

Date: Wednesday 18th June 2025

Time: 7:30pm

Venue: Standard Triumph Club, Herald Avenue, Coventry, CV5 6UB

1. Club & Committee Apologies

QDJ (apologies accepted as withdrawn from the League)

2. Minutes of 2023-2024 AGM

Proposed: Saeaforth Dale (AT7)

Seconded: Kenroy Harrison (*Monsoon*)

3. Chairman's Address

By Rachael Jenkinson

Welcome to the 75th AGM of the Coventry Badminton Association.

Thank you to everyone who has played a role in running their club and, or the league during our Diamond Jubilee year – it would be impossible to have such a successful League without the very many volunteers who work tirelessly often behind the scenes to organise matches, players, venues etc.

I remain proud that we continue to maintain such a healthy badminton league in the area and am delighted to see that some of our clubs continue to grow their membership meaning they should hopefully be in a position to increase the number of teams they enter next season.

Following feedback at the AGM last year, we ran a slightly different end of season event last week responding to requests for a lower ticket price and a more social and relaxed event. We had our highest attendance for some years with 110 attendees from across 12 of our 19 clubs including 5 clubs who didn't win a trophy this time around which is amazing. Feedback has been positive on the different format and if we can continue to attract a larger number of people we could look at a larger venue. I remain disappointed however that 2 of our trophy winning clubs chose not to attend the event and I would love to hear what we need to do to encourage wider participation in the event which we would like to be a chance to socialise with fellow players to celebrate the end of the season.

It has also been disappointing to see a significant increase (33%) in the number of penalties conceded this year (with 95% of these being for Mixed or Mens teams) and a rise in the number of complaints the Committee has had to deal with over the course of the season. Teams should be reminded that they need to arrive on time for their matches and warm up as the court booking begins so that matches can begin in a timely manner as penalties will be applied for lateness. Players should also ensure that they adhere to any Rules relating to the site that they are playing at (home or away) including those Rules relating to parking restrictions and smoking/vaping on site (all school's ban both completely on their sites).

As ever, our league only runs smoothly thanks to our amazing Committee. Thank you to our new recruits this year for their commitment and engagement throughout the season and thank the whole Committee for all you do for our League.

4. Secretary's Report

By Louise Lawrence

It's been another fun season overall as many of you have mentioned while chatting to you at matches.

We've had a lot of penalties this season it seems to have jumped up to 44 in total this year, far more than last season. The penalties are now listed on the website if you'd like more details.

Penalty	2024-2025 season	Ladies	Mixed	Mens	Total
1	Non registered player (offending player concedes any rubbers won)	0	7	11	18
2	Nominated player playing below nomination (offending player concedes any rubbers won)	0	3	3	6
3	Player playing more than permitted number of matches(offending player concedes any rubbers won)	0	1	0	1
4a	Conceded match - did not turn out a team (£20 + £18/£12 fine)	0	1	3	4
4b	Conceded match - incomplete team turned out (£20 + £18/£12 fine)	0	0	0	0
4c	Incomplete team (£10 fine)	1	1	3	5
5	Late score card (points not awarded for the match win - shown as a penalty in league table, rubbers still awarded)	1	2	4	7
6	Nominated player not playing the required number of matches in the season	0	1	2	3
7	Club playing matches before fees, nominations or fixtures received	0	0	0	0
8	Not completing intra-club matches (where 2 teams in same division) before playing another team	0	0	0	0
		2	16	26	44
	2023-2024 season	Ladies	Mixed	Mens	Total
	Total Penalties	2	10	21	33

Can I remind you all again that the submission date for match fixtures and names/noms sheets is set for a reason – to give us the time to verify the match dates submitted by each team, load them into the website and check the eligibility of your player names.

We unfortunately still keep continuing to find mistakes on your dates and names submitted – can you please remember to check thoroughly before sending them in on the correct Excel file (available on the website), as they are all merged into one main excel file for each league to cross reference before being uploaded to the website.

If your Match Secretary is going to be away the first two weeks of September, then please arrange for another member of your club to cover them, so everything is completed and submitted on time, thanks.

