

HERTFORDSHIRE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a committee meeting held on Tuesday 24 July 2012 at Birchwood Leisure Centre starting at 8.10pm and attended by:

Malcolm Fraser	MF	Chairman
Dave Bartlett	DB	
Gill Bartlett	GB	
Simon Carter	SC	
Paul Kempster	PK	
Paul Widdicombe	PW	
Martin Winstone	MW	

Apologies for absence had been received from Hilary Anderson (HA), Eddie Lintott (EL), Colin Walker (CW), Brian Jackson (BJ), Bob Green (BG); and Colin Jackson (CJ). Reports from BG and CJ were represented by Simon Carter. Martin Winstone was welcomed as the new Chairman of SWHIBL.

1. Action following the previous meeting.

PK was not yet in a position to report on the use of development funds in the Stevenage area and the action should be taken forward. SC suggested we try to do something in the two new halls in Stevenage; it was also reported that BV was considering a possible new junior club. PK to talk to BV.

ACTION: PAUL KEMPSTER

PW had reported that the BE National Ranking System was causing problems with the order of play at county matches. Update: Bob Welsh had deputised for PW at the Match Secretaries' meeting where it was made clear that we have to bear with it – ranking system is to be used as the only way forward (although PW reported that the introduction of a new grading system could complicate matters further!) He anticipated challenges to our order of play from opponents. MF advised every team captain had copy of Minutes recording the decision, to be produced if challenged at matches.

It was confirmed that the need for a County Match Secretary had been publicised as agreed, but no-one had come forward as yet.

MF, DB and Lee Bent had attended the HAL AGM, as agreed, and talked about the advantages of CBNs.

GB thanked MF for helping to distribute the July newsletter, and explained postage problems experienced in our initial take-up of Goode Sport's stamping system.

There had been no progress in encouraging more Ladies in North Herts. To be pursued.

ACTION: DAVE BARTLETT, BOB GREEN/SIMON CARTER

Revision of HBA Rules: This had been identified for discussion at the first committee meeting after the AGM. However, in the absence of Hon. Sec. because of the Olympics, it is carried forward to the Agenda of September meeting.

ACTION: HON SECRETARY

2. Report on activities

Chairman

BADMINTON England are preparing for Olympics!

The Wheelchair Tournament Committee have had their first meeting in preparation of the tournament, which will be held on 27 October at HSV.

MF explained that HSBA are currently experiencing problems. The validity of the AGM had been queried, resulting in its postponement and an Open Meeting being held on the day instead. As a result, a Working Group would meet on Wednesday 25 July to discuss problems identified, and the AGM was scheduled for 16 August.

Treasurer

In CW's absence, MF referred us to his report at the recent AGM.

Herts County League Co-ordinator

PK said that the League form had been sent out, and needed to be put on the website.

ACTION: PAUL KEMPSTER/DAVE BARTLETT

The County Fixtures meeting will be on Wednesday 29 August at Birchwood LC (League entries to be in by 13 August).

He was waiting for trophies from Asteroid and Wizard. PW offered the use of Birchwood LC Trophy cabinet for storage/display.

MF said he had been approached about the possibility of entry of a Men's 4 disability team. Possible problem with access at some venues – opponents might need to be asked for access details.

Hertford Area League Co-ordinator

HAL Fixtures meeting will be on 3 September at Wodson Park (entries to be in by 29 August). SC is looking to give clubs access to Fixtures Live to update their results.

How to do this, and how to resolve potential differences/difficulties were discussed with PK emphasising the flexibility of Fixtures Live.

The League plans to run a tournament in May.

North Herts and Letchworth area representative

SC reported on behalf of Bob Green. The committee lost two members, but gained one new one (Ben Vranjkovic). At the AGM clubs were asked for ideas how to spend the £500 from HBA. Tournaments: the Handicap tournament will continue; because of poor response last season, the committee are looking to replace one of the usual tournaments with an on-going season-long competition.

S.W. Herts League Representative.

MW reported that he replaced Ron Duckling at the AGM, where a minor league change had also been agreed. There was a suggestion for a Veterans' League in future! League entries are coming in. Fixtures Meeting is on Thursday 6 September at Leverstock Green.

Tournament Secretary

EL reported entries are trickling in.

PW reported that a referee is needed for Restricted on 29/30 September (weekend only).

Newsletter Editor

GB thanked contributors and MF again for their contribution to the latest edition. Copy deadline for the next newsletter is 5 October 2012.

Development Co-ordinator

DB handed round his AGM report and reports on the Herts Youth Games and Herts Corporate Games 2012 (see HBA website: About us, committee documents section).

Coaching Co-ordinator

The committee were reminded that Coaches Week will take place in February.

HSBA Representative

See HBA Chairman's report. PW expressed concern about the U17 squad in particular (Pat Walker having resigned) as well as exit routes from the squad which Angela Blowers (also resigned) had organised. The question of junior leagues were also discussed, which Marion Conway & Gill Bartlett had agreed to progress at the last meeting of the Welwyn-Hatfield CBN. PW suggested Birchwood as a potential venue.

ACTION: GILL BARTLETT (& MARION CONWAY)

3 Election of Chairman of Selectors & County team report

PW was re-elected unopposed.

He reported that all matches were arranged. Andy Walden and Liz Austin were willing to stay for this season as players & Team Managers. Dave Brown had volunteered and would be coming to the first training session next week (Wednesday 1 August 8-10pm at Birchwood). A training session would also run September-December only on Tuesday 8-10 at Birchwood to try to get a credible Fourth Team back. A letter has gone out to (senior?) clubs and U17 squad players. Shuttles: last season Ashaway shuttles were used by 2 & 3 teams. This season, like the 1 team, they will use Yonex shuttles – which had proved more cost-effective. Excess Ashaway shuttles would be used for training etc. MF enquired if they could be used for the Wheelchair tournament, but PW suggested the 25 doz. Yehlex he has left over from Bronze tournaments could be used.

ACTION: MF & PW to organise

4. Any Other Business

PW drew attention to the Milton Keynes referee training courses – usually free – advertised on BE website. At the moment Herts has only two registered referees (PW himself and Alison, his wife). DB to provide link on HBA website.

ACTION: DAVE BARTLETT

The Area League Challenge would be held on 23 September 3-6pm at Birchwood. GB reported she had answered a 'phone call from Dave Beard of WGC CVS (01707 274861). It was agreed not to re-instate two inactive adverts, but to leave active the two current HBA volunteer advertisements: Fundraiser and Advert/marketeer. DB reported he had been approached from a potential newsletter promotional organisation. It was agreed he should follow up this approach.

ACTION: DAVE BARTLETT

DB gave an update on Oaklands College: the Badminton Academy proposal was progressing. Pending the return of the Oaklands Director of Sport from holiday, DB and Lee Bent will meet Bryn Clark, Head of Sports Development, University of Herts, on 9 August.

The meeting closed with thanks to Paul for arranging the venue.

