

Badminton in Herts

Newsletter of the Hertfordshire Badminton Association

HBA website: www.hertsbadminton.net

July 2012

Price £1

End of Year League Results and News
Celebrations and Opportunities

Regional Manager, Matt Warren, explains Olympic Legacy Opportunities at HBA AGM

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8 July 2012 Olympic Torch comes to Herts

8 July 2012 Herts Youth Games at HSV

13 September 2012 Badminton House Trip

**23 September: The Area League Challenge
3pm at Birchwood LC, Hatfield**

**29, 30 September 2012 Herts Restricted at
Birchwood Leisure Centre, Hatfield**

**27 October 2012 Herts Wheelchair Badminton
Championships at HSV**

February 2013 Coach Education week

Funding

Of special interest: **new source of capital funding for clubs with 7 year lease** - Inspired Facilities. Go to www.sportengland.org/funding.aspx or contact John O'Callaghan (01707 281009 or

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership is continuing to grow – although slowly. CBNs are proving a good way to increase co-operation and develop badminton in local areas. No Strings sessions are increasing recreational participation, and it's hoped will eventually benefit club membership when counties can access information about players.

BADMINTON England has changed its constitution to comply with Sports Council requirements for independent (not badminton-related) Directors with other experience).

BADMINTON England fees for season 2012-13 (+ County fees) will be:

Senior club member	£11	(+£3.70)
Junior club member	£5.50	(+ £1.85)
Junior Club	£53	(+ £11)

Get in touch! Please!

Please send articles / copy / corrections – including change of address! - for inclusion in the next newsletter to the Editor at: Gill@bartlett1.plus.com
Next newsletter out beginning of season. Copy deadline 5 October 2012..

LEAGUE NEWS

County League

Fixtures meeting Season 2012-13: 29 August

Mens 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1 Ware Mens 1	8	7	0	1	61	11	50	75
2 Asteroids Mens 1	8	7	0	1	57	15	42	71
3 Sunnyside (Middx) 1	8	2	0	6	25	47	-22	29
4 Comets Mens 1	8	3	0	5	21	51	-30	27
5 Wizard Mens 1	8	1	0	7	16	56	-40	18

Mens 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1 Masters Mens 1	8	8	0	0	55	17	38	71
2 Cobra Mens 1	8	4	0	4	40	32	8	48
3 Hawks Mens 1	8	5	0	3	36	36	0	46
4 Bishops Stortford Mens 1	8	2	0	6	31	41	-10	35
5 Comets Mens 2	8	1	0	7	18	54	-36	20

Mens 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1 Ware Mens 2	6	4	0	2	31	23	8	39
2 Hadley BC Mens 1	6	3	0	3	30	24	6	36
3 Epping Mens 1	6	3	0	3	27	27	0	33
4 Harpenden Mens 1	6	2	0	4	20	34	-14	24

Ladies 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1 Ware Ladies 1	8	8	0	0	44	4	40	44
2 Comets Ladies 1	8	5	1	2	31	17	14	31
3 Epping Ladies 1	8	2	1	5	20	28	-8	20

4 Cobra Ladies 1	8	2	3	3	18	30	-12	18
5 Sunnyside (Middx)	8	0	1	7	7	41	-34	7

Ladies 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1 Boomerang F F Ladies 1	8	8	0	0	45	3	42	45
2 Redbridge S C Ladies 1	8	4	1	3	26	22	4	26
3 Harpenden Ladies 1	8	3	0	5	19	29	-10	19
4 Hawks Ladies 1	8	3	0	5	19	29	-10	19
5 Hawthorn Indies	8	1	1	6	11	37	-26	11

Ladies 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1 BSCA ladies	8	8	0	0	41	7	34	41
2 Ware ladies 2	8	6	0	2	33	15	18	33
3 Redbridge SC Ladies 2	8	2	1	5	21	27	-6	21
4 Hertford Ladies 1	8	2	1	5	17	31	-14	17
5 Comets Ladies 2	8	0	2	6	8	40	-32	8

Mixed 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1 Ware Mixed 1	12	12	0	0	95	13	82	119
2 Ware Mixed 2	12	9	0	3	78	30	48	96
3 Cobra Mixed 1	12	8	0	4	52	56	-4	68
4 Hawks Mixed 1	12	7	0	5	52	56	-4	66
5 Comets Mixed 1	12	4	0	8	52	56	-4	60
6 Redbridge SC Mixed 1	12	2	0	10	27	81	-54	31
7 Bishops Stortford 1	12	0	0	12	22	86	-64	22

Mixed 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1 Asteroids mixed	12	11	0	1	92	16	76	114
2 Academy Junior 1	12	11	0	1	77	31	46	99
3 Boomerang FF Mixed 1	12	7	0	5	53	55	-2	67
4 Epping Mixed 1	12	5	0	7	45	63	-18	55
5 Harpenden Mixed 1	12	4	0	8	43	65	-22	51
6 Stan.Abbotts Mixed 1	12	2	0	10	40	68	-28	44
7 Hertford Mixed 1	12	2	0	10	28	80	-52	32

