

# **Coventry Badminton Association**

[www.coventrybadminton.co.uk](http://www.coventrybadminton.co.uk)

2016-2017

## **Annual General Meeting: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

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Meeting commenced at: 7.36pm

Welcome and thank you for joining us at the 69<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Coventry Badminton League.

### **1. Club & Committee Apologies**

Paul Baker (working on General Election)

Chris Osbourne (attending Warwickshire AGM on behalf of CBA)

No representative present from Coventry University

### **2. Minutes of 2015-2016 AGM**

Proposed: Mark Hope (St Philips)

Seconded: Mark Hatton (Adders)

### **3. Chairman's Report**

We've had another successful season and I would like to congratulate all those who teams won their divisions. It was great to see the honours shared between an amazing 12 clubs this year (with only 2 clubs – Monsoon and Jubilee – picking up more than one trophy) – a 50% increase over last season. This however makes it even more disappointing to see a further reduction in the number of people attending the end of season celebration, especially as once again we had a couple of clubs opting not to attend and therefore forfeiting their trophy. Thanks in particular to Monsoon for their support in sending a large contingent, Coventry University for their first attendance and to Central Sports and St Philips who were both represented despite not having any silverware to collect this season.

We fell short of the minimum numbers paid for (80) for the venue and as such made a significant loss on the event (as you will see when Nicola reports on the accounts) and this is not sustainable going forward. We have repeatedly sought ideas for changes to the end of season celebration as we strive to recreate the appeal of years ago when the event would attract in excess of 120 people. After the apparent success of the new venue last year, Steve injected some new ideas this year with a change in DJ and the addition of a table quiz which seemed to go well – a big thank you to Steve for taking the lead on the event this year and negotiating a free welcome drink for everyone to utilise the overpayment made due to reduced ticket sales. We may need to start thinking about scrapping the event altogether and presenting the trophies at the AGM instead if we continue to lose support. We would as ever welcome feedback and suggestions from clubs as to what would appeal to their members.

Penalties across the leagues fell by 10% this year, however there were still 37 penalties (two thirds of which were for mens matches) including 12 conceded matches or incomplete teams. Penalties will be covered in more detail in the Secretary's report.

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One area of concern for me is the way in which a small proportion of players in our league appear to be conducting themselves. I would hope that you agree that we should all conduct ourselves in a proper, sportsman-(or woman)-like manner at all times, both on and off court. It is therefore disappointing that the Committee have been contacted on a number of occasions this season with complaints relating to accusations of cheating (linked to line calls and scoring) and offensive language and behaviour during matches. I would like to remind all clubs that the league cannot tolerate proven behaviour of this nature and will investigate all allegations, however as we are volunteers, short of placing referees at each match, we rely upon clubs providing honest accounts of events. We clarified the grievance procedure earlier in the season and this will be reflected in the Rules and Constitution for the 2017-2018 season.

I would like to thank all of the committee – Louise, Nicola, Steve, Paul, Seaforth, Helen, Chris and Tom – for their contribution and support over the last 12 months. It takes a lot of time and effort to run the league and without people like them giving up their valuable free time, the league would not be able to function as well as it does. As ever, we would welcome representation from other clubs onto the committee.

I hope that you all have good summer and recharge your batteries ready to do it all again next season.

### 4. Secretary's Report

I hope you have all had a fun and successful season, it was nice to see a good spread of trophies this year!

As you know the committee has continued to work hard again this past year to ensure the league runs successfully and well and I would like to express my appreciation for everyone's hard work again this year, including the new committee members who were happy to join us and take responsibility for running the league.

The following rule infringements have applied this season:

2016-2017 season		Ladies	Mixed	Mens
1	Non registered player	1	2	6
2	Nominated player playing below nomination	0	2	4
3	Player playing more than permitted number of matches	0	1	3
4a	Conceded match - did not turn out a team	4	1	1
4b	Conceded match - incomplete team turned out	0	0	0
4c	Incomplete team	1	0	5
5	Late score card	0	1	5
6	Nominated player not playing required number of matches	0	0	0
		6	7	24
Total		<b>37</b>		

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Last season we had the following totals:

2015-2016 season	Ladies	Mixed	Mens
Total Penalties (41)	11	17	13

For all clubs who have been issued with fines please note that we need you to have paid your fines ASAP please and you need to have them paid along with your team fees before any matches are played, as per rule 2.

