

## HERTFORDSHIRE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a committee meeting held on Monday 27 March 2017 at Birchwood Leisure Centre, starting at 7.40pm and attended by:

<b>Paul Kempster</b>	<b>PK</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>Bob Green</b>	<b>BG</b>	
<b>Brian Jackson</b>	<b>BJ</b>	
<b>Eddie Lintott</b>	<b>EL</b>	
<b>Steve Willis</b>	<b>SW</b>	
<b>Doug Clark</b>	<b>DC</b>	
<b>Ben Vranjkovic</b>	<b>BV</b>	

PK opened the meeting by extending a warm welcome to Doug Clark and Ben Vranjkovic. DC was co-opted on to the committee in his capacity as Chairman of E Herts Community Badminton Network (CBN) and BV as Social Media/Publicity Officer.

Apologies for absence had been received from Graham Cobb (GC); Pam Newman (PN) and Ken Winchester (KW).

### **1. Action following the previous meeting**

Mike Piggford (MP) had sent a list of affiliated club secretaries to the secretary and DC had been invited to the meeting. Work on the HBA 2017/24 Strategy had been put on hold until the BE position following the funding cut had been clarified. MP had arranged for BE to keep BJ better informed of their coaching developments. BJ now had a full list of coaches with their contact details.

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

#### **Chairman**

PK had circulated BE comments on the HBA response to their Membership and Pricing Document. HBA had been invited to be part of the launch in July and it was agreed that it would be useful to be involved with the trialling. The new system should run from 1<sup>st</sup> September. PK would respond to BE in the affirmative and he would also circulate the *Growing and Developing Badminton* document.

**ACTION: PAUL KEMPSTER**

HBA had not been represented at a BE Member Meeting at the end of January, where BE funding was the main topic. As a result of the funding cut plans for the National Badminton Centre were put on hold; staff numbers were to be cut and England would not enter for the Sudirman Cup. Support for players had also been drastically cut. However there was still a focus on working with counties and MP would continue to give valuable support. PK would circulate the minutes from that meeting

**ACTION: PAUL KEMPSTER**

#### **Secretary**

Nothing to report.

#### **Membership Secretary and Treasurer**

No report had been received.

### **Senior County Coordinator**

*This position is still vacant*

BV reported that the first team was in a playoff to win Division One. They had maintained an unbeaten record. The second team had missed promotion by 3 points. The third team would be promoted and so there would be two Herts teams in Division two next season. Getting teams out had not been a problem and lots of juniors had been available. The relaxation of the French League rules would help next season. PK recorded his thanks to Andy, Liz and Ben for managing their teams so well this season. The play off in Milton Keynes would be held over the weekend 13/14 May.

### **Herts County League Secretary**

GC had sent a written report confirming that matches in the County League continued to run and results had been coming in better than previously. Three matches had to be rearranged and he was pushing for early completion. He requested that the rules be tightened concerning late cancellations. Both HAL and North Herts and Letchworth Area League had amended their rules to impose a financial liability on the club requesting late cancellation. It was agreed that the County League should consider doing the same.

**ACTION: GRAHAM COBB**

### **Hertford Area League Co-ordinator**

PN reported all was going smoothly. The HAL AGM would be held on Tuesday 16 May at Allenburys starting at 8pm.

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

BG reported that two satellite clubs would finish at May half term, and two junior school sessions had been completed with two more to organise before the summer holidays. Five teams had been entered in the Teachers' End of Term badminton event to be held shortly,

### **SW Herts League Representative**

No attendee and no report.

### **Masters Co-ordinator**

SW expressed his appreciation of the work done by the respective team managers.

The results were as follows:

O40s finish 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 4 to Essex

O45s finish 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 3 to Essex

O50s finish 4<sup>th</sup> out of 5 to Essex

O60s finish 4<sup>th</sup> out of 4 to Essex.

The results of the County Challenge weekend:

O45 4<sup>th</sup> behind winners Essex

O50 finished 7<sup>th</sup>

O60 finished 2<sup>nd</sup> behind Suffolk

The O55s had to pull out due to a mixture of non availability and injury. SW thanked all the squad members and expressed optimism for a successful next season.

### **Tournament Secretary**

EL reported that the date for the Herts Open was again being moved because BE had scheduled the Nationals for the first weekend in September. This is the second time in three years that the regular date has been lost and causes a lot of difficulties not least of which was the reduced entry and subsequent financial loss. At present it looked as if the date offered would be 19/20 August and he was looking to see if that worked for HSV, the Referees etc before the sanction application started in a couple of weeks time. The Restricted Tournament weekend would be 30 September/1 October.

### **Newsletter Editor/Social Media/Publicity Officer**

BV had expressed willingness to take on an updated version of this role.

