

BUCS TENNIS LMC - MINUTES

Date 16/04/2026
Time 10:00 – 12:00
Location Microsoft Teams

ATTENDEES

Dan Roberts (DR)
Sophie Kitson (SK)
Alistair Higham (AH)
Matt Wildt (MW)
Tom Kisiel (TK)
Gareth Weaver-Tyler (GWT)
Amy Lees (AL)
Scott MacAulay (SMA)
Ian MacDonald (IM)
Paul Johnson (PJ)
Nigel Parsons (NP)
Luke Degun (LD)

APOLOGIES

Richard Joyner (RJ)
Alex Perry (AP)
David Bond (DB)

ORGANISATION

BUCS
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Nottingham
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Durham
Stirling
Bath
Leeds Beckett
Essex
Imperial

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Item	Action*
1. Welcome Dan Roberts chaired the meeting. <u>Apologies</u> Apologies were received from Richard Joyner & David Bond. <u>Welcome</u> Nigel Parsons (University of Essex) was welcomed following Essex's promotion via the women's playoff. <u>Minutes from the previous meeting</u> The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as an accurate record. Actions Reviewed: • WTN issues: PJ confirmed he forwarded correspondence to RJ. Some WTN discrepancies remain (notably two women still on 40.9), but the season has now finished and the impact is limited. • Calendar: Deferred to later in the agenda. • Super Weekend feedback: Only a small number of responses have been received. Members were encouraged to promote the feedback form to staff and students.	
2. BUCS Update SK provided an update: • The online league planner is now live. • Some issues remain with home/away settings, which are being addressed with the LTA. • Results input is currently low, but emails have been issued to university contacts. Actions: • Universities to ensure team captains are added to the OLP system. • National League results (and ideally lower teams) to be uploaded promptly to support WTN and player profiles. WTN and UTR Discussion: • Discussion highlighted player and parent concern around inactive WTNs/UTRs due to delayed uploads. • WTN: Will update weekly if results are uploaded regularly. • UTR: Currently uploaded only at the end of the league season, not weekly. • The new system should make weekly uploads significantly easier from next season, as leagues will roll over automatically. Action: SK to explore options with the LTA and/or UTR regarding more frequent UTR updates (e.g. periodic uploads during the season).	All BUCS

3. LTA Update AH provided an update on LTA university funding: • £1.6m secured for the next three years (existing funding plus uplift for new universities). • Applications reviewed via a widened internal panel. • Outcomes expected early May 2026. • Emphasis on return on investment metrics for ongoing funding. Additional points: • Development of a sample annual competition calendar (approx. 34 weeks) to support recruitment and demonstrate competition opportunities. • Strong support from attendees for publishing and promoting such a calendar. • Suggestions to include: ○ World University Games (WUGs) ○ Wimbledon University Match ○ European University competitions (EUSA) Action: AH to share draft sample calendar.	AH
4. SAG Update MW summarised recent SAG discussions: • WTN/UTR challenges continued to be raised. • Padel Championships confirmed for 9–10 May in Leeds (entries still open). • Ball quality flagged as recurring concern.	

5. Rules & Regs Review

Key proposals discussed:

- Doubles Pair Order
 - Extensive discussion on whether to:
 - Retain the current “sum of rankings” rule
 - Move to coach/institution choice
 - Apply different approaches at National League vs lower leagues
 - Outcome:
 - No firm recommendation agreed. Feedback to be taken to the SAG to determine whether:
 - No change is needed, or
 - Any change should be limited to the National League.
- Shootout Balls
 - Proposed change: Shootouts to be played with existing match balls unless both captains agree to use new balls.
 - All in agreement.
- Ball Changes (National League & National Championship)
 - Proposal for ball change after the first set in singles.
 - Applies to National League and National Championship only.
 - Supported, subject to cost considerations.
 - SK confirmed exploration of switching ball supplier (Dunlop discussions ongoing).
- Player Removal from Rankings
 - When a student leaves a university, they must be removed promptly to avoid ranking distortions.
 - All in agreement.
- Cup Shootouts
 - Proposed that all shootouts in cup fixtures be played simultaneously where facilities allow.
 - Recognised challenges for externally hired venues.
 - Supported in principle:
 - Likely to be issued as guidance / MOS for National Champ, with flexibility where facilities restrict delivery.

MW

Action: MW to take Rules & Regs proposals to be discussed and finalised at next SAG.

6. 2026-27 Calendar A draft calendar was presented (Draft 1 & Draft 2). Key Outcomes: • Draft 1 preferred. • League fixture originally scheduled for 20 January to be moved to 2 December due to exams. • Doubles Championships date remains unresolved: ○ October deemed too early for student recruitment ○ Some conflicts with ITF events ○ Venues to be re-contacted with focus on November / early December • Aim to avoid clashes with pro events wherever possible. • Super Weekend provisionally targeted for 31 Oct – 1 Nov, subject to resolving doubles scheduling. Actions: • SK to re-engage venues regarding late November / early December availability for doubles. • Updated calendar to be circulated once venue availability is clearer.	BUCS
7. AOB • No additional items raised. • DR thanked all attendees for their contributions this season and closed the meeting.	
8. Date of Next Meeting TBC – next season.	