I hope you all look forward to the new season, and I hope to see you all on court very soon!

### 5. End of Season Celebration and Presentation Evening

The CBA Presentation Dinner and Dance was held on the 12th May at the Village Hotel, Coventry.

Approximately 67 people were in attendance. The evening consisted of drinks at the door, a tasty two course meal (well my Pork was anyway, and who doesn't like profiteroles?), Pete Martin providing the music for the evening a few tricky quizzes, which certainly provided plenty of conversation around the Hunters/QDJC table along with others.

I would like to say thanks to Pete for providing some great tunes on the night. The eclectic playlist ensured there was something for everyone and he received some great comments from many of those in attendance.

Thanks must go to those clubs who supported the event despite not picking up a trophy. I hope this example is followed next year.

I would also like to say a special thanks to Ed Cheung and Monsoon Active for supporting the event in such a big way with a little help from their friends at Stratford Badminton Club. They had a total of 17 tickets sold which made up two large tables.

On the whole, plenty of fun and giggles were had by all. I hope we can continue it next year.

I would like to ask all club secretaries to collect any feedback from their members and forward on any sensible suggestions for what we can do next year for the event.

#### Notes:

- Clubs discussed various ideas for increasing attendance and were asked to consult their members further
  - Could clubs be required to commit a certain number of attendees (maybe based on percentage of members) and pay for these at the start of the season?
  - Skittles, pub games type event has worked well in Rugby league
  - Advertise that partners are welcome to come to the event too (i.e. not limited to players)
  - Consider timing and not being too close to LDBA event and to hold closer to the end of the season

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- If the event is cancelled then it will be difficult to reinstate in future seasons
- Solihull & Shirley, Avon and Alveston all advised that it was unlikely that any of their members would attend regardless of what the event was

### **ACTION:**

All clubs to provide feedback by 15<sup>th</sup> September regarding what their members would like to see as the event next year and what stops them from participating.

## **6. Juniors' Report**

*Report from Chris Osbourne*

It's been a very successful season for some of the area's younger players.

There was National success for Robin Harper who won not only the Gold in the U13 Boys Doubles but also Silver in the Mixed Doubles. A few days later the family were celebrating again as sister Caitlin took Bronze in the U15 Mixed Doubles. Both players began their badminton journey with Alveston Juniors' "Wacky Racquets Badminfun" section and having discovered an appetite and ability, went on to take more serious individual coaching. Their hard work has certainly paid off.

Despite being only 13, Catlin has also joined a growing number of Warwickshire youngsters who are already representing the county in adult squads. It's encouraging to see the likes of Dan Morris and Millie Evans not only appearing, but competing at this level. Another 13 year old, Asmita Choudray made her county first team debut in March, coming up against Yorkshire's England number 2 Chloe Birch in one of her games. Although beaten, she was certainly not disgraced.

Many of these youngsters are also turning out for CBA teams (when their homework allows!) and will hopefully be club and league regulars for years to come. Getting younger players into the sport is crucial for its survival. I would encourage you all to point out the social and health benefits of badminton to your own children and those of colleagues. Encourage them to join the local junior clubs within our league's area. Today's young hesitant beginners are tomorrow's club stalwarts. Links to these clubs' websites can be found on CBA's own site.

In recent years, we have been able to report on National success for our area's former junior players. This year however the adults Nationals have been scheduled later and will not take place until September. Hopes will be high for former local juniors such as Fontaine Chapman and Sam Parsons, both of whom started out with Racqueteers.

Next month, the local annual junior team tournament takes place at the AT7 centre, at the new age groups of U-14 and U-18. For those of you who were unaware, Badminton England adopted the new rules that state a player's age group now relates to their age at 31st December following the current season – previously it had been based on that date midway through the current season. All our local youngsters therefore aged a year overnight!

