



HBA Development Co-ordinator's Report to HBA AGM 2nd June 2014

Head Office staff:

- The Regional Delivery Manager, Michael Nyarko, started on September 9th.
- Robert Flack, the Workforce Officer: his priority currently is the Smash Up programme and to support counties and clubs with workforce needs
- Rhiannon Smith started September 23rd (from England Netball, where she was a development officer for the London area). She is based at HSP.
- James Craig's role has been refined to be Participation Manager covering the East region.

Badminton Herts Development Committee

BHDC comprises Bob Green, North Herts Community Badminton Network (CBN), Doug Clark, East Herts CBN, Ken Winchester, Herts School Badminton Association Dave Bartlett Welwyn Hatfield CBN and BHDC Chairman and Acting Sec., Gill Bartlett, Sec., Brian Jackson, HBA Coaching Co-ordinator, Peter Simmons, Herts Sports Partnership: Malcolm Fraser resigned as chairman of Herts West CBN. There have been 3 meetings, 17th July, 25th November and 20th January. The meetings generally collate information, best practice and try to address concerns of each of the 4 CBNs and those across the whole of the county: this is the format for the report below.

East Herts CBN

The CBN has met and decided to progress badminton within the area without BE HO CBN support funding. [MOVE WEEK](#) initiative funded via Active East Herts, had a Badminton Tournament and coaching session was held at Wodson Park LC in October. Organised by Cerii Why, Bishops Stortford and helped by Doug Clark and Dick Large, the event, was a great success. Doug Clark reports that many clubs are suffering from lack of members but leagues are holding up. Several developments with schools are progressing.

Herts West CBN

Meetings have been held in November and January the next is 7pm 16th June. Members comprise: Caroline Roache (Watford SDO), Claire McCawley (Dacorum School Sports Manager), Kirsty Armstrong (Oaklands College Sports Maker), Gill Bartlett, Chairman (Marshals JBC & HBA Committee Member), Gemma Roake (Dacorum SDO), Ryan Watson (Three Rivers SDO), Mark Caldwell (St Albans SDO), Dave Bartlett Acting Treasurer (Marshals JBC & Herts Development Committee Chairman), Dave Hill (Harpenden Badminton Club), Philip Adams, coach, Liz Bateman, Gadebridge and Peter Simmons (Herts CSP).

The review of Pathway Map: over recent years the number of league-playing clubs has diminished. However, Harpenden Badminton Club have currently closed their membership because they do not have enough court space to take anymore players: they have links to Abbey JBC. Herts Deaf Badminton Association is interested in funding and league play.

Unfortunately, Marshals JBC has closed owing to the school needing the hall too frequently. Considerable effort by many people has been made to find an alternative venue.

Watford SDO, Caroline Roche, is attempting to establish No Strings sessions and a club.

The Development plan is in the final stages of writing.

Oaklands College Badminton academy: following meetings between DB and Graham Beasley, Oaklands' Head of Academies, badminton was included in the new Elite Athletes Academy to receive 2 hours badminton and 2 hours fitness sessions each week and free physio. David Brown supplied the coaching and HSBA squad members Duncan Williams, Nathan Scofield and Luke ? were students. However, owing to the low number of badminton students it was difficult for Oaklands management to secure this routinely. The position for academic year 2014-15 is unclear.

North Herts CBN

Bob reported in September that the Constitution had been rewritten. However, bank account ownership and access has been a problem but Rob Tucker has been tackling it.

Letchworth & District Badminton League have had an uneventful season, there were no conceded matches and they were all completed on time.

The Fletcher Cup had some really close matches between teams of very different strengths, one was actually a tie. The eventual winner was Highbury, who beat Strings by just 16 points (250-234).

Highbury also won division 1, with Norton & Baldock runners up. The division 2 winners were St Johns B and Welwyn were second.

Baldock Junior Badminton club continues to thrive, with the usual loss of older members as they go to university or join local adult clubs and a steady influx of new younger members to keep numbers stable. The club was externally audited for its Premier Club status this season and got some great complements. Shuttles Badminton Club has also continued to provide another opportunity for local juniors to get quality coaching, which is good news for the relatively 'new kid on the block'.

