

# RO Update for HBA committee meeting 10/11/09

## **RO Update**

I am pleased that my work plan has now been finalised and there have not been any major changes to the work strands inside and outside CBN's. This can be understood more clearly by viewing the BHDC targets document.

Steady progress has been made over the past few months while my work plan was being finalised and below are some highlights;

## ***Participation***

Get Back Into's – Several projects continue to run and new sessions are starting fairly regularly within CBN areas. Publicity costs have been a major issue since the change in funding direction, I am currently working with Herts Sports Partnership to access some money specifically designed for that purpose.

## ***Schools***

This year a particular focus has been made into raising the profile of the game within Primary schools. The major downfall in the past has been the lack of facilities within the schools, but with our skilled coaches and ever improving range of resources / equipment I believe we can demonstrate the strength and diversity of our sport.

I am pleased to say the number of young people playing in secondary school continues to rise, this year 11 of the 12 School Sports Partnerships have affiliated to BE and are running the first round to the Center Parcs National Schools Championships. A major factor to this rise has been due to the Building Schools for the Future project providing new sports halls and I commend all those that have taken the time to aid in the schools applications.

## ***Clubs***

Although we are unable to gauge an accurate number of clubs and their members, with my ear to the ground I have to say the future looks bright with many clubs junior and senior experiencing an influx of players.

## ***No Strings***

The No Strings franchise is now almost in full flow with only the National website yet to be released. A number of Leisure Centres around the County have shown a strong interest in buying into the package to raise their income during quiet slots.

## **Coaching Update**

The Level 1 course currently running at JFK school in Hemel Hempstead has 17 candidates 10 of which live/coach in Herts.

Due to the changes in minimum candidate numbers from 10 to 16, all Level 1 courses will now need to be run in a minimum of a 4 court hall. This change has been made to enhance the learning environment of the candidates, so I am currently looking to book the next Level 1 course for March 2010, Venue TBC.

The Level 2 course booked for 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> Jan and 14<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at the Jim McDonald Centre, Hatfield will be one of the last 6 candidate courses as the minimum number has now risen to 9. There are currently two people booked on the course, Jo Goode being one of them.

Despite the cut in funding to HSP and the loss of the Workforce funding programme there are still pockets of funding available so I encourage any potential candidates, Level 1, 2 or 3 to contact me to discuss their options as each stream has differing criteria.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Herts Yehlex Bonanza**

The first Herts Yehlex Bonanza is planned to take place on the last weekend in January 2010 at Gosling Sports Park with the Junior Events on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> and Adult Social Events on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>.

The junior events are divided by age (U14 & U16) and gender and open to all except BE ranked players 1, 2 or 3 and those that have played ICC. The adult competition is only open to those aged 16+ that do not play league badminton.

Application forms have already been distributed at the Center Parcs National Schools Championships SSP rounds and will be distributed to all junior clubs and sports centres within the month. It is essential we use our existing networks to help publicise the event wherever possible, especially to encourage the social groups who we have little or no contact details of.

### **Thank you**

Lastly I would just like to say a big thank you to all those that give up your time to make our sport what it is today.

Regards,

Malcolm