



## ILTSC LTD AGM Agenda Item 9

### Nominations for Board and Members' Committee 2023

The following nominations have been received for officers of the Company and representatives on the Members' Committee:

President:	Terry Burgoyne
Board:	
Chairman:	Rik Smith <i>(eligible for re-election)</i>
Honorary Compliance Secretary:	Mike Henley <i>(eligible for re-election)</i>
Honorary Secretary	Barbara Whitlam
Members Committee:	
Chair of Tennis Committee:	Nic Fearnley <i>(eligible for re-election)</i>
Chair Juniors Committee:	Sally Stubbs <i>(eligible for re-election)</i>
Chair of Squash Committee:	Jack Garratt <i>(Interim Chair of Squash)</i>
Member Without Portfolio:	Susan Fernandez
Member Without Portfolio:	Michele Robinson
Member Without Portfolio:	Rachel Leighton
Member Without Portfolio:	Cheryl Mitchell-Hagel
Member Without Portfolio:	Kate Ayre
Member Without Portfolio:	Nigel Cheeseman

There are four vacancies for Members Without Portfolio

#### Notes on Candidates

##### **Barbara Whitlam – Honorary Secretary**

I rejoined ILTSC two and a half years ago, having played a little previously when my sons were smaller and learning both tennis and squash. My younger son played squash for the club at county level. I now play several hours of social tennis per week on various rotas, in the Vets sessions, and have now signed up to Ladies Match Play. Playing is something I value highly from a fitness and social perspective and thoroughly enjoy my time at the club, which we are fortunate to have here in Ilkley. I have been a Member Without Portfolio on the Members' Committee for 2 years. That has taught me a great deal about the running of the club and the issues it faces, and I have equally been able to represent the voice of, particularly, social players. I have volunteered at the Trophy each year since rejoining. My background is that of a solicitor specialising in employment law, from which I retired in the summer of 2020. I have therefore been able to bring my legal skills to the table to support the club. I would hope they would stand me in good stead to carry out the role of Honorary Secretary.

##### **Jack Garratt – Chair of Squash**

As a seasoned squash coach having hands-on experience at notable clubs such as Nottingham Squash Club, Leicester Squash Club, and Loughborough University, I spent a significant amount of my early career fostering talent and passion for squash. I have worked for Fantasy Squash, and was responsible orchestrating the UK-Racketball tour, and managing the Premier Squash League team in Nottingham. My personal squash journey includes playing squash at a reasonable level when I was younger. Now, standing for the position of Squash Chairman at Ilkley, I am eager to channel my expertise and enthusiasm to cultivate a robust squash and racketball community. My vision is to create an inclusive



environment where both sports thrive, supported by top-tier coaching, engaging community events, and a structured development path for players at all levels. I am committed to steering Ilkley towards becoming a beacon of excellence in squash and racketball, where every member can unlock their potential and share in the camaraderie and competitive spirit that these sports engender.

I have been acting as the Interim Chair of Squash

#### **Susan Fernandez – Member Without Portfolio**

I have been a member at the club for about 20 years, playing at Chapel Allerton prior to that. My husband, Eduardo, is also an active member and our three boys all had many years of group lessons as youngsters, a sport they continue to enjoy as young men.

I am a Teacher at Ilkley Grammar School and it is always a pleasure to see our students making use of our facilities.

I play doubles several times each week, often daily in the summer months and am a member of several groups through which I have found some great friendships as well as playing partners. I value my time on court more as I get older and feel that there are always new tricks to learn! I am dabbling in Padel and plan to become a gym member when I retire and have more time during the day.

I consider it a great privilege to be a member of such a fabulous club and I am always proud to welcome visiting teams when playing matches, ( Bradford Parks and Wharfedale leagues). I have been a Volunteer for the Ilkley Trophy every year since it started. I can offer my enthusiasm, connection to our younger members and experience as a regular and active user of the club.