Mixed 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
1 Ware Mixed 3	12	11	0	1	82	26	56	104
2 Sunnyside Mixed	12	8	0	4	68	40	28	84
3 Masters A	12	7	0	5	59	49	10	73
4 BSCA Mixed 1	12	6	0	6	55	53	2	67
5 Wizard Mixed 1	12	5	0	7	51	57	-6	61
6 Bishops Stortford 2	12	3	0	9	35	73	-38	41
7 Comets Mixed 2	12	2	0	10	28	80	-52	32

Hertford Area Badminton League

The league AGM was held on Monday 14th May. There was a presentation by Malcolm Fraser Chairman of the Hertfordshire Badminton Association (HBA) and Lee Bent who is the new Badminton England (BE) Regional Officer. They were present to discuss a new initiative, Community Badminton Networks, which it is intended to launch soon in the

East Herts area, following successful schemes in Welwyn Hatfield, and other areas.

A closed tournament was held on Sunday 13th May at Goffs School, which was very successful. There were 13 Mixed pairs, 10 Ladies and 6 Mens doubles, but just 2 Ladies and Men's singles players.

The 2011-2012 league winners were as follows:-

Medley Premier	– Wizard
Medley Division 1	– Allenburys
Medley Division 2	– Strings B
Mens 4s Premier	– Wizard
Mens 4s Division 1	– All Saints
Mens 4s Division 2	– Lingwood
Mens 4s Division 3	– Birchwood
Ladies 4s Premier	– Epping
Ladies 4s Division 1	– Bishops Stortford
Mixed 6s Premier	– Hertford
Mens 6s Premier	– All Saints

The entry fee of £5 a team was maintained and the date of the 3rd September 2012 was set for the fixtures meeting at 7.30pm. **New clubs wishing to enter the league next season are always welcome.** If you are interested please contact Simon Carter on 01438 238876 or email simon.carter83@ntlworld.com. The deadline for entries is Sunday 29th July.

MEDLEY

Premier	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Pts
Wizard	10	8	2	43	18	23
Lingwood	10	7	3	38	22	21
Strings A	10	7	3	41	21	19
Ware	10	5	5	31	31	17
Stan.Abbotts	10	3	7	26	35	10
Nazeing	10	0	10	4	56	0

Div 1	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
Allenburys	10	9	1	50	10	27
Stan.Abbotts B	10	8	2	42	19	23
All Saints	10	5	5	24	38	13
Codicote	10	4	6	29	32	13
Pheonix Feathers	10	2	8	20	41	7
Albury A	10	2	8	18	43	7

Div 2	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
Strings B	10	9	1	46	14	27
Warwick	10	7	3	35	25	21
Saracens	10	5	5	32	30	17
Strings C	10	5	5	30	32	13
Hunsdon	10	4	6	32	30	12
Albury B	10	0	10	8	52	0

MIXED 6

Mixed 6	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
Hertford A	12	11	1	83	25	11
Lingwood	12	9	3	81	27	9
Allenburys	12	8	4	71	37	8

Hertford B	12	6	6	49	59	6
Datchworth	12	5	7	53	55	5
Saracens	12	3	9	32	73	3
St George's	12	0	12	6	99	0

MENS 6

Mens 6	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
All Saints	8	5	3	42	30	5
Wizard	8	5	3	39	33	5
Stan Abbots	8	5	3	36	36	5
Ward Freman	8	3	5	25	47	3
Phoenix F'thers	8	2	6	38	34	2

MENS 4

Premier	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
Wizard A	8	8	0	44	4	24
Hertford A	8	5	3	27	22	14
Smash B	8	4	4	27	22	13
Stan Abbots A	8	3	5	18	30	9
Codicote	8	0	8	5	43	0
Smash A	Withdrew					

Div 1	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
All Saints	8	6	2	30	18	18
Datchworth	8	4	4	26	22	12
Saracens	8	4	4	26	22	12
Hertford B	8	3	5	23	26	10
Phoenix Feathers	8	3	5	16	33	8

Div 2	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
Lingwood	8	7	1	39	9	21
Allenburys	8	5	3	31	18	16
Strings	8	5	3	23	27	13
Stan Abbots B	8	3	5	22	27	10
Ward Freman	8	0	8	7	41	0

Div 3	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
Birchwood	8	7	1	37	12	20
Stan Abbots C	8	6	2	32	17	17
Hatfield	8	4	4	30	19	13
Warwick	8	3	5	20	29	10
Albury	8	0	8	3	45	0

LADIES 4

Premier	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
Epping	12	11	1	63	9	33
Lingwood	12	10	2	54	20	28
Allenburys	12	9	3	52	20	27
Hertford A	12	4	8	28	50	12
Wizard	12	4	8	26	48	12
Stan Abbots	12	3	9	19	53	9
Potter Street	12	1	11	19	61	2

Div 1	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
Bishops Stortford	12	10	2	53	19	30
Albury	12	9	3	40	32	27
St George's	12	8	4	46	27	23
Hunsdon	12	6	6	42	34	18
Hertford B	12	5	7	30	42	15
Saracens	12	3	9	29	45	11
Nazeing	12	1	11	16	57	2

Letchworth & District Badminton League

Division 1

Team	P	Rbrs	Gms
Highbury	11	55	113
Cam Gears A	12	43	96
Royston	11	40	87
St Johns A	12	36	82
Academy A	10	32	75
Norton Baldock A	12	22	57
Redhoods A	12	12	37