The Community Badminton Network (CBN) has continued to organise additional badminton activities in the area and are about to start another series of school sessions either side of the summer break. However, they have struggled to progress their status beyond the basic level due to those involved being unable to give enough time to move it to the higher level.

Welwyn Hatfield CBN

Committee meetings were held in November and January, the next is 7pm 23rd June at Gosling Sports Park. The committee comprises Comets JBC and Comets seniors, Hatfield BC, Swifts JBC, Lingwood BC (until their demise in January), Schools Games Partnership, (Stanborough), facilities (GSP and Birchwood). The development plan 2012-13 including Pathway had been approved in September and £1250 (half BE's contribution to the plan's costs) received. Following a review of the 'pathways map' actions from the Plan included:

- Recruitment of two Higher Education Badminton Officers (students, Alex Varran and Luke Trevillion) to increase badminton participation in the Uni and to help with WH community badminton: the Uni community sessions have been successful.
- 4 Bisi sessions to 240 children for Stanborough school's primary schools at GSP were delivered by WH CBN coaches
- 5 tasters sessions to shoppers at the Galleria, Hatfield, and one at the Howard centre, WGC (with the help of WH club members, coaches and HEBOs)
- 6 Smash Up sessions at each of SFO and Stanborough and Onslow St Audrey school that were funded via Sportivate and delivered by Rhian Blowers
- Tournament training session for 18 WH School Games Partnerships leaders plus some St Albans leaders were provided by Rhian
- WH Center Parcs Inter-schools tournament in November by Rhian.
- No Strings session are being held at Birchwood LC, Gosling SP, HSV and soon Hatfield LC.
- No Strings Essentials are being held at Gosling and Hatfield with plans for HSV (looking for a coach) and Hatfield LC.
- Knebworth BC have received BE and HSP funding as an inclusive club.
- 4 primary schools are receiving regular coaching: 2 from John Stobo, one from Nick Goode and another from Anthony Searle. John with Stanborough PE teacher, Cherie Wiper, took 8 to All England on Thursday 6th March and they thoroughly enjoyed it.
- £43,000 was obtained from BE Head Office to refurbish Gosling Sports Floor: Jo Goode, MBE, Olympic medallist and Commonwealth Games gold medallist cut the tape in the opening ceremony with Councillor Fiona Thomson, WH BC Lead on Public Health in March at the end of the crowded No strings session.
- Welwyn Hatfield Community Sport Network has obtained £9,920 to support and develop sport in the 6 communities. The first was held at Woolmer Green Village Day on Sunday 1st June when coaches of WH CBN provided badminton taster sessions. Badminton will feature at all communities' events that have courts.
- The Head Office 'Summer of Badminton' opportunities are being actively progressed.
- There is a CSN SE bid for a 'Young Volunteering Academy' to help those 16-25 in f.t.e. who wish to progress their volunteering and professional development: news expected in 2 weeks.

County-wide

There are 13 junior clubs and 51 senior clubs listed on BE HO's Vision database.

Coaching

There are currently 61 coaches, 51 'Not Public' listed on Vision. This compares with some 98 coaches in 1998

There were approximately 14 Herts attendees of the Smash Up training in HSP's Coach Ed week in February.

The Level 1 in February was postponed to 21st, 28th June & 12th July but indications are that the necessary numbers for the course may not be found.

The Level 2 went ahead with one new Level 2 in Herts.

Herts Sports Partnership and Local Authorities submitted a £240k bid to Sport England to make Welwyn Hatfield and Hertsmere a county Disability Sports Hub: announcement soon.

The Government announced extension of £9k primary schools PE funding until 2020.

Only 8 districts are in Herts Youth Games, 6th July, this year (no WH or 3 Rivers).

Looking Forward

With the varied Head Office programmes 2014-15 promises to be another year of significant opportunity - for badminton in schools, clubs, sports centres, colleges and university. However we need more coaches.

Many thanks go to all the support we receive from the dedicated members and professional staff.