

# BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Holiday Inn Aylesbury, Aston Clinton Road, Aylesbury on Tuesday 10 June 2008.

Present:	Ian Moody	- Chairman
	Tony Coyne	- Honorary Coaching Secretary, MKDBA Rep, Shenley B.C.
	Fiona Foy	- Honorary Treasurer, Chalfont Rep., Wycombe Originals B.C.
	Clare Halewood	- Aylesbury Rep & Wednesday B.C.
	Ruth Jefferies	- BSBA Chairman & MK2000 B.C.
	Julia Strong	- Bucks CBA & Mandeville B.C.
	Gillian Tyler	- Badminton Development Officer
	Liz Walmsley	- Minutes Secretary & HWDBA Rep
	Tom Duggan	- Regional Development Manager
	Glenn McMenamin	- Woughton B.C.
	Michael Statham	- Dragons B.C.
	Neil Jeffs	- MK All Stars B.C.
	Beryl Green	- Shuttlecocks B.C.
Apologies:	Chris Ford	- County Captain & Wycombe Originals B.C.
	Kate Griffiths	- Wednesday B.C.
	Mike Halliwell	- Bohemians B.C.
	Mark Lawrence	- Honorary Vets Co-ordinator, BSBA & South Bucks B.C.
	Jim Mann	- Committee
	Gwen Mann	- Honorary Secretary
	Mike Robinson	- CADBA & Wycombe Originals
	Carolyn Lee	- Isis B.C.

Ian Moody advised that the list of Officers & Committee on the Agenda contained two items that needed updating: - Julia Strong (Committee) should have been on the list and Fiona Foy was the Chalfont League Representative as well as the Honorary Treasurer. In addition, the Honorary Auditor for 2008/09 should read Lee J Holloway.

## 1. Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the previous AGM held on the 6 June 2007 were agreed and were signed by the Chairman.

There were no Matters Arising not already listed on the Agenda for this meeting.

## 2. Annual General Report

- Membership numbers were broadly similar to those of the previous year (updated figure of 1,660), although it was pointed out that 2 clubs (one of which was an accredited club) had been “lapsed” by Badminton England for failure to affiliate (would increase figure to ca 1,765). Ian Moody undertook to approach both clubs to investigate the situation (**ACTION: Ian**). Affiliation of individuals to Badminton England was very difficult to trace and Bucks County affiliation forms will be looked at again to ensure that the wording was as clear as possible. It was important to note that individual county affiliation has to be made per county – i.e. if someone plays for more than one county they need to make more than one payment. Only one affiliation fee to Badminton England needed to be made per player. Ian Moody will continue to work closely with Gwen Mann, Fiona Foy and Badminton England to ensure that paperwork and payment were carefully monitored. It has to be remembered that the County Fee is the only source of income for Bucks CBA.

- County Report: 3 teams promoted were promoted last season, but unfortunately they did not manage to hold their positions and were relegated at the end of the season. Bucks will now have teams in Premier B, Divisions 1, 3 and 5.
- Vets Report: A good season. The Over 40s are a very strong team and there have been some excellent games. This augurs well for the future. The ICC weekend was excellent.
- Bucks Schools did very well, which promises well for the future. We need to work at bringing the over 17s into the Senior County team environment.

The meeting agreed that the Annual Report should be adopted.

**Proposed:** Fiona Foy

**Seconded:** Tony Coyne

### 3. Financial Report

- Finances in good shape. As stated before Bucks main income is through the county affiliation fees. Main expenditure items for the year were on the County Development Officer, Senior and Vets County Teams. There was a large reduction in Website costs. Overall, compared to last year's loss of just under £1,900, this year's loss was just under £700. Accumulated funds stood at just over £5,700 at the year end.
- For next year the aim is to split the costs down for a more detailed analysis of Income and Expenditure.
- In answer to a question re the 1<sup>st</sup> county team Fiona confirmed that the County First team did not pay match fees. Their setup is different in that there is a one-off entry fee which is covered by the County. The first team sometimes has international players and it was considered inappropriate to ask players of that status to pay match fees. County tries to recover court and shuttle costs for the other teams.
- Turnout for Senior County practice at the beginning of the season was very disappointing and 2 had to be cancelled. This affected the cost position.
- Ian keen to get county volunteers at tournaments, especially in Milton Keynes, as this adds to Bucks income. Feedback so far is that this involvement is very much appreciated by Badminton England.

