6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**To be confirmed.**