



# HBA Newsletter for February 2016

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### Herts Badminton **Now** on Facebook and Twitter



We hope to see lots of info on recent and coming events!

<https://www.facebook.com/HertsBadminton/?pnref=story>

<https://twitter.com/BadmintonHerts>

### Quality on display at English National Masters

Over 450 matches were played during the 21st English National Masters Championships 2015 at Hertfordshire Sports Village 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December.

It was a very highly attended event that saw 274 entries and players from around the globe. A full list of winners can be found in appendix A.

Many Herts players competed with several good results: Jon Austin and Mark Golds won the 50MD beating Jim Teal and Don Burden in the final and the 50XD, Caroline Hale won the 45WS, Caroline and I were runners up in the 45WD and I was runner up in the 45XD. Rich Doling (Herts Development Officer 2003) with Daniel Plant won the 40MD. Joanne Goode MBE and Lynne Swan won the 40WD. See complete results on [BE Tournament software website](#).

*Liz Austin*



## Masters County Challenge



On the 9th and 10th January, Herts O45s, consisting Liz Austin, Caroline Hale, Kim Maughan, Briony Lacey, Jon Austin, Eddie Lintott, Mike Wong and Don Burden regained the National Team Champions title they narrowly lost last year. A great team effort saw the team win their first 5 ties, meaning that going into the last tie against Essex they only needed to draw as Essex had only won 4. In a closely contested match, Herts won the Men's Doubles and 1st Mixed Doubles to give them the title. Congrats to the team for their efforts and for spoiling Essex's domination of the first 3 Masters age groups!

*Liz Austin*

## 2015 Herts County Championships ("Restricted")

### Champions [Photos]

Women's Singles	<b>Laura Anderson</b>	Women's Doubles	<b>Molly Goode &amp; Jo Goode</b>
		Mixed Doubles	<b>Jo Goode &amp; Zach Daniels</b>
Men's Singles	<b>Andy Walden</b>	Men's Doubles	<b>Andy Walden &amp; Doug Furze</b>

### Singles

In women's singles, U17 squad member Laura Anderson showed great determination to win the event, after achieving second place in the previous year. In a 3-way pool, the match between her and Laura Bygrave was effectively the final, and the scoreline of 21-12 12-21 21-16 reflected a closely fought group.

In men's singles there were 3 groups in the round robin stage. Andy Walden and Daniel Leers won their respective sections, whilst 15 year old Chris Adey beat last year's champion James Reynolds 21-8 21-7 to win group C. Sam Newlove qualified for the semi finals as best runner up.

In the semi finals, Andy was far too experienced for Chris, and Sam had to retire with an injury in the second game of his match against Daniel. Andy regained his title, beating Daniel 21-14 22-20 in the final.

### Doubles

Women's doubles nearly didn't happen. A player in one of the partnerships decided not to bother playing when she discovered they were one of only two entries. After a large number of phone calls, young Abbie Smith eventually stepped in, to enable the event to take place. Molly & Jo Goode won the competition, beating scratch pairing Abbie Smith & Laura Bygrave 21-17 21-15.





Mens doubles was played as two round robin groups and then semis and a final. Doug Furze & Andy Walden won Group A and in the first semi final, beat Group B runners up Ben Vranjkovic & Phillip Skinner 21-23 21-16 21-13. Group B winners Luke Jones & James Reynolds beat the youth pairing Daniel Davey & Zach Daniels 21-16 21-15 in their semi final.

In the final Andy & Doug beat Luke & James to 16 & 12.

In mixed doubles, last year's winners Kate Comras & Dave Westwood won a tough semi final against Kath Warden & Andy Walden 21-17 16-21 21-14, going through to the final to meet mixed doubles unknown Jo Goode and her partner Zach Daniels, who had beaten Jo Williams & Eddie Lintott in the other semi final. The final was an excellent match to watch, with Jo & Zach eventually winning 22-20 21-11

Many thanks to HBA President Bob Welsh who was present throughout both days, supporting the organisers, keeping the courts in good order with shuttles, and dispensing wise words of advice! Also to Eddie Lintott, Paul Kempster, Andy Walden and Liz Austin who helped with setting up beforehand and running the event on the days.

*Ed Lintott*

## Herts Sports Partnership Coach Ed Week



With a couple of weeks to go until February half-term and Herts Coach Education Week 2016, we want to make sure that no clubs, coaches, teachers, leaders or students miss out. Places are filling fast and although there are still spaces on many of the courses, some are already full. Don't wait - book now!

Designed to help develop and raise the standard of sports leadership and coaching in Herts, the seventy courses, workshops and lectures are listed in the [Herts Coach Education Week 2016](#) interactive programme, with links for more information and how to book.

Taking place across Hertfordshire in 17 different venues, courses cover around 20 sports and range from Coaching Awards to Sports Science sessions and from Disability specific courses to coaching breakfasts. There really is something for everyone!

Would you like to help at your club or school? Or perhaps earn as a No Strings Activator? Or simply know badminton really well? There is still just time to sign up spite of what some forms state...