#### **Michele Robinson – Member Without Portfolio**

I have recently retired from my profession as headteacher of All Saints' CE Primary School in Ilkley, a role which I felt privileged to have and thoroughly enjoyed. I was head there for 11 years and previously head at Hawksworth CE Primary school in Guiseley for 6 years. The demands and skills needed to run busy complex schools; I feel will stand me in good stead as an MWP. I have experience as both a headteacher and National Leader of Education which involves working with a vast array of stakeholders including children, parents, governors, the authority, Ofsted, Diocese, other schools, community, universities etc. I have overseen many building projects, the last one was a £2.2 million expansion of All Saints', set and monitored budgets, managed over 65 staff from teachers, cleaning to catering colleagues and created a happy and thriving environment for all.

I have enjoyed playing tennis for many years, initially at Tranmere Park in Guiseley where I represented the club in both the Wharfedale and Bradford Parks leagues and was a committee member and the Chair for a term of office. I have played at Ilkley for a few years now and till recently, only played evenings and weekends because of work commitments. I enjoy playing both socially in a ladies Thursday block booking and for a couple of the teams. More recently, I have been playing in some of the match plays and daytime rotas.

I believe that I can bring a fresh pair of eyes to the Members Committee and represent the views and opinions of the tennis members. I am hopeful that my skills can be utilised to review, reflect and take the club forward to reach its full potential.

#### **Rachel Leighton – Member Without Portfolio**

I've been a fitness member of the club since 2020 my background is a retired swimming teacher/technician, I worked for a small charity providing affordable swimming lessons for children for 17 years.

My part on the management team predominately covered the technical side of running a swimming pool and ensuring everything ran to code producing both the NOP and EAP for the business and staff training. Prior to that I was on the board of trustees for the same charity but resigned that position



when I started working for them. My only concern is that I'm not familiar with overseeing company accounts but I'm happy to learn if someone is prepared to mentor myself.

#### **Cheryl Mitchell-Hagel – Member Without Portfolio**

I've been a member at ILTSC for over 35 years and watched the club progress from a small tennis and rackets club to one of the most prestigious centres in the North.

I play in several rotas varying from Christine Fletcher's successful ladies morning sessions, afternoon vets and ladies and team match practices, competing in the Ladies Yorks League team. I help organise Ladies/ Mixed Matchplay sessions, so I hear the views of racket members from all aspects of club play. Furthermore, the Padel court has added a new dimension to ILTSC and as a keen player I would like to be involved in how this is going to develop. Having established a ladies team and played in the I -Padel Northern league at several venues in the area, we really need to follow the lead of Chapel A, HSTC, and others and build more courts with canopies in the near future in order to keep pace with other clubs in the North.

#### **Kate Ayre – Member Without Portfolio**

I have been a rackets member at Ilkley for ten years and enjoy the social ladies tennis. I have a background in marketing, having been Marketing & New Business Manager at a Leeds Design Consultancy for many years ... albeit some years ago! This involved organising corporate events, writing promotional literature, running a client database for communications, presenting to prospective clients and client liaison, etc.

I hope to bring some new ideas to the club and also to The Trophy from the experience of being a club member, Trophy volunteer as well as a corporate guest at the event.

#### **Nigel Cheeseman – Member Without Portfolio**

I am a Full member of the club and I can be found most days either in the gym or on court. My working background is in insurance and have worked in the industry for over 25 years. I have many contacts in the industry and, if needed, can help advise the club in this area.

I am married and have a six-year-old daughter. Both my wife and daughter are members at the club; my wife uses the gym regularly and has recently started learning to play tennis and attends a beginners' class. My daughter, Alice, has been playing at the club since she was five years old, and is now part of the RED ID Advanced Class.

I am currently signed up to the LTA coaching programme; the aim here is to become Level 2 qualified so I can lead coaching sessions for the kids who are just starting out on their tennis journey. This is an area of the club I would really like to get more involved in. I am a keen advocate of trying to make tennis available to all, not just to those who have parents who play and as a result, naturally fall into it. Cost can also be a restricting factor, so trying to find ways to allow children from less privileged backgrounds to gain access to the sport is also something I am extremely passionate about. Recently, I introduced three new junior members from my daughters' school to the club. These are children whose parents wanted to get their children in to tennis, however having never played before themselves, were not sure how to go about kick-starting the process.

I believe there is so much more we can do with the junior programme and would be really keen to work with the Juniors' Chair on that side of things. The club has to continue to look forward and think about the next generation of members. Having a market leading junior tennis programme will ensure the club continues to go from strength to strength.