Start Times: Can I please remind you of start times for clubs. We've had so many complaints about late home or away players this year. Can you ensure your teams know they need to be on time for matches and start playing the match within 10 minutes of the start time. Any later than this and you risk the opposition claiming for late starts.

Can I also remind you that there is no acceptable “excuse” from clubs for late scorecards, we have had 7 late cards again this year, despite having 10 days to send them in. Furthermore, names are to be written in full and legible as is the score – please also double check your rubber counts as these are frequently incorrect. Signatures from both home and away need to be on there too! I’ve lost count of the number of half-filled in cards, I’ve sent back and until its correct, it’s not accepted. Once accepted Rachael and I ALWAYS acknowledge your card, if you haven’t heard from us – we didn’t get it, simple.

Players lists: Can I remind you if you have old players who are not fully paid-up club members of your club (as per Rule 6), then they are probably not “Bona fide members of your club”, so you should ask yourself if they should be on your lists. This blocks any previous player moving to a new club should they want too, if you’re keeping them on your lists for no reason.

Talking about transfers, please make sure as club secretary to respond quickly to a member/club wishing to initiate a transfer, there is no reason to block a player transfer by delaying your reply or ignoring the request. If you have a reason not to allow the transfer, ie, they owe money to the club, then please let the league and the club/player know urgently so it can be rectified before the transfer paperwork is sent in fully signed (digitally or email agreement).

I hope you are all looking forward to the new upcoming season and I hope those of you who attended the end of season event last week had a lovely time.

5. End of Season Celebration and Presentation Evening

- 5.1. Review of event and discussion regarding future events.
- 5.2. Please also consider with your clubs whether there is a desire to remove the event from the calendar completely and simply present trophies at the AGM instead.

Notes from discussion:

110 tickets sold for the event – a 10-20% increase on recent years. Feedback was generally extremely positive from those who had attended or had heard from members who attended that this was a better format and price point for the event. Space was quite limited and could have been an issue if the weather was bad so potentially a larger venue should be considered. Food van was popular although feedback to the vendor if used again that toppings ran out too early in the evening based on demand, another suggestion was to perhaps consider offering a choice of food vendors if numbers permitted. Fridays remain the most preferred day for holding the event.

6. Juniors’ Report

Report from Paul Harris

Good season for the County Juniors who finished 5th in the ICT which represents a significant improvement in performance in the last few years.

Local junior clubs are all doing really well with the majority carrying extensive waiting lists (up to 100 in some cases) as demand outweighs availability.

Consideration should be given to how clubs and or the League could establish closer links with the junior clubs to help facilitate introduction to and transition into our senior clubs.

Note: Rugby League are adding a Youth and Development Office role to their Committee going forward as they look at ways to engage with juniors more.

Clubs were reminded about the Solihull Junior League and the opportunity to enter junior teams to enable players to gain competitive experience. The league arranges fixtures at a central venue so no impact on clubs' own court usage.

7. Warwickshire Badminton Report

Report from Paul Harris, Warwickshire County Liaison Officer

All senior teams maintained the positions and our 1st team were competitive in the Premier Division. As many clubs are also experiencing, the county is struggling for ladies at both the senior and junior levels (not helped by several injuries and players moving away) and thus they will be looking to recruit more players for the season ahead.

Warwickshire AGM is taking place on 19th June – one area of discussion is the c£2,000 loss made by the county this year (largely due to a significant drop in affiliation fees due to a reducing number of clubs across the county and of those remaining, some choosing not to affiliate) – large reserves held historically are now being impacted.

8. Treasurer's Report

8.1. Overview of league accounts for the season (see appendix for breakdown)

8.2. Proposed league fees for 2025-2026 season

It is proposed that the league fees will remain unchanged for the coming season:

- £7.00 per Ladies team
- £7.50 per Mens team
- £7.50 per Mixed team

Proposed: Hilary Budd (*Windy Arbour*)

Seconded: Chris Rees (*Stratford*)

Envigo asked a question regarding the purpose of the League holding a significant balance (as a first time attendee at the AGM) – the response was that this is a historic balance built up over time and has increased recently due to higher interest levels on building society balance, compensation from the venue used for the end of season event last year and penalties paid by clubs. In recent years, the Committee have done more to ensure that clubs are aware they can claim as the non-defaulting club for conceded matches (following a change in rules to enable this regardless of who was the home team in acknowledgement that away match fees are charged and are factored into the overall income needed to run a club).