### 4. Development Sub Committee

- Tom Duggan gave this report. There had only been one meeting of the DSC over the last year. Gillian Tyler had joined in November 2007, but was now off to pastures new. Currently BE have put a freeze on recruiting as there is uncertainty over the funding from Sport England. This matter is in the hands of BE.
- There is a £1.5m grant from Sport England to be used for setting up Performance Centres. There are two confirmed Performance Centres in Hampshire and Sussex and WBC is in the process of applying. WBC should have PC status by end of July.
- BE wishes to increase Participation within the Community for badminton and this will be done via County Badminton Networks aimed at "Growing the Game". At the centre of these badminton networks will be "hub" clubs (usually Premier Clubs) There will be a "no strings" network aimed at linking up with "pay & play" players who have no club or league attachments. School links will also be an important feature of this initiative.
- To sum up, there are two main BE objectives which are the establishment of performance centres and the building up of badminton networks within Wycombe, Aylesbury and Buckingham areas. These BE initiatives will augment and support the County work,

particularly at the Junior level. All this is done as part of the Badminton England 100 point plan.

## 5. Election of Officers and Committee

- All on the list are prepared to stand again. Mark Lawrence has advised that he wishes to remain as Veterans Co-ordinator only to the end of next season. A successor will need to be found. Election of Officers and Committee:

**Proposed:** Tony Coyne

**Seconded:** Ruth Jeffries

## 6. To confirm the appointment of the Honorary Auditors for 2008/09

- The appointment of Lee J Holloway as the Auditor was agreed by the Meeting.:

**Proposed:** Tony Coyne

**Seconded:** Julia Strong

## 7. To elect a County Team Captain and Committee

- Chris Ford was stepping down as County Captain and Glenn McMenamin is prepared to take on the role. There were no other applicants and Glenn was duly elected.

**Proposed:** Ruth Jeffries

**Seconded:** Julia Strong

- Glenn stated that he was looking forward to taking on the role and especially to trying to create more of a community feel throughout the County teams. He is keen to use the website for match reports etc.
- Julia advised the meeting that Mike Woodward (National Development Coach) is writing a paper on County Teams which would be of interest to Glenn. The paper will come to Julia at BE and she will forward a copy to Glenn.
- Ian ensured that all county players had been emailed re the AGM and unfortunately only two had turned up. Neil Jeffs made the point that a number of county players were under 18. Were they included in the email about the AGM? Ian stated that his email had been sent to over 17s only as not many under 17's actually played senior county last year.
- Ian stated that the trials and practice dates for County Selection were somewhat problematic for the 2008/09 season. The aim is still to create a balance between Milton Keynes and WBC where possible, but this needed to be discussed.
- **County Selection**
- The format for county selection had been discussed in previous years. It was agreed that the County Captain needed to be involved in selection even if he was also in the frame for playing county.
  - i. Glenn believed it would be better to have selectors who had no axe to grind and who were knowledgeable about player performance. They would need to have knowledge of players from the various areas in Bucks.
  - ii. Mike Statham proposed a form of voting system by county players for county selectors to allow county player to feel part of selection.
  - iii. Glenn was keen to have as much transparency as reasonably possible and felt that the teams should, in effect, pick themselves through the Practices, Restricted Tournament and Trials.
- Ian stated that there were not enough players present to decide on anything at this AGM. Mike agreed that further discussion would be needed. Ian pointed out that Glenn would be very much a "hands on" Captain. Mike had an issue with the selection of county team players being dependant on their performance over the 2 days of the trials. Julia pointed

out that although these days were important, the selection committee should also take a view of general player performance. Mike stated that players had a need to feel involved. Ian pointed out that some Milton Keynes players have been missed under the old system.