Division 2

Team	P	Rbrs	Gms
Spartans	11	56	114
St Johns B	12	43	97
Codicote	11	38	84
Onyx	12	34	78
Redhoods B	12	27	69
Academy B	10	24	57
Purwell	12	18	47

Division 3

Team	P	Rbrs	Gms
Redhoods C	8	34	75
Norton Baldock B	8	26	58
Welwyn	8	23	52
Strings	8	22	52
Academy C	8	15	36

WANTED NOW! MATCH SECRETARY

County match secretary needed now, before start of season. Contact: Paul Widdicombe – Chairman of Senior Selectors. Tel: 07776457651 or 01920 484605 Email:

widdicombe@waitrose.com

Get in touch! Please!

Please send articles / copy / corrections – including change of address! - for inclusion in the next newsletter to the Editor at: Gill@bartlett1.plus.com

Next newsletter out beginning of season.

Copy deadline 5 October 2012.

Without your input there is no newsletter.

South West Herts Independent Badminton League

Following the SWHIBL AGM, we have been informed that the new Chairman is Martin Winstone, who currently runs the St. Albans League.

League Results: Thank you to those eagle eyed readers who let me know of errors in the **SWHIBL** results (downloaded from the website) published in the February newsletter. Thanks to Liz Bateman who sent in the following results:

LADIES 4

DIVISION 1	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	For	Against
Vauxhall 1	12	11	0	1	22	60	12
Lockers Park	12	9	1	2	19	52	20
Harpenden	12	7	2	3	16	43	23
Gadebridge	12	4	2	6	10	34	38
Vauxhall 2	12	4	2	6	10	29	43
Warners End	12	2	0	10	4	18	54
All Saints	12	0	3	9	3	10	56

DIVISION 2	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	For	Against
Hawks	12	8	2	2	18	47	25
Bushey Barons	12	6	3	3	15	39	24
Lockers Park 2	12	6	2	4	14	38	28
Cheverells	12	5	1	6	11	34	38
Wendover	12	4	4	4	12	37	29
Harp'den Racque.	12	4	2	6	10	22	44
Bushey Eagles	12	1	2	9	4	20	49

MENS 4

DIVISION 1	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	For	Against
Lockers Park	14	12	1	1	25	72	8
Wendover	14	11	3	0	25	64	17
Comets	14	7	3	4	17	48	32
Warners End	14	6	2	6	14	43	36
Little Bushey	14	6	2	6	14	42	36
All Saints	14	4	1	9	9	20	58
Harp'den Racquet.	14	3	2	9	8	34	47
Bushey Eagles	14	0	0	14	0	10	68

MENS 6

DIVISION 1	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against
Gadebridge	12	11	1	84	24
Harp'den Racquet	12	8	4	68	40
Lockers Park	12	6	6	60	48
Comets	12	6	6	51	48
Hawks	12	6	6	54	53
Little Bushey	12	5	7	43	64
Cheverells	12	0	12	10	98

DIVISION 2	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against
Bushey Barons	10	10	0	82	8
Warners End	10	7	3	56	34
Harp'den Racquet	10	4	6	34	56
Kings Langley	10	3	7	39	51

Bushey Eagles	10	3	7	31	59
Kings	10	3	7	28	62

MEDLEY

DIVISION 1	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	For	Against
Harpenden	6	5	0	1	10	29	25
Warners End	6	4	0	2	8	36	18
Wendover	6	2	0	4	4	22	32
Cheverells	6	1	0	5	2	21	33

DIVISION 2	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	For	Against
Kings Langley	8	7	0	1	14	53	19
Gadebridge	8	6	0	2	12	38	34
Bushey Eagles	8	5	0	3	10	42	30
Kings	8	2	0	6	4	28	44
Cheverells 2	8	0	0	8	0	19	53

MIXED DIVISION 1	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
Gadebridge	14	13	0	1	103	23
Harpenden	14	12	0	2	88	38
Bushey Barons	14	11	0	3	90	36
Comets	14	7	0	7	65	61
Lockers Park	14	7	0	7	64	62
Harp'den Racquet.	14	3	0	11	36	90
Bushey Eagles	14	3	0	11	33	93
Kings Langley	14	0	0	14	25	101

Stevenage Badminton League

[Division 1 Summary](#)

Team	Played	Home	Away	Total
Academy A	10	17	17	34
Cam Gears A	10	21	18	39
Masters	10	24	23	47
Norton & Baldock	10	10	4	14
Purwell	10	17	9	26
St Johns A	10	9	11	20

[Division 2 Summary](#)

Team	Played	Home	Away	Total
Vauxhall A	10	24	22	46
Strings A	10	20	16	36
St Johns B	10	14	18	32
Saracens	10	8	10	18
Icarus	10	13	6	19
Cam Gears B	10	17	12	29

[Division 3 Summary](#)

Team	Played	Home	Away	Total
Academy B	8	20	15	35
Codicote	8	13	6	19
Datchworth	8	18	8	26

[Division 3 Summary](#)

Team	Played	Home	Away	Total
Lingwood	8	16	10	26
Redhoods	8	10	4	14

[Division 4 Summary](#)

Team	Played	Home	Away	Total
Vauxhall B	10	24	19	43
Academy D	10	19	20	39
Great Ashby	10	17	19	36
Whitwell	10	15	13	28
Strings B	10	9	9	18
Knebworth	10	7	9	16

COUNTY TEAMS

Senior Teams Report 2011/12 Season

It has been a particularly long season for some of my fellow selectors who had real difficulty in fielding teams. **Reluctantly we will be only fielding three teams in the ICC next season.** Training sessions will start Wednesday 1 August at Birchwood LC.

