



## Development Co-ordinator's HBA AGM Report for 2011-12

The Badminton Herts Development Committee (BHDC) established in 2005 manages badminton development within the county. I would like to thank the members who are:

- HBA Chairman (Malcolm Fraser)
- HSBA Vice Chairman (Angela Blowers)
- HBA area/league development representatives for N, E, W & S of the county (Bob Green, Doug Clark, Liz Bateman/Ron Duckling)
- Herts Badminton Development Officer ('RDO', Jenni Sheehan 14<sup>th</sup> March – 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011, Lee Bent, 16<sup>th</sup> January to present)
- BADMINTON England (BE) Regional Manager (Matt Warren)
- HBA County Coaching Co-ordinator (Brian Jackson)
- Herts Schools Games Partnerships Senior Competition Manager (Tony Marmo)
- Herts Sports Development Officers' Workgroup (Rep., Ben Vranjkovic, Stevenage SDO)
- Herts Sports Partnership (representative, Peter Simmons, HSP Badminton NGBs Officer)
- BHDC Acting Secretary (and HBA Newsletter Editor, Gill Bartlett)
- BHDC Chairman: HBA Development Co-ordinator (Dave Bartlett)

We would like to thank Jenni for the big impact she brought to our county in her time with us. We extend a warm welcome to our new BDO, Lee Bent, who comes to us with a wealth of experience particularly from BE HQ Coaching Department, shadowing the RO in Northamptonshire, and as No Strings Co-ordinator. He has already improved participation and coaching.



Lee Bent, Herts new BDO

As last year, BE, funded by Sport England for 'Grow, Sustain and Excel', has progressed its 'Development Plan 2009-13' with the national aims:

- Community Badminton Networks
- Reducing age-related drop-off
- Performance Centres and High Performance Centres

Targets relating to the above are:

- Number of adults playing (a priority), Number of children playing
- Reduction in age-related drop-off
- Numbers accessing Community Badminton Networks
- Depth of talent / numbers within Performance Centres

This has informed our own Badminton Herts Development Committee plans ; progressing Community Badminton Networks, increased participation, increased schools and colleges participation, more coaches, finding funding to reduce coaching course costs and more clubs.

### ***Community Badminton Networks***

Nationally, Badminton, as one of the 9 funded sports for reduced age-related drop-off, is the only sport that has actually shown an increase— this is recognised as mostly due to BE Community Badminton Networks strategy. In common with national strategy Herts CBNs have expanded recently:

#### **West Herts CBN (Dacorum, St Albans and now Watford)**

Badminton take-up at JFK school continues to expand. JFK school has achieved Premier School status. Hemel Hempstead Sports Space, Roundwood Park School, Harpenden Leisure Centre, Watford's Westfield and Woodside centres have taken up 'no strings' sessions.

Oaklands College plans to open an 8-court hall in the autumn and possibly start a Badminton Academy with HBA-HSBA help. HBA and HSBA Committee members had an on-site meeting in February.

#### **East Herts CBN**

Ware Drill Hall has been refurbished and now reopened. Leventhorpe School is now managed by Nuffield Health. Wodson Park has 'no strings' and is hosting Herts Corporate Games, 19th June – with badminton for the first time.

#### **North Herts CBN (now incorporating Stevenage)**

North Herts College's has a popular student badminton session on Wednesdays.

Stevenage, which managed to retain some BSF funding, has two schools, Marriotts and Nobel progressing 4-court halls opening in 2012.

North Herts Leisure Centre plans to have 'no strings' sessions as part of its Sportivate programme.

Stevenage, too, plans to have a Sportivate project.

### **Welwyn Hatfield CBN (now 'world leading')**

'No strings' sessions are at Gosling Sports Park and Herts Sports Village.

The University is important for the great facilities and for projects such as Active Universities to promote student participation: last season Alex Varran was Badminton Activator and as she is moving on will hopefully be being replaced.

Birchwood Leisure Centre held a Re-Opening Celebration, 18<sup>th</sup> May, for its new sprung badminton hall floor: cutting-the ribbon was Hatfield's Deputy Mayor and there were demonstrations by county juniors.

## ***Countywide***

There are a number of activities, projects and programmes that have impact countywide, these include: Herts Youth Games: in 2011 was again very successful with 10 districts and some 250 children participating in the coaching run-up and about 80 on the day. This year HYG is 8<sup>th</sup> July when the Olympic Torch will visit during the afternoon.

A new Performance Centre is being established at Vauxhall, Luton. Herts have been offered a place on their committee.

### **Coaching in Herts**

Our coaches do an excellent job. However, we need more coaches at Level 1 and 2 and course tutors to fulfil all opportunities that arise. Herts Sports Partnership Coach Education Week in February had literally hundreds of courses available - for players interested in learning a bit more, for coaches wanting to upgrade or receive the latest information: these included: UKCC Level 1 Certificate in Coaching, UKCC Level 2 Certificate in Coaching, Badminton Young Officials, Disability Badminton Workshop, Badminton Tournament Organisation/Referee (combined), Badminton CPD: Advanced Movement and Hitting Skills. BE HQ has launched an on-line Leaders course for 16-18 year olds. Lee has managed to get Herts County Council schools to accept the BE CRB (particularly for coaches joining Herts SportsMark), thus reducing the bureaucracy.

### **School Games Partnerships (SGPs)**

The replacement of School Sports Partnerships by SGPs has led to some SSP staff being replaced by School Games Organisers, but with far fewer hours, or in the case of some schools, none at all. This has meant harder work to make and sustain school-community communication. Notwithstanding, schools were well represented in the Herts School Games as the Centre Parcs InterSchools Championships. Congratulations to the schools that went through to the Regional 'School Games' CIPSC round: U14 Boys - Hitchin Boys, U14 Girls - St Clement Danes, U16 Boys - Hitchin Boys, U16 Girls - St Francis.

### **Development in the Coming Season**

BE development funding and some Sport England's streams are protected until after the 2012 Games. However, BE have been told by SE that unless there is an increase in adult participation there will be a reduction in their funding. This means that the programmes we have been following last year will be similar for the coming year but with increased emphasis on increasing adult participation. The new BE Whole Sport Plan 2013-17 (which is similar to the current plan) is due for final SE review in December.

### **Olympics, Paralympics and Legacy**

The 2012 Games are upon us and represent a unique opportunity for development. Herts Ready for Winners, for co-ordinating opportunities from the Games and Legacy, is working closely with HSP, who in turn are working with National Governing Bodies of sport and with the 10 Herts district Community Sports Networks who are working with our CBNs. Most districts have events and many include badminton. We have a 2012 Games webpage specifically for maximising opportunities for players, clubs and coaches. BE have produced helpful documentation 'BE Prepared'.

If your club is interested in development now is a good time to engage with your CBN or via our BDO, Lee Bent.