- The point was raised that replacements for players unable to play in teams should be made on a consistent basis. Glenn agreed that maybe there should be a list for replacements that would be worked through in order.
- Ian requested, and it was agreed, that the issue of county selection should be considered at the committee meeting following the AGM to discuss matters in more detail.
- Ian advised that Mike Statham had agreed to come on to the Committee, effectively replacing his brother Andy who had been co-opted onto the committee last year and unfortunately had to resign as his job had moved him abroad.

## **8. To approve the affiliation fees of Badminton England**

- Ian made the point that Bucks County cannot actually approve these fees as they are set by BE and formally agreed at the BADMINTON England AGM due to held on 28 June. We should however, note them formally
  - i. Senior club members : £8.90 will increase to £9.30
  - ii. Junior club members: £4.45 will increase to £4.65
  - iii. Junior Club fee: £44.30 will increase to £46.20
  - iv. League Fee : £44.30 will increase to £46.20
- Individuals, new clubs/schools that become members of Badminton England after 1<sup>st</sup> April will now pay 50% of the relevant fees.
- Meeting proposed to Note these fees

**Proposed:** Fiona Foy

**Seconded:** Ruth Jeffries

## **9. To approve the Committee proposals on the County Affiliation Fees**

- **Fees for 2008-09 season**
- The county fee has not risen for a number of years, and this increase is RPI linked. Whilst we still have money in the bank, the county fee enables us to run the county teams and is the main source of revenue for Bucks CBA. The suggestion was to keep the fees the same or to increase them as shown by the RPI. It was proposed and agreed unanimously that an RPI increase, as also used by Badminton England, was reasonable.
- Senior Club Members: £3.10 to increase to £3.25
- Junior Club Members: £2.00 to increase to £2.10
- Junior Club: remain at £10.00
- **Coaching offer for affiliated clubs**
- Coaching is currently provided as a one-hour offer to clubs affiliated to Bucks and the suggestion was that this should be made into 2 hours. This was agreed. Clare pointed out that she does 2 hours anyway. Ian suggested that we monitor the uptake of the offer from a cost point of view and discuss further in committee if necessary. Clubs wishing to take up this possibility were advised to contact Tony Coyne who has a list of approved coaches.

**Proposed:** Ian Moody

**Seconded:** Fiona Foy

## **10. Any Other Business**

- **County Match Fees, Match Times, Shuttles**

- A discussion ensued on the fees paid by county players, bearing in mind increased travel costs. Senior match fees for the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> teams are £2 a rubber, with a cap of £6. This should remain unchanged. Juniors would pay the same as Seniors when playing in Senior County teams. Vets play 3 rubbers and it was agreed that their fees should be increased from £5 to £6 per match (£2 per rubber). Match times and shuttle costs were also discussed. The time allowed for matches should be re-assessed to see whether savings could be made (**Action: Mark/Glenn**). Shuttle usage should be closely monitored. Ian agreed that a set of fee rules for next year would be drawn up (**Action: Ian**).
- The possibility of County Players paying a County Team membership fee was raised as was done in other counties. No decision was made on this.
- It was agreed that the committee should assess the current fee structure to see if it could be improved for following years.
- Ian thanked Gillian Tyler for her work as Badminton Development Officer and wished her well for the future. Gillian would be leaving in Mid July to pursue an accountancy position in the City.
- Neil said that the new website looks very good.
- Ian noted that rally point scoring was currently in use throughout the county and had been well adopted.
- Ian advised that the Wadsworth tournament had to be cancelled due to a lack of teams. It would need to be re-assessed for future years.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.45pm