However let me give you a taste of what took place during this season. The senior county badminton season 2011-2012 drew to a conclusion on the 1st April 2012 with the first team at Milton Keynes playing Warwickshire and the 3rd team at home to Jersey. It has been a long season with pre season training having started the first week of August 2011.

Our 4th team under the stewardship of Colin Walker again offered debuts to several new faces and promising under 17 players. Helen Steer was named player of the season with outstanding results at ladies doubles and mixed. These solid performances really did give the team a good base giving them 2nd place at the end to a very strong Bucks 3rd team.



4th team (29/01/2012): Colin Walker, Helen Steer, Laura Bygrave, Hannah Fletcher, Jo Williams, Eddie Lintott, Matthew Widdicombe, Paul Kempster & Rob Pace

The 3rd team seemed all season long to be involved in a 4 way relegation battle with Kent 2nd's dominating the division and all the other teams getting mixed results. Liz Austin struggled to find a consistent team

but in the end all things in the garden came out rosy. New comer Kat Young was named 3rd team player of the year and with great support from veteran Caroline Hale the team came out in runners up spot with two final weekend wins over Jersey.

The 2nd team finished in mid table behind the 2nd teams of Essex & Middlesex neither of which can take part in the division one play off's as they saw both their first teams relegated from Premier A at the final weekend. Team manager Andy Walden led the team by great example winning all five of his singles. However his fine results could not secure him 2nd team player of the season as former International Liza Smith had outstanding results at ladies and mixed doubles and took that honour.

The 1st team played three weekends at Guildford, York & Milton Keynes. Regrettably they could not field a regular team all season. However those that did play showed true fighting spirit and a desire to secure permanent places next season. Helena Lewczynska was player of the season leading the county at first ladies singles and combining well with Gail Emms, Emily Westwood, Liza Smith and Frankie Edelman at ladies doubles. The end result was third place behind Yorkshire and winners Surrey. Great result.

During the course of the season an under 17 Conor Bambrick moved gradually up the teams from being a nominated third team player to playing four first team matches and having winning results in all three



teams he played in. For this excellent achievement Conor was duly named Herts Player of the Season.

Several young players made senior county debuts: Mark Sadler, Cayleigh Bambrick, Phillipa English, Matthew Widdicombe & Lyall Daniels.

We welcomed Kat Young, Marion Louisin and Rob Pace who all contributed to a successful season.

Regrettably we said farewell to Jana Buhl returning to Germany and Hannah Fletcher, a Herts uni student who in her four year stay has offered much to the county not just as a player but a very confident coach. We wish them both well as they move away from Herts.

The season had many highlights but top of the list must go to Liza Smith (nee Parker) who broke through the 100 county appearances barrier. An excellent record for a player who was a full time international with many overseas commitments during a season.



Liza was presented with her award at Milton Keynes by the Badminton England Chief Executive Adrian Christy on the 1st April 2012.

I cannot end without passing comment about the 15 year old male debutant who has won all eight of his senior singles matches this season for the 3rd & 4th teams. No names mentioned but you should be able to make an educated guess.

Paul Widdicombe - Chairman of Senior Selectors

WANTED NOW! MATCH SECRETARY

County match secretary needed now, before start of season. Contact: Paul Widdicombe – Chairman of Senior Selectors. **Tel: 07776457651 or 01920 484605** Email: widdicombe@waitrose.com

Herts Vets 40+

The over 40's team proved to be a real challenge for this season. Unfortunately we could not field a team to play in the Yehlex Championship and had to withdraw the team. In the Inter County League we came 4th out of 5 teams. Again, the team have had difficulties fielding a team in a lot of matches – many thanks for those players who helped out on a very short notice (sometimes less than 12 hours!).

The Squad were:

Men: Eddie Lindott, Hannes Pieterse, Carl Graham, Craig Liversage, Adam King, Andy Penver, Tim Moore, Mark Sloan, Jeff Armstrong.

Ladies: Caroline Hale, Liz Austin, Ronel Pieterse, Briony Lacey, Elaine Meagher, Chris Marsden, Terry Broughton, Jane Anderson.

Many thanks for the players who turned out week after week, and also those who turned out on very short notice.
Ronel Pieterse

Herts Vets 45+

Apologies for the late publication of the following news regarding the Herts Vets Over 45's team which won the National Masters Inter county Premier League Championships in January 2012.

The Herts over 45s masters (veterans) put together a fine team display to win the 2012 Yehlex Inter County Premier Championships over the weekend of the 7th & 8th January as the top teams from around the country gathered at Herts Sports Village.