9. Election of Officers for 2025-2026 season

The Committee are willing to re-stand and will be available for nomination on the night although we would welcome anyone else interested to stand for any of the roles.

Chairperson: Rachael Jenkinson (*Central Sports*)

Proposed: Ryan Smith (*St Philips*)

Seconded: Steve Best (*Balsall Common*)

Secretary: Louise Lawrence (*Balsall Common*)

Proposed: Mo Ajmal (*Jubilee*)

Seconded: Lindsey Rawlings (*Central Sports*)

Treasurer: Nicola Smith (*AT7*)

Proposed: Seaforth Dale (*AT7*)

Seconded: Hilary Budd (*Windy Arbour*)

Auditor: Terry Duckmanton (*Warwick Bears*)

Proposed: Chris Rees (*Stratford*)

Seconded: Ryan Smith (*St Philips*)

Committee for up to seven people: Neil Lawrence (*Monsoon*), Seaforth Dale (*AT7*), Ryan Smith (*St Philips*), Paul Harris (*Solihull & Shirley*), Jon-Paul Rougeolle (*Hunters*), Steve Best (*Balsall Common*)

Proposed: Kenroy Harrison (*Monsoon*)

Seconded: Mo Ajmal (*Jubilee*)

10. Rule clarifications for 2025-2026 season

- 10.1. Note: Deleted text is shown as ~~strikethrough~~ and additional text is shown as underlined
- 10.2. In order to further clarify the Change of Club rules within **Playing Rule 6**, the wording in the 2nd paragraph is amended as follows:

CHANGE OF CLUB – The previous year's registration shall be deemed to be continuous. Players within to change clubs must complete CBA form M1 in full (including confirmation from old and new club), following which they will be eligible to play in the League from the date indicated below: -

Received by CBA Secretary on or before 24 August – eligible start of season

Received after 24 August – eligible 6 weeks after form received by CBA Secretary unless a player did not play any matches for their previous club in the previous season in that league, whereby they are eligible immediately.

Rationale:

In order to avoid confusion over the receipt of the form by the League we are clarifying that the form must be fully completed (or email chain confirming acknowledgement from all parties) prior to being submitted to the League.

11. Proposed Rule Changes and additions for 2025-2026 season

- 11.1. Note: Deleted text is shown as ~~strikethrough~~ and additional text is shown as underlined

11.2. Proposed amendment (by Solihull & Shirley) to Playing Rule 10.

It is proposed that the wording in the second paragraph of **Playing Rule 10** is amended as follows:

Authorised shuttles for Premier Division and Division One League Matches shall be feathered shuttles approved by the Committee. There are no other restrictions on the type or brand of shuttles which may be used.

Rationale:

- *Teams relegated from Premier last year and a number of clubs are looking to play in the Premier Division which is feathers only.*
- *Only one division out of six divisions in the Men's League play with feather shuttles. All tournaments and county juniors play with feathers. Most junior clubs play with feathers. We don't believe the League is representative of the number of players playing with feather shuttles.*
- *Two plastic playing clubs in Men's Division One have distorted the League this year by only winning home matches.*
- *Players are refusing to play with plastics in a top division where the majority of players are county (adult and junior).*

Notes from discussion:

- With the cost of feathers this could significantly impact clubs needing to adopt feathers when they have teams playing in Division One
- Transitioning to feathers could attract new players to clubs
- Concerns raised about whether this is the start of introducing feathers into lower divisions over time

For: 17	Against: 7	Abstain: 6
Outcome: Adopted into the League Rules		

11.3. Proposed amendment (by David Lloyd) to Playing Rule 4.

It is proposed that the wording of **Playing Rule 4c and 4d** is amended as follows:

