

## HERTFORDSHIRE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a committee meeting held on Tuesday 19 July 2011 at The Club Room, Birchwood Leisure Centre, Hatfield starting at 8pm and attended by:

<b>Malcolm Fraser</b>	<b>MF</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Hilary Anderson</b>	<b>HA</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Dave Bartlett</b>	<b>DB</b>	
<b>Gill Bartlett</b>	<b>GB</b>	
<b>Ron Duckling</b>	<b>RD</b>	
<b>Paul Kempster</b>	<b>PK</b>	
<b>Colin Walker</b>	<b>CW</b>	
<b>Paul Widdicombe</b>	<b>PW</b>	

Apologies for absence had been received from Angela Blowers, Bob Green (BG); Brian Jackson (BJ), and Eddie Lintott (EL).

MF extended a warm welcome to Paul Kempster who was attending for the first time. PK would take on the position of Herts County League Co-ordinator at the County League Fixtures Meeting on 31 August.

### **1. Action following the AGM.**

There was no outstanding action but MF reported that he had investigated the complaint made by PW that the rejection letter sent out by Badminton England (BE) to an unsuccessful applicant for the Badminton Board had been stereotypical. The letter that MF had seen was detailed and not a standard letter. However the reference to 'approaching your local association' was unfortunate in being addressed to a stalwart of HBA.

Action following the committee meeting on 15 March was as follows:

RD reported that he had received no reply from BE to his enquiries about insurance coverage. However, the problem regarding insurance cover for leagues that included non-affiliated clubs had been resolved within SW Herts. At their recent AGM a motion excluding non-affiliated clubs from the league had been passed.

GB was compiling input she had received on BE's Vision system which would be sent to BE. She reported that she had, as agreed at the meeting, put out a 4 page Newsletter to Club Secretaries before the AGM. This was available to all members on the website. Three Newsletters had been produced during the 2010/11 season.

***NOTE It was erroneously stated in the minutes of the AGM that two Newsletters, rather than just one, had not been produced. This will be formally corrected at the 2012 AGM. Apologies to GB who produces interesting and relevant Newsletters, often with limited material.***

MF would raise the tax issue with BE

**ACTION: MALCOLM FRASER**

### **2. Report on activities**

#### **Chairman**

Nothing specific to report prior to the start of the season.

#### **Secretary**

Nothing to report

#### **Treasurer**

CW said that there was still a balance of around £18,000. A stock of shuttles would be passed to PW. It had not been possible to book all the courts required for county matches at Herts Sports Village (HSV) as they were being used for national badminton events. Other venues would be used.

### **Herts County League Co-ordinator**

Entry forms had gone out to clubs who had entered last year, as well as those who had expressed interest. DB would also make the form available on the HBA website. It was likely that there would be more entries this year. The trophies had been engraved but one had been lost. MF would write to the club responsible asking for £20 in recompense to be paid to HBA.

He would also write to club secretaries suggesting that photos be taken of their winning teams with the appropriate trophy. These could be printed in the Newsletter and put on the website.

**2 ACTIONS: MALCOLM FRASER**

### **Hertford Area League (HAL) representative**

No report. PW had attended the HAL AGM and reported that it was being very well run.

### **North Herts and Letchworth area representative**

BG had sent a message saying that all was going well, but reporting a lack of ladies playing badminton in the area. Their AGM had been held last week. Three teams had dropped out of the league and two new ones entered. Junior activities were going well.

### **S.W. Herts League Representative.**

RD reported that some of the activities in his area were being hampered by a very extensive rule book. He was also experiencing difficulties with the website now that Malcolm Jellows was no longer able to assist. The Fixtures Meeting would be held on 1 September, and they were also experiencing a shortage of lady players. Because all clubs in the SW Herts league will become affiliated, with perhaps one exception, all clubs in the St Albans league will be affiliated.

### **Tournament Secretary**

EL sent a written report saying that entries for the Open Tournament were trickling in but he expected the bulk to come in shortly before the closing date.

PW was doing the preparation for the Closed Tournament, and, this year, the doubles would be played on 1<sup>st</sup> and the singles on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

### **Newsletter Editor**

MF congratulated GB on the latest colourful Newsletter. The deadline for the next issue was 15 September but tournament results would be accepted later. MF had volunteered as a driver at the Badminton World Championships to be held next month and promised to write a report for the Newsletter on his experiences.

**ACTION: MALCOLM FRASER**

### **Development Co-ordinator**

DB circulated the minutes of the recent Badminton Herts Development committee meeting and highlighted the main points. These minutes are available on the HBA website. Jennie Crisp, Herts Badminton Development Officer, is getting married next month and GB agreed to send a gift on behalf of HBA

**ACTION: GILL BARTLETT**

PK agreed to check how funds held by HBA and reserved for development in the Stevenage area (£531) could be used.

**ACTION: PAUL KEMPSTER**

### **Coaching Co-ordinator**

BJ had sent a message advising the committee that a Coaches Conference was to be held at HSV on 13 November.

### **HSBA Representative**

No report had been received.

### **3. Election of Chairman of Selectors**

Paul Widdicombe agreed to stand and was duly elected. He said that it was vital that more volunteers were recruited to assist with running the county teams.

### **4. Vacancy for County Match Secretary**

There was still a vacancy for this post, as well as for selectors for the second and third county teams. Publicity would continue to be given to these vacancies and consideration given as to who could be approached.

### **5. Ashaway sponsorship**

Details of the sponsorship offer had been circulated and it was agreed by the committee. It was also agreed that there was no objection to individual teams playing with alternative shuttles, provided they covered the cost.

### **6. Any Other Business**

MF asked for committee approval for sums of £500 to be given to each of the three areas within the county (SW Herts, Letchworth and Hertford Area) to assist with the development of badminton in their area. He had made a booking at Presdales on Wednesdays from 7-9pm for the next two terms and he hoped that HAL would be able to get something going there. The donation may also help SW Herts and Letchworth make provision to encourage more ladies to become involved. MF stressed the importance of supporting clubs wherever possible. This proposal was agreed by the committee.

RD said that development money could possibly be used to help set up junior clubs in the Watford area where there were none currently.

PW suggested that thought be given to having a system in place should Olympic tickets become available at the last minute. This item will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting

**ACTION: HILARY ANDERSON**

### **7. Dates of Future Meetings**

The following dates were agreed:

Tuesday 20 September

Tuesday 8 November

Tuesday 13 March 2012

AGM to be held on 4 June 2012

Post meeting: this date has been changed to 11 June 2012 to avoid the Bank Holiday

The meeting closed with thanks to PW for hosting the meeting at Birchwood Leisure Centre.