After securing wins against Somerset, Derbyshire, Yorkshire and Lancashire, Herts played Essex in a very close match where Herts emerged as worthy winners. It only remained for the team (did I say only ?) to beat Surrey in the last match of the weekend to secure the title.

Elaine Meagher and Chris Marsden had a comfortable win in the Ladies doubles, however, during the mens doubles with Don Burden, Martin Hadden picked up an injury and was unable to continue. The game was conceded which lead to a nail biting finish with Herts needing to win both mixed doubles to become Champions.

Jon Austin and Kim Maughan won the top mixed match and after a tense couple of ends, Linda Riley and Kevin Maughan finally came through in the second mixed to secure the championship.

Full results were as follows, with Herts beating; Somerset 3-1; Derbyshire 3-1; Yorkshire 4-0; Lancashire 3-1; Surrey 3-1; and Essex in a winning draw 2-2 (Herts won on points).

Elaine Meagher

Herts Vets 50+

It was a nail-biting finish to the season, with Essex needing to win 9-3 in their last game of the season against Suffolk, who if they won would have won the league. Unfortunately Essex did win 9-3, which meant games equal to Herts. But games wins over the counties was 14-10m so Essex won the league again. Still, there's always next year!

	Points	Played	Won	Drqw	Lost
Essex	18	8	6	0	2
Herts	18	8	6	0	2
Suffolk	16	8	5	1	2
Bucks	4	7	1	1	5
Cambs	3	7	1	0	6

Thanks for all their help and assistance to the team:

Steve Willis, Kevin Maughan, Tim Moore, Bob Cheshire, Tim Jalland, Nick Goode, Dave Beck and Gary Smith; Sandra Ingham, Alison Shanks, Kiyoko Pullen, Anita Harris, Jan Kelly, and Chris Marsden.

Jeff Armstrong

Dates for your Diary

8 July 2012 Olympic Torch comes to Herts
8 July 2012 Herts Youth Games at HSV
29 & 30 September 2012: Herts Restricted Championship. Saturday from 1pm – Singles; Sunday – Mixed Doubles 1pm; Levels 4pm appr.

DEVELOPMENT

Birchwood Leisure Centre's new floor!

A select party were invited to attend the opening ceremony to mark the opening of the new sprung Junkers floor installed in the four-court badminton hall at Birchwood Leisure Centre in Hatfield. These included Councillor Mick

Clark (Deputy Mayor of Hatfield); his wife Councillor Linda Clark, who is Deputy Leader of Hatfield Town Council; Councillors Stan Laver-Walton and Ron Wheeler; Mike Speddy, the Town Council's Leisure Services Manager, and staff member Mohamed Siros; Gerry Litchfield and his son of contractor Litchfield Flooring Innovations, who laid the floor. Representing badminton were Paul Widdicombe Chairman of Selectors and Deputy Town Clerk with Hatfield Town Council, who own and manage the facility; Lee Bent, our Regional Development Officer; and Dave Bartlett, who also took lots of photos of the ceremony and players.



Paul Widdicombe reminded those present of the building's beginnings, when the Welwyn Hatfield District Council, who initially opposed the building of a leisure centre at Birchwood, contributed £450,000 towards the build, which eventually cost £1.5million and was opened on 5 May 1991 by Trevor Brooking. More recently there had been a drop in usage because of the poor condition of the hall. But investment over several years to improve the hall to meet BADMINTON England standards, including redecorating in an approved colour, moving the lights to between the courts, putting in new heating, is now completed with the installation of the new floor.

A trio of young Hertfordshire team players, Howard Stobo, Matthew Widdicombe and David Maughan, then gave an inspiring demonstration of badminton action before Mick Clark, the Deputy Mayor, cut the tape and declared the courts open. The players continued to play on court, declaring that the new floor was "the best in the County".

To hire the new courts will cost £8 per hour, per court off peak (£27 per hour for the whole hall). To promote the splendid "new" facility, there will be a badminton event on 1st July including a Serving Challenge, Taster sessions, and another demonstration of quality play. There will be tournaments to begin the season on 16 and 23 September.

Before that, however, free court vouchers will be available to coaches and readers of HBA Newsletter.

(Cut out the voucher on the back page to get your free session!)

Sunday 23 September: The Area League Challenge at 3pm at Birchwood LC.

Entries will come from the three area leagues plus a county under 17 team. No team will play anyone who has represented the senior county in the ICC in the last 5 years.

COACHING

Coach Week 2013

Coach week in February 2012 was a great success, with a number of badminton-specific courses available. The following courses have now been confirmed and booked for next year's coach education week:

UKCC Level 1 – North Herts College

Thursday/Friday 21 and 22 Feb, Assessment Day Sunday 17 March

UCKK Level 2 – North Herts College

Saturday/Sunday 16 and 17 Feb, Sunday 7th April, Assessment Day Sunday 21 April.

Saturday 23 February: **101 Speed & Agility Drills** – tutored by Andy Alford – Birchwood Leisure Centre

Sunday 24 February: **CPD course** by Steve Bish & Paul Parham – Birchwood Leisure Centre

We are also running an NLP course: Effective communication in Coaching as a pilot for BADMINTON England on 27 October 2012 at HSV.