4c. Promotion and relegation shall apply to all divisions, except the highest and lowest respectively. The top ~~two~~ teams of each division shall be promoted. ~~(Except for divisions with fewer than 6 teams where one team shall be promoted. Where the division above has 6 or more teams, 2 teams shall still be promoted.)~~

4d. The bottom ~~two~~ teams of each division shall be relegated. ~~(Except for divisions of fewer than 6 teams where one team shall be relegated.)~~

4e. The runners up in each division may request a playoff against the second to last team in the division above to determine promotion/relegation. This playoff must be agreed and

completed by 30th June. If agreement of a date cannot be reached, the team finishing in second to last place in the higher division will be deemed to have forfeited the match and will be relegated. If the runners up do not wish to challenge, both teams will remain in their respective divisions (subject to any league adjustments required due to team entry/withdrawals).

Rationale:

- *Quality control: This system, similar to the one used by the Birmingham League, helps preserve the standard of play in higher divisions, especially the Premier Division, by ensuring that promoted teams are competitively ready.*
- *Flexibility: Often, second-place teams do not feel prepared or inclined to move up, especially if they lack squad depth or believe the step up would significantly diminish their competitiveness.*
- *As an alternative suggestion if clubs would prefer, this could be considered for promotion and relegation from/to the Premier Division only.*

For: 0	Against: 26	Abstain: 4
Outcome: Failed		

11.4. Proposed amendment (by David Lloyd) to Playing Rule 6.

It is proposed that the wording of **Playing Rule 6** is amended as follows:

CHANGE OF CLUB – The previous year’s registration shall be deemed to be continuous. Players within to change clubs must complete CBA form M1 in full (including confirmation from old and new club, following which they will be eligible to play in the League from the date indicated below: -

Received by CBA Secretary on or before 24 August – eligible start of season

Received after 24 August – eligible 6 weeks after form received by CBA Secretary irrespective of whether the former club completes their section of the form, unless a player did not play any matches for their previous club in the previous season in that league, whereby they are eligible immediately.

Rationale:

- *Currently, the effective date is open to manipulation or excessive delays by the original club, as the player is ineligible until the club completes processing, and only then the 6 weeks begins. This is unfair to the player, who may be caught in administrative limbo despite their intent and the new club’s readiness. The new rule would protect players from unnecessary delays and ensure fair, timely transitions.*

For: 3	Against: 21	Abstain: 6
Outcome: Failed		

ACTION: Club officials need to respond to transfer requests in a timely manner and are reminded that they can only block a transfer in the event that the player owes money or equipment to their club.

12. Discussion regarding proposal from David Lloyd regarding collective shuttle purchasing

A proposal has been received from David Lloyd for the CBA to explore the creation of a 'League Shuttle Fund' to enable clubs to collectively purchase shuttles pre-season at a discounted rate from an agreed supplier.

Rationale:

Shuttle prices have increased significantly, while the quality of shuttles has noticeable decreased. Many clubs have reported using more shuttles per match to maintain playing standards. We have contacted several clubs across the League, and five clubs responded confirming they are facing similar challenges and expressed interest in this idea. A collaborative bulk order could reduce costs benefiting all clubs, particularly those struggling with the increased costs this season.

Outline proposal suggested:

- *Interested clubs opt-in annually and pay their share in advance based on anticipated usage (e.g., number of teams x matches x average tubes).*
- *Agreement with manufacturer/retailer around invoicing could be payment upon receipt of individual club invoicing.*
- *Shuttles delivered directly to clubs, or clubs collect from a central location (e.g., a volunteer club's venue, Central Sports or an agreed collection day).*
- *A small working group (1-2 volunteers from interested clubs + 1 committee rep) would select a supplier and negotiate the rate, ensuring all clubs agree on the shuttle brand prior to the AGM.*
- *A volunteer from a participating club (or small group) would manage the collection of funds and ordering, reporting back to the League Committee once a year.*

Ask: Are clubs interested in exploring this and if so, are there any volunteers for the working group?

Interest in being part of the working group was expressed by Seaforth Dale and Steve Best on the Committee along with David Lloyd, Emvigo and Nuneaton.