### Badminton UKCC Level 1

All 3 sessions need to be attended:

13/2/16 09:00-17:00 14/2/16 09:00-17:00 19/3/16 09:00-17:00

at Hertford Regional College, Scotts Road, Ware, SG12 9JF

The course will cost £215 for BE members and £225 for non members. To book onto this course [Click Here](#) or complete and return [this booking form](#) to [coaching@badmintonengland.co.uk](mailto:coaching@badmintonengland.co.uk) **Queries Tel: 01908 268 400**

### SmashUp! Activator Course

- 16/2/16 2hrs classroom-2hrs court [click for application](#)

Grants may be obtained from several sources in Hertfordshire, usually with the requirement to provide 5-10 sessions unpaid after qualifying: your Local Authority, Herts Badminton Association and from CBNs - [Herts West Community Badminton Network](#) and [Welwyn Hatfield Community Badminton Network](#). Contact HBA Development Coordinator [Dave Bartlett](#) for further information

For further funding information, download the [HSP January Funding Matters](#).



## University of Hertfordshire Men's Badminton first team

- pulled off a dramatic 4 all draw



Last season the 1st Team won promotion and are now competing in the top flight of University Badminton. The report ([click here](#)) details the last match against the University of Bath and a 4 all draw. Bath are without question one of the top sporting universities in the Country. All six students live in Hatfield and have raised the badminton bar to a level not seen before at the University.

They currently sit in second place in the Premier Division and are likely to retain that spot at the end of the season.

My voluntary role is assisting the men's first team with opposition analysis, motivation and administrative support.  
*Paul Widdicombe* Vice President Hertfordshire Badminton Association

## Around the County

Hertfordshire Badminton comprises 4 Community Badminton Networks: East Herts CBN, Herts West CBN, North Herts & Stevenage CBN, and Welwyn Hatfield CBN. Below are updates;

### East Herts Community Badminton Network

Our CBN was formed by three junior club coaches after meetings with a representative from Badminton England (BE).

We thought that the conditions that were offered by BE were not what we felt would be useful or necessary for us, so we progress independently. We have centred on junior badminton as the first step in forming a programme to promote badminton in general, and hope to include all badminton clubs and other badminton activities (e.g. No Strings, badminton classes) around the East Herts area.

We thought a junior tournament would be helpful in bringing together more of the junior clubs and this had some success. We also held a Christmas Fun Session which was well attended. We hope we can improve on these first ventures.

As part of the programme for 2016 we are organising a tournament for parents and children on 7<sup>th</sup> February. We hope this will encourage the parents to experience the challenge the children undertake whilst learning the game. We have entered a team into Hertfordshire Junior League with some success and would like to thank those who organised this event (you know who you are!).

For the future we hope to include more of the East Herts badminton family and welcome any contribution from you: your ideas, and hopefully your help and input into this venture.

Doug Clark, On behalf EHCBN

### Herts West Community Badminton Network

The next Herts West CBN meeting will take place on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm**, venue tbc. It would be great to see as many of you at the meeting as possible, as we are keen to shake up the CBN and make it worthwhile for all partners involved with the local badminton community.

**The Government has produced '[Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation](#)'**

This is its first major strategy for sport for some 13 years. There is significant change in focus towards local sport and physical activity: Badminton England will be announcing their Draft Strategy at their AGM in June and are currently holding further regional consultation meetings. The final strategy will be published December 2016 following the amount of funding BE receives has been agreed in October.



At the last meeting, attended by Dave and Gill Bartlett, Leah Holmes (Badminton England) and myself, we identified key areas to focus on within the CBN, such as school / FE engagement, sustainable coaching pathways, facilities, local community clubs and funding opportunities. These topics can all be discussed at the meeting in February, so if you would like to have your say and see how the CBN can be of use to you and your club please do attend.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your attendance.

Alex Varran [Alex.Varran@1Life.co.uk](mailto:Alex.Varran@1Life.co.uk)

The application form for funding is on the HW CBN [webpage](#): Click [here](#) for the form.

### North Herts & Stevenage Community Badminton Network

See notes in HBA Committee Report.

### Welwyn Hatfield Community Badminton Network

Next Exec Meeting: 22nd March 2016 at Gosling Sports Park



### WH CBN Coaches at Primary PE Conference University of Hertfordshire Tuesday 19th January

Gill Bartlett, Ken Winchester, Dave Bartlett, Ian Robinson [*photo by Gobi Ranganathan*]

The Conference focused on raising standards of PE and school sport. From 9am-3pm featured a programme of keynote addresses and interactive workshops for over 200 primary school head teachers, link governors and PE subject leads.

One of 40 stands in the Marketplace, Herts Badminton Association and Herts Schools Badminton Association coaches (and WH CBN) promoted the Badminton England Primary Schools Resource, for which [28 teachers signed-up](#).



### WH School Games Partnership Young Leaders Award Course, 18Nov15 **LOTTERY FUNDED**

19 Leaders from Welwyn Hatfield School Games Partnership secondary schools attended the Badminton England Young



Leaders Award course, sponsored by a Sport England Big Lottery grant to WHSPAA. Gosling Sports Park hosted the course and it was delivered by Cherie Wiper, Stanborough school, with significant assistance from Stuart Williams, Monks Walk school, with Rhian Walsh, Sir Frederic Osborn school, and David Bartlett, WHSPAA (and [WH CBN](#)).