New Herts Coaching Association

The first meeting of the Herts Coaching Association committee (elected at the earlier first AGM) took place at HSV on 27 June. The committee represents a wide selection of experience and sports, including football, tennis, swimming, and badminton. Five priority areas were identified, including coach development and networking, disability sport, and raising the profile of women in coaching. Next meeting September. Any burning issues you have - let me know. Gill Bartlett

JUNIOR NEWS

HSBA Annual General Meeting

The HSBA AGM planned for 20 June has been postponed pending a review of the HSBA constitution. Following the open meeting held on 20 June, a Working Party convened by Malcolm Fraser, the Chairman of Herts Badminton Association, has been set up to investigate how HSBA coaching can be organised to best meet the needs of all players.

Badminton Academy at Oaklands College

Those who are thinking of taking A levels, BTec, degree courses, some vocational courses, etc, may be eligible to continue their badminton performance development through a **new Badminton Academy** being established at Oaklands College based in St Albans with Herts Schools Badminton Association supported by Herts Badminton Association and BADMINTON England. The wide range of courses provided by Oaklands College are shown on their website: www.oaklands.ac.uk

Oaklands College has a strong track record of developing athletes in many other sports and are now providing a fantastic opportunity to give badminton

players aged 16 years and over the chance to maximise their talent alongside studying too.

If you are interested in studying at Oaklands and having the option to have badminton and performance training and are of county squad standard or similar then please complete the application form for your chosen course via the Oaklands website and indicate 'Badminton Academy' in the 'Course Name' box. If you are not already in Herts County Squads you are likely to need a badminton entrance assessment which will be organised by Herts Schools Badminton Association.

Please note this is the first year of the Badminton Academy, and the badminton opportunity depends on a minimum of 8 HSBA or HBA members signing up.

If you have any queries on the academic study programme please complete the query form on Oaklands website. If you have a query regarding badminton at the academy or decide to join Oaklands please contact Development Co-ordinator, Dave Bartlett, email: Dave@Bartlett1.plus.com

TOURNAMENTS

Herts Restricted Tournament

This year the Herts Restricted Tournament will be held on 29 and 30 September at Birchwood Leisure Centre, Longmead, Hatfield, AL10 0AN.

Saturday 29th September 2012

Singles in Groups from 1pm

Sunday 30th September 2012

All Doubles Events in Groups from 1pm

Tournament Secretary: Mr. Paul Widdicombe,
Tel No: 01920 484605 (h), 0777 645 7651 (mob)
31 Furlong Way, Great Amwell, Ware, Herts. SG12 9TE

Herts Wheelchair Badminton Championships 2012-13

Following the success of the first Herts Wheelchair Badminton Championships on 28 January in Watford (See report in February's newsletter), a second tournament is arranged for Saturday 27 October 2012 at Herts Sports Village, Hatfield. The structure will be similar to that of the first event, but the new 4 Nations classification of WH 1 and WH 2 will be used, and there will be a total of 8 courts, with plenty of room for spectators. Keep the date clear! More information nearer the time.

STOP PRESS: Gobi Ranganathan was the Team England Para-Badminton captain at the European Championships in Dortmund, leading the team to their most successful result of 15 medals. (We hope to have a report on the website soon.)

Herts Corporate Games 2012 Report

Sponsored by Herts Ready for Winners and Serco, this year's Corporate Games was held at Wodson Park, Ware. 22 teams from Herts organisations met for a full programme of fun and activity, including a doubles badminton tournament. Players ranged from

absolute beginners to obviously experienced competitive players; the young and fit to the less young and less fit. However, all the players appeared to enjoy themselves, and a number thanked the tournament organisers, which was greatly appreciated. Using Bob Green programme, organisers on the day were Dave and Gill Bartlett and Malcolm Fraser.

GRASSROOTS

Dedication against all odds!

It was certainly an odd start to a recent home match. On arriving at the venue it was discovered that the sports hall was in darkness and all the lights were out. But never mind, we were told that someone was working on the case and it would be fixed in 20 minutes. Apparently there was a generator problem. Undeterred, some players went to their cars and located their trusty torches, luckily with batteries still working. They were able to shed some light on the subject!

However, just when it was felt that things would start to improve and it wouldn't be too long to wait, it was discovered that the Club's locker had vanished! Yes, vanished from the balcony area where it had always been! We could not believe it. The locker contained all the Club's shuttles, the nets, squash, etc. So, some members went off in search of the missing locker! (It was beginning to feel like a 'Famous Five' mystery - wandering around the dark location with our hand-held torches shining beams of light in corners of rooms, hoping that the large metal locker would suddenly appear.) It was to no avail. We had to seek help. We managed to locate some helpful staff from the main school, but although the power problem was explained, the mystery of the locker deepened. No one knew where it was! But, we are not ones to give up - we are badminton players - with perseverance and stamina. In the meantime, the generator was working again and the power had come back on in the hall - which was great news.

We continued to search for our locker and finally located it - it had been moved down a set of stairs, out of the sports hall and left in an alcove, at the back of a yard tucked away, in all weather. But all was not lost. It was not damaged and our keys still fitted the doors and all our shuttles were inside with the equipment. Eureka! Our match could now take place.