St Philips are trialling Airchy feather shuttles after direct contact from the supplier who seems to offer more sizable discounts the more stock purchased; Leamington are trialling a Babolat hybrid shuttle and will feedback on their experience.

ACTION: Interested clubs and/or individuals to submit contact details (phone and email) to the League Secretary and Chair along with confirmation these details can be shared within the working group

13. Additions and Withdrawals for 2025-2026 Season, deadline 25th August 2025

- 13.1. All additions/withdrawals are tentative only at this stage and subject to confirmation via the team entry form by the 24th August deadline.
- 13.2. Additions:
Mens: St Philips 3, David Lloyd 4, Windy Arbour 2, Windy Arbour 3
Mixed: St Philips, Central Sports 6
Ladies: Central Sports 4
- 13.3. Withdrawals:
Mens: N/A
Mixed: Nuneaton
Ladies: Nuneaton

14. Any Other Business

- 14.1. Summer League – very limited interest was received from clubs with regards to entering teams into a summer league and so no further plans are in place at the current time.
- 14.2. The League reminds all clubs of the need to familiarise themselves and their members with the Rules of the association – particularly new team captains with the deadline and process for submitting match cards and rules relating to nominated players. The Committee are happy to answer any questions relating to the rules.
- 14.3. Following their difficulty fielding teams and subsequent withdrawal from the League this year, Phil Pelton (QDJ) has expressed his thanks to everyone involved in running the CBA, in particular those he has crossed paths with over the years and especially the clubs and organisers who were so kind and understanding during this season.

Appendix

Coventry Badminton Association

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Season 2024/25 (1st June 2024 - 31st May 2025)

	2023/24	2024/25	Note
Income			
Affiliation Fees	£703	£699	1
Building Society Interest	£149	£157	2
Bank interest	-	-	3
Profit/(Loss) on Dinner Dance (2023/24 season)	(£720)	£102	4
Fines (received less paid out)	£158	£130	5
Total Income	£290	£1,088	
Expenditure			
Honorarium and admin (Secretary/League Admin)	£140	£140	
Website	£150	£150	
New Website and Brand Re-design	-	-	
AGM	£100	£100	
League Trophies and engraving	£219	£143	
Loss/(Profit) on Tournaments	-	£25	6
Affiliation Fees	-	-	
Bank Fees	£60	£60	
Juniors	£90	-	7
Charitable Donations	-	-	
Total Expenditure	£759	£618	
Profit/(loss)	(£469)	£470	

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31st May 2024 and 2025

	2023/24	2024/25	Note
Current Assets			
Cash at Coventry Building Society	£5,471	£5,629	
Cash at Bank	£3,178	£4,648	
Cash in Hand	-	-	
Debtors	£288	£88	
Prepayments	£725	£153	8
Total Current Assets	£9,663	£10,518	
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	£271	£384	
Accruals	£180	-	
Deferred Income	£1,568	£2,020	8
Total Current Assets	£2,019	£2,404	
Net Current Assets	£7,644	£8,114	

Surplus (Deficit) - Income over expenditure

Balance Brought Forward	£8,113	£7,644
in year	(£469)	£470
Balance Carried Forward	£7,644	£8,114

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Season 2024/25	2023/24	2024/25
Opening Balance Current Account and BS Account	£6,965	£8,650
Profit/(loss)	(£469)	£470
Plus decrease/(Less increase) in Debtors	£662	£772
Plus increase/(Less decrease) in Creditors	£1,492	£385
Closing Balance	£8,650	£10,277

Y.P. Duckmanton F.C.A.

Notes:

- Teams: 43 Mens, 33 Mixed, 18 Ladies
- Coventry Building Society Interest rate as at April 25 is 2.45% gross p.a
- HSBC Non-interest bearing account
- 84 attendees at the Dinner Dance 2023/24 season 14th June 24 (85 attendees in prior year). Includes £500 refund for poor service
- All fines less conceded match claims
- Chilvers Cup
- 2 Junior club contributions: Raquetteers and Jubilee Juniors (Provision previously held for Alveston reversed)
- Tickets Income received and venue deposit paid for Dinner Dance held Jun-25