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### 7. Warwickshire Badminton report

*Report from Chris Osbourne, Warwickshire County Liaison Officer*

**Funding:** Whatever else occurred, the 2016/17 season was overshadowed by the decision earlier this year to withdraw lottery funding to our sport. This was a harsh decision, given the fact that we had come back from the Rio Olympics having won the Bronze in the Mens Doubles. This has had, and will continue to have consequences for us all.

A number of Milton Keynes HQ staff have been made redundant along with regional staff out in the field who were there to manage projects and initiatives to promote badminton at grass roots level. We now, as a county, have a one third share in a "Relationship Manager" meaning that this resource will be thinly spread! As a county, we will have to take a more pro-active approach ourselves

Other cost cutting measures will have more relevance to those who are coached and train full time, such as our own Sam Parsons. It's hard to see how this country is to produce World class players in the foreseeable future given the lack of such opportunity. We don't have the infrastructure that Far East countries have, nor that of Denmark who Badminton England felt they could emulate.

One bright spot was the announcement of £7.25m over the next four years from Sport England. We'll have to wait and see whether this filters down and brings new players into the sport and subsequently into clubs

**County teams:** On the playing front, Warwickshire's first team were relegated from the Premier Division after a stay of many years. Injuries and the reluctance of some top players to represent their county meant that we often had to field weakened sides with the inevitable result. Last season the county ran a very successful trials open day in Solihull where dozens of players from CBA, LDBA, Solihull and Birmingham leagues had a chance to impress county coaches and managers. It is the intention to run something similar this year although at the time of writing, no date has been fixed. League secretaries will send out details as soon as they are available.

As well as the three main teams, the county also runs a number of Masters teams from Over-40 up to the Over-65 group. Our Masters co-ordinator John Brown is always keen to hear from players who are willing to get involved at this level and trials will be held later this year. Again, details will be sent out via league Secretaries once available.

**County web site:** Those of you who have visited the [www.BadmintonWarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.BadmintonWarwickshire.co.uk) web site will have noted how out of date this has become. Rest assured, this is being addressed! The draft design has a more user friendly structure with links to local leagues, the county juniors, the Masters and videos covering skills and tactics. It is intended to be functional – relaying information to existing players and also a marketing tool – to recruit new players into badminton in Warwickshire. Visitors to our digital front door currently get a poor impression of those living inside and may be don't bother ringing the bell.

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Fees: The fees structure will be changing. The current proposal is that clubs will pay a set club fee and its players will pay a reduced personal membership fee. As I understand it, this hasn't yet been formally agreed and with Warwickshire's own AGM also taking place tonight, the county fee attached to the BE fee won't be known in time to advise you this evening. As soon as everything has been agreed, the leagues will be informed to aid their planning for the coming season. We will include an update in the minutes.

### **Update to fees received after the AGM:**

The new Badminton England affiliation fees have been published and the membership year has been brought forward (on a permanent basis) to start on 1st September.

Changes:

- Clubs will now affiliate (cost £50-£100 per year dependent on number of members)
- Club subscription fee is offset by a reduction in individual member subscription fees (adults now £10 or £20 if member wants to compete in BE tournaments)

## **8. Treasurer's report**

8.1. Overview of league accounts for the season

*See appendix for file distributed during AGM*

8.2. Proposed league fees for 2017-2018 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: Vic James (Aerotech Labs)

Seconded: Kim Mort (Jubilee)

## **9. Election of Officers for 2017-2018 season**

**Chairperson:** Rachael Jenkinson (Central Sports)

Proposed: Terry Duckmanton (Warwick Bears) Seconded: Steve Turner (Hunters)

***As all committee members were willing to stand for another season, the remainder were elected in one vote:***

**Secretary:** Louise Taylor (Balsall Common)

**Treasurer:** Nicola O'Brian (AT7)

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**Auditor:** John Ross

**Committee for up to seven people:** Tom Burdett (Stratford/Monsoon), Helen Fulker (Central Sports/Solihull & Shirley), Chris Osbourne, Seaforth Dale (AT7), Paul Baker (Nuneaton), Steve Turner (Hunters)

Proposed: Mark Hope (St Philips)

Seconded: Jez Cooper (Balsall Common)

### 10. Proposed Rule Changes and Rule clarifications for 2017-2018 season

10.1. Rule Clarification for Playing Rule 5 made by the Committee

The Committee are adding a deadline for teams who need to amend their nominated players during the course of the season to ensure that the rule cannot be used to gain any advantage.