We went back to the hall and set up. Some school staff kindly returned the locker to its rightful place. And then, just before we started playing it was discovered that the mens and ladies toilets were 'out of order'. No.... what next! Fortunately, there was another toilet at the other end of the hall. However, this one did not flush! What was going on? Discussion took place about whether, after all this, the match should be called off. However, we weren't going to give up that easily. We filled up buckets of water so that the toilet would work. And, after all that, the games could commence... and we could

enjoy our badminton. *(Now, all we've got to do is locate our club pegboard and notice board that were on top of the locker one thing at a time...)*
Linda Haynes Tel. 01582-737461

Olympic Celebrations

Welwyn Hatfield's "Ten Days of Sport" included two events on the same weekend. On Saturday **Gosling Sports Park** held an Open Day with demonstrations and tasters in the Lifestyle building, showcasing their range of facilities. An impressive number of local councillors attended the event, including trying their hand at the Badminton Serve Challenge. (See the back page.)

On Sunday **Birchwood Leisure Centre** also hosted a Badminton Open Day. Attendance by the public was disappointing, apart from a couple of adult players, several children and their parents. A couple of local junior and senior clubs were represented in force, however, and the courts were fully used, with everyone joining in and enjoying themselves.

Please send reports of Olympic celebrations in Your area, or of the Olympics themselves if you were lucky enough to get tickets! To gill@bartlett1.plus.com for inclusion in the next Newsletter.

Visit to Badminton House 13 September

If you ever wondered how and when badminton started, now is the time to find out! The National Badminton Museum is arranging a visit to Badminton House in South Gloucestershire on Thursday 13 September this year. As the house is not normally open to the public, this is a great opportunity to see the North Hall, where our game was first played for amusement on rainy days.

With the option of meeting for lunch locally, the visit takes place in the afternoon and ends with tea and cakes. Cost will be £22 for Friends of the National Badminton Museum, or £27 (which also includes one year's Friends membership). Contact Geoff Hinder (tel 01793 531652 / geoff.hinder1@btinternet.com) for more information about the visit, or becoming a Friend of the National Badminton Museum.

HBA AGM

There was a disappointingly low attendance at the AGM of Herts Badminton Association, which took place on 12 June at Birchwood Leisure Centre, Hatfield. Some clubs didn't even bother to turn up to collect the trophies won during the season. After wine and nibbles, the meeting heard HBA and League officers' reports of a generally successful season; Matt Warren, standing in front of children's Olympic artwork, explained the opportunities provided by the Olympic Legacy (see front page); the Accounts were approved and Committee re-elected, although we are in urgent need still of a County Match Secretary.

HBA COMMITTEE

Chairman;& Membership Registration	Malcolm Fraser * 01727 752739 Mob: 07973 820948 frasermalcolm1@virginmedia.com
County Sec	Hilary Anderson 01992 584494 Hilary@Anderson35.plus.com
Treasurer	Colin Walker 01992 422073; mob.07917 055209; colin.walker4@ntlworld.com
Chairman of Selectors	Paul Widdicombe 01920 484605 widdicombe@waitrose.com
County Match Sec.	WANTED URGENTLY
Tournament Sec.	Ed Lintott 01727 864240 eddie.lintott@veoliawater.co.uk
LEAGUE co-ordinator	Paul Kempster 01438 313767 mob: 07767 212428 pkempster@gmail.com
Development Co-ordinator	David Bartlett * 01438 715374 Dave-HBA@bartlett1.plus.com
Coaching Coordinator	Brian Jackson 01920 438561 Fullmasher@freeuk.com
Newsletter Editor	Gill Bartlett * 01438 715374 gill@bartlett1.plus.com
Publicity Officer	Simon Valins 01923 839159 info@fizzcomms.co.uk
HSBA Rep & Young Persons Coordinator	Angela Blowers * 01707 656572 blowersa@tinyworld.co.uk
Hertford Area Rep	Colin Jackson colinjackson@uwclub.net
SWHIBL Rep	Martin Winstone 01923 235338 07801 712887 m.winstone0007@btinternet.com
North Herts Rep	Bob Green * 01462 640647 bob@abcegg.co.uk
Veterans Contacts	40+ Ronel Piertese 45+ Christine Marsdon 01442 394531 50+ Jeff Armstrong 01438 716557
*	Also members of the Development Committee

Development Committee

The Badminton Herts Development Committee currently consists of those marked * together with the following representatives of partner organisations :

Badminton D O	Lee Bent 07769 143989 LeeBent@badmintonengland.co.uk
Regional Manager, Eastern Region	Matthew Warren .01908 268400 MatthewWarren@badmintonengland.co.uk
Herts Sports Partnership	Peter Simmons, HSP Liaison Officer for NGBs A-L
Herts SDO Rep	Ben Vranjkovic, Stevenage SDO.

HBA Discounting Vendors

Please show this Newsletter (or show your membership card when you receive it) to prove you are an HBA member, and check that the vendor you approach is still providing discounts. Please let us know if you find one that is no longer providing discounts, OR if you know of vendors who give good service (not just sports shop or restaurant, but anything you think other HBA members could benefit from). In general, discounts are provided on items not already discounted or in special schemes.

New suppliers:

Good Sports for all your Sporting Needs

4a Leyton Road, Harpenden AL5 2TL

01582 767171 mob. 07872 630966

graeme@goodsportsonline.co.uk 10% off racquets, stringing, clothing and accessories.