No Newsletters had been produced since the last meeting. PK thanked BV for the work he was doing on the HBA Facebook page and DB circulated a photocopy. BV encouraged everyone to look at the page and to record their support. This was a good way to publicise badminton in the county and was more likely to reach a younger audience. HBA Facebook page should be promoted at the AGM

**ACTION: PAUL KEMPSTER**

DB said that FixturesLive recommended that the HBA website should go over to the Wordpress Contact Management System. However moving over was not straightforward and he had asked them for a quote to handle it. He was prepared then to maintain it. Obtaining the services of a volunteer to arrange this might be a possibility and DB would take this forward.

**ACTION: DAVE BARTLETT**

### **Development Co-ordinator**

DB circulated a Development Report to the committee and this was available on the website. Progress on expanding the facility at Birchwood was on hold for the present until the result of a revised planning bid was known. PK reported that he and CW had agreed with a representative of Birchwood LC to extend the contract for a further year. HSBA would use the courts through the summer and HBA from September to April. This would mean HBA could continue to use the committee room for meetings free of charge. He understood that it would be at least two years before anything changes with the current facilities. Following a request for volunteers to help in running the Master's All England committee members were asked to respond direct to Martin Haxton ([MartinHaxton@badmintoengland.co.uk](mailto:MartinHaxton@badmintoengland.co.uk)), copied to DB, if they were able to assist.

DC reported as Chairman of East Herts CBN that their accent was on juniors and encouraging interaction between clubs. Coaches should be encouraged to join together, and enter more children in tournaments, even if they are novices as competition fostered improvement. All other CBNs continue their activities. DB planned to hold a meeting with all CBNs. This could be combined with the launch of the Herts Coaching Academy.

**ACTION: DAVE BARTLETT & BRIAN JACKSON**

### **Coaching Co-ordinator**

Following the request made to BE via MP at the previous meeting for more involvement in their coaching plans a meeting was held between DB and BJ for HBA and MP and Rob Flack for BE. It was planned to establish a Herts.Coaching Academy which would provide a more cohesive environment for coach recruitment, education and retention. Start up funding of £1,000 had been received from BE. BJ reported that there had been less requests for coaches but all had been satisfied. The visit to Milton Keynes had been postponed until the major reorganisation had taken place.

### **HSBA Representative**

KW had emailed his report. He informed the committee of the sad death of Mrs Joan Walters who had been a Vice President of HBA, and outlined her extensive contribution to badminton over many years. He gave details of the HSBA tournament programme which had gone well again this season. The HSBA committee were working to formulate a future financial strategy to satisfy those who have criticised the size of their bank balance. DB who is the HBA representative on the HSBA committee emphasised that HSBA run 18 tournaments a year and not just for squad members.

### **3. Finance**

No decisions could be taken about next season's county fees, budgets etc without the treasurer. The Birchwood contract was covered under the Development Co-ordinator's report.

### **4. Preparations for the AGM on Monday 5 June 2017**

It was agreed that the AGM should be held in the Sportman Room at Birchwood LC and HA would make the booking.

**ACTION: HILARY ANDERSON**

The draft agenda, previously circulated, was agreed with one amendment concerning the restructuring of BE. The usual arrangements regarding refreshments would be made. It was agreed that the business side of the meeting should be conducted as swiftly as was possible with reports being circulated in advance. This would give more time for attendees to raise any issues important to them and their members and would also allow more time for socialising. The BE affiliation fees were set out in a document that would be circulated by PK

**ACTION: PAUL KEMPSTER**

HA would send an email to committee members asking if there were any nominations for Vice President . There are 22 already.

GC would remind clubs about the return of trophies and it was agreed that these would continue to be presented at the AGM.

### **5. Confirmation of BE Disciplinary Procedures**

BE Disciplinary Procedures had been circulated to committee members in February and again before the meeting. County Badminton Associations are asked to confirm adoption of these Disciplinary Regulations, without amendment, at the next committee meeting, with further endorsement at the AGM. The Procedures run to 20 pages. As there appeared to be little choice the Procedures were confirmed by the committee.

### **6. Herts Workforce Planning**

The CBNs and Coaching Academy meeting would take this forward.

### **7. Masters All England**

This was covered under Development Co-ordinator

### **8. Review of HBA historical papers**

Two boxes of old HBA papers had been passed to the committee by Malcolm Fraser. HA agreed to look through these in the first instance.

### **9. Any Other Business**

GB suggested that a photo collage of badminton events displayed at the AGM would be of interest. Committee members were asked to send any relevant material to DB as soon as possible.

*Please note the date of the AGM in your diary*

**MONDAY 5 JUNE 7.30pm at Birchwood LC**