Playing Rule 5 will be amended with the additional text as below:

If a club becomes aware during the season that a nominated player will be unable to complete his/her required number of matches, a replacement must be nominated. The replacement must play over a third of the outstanding or remaining matches, except at the discretion of the committee. Changes to player nominations will only be accepted up until the earliest of the 28<sup>th</sup> February or 3 days before the match at which point there would ~~not~~ be insufficient matches remaining for the originally nominate player to complete the required number of matches ~~for the nominated player.~~

Following discussion, the rule clarification was amended with the **red text**

### 11. Additions and Withdrawals for 2017-2018 Season, deadline 24<sup>th</sup> August

11.1. Additions: Stratford (Mens 2, Mixed 2)

11.2. Withdrawals: Balsall Common (Ladies 2), Hunters (Mens 2), QDJ (Ladies)

These are indications of potential withdrawals/additions. Confirmation to be provided to the league by 24<sup>th</sup> August.

### 12. Any Other Business

12.1. Please update your club venue and contact details before the 24th August

12.2. Stockingford and Adders Mens 3 & 4 are merging and will become Nuneaton Badminton Club. Teams will remain in their positions in the league but will be renamed accordingly. Adders Mens 1 & 2, Adders Ladies and Adders Mixed will remain as Adders Badminton Club.

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- 12.3. St Philips noted that for the new season there will be no parking on-site at their sports centre due to building work.

**Actions:**

- Mark Hope (St Philips) to provide further information on parking options ahead of the season
- All clubs to advise their members to allow additional time when travelling to away matches at St Philips to ensure they can find parking and arrive on time for the match

- 12.4. There was a discussion about handicapping at the Chilvers Cup. Suggestions included holding a separate tournament without handicapping, reviewing based on entries and using an automated model for adjusting handicaps. It was agreed that for the coming season, this would be considered based on the standard of the clubs entering.

**Action:**

Mark Hope (St Philips) to share his self-adjusting handicap excel model for consideration by the Committee.

Meeting closed at: 8.30pm

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### Appendix – CBA Accounts Overview

#### Coventry Badminton Association - Season 2016/2017

##### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2016	2017	Notes
<b>Income</b>			
Affiliation Fees	665	688	1 3 additional clubs in 2017 (2 mens, 1 mixed)
Building Society interest	10	13	
Bank interest	-	-	
Profit/(Loss) on Dinner Dance	12	(160)	2 66 tickets, required to pay for minimum of 80 to avoid a significant room hire charge
Fines (received less paid out)	210	160	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>701</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
General admin expenses	215	210	
Website	150	150	
Secretary honorarium	50	50	
League Trophies and engraving	135	134	
Loss/(Profit) on Tournaments	167	158	3 Chilvers Cup - 7 teams (small increase in shuttle cost offset by lower court costs)
Affiliation Fees	(90)	-	
Juniors	90	90	
Charitable Donations	100	-	4 Macmillan Cancer Support in memory of Graham Chilvers
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>792</b>	
<b>Profit/(loss)</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>(91)</b>	

#### Coventry Badminton Association - Season 2016/2017

##### BALANCE SHEET (As at 31st May 2017)

##### Current Assets

Cash at Coventry Building Society	5,226	5,239
Cash at Bank	3,079	2,681
Cash in Hand	-	-
Debtors	223	98
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>8,528</b>	<b>8,018</b>

##### Current Liabilities

Creditors	900	481
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>481</b>

<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>7,628</b>	<b>7,537</b>
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##### Surplus (Deficit) - Income over expenditure

Balance Brought Forward	7,548	7,628
in year	80	(91)
<b>Balance Carried Forward</b>	<b>7,628</b>	<b>7,537</b>

#### Coventry Badminton Association - Season 2016/2017

##### CASH STATEMENT

Opening Balance Current Account and BS Account	8,142	8,305
Profit	80	(91)
Plus decrease in debtors	1,112	125
Less decrease in creditors	(1,029)	(418)
<b>Net Change</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>(385)</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>8,305</b>	<b>7,920</b>