Register for our quarterly newsletter by email for additional discounts and promotions. Mention Badminton in Herts for badminton-specific deals.

Kickoff Sport and Ski (01462 452366)

11 Hermitage Road, Hitchin, Herts. SG5 1BS.

10% Discounts available on racquets, shoes, clothing and accessories (but excluding restringing).

Berkhamsted:

Berkhamsted Sports, 250 High Street, Tel: 01442 862626. Opening hours 8.30-5.30 Monday to Saturday. Full range of racquets, clothing and Accessories. 10%

Pizza et Pizza (01442 876366) 28-30 Lower King Road Easy parking, private room for hire 20% on food

Bishops Stortford:

Outdoor Wear 10-14 Potter Street (01279 653694)

Clothing for all outdoor activities: riding, camping, ski-ing, work & leisure 10%

Broxbourne:

Cycledealia (01992 445640) 27 High Road Total cycling solutions Accessories 10%, Bikes 7.5%.

Hatfield:

Colin King: Mid-Herts Injury And Back Care Clinic 95 Homestead Road (01707 260399) - £5 off usual fee

Quick Recovery Sports Therapy, Hatfield Leisure Centre, Travellers Lane (07845 343357 or 07919 186358). Injury assessments & prevention; treatment, sports massage . 10%

Hemel Hempstead:

Brian Kipping (01442 870180) Carpentry & Interior decoration 15%

Hemel Copy Print (01442 212636) 102 London Road, Apsley All your design and printing needs, including T-shirt printing 10%

Harpenden:

Good Sports 4a Leyton Road, Harpenden AL5 2TL

01582 767171 mob. 07872 630966

graeme@goodsportsonline.co.uk 10% off racquets, stringing, clothing and accessories. Register for our quarterly newsletter by email for additional discounts and promotions. Mention Badminton in Herts for badminton-specific deals.

Hitchin:

Kick-off Sport & Ski (01462 452366) racquets, shoes, clothing, and accessories (no discount on restringing) 10%

Buryhill Physiotherapy (01462 438853) Suite 1, Bancroft Manipulative therapy/ Sports Injury Clinic. 8am-8pm. 10%

Cycledealia (01462 631555) 15 Sun Street, Hitchin Total cycling solutions Accessories 10%, Bikes 7.5%.

Ickleford:

Just Rackets Hi-tech, Prince, Yonex & Wilson; badminton and squash racquets and shoes. e-mail gary.spindler@virgin.net.; www.justrackets.com 15%

Letchworth:

Sangeeta Dhall, State Registered Chiropodist, Walkwell clinic, 39 Leys Avenue, Letchworth SG6 3EE (tel & fax: 01462 682526) 10%

Northwood:

AMT Northwood Store tel/fax: 01923-827637 24 Joel Street, Northwood Hills, HA6 1PF racquets, shoes, clothing etc Also mail order <http://www.badmintonnuts.co.uk>. 10%

St Albans:

Steve Willis (01727 760376 / 7900 247439) Ashaway, Prince & Karakal www.thebadmintoncoach.co.uk email: steve@thebadmintoncoach.co.uk 5%

Southgate:

AMT Southgate Store 43 Chase Side, N14 5BP. amtsports1@hotmail.com tel: 0208 882 5741 racquets, shoes, clothing and accessories <http://www.badmintonnuts.co.uk>. 10%

Stevenage:

Tomoko Morrall (01438 749834) 44 Grenville Way, Stevenage, SG2 8XZ. ITEC qualified Masseuse & Aromatherapist. 10% discount on all treatments.

Sangeeta Dhall, (01438 218 222) State Registered Chiropodist, Health First Group, King George Surgery, 135 High Street, Stevenage 10%

Ware:

Neelakash Tandoori Restaurant, 1-3 Amwell End, Ware (01920 487038/487807) Balti and Tandoori dishes & Neelakash's own specialities. Take-away also available. 10% on member's meal.

OSMEC uvpc windows, doors & conservatories The company also offer a complete design service. Doug Clark on 01920 462279 15%

Welwyn Garden City:

Goode Sports 25 Brownfields (01707 321397 email: sales@ashaway.co.uk; www.ashaway.co.uk Ashaway racquets, clothing & restringing 10% Shuttles via HBA scheme.

HitNRun Sports Shop, The Tennis Centre, Gosling Sports Park, 01707 394097; Racquets, clothing, and restringing lee@hitandrun.fsnet.co.uk 10%

Internet:

Tennisnuts: www.tennisnuts.com/shop/clubs.html 5% discount. Username: hertfordshire Password: discount

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DISCOUNTS FOR HBA MEMBERS

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www.hatfield-herts.gov.uk Valid 1st June till 31st August 2012

Free courts voucher for Birchwood Leisure Centre for HBA members – see article, page 7.



Welwyn Hatfield Tony Kingsbury successfully takes the service challenge, Gosling Sports Park Open Day



Welwyn Hatfield Community Badminton Network Open Day, 1st July, Birchwood Leisure Centre, sponsored by Community Games



Juniors enjoying badminton for the first time at Gosling Sports Park Open Day