The intensive but enjoyable course covered several modules including, Qualities of a leader, Team skills, Umpiring and Running a SmashUp! session.

Three of the Young Leaders have gone on to deliver SmashUp! sessions, one at Woolmer Green with Ian Robinson and the other two to start a SmashUp! club at their school, Monks Walk.

## HBA Committee Update

We thought you might be interested to receive more information about the Herts Badminton Association (HBA) Committee. HBA exists to promote the game of badminton in the county for players of all ages and abilities, although junior players are primarily the concern of the Herts Schools Badminton Association.



The committee is comprised of the following volunteers:

Paul Kempster (PK) Chairman and BE delegate  
 Hilary Anderson (HA) Secretary  
 Nigel Abdullah (NA) County Match Secretary  
 Dave Bartlett (DB) Development Co-ordinator

Gill Bartlett (GB) Alternate BE delegate  
 Graham Cobb (GC) County League Secretary  
 Bob Green (BG)\* North Herts & Letchworth Area Representative  
 Brian Jackson (BJ) Coaching Co-ordinator

Eddie Lintott (EL) Tournament Secretary  
 Pam Newman (PN) Hertford Area League Representative  
 Colin Walker (CW) Treasurer and Membership Secretary  
 Steve Willis (SW) Masters Co-ordinator  
 Ken Winchester (KW) HSBA Representative

*There are currently vacancies for the posts of Chairman of Selectors, and Newsletter Editor.*

\*Bob Green was unable to attend the latest meeting but sent a report.

Sadly SW Herts is not represented on the Committee despite many invitations. It is good that all other areas of the county are represented so that your committee is aware of badminton activities in your area and able to give advice, and often financial support, when this is requested.

The committee meets 4 times a year, currently at Birchwood Leisure Centre. Discussion is concentrated and the meetings are not over long as we have to be out by 10pm. At the latest meeting held on 30 November we enjoyed some festive mince pies while discussing topics on a full agenda. **Full minutes of all HBA Committee meetings are always available on the HBA website.**

The first part of the meeting consists of reports from each representative on activities since the last meeting. PK had a full report on the most recent Members Meeting at Badminton England (BE) as well as the County Conference at which Herts was fully represented. All other reports are detailed in the official minutes.

The major part of the meeting was devoted to discussion on a possible dedicated Badminton Centre in the county. There was a potential funding opportunity in the Welwyn Hatfield area, and the committee discussed various possible locations for the Centre such as extending Birchwood or adapting Gosling. All agreed that a dedicated



centre would be good for badminton in the county, but there were many issues to be resolved and, in the first instance, it was agreed to have discussions with BE to establish what advice and assistance could be given. HBA is in the third year of a contract with Hatfield Town council for the use of courts at Birchwood Leisure Centre. This has proved to be very successful, bringing a good price reduction in the cost of court hire. Colin Walker looks after the bookings in tandem with HSBA, who are the main users. Colin updated the committee on the current level of bookings and discussion followed as to a future arrangement. The next committee meeting will be held on Monday 14 March when, as well as the usual business, discussion will be concentrated on the AGM to be held on **Monday 6 June 2016**

*Hilary Anderson*

#### **The leagues in Hertfordshire – where you can find results, etc**

Biggleswade & District Friendly Badminton League [website](#)

Hertford Area Badminton League: [website](#)

Herts Badminton Association's county league [webpage](#)

Herts Schools Badminton Association: [website](#)

Letchworth & District Badminton League: [website](#)

South West Herts Badminton League: [website](#)

Stevenage Badminton League: [website](#)

#### **Badminton World Record attempt “Most Players in a Badminton Rally”**

The Badminton World Record attempt for the “Most Players in a Badminton Rally” held at Stevenage Leisure Centre on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2015 failed to attract the required number of players to break the record. The event went ahead anyway however, for two reasons:

- We did not want to let down our nominated charity – The British Lung Foundation (BLF)
- It was decided to use this event as a dry run for a future attempt on the record in 2016

As well as the World Record, the event aimed to raise funds for the British Lung Foundation through sponsorship of those who took part. A “JustGiving” website has been set up to receive sponsorship money and any additional donations people may wish to contribute to this worthy cause. Please could those who took part submit their sponsorship money by the end of February 2016. The “JustGiving” website can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.justgiving.com/roy-small2/>

Without the required numbers to break the record we tested various techniques to explore how best to organise such an event in the future. We proved that the record is possible as we managed to stage a single continuous rally of over 180 shots, by having the players that attended play several shots each in rotation.

Roy Small intends to make another attempt on the record after the close of the badminton season on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016**. If you are interested in taking part, then his contact details are:

Roy Small      [roysmall@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:roysmall@hotmail.co.uk)      Mob: 07788-372745

Many thanks to Stevenage Leisure Centre, the Hertfordshire Mercury, and Suzanne Rayappan for their support with this event.

*Kenneth Abbott & Roy Small*