

BDBA A.G.M Wednesday 7 June 2023

Meeting opened by the Chair Mike Percy at 7:30pm and all attendees welcomed by the Chair.

Present

Michael Banks
Ant Cross
Nicky Percy
Trevor Bell
Mike Percy
Kat Platt
Fred Barnes
Carole Booth
Stu Wickstead
Stuart Smerdon
Karen Kenyon Squirrel
Nikki Wilford
Jon Jackson
Steve Blackburn
Jenny Stothard
Jamie Sedgwick
Carol Howarth
Cath Bagley
Andy Wiseman
Serena Hindle
Mike Thomson

Apologies

Bernadette Tomlinson
Gordon Jackson
Lee Meakin

Minutes

Minutes of the 2023 meeting were read and approved.

Proposed – Mike Percy

Seconded – Carole Booth

No matters arising.

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

Officer Reports

Treasurer – Michael Banks

A balance sheet was handed round and is attached (Attachment 1).

Michael explained the detail in the balance sheet and proposed that team and player registration fees remain unchanged - £15 per mixed team, £10 per levels team and £7 per person registration – as there is a profit over the year of £177 and a healthy balance remains in the account. All in favour for the proposal.

Michael confirmed that Miller Roskell will continue to offer a level of sponsorship for the next season. He also stated that there were also opportunities for other sponsors, should anyone be interested.

Match Secretary – Ant Cross

Ant read the Match Secretary Report and a copy is attached (Attachment 2).

Chair – Mike Percy

Mike congratulated everyone on a successful year and felt that there has been some good engagement to start to arrest the decline in badminton players. We are starting to see several juniors and it is good to see the success in schools' badminton, junior training, club junior section and especially junior representation in the Lancashire teams. Good to see some older faces returning, too.

The tournaments have made a successful return, and thanks go to Nikki Wilford for driving this forward with help from Mike Thomson, Steve Blackburn, Amit Mistry and Ant Cross.

Mike thanked Council for their engagement and work, especially Ant as Match Secretary, Nicky as League Secretary and Michael B as Treasurer. Special thanks to Kat and Paul, as retiring members, for their support and commitment during their time on Council.

Welcomed the new members on Council – Carol Haworth and Jamie Sedgwick. There are always spaces, especially for new and younger members, to balance out the experience of the older members!

Mike thanked Nicky, Serena and Nikki for a very successful end of season event.

Finally, Mike encouraged everyone to keep up the momentum going forward into the new season later in the year.

Proposals

The only proposal received is to make the change at Attachment 3 to Rule 3.3 of the Constitution, Standing Orders and Competition Rules (previously distributed).

Ant Cross explained the rationale for the proposed change. There has been a developing practice of a couple of teams bringing in county players to strengthen their team for key matches, instead of using B Team/club players.

An in-depth discussion was held with views from across the floor. In principle, everyone agreed with the intent of the change but felt that it would better to allow each A Team to “star” 8 players across the season, with at least 6 of these being confirmed before the start of the first match, rather than insisting on players being brought up from eligible B Team players. Some of the rationale included

match clashes, some eligible players not wanting to play up/enjoying playing up due to the difference in standard, unavailability of eligible players.

It was proposed therefore that a change to Rule 2.1.5. Starring of Players would be more appropriate instead of the change to Rule 3.3. It was agreed that Council would reword the proposal and send out to teams before the start of the season for approval.

It was noted that, given we are trying to encourage younger/junior players to play, consideration should be given to playing these players to enable them to develop and grow their experience at a higher level.

Election of Officers for 2022/2023

President

Carole Booth – Year 3 of 3

Chair

Mike Percy

Vice Chair

Trevor Bell

League Secretary

Nicky Percy

Match Secretary

Ant Cross

Treasurer

Michael Banks

Press Secretary

Vacant

Tournament Secretary

Nikki Wilford

Social Secretary

Serena Hindle

Council Members

Carol Howarth

Jamie Sedgwick

Jon Jackson

Steve Blackburn

Fred Barnes (Honorary Life Member)

Junior Coaching Secretary

Trevor Bell

Adult Coaching Secretary

Vacant

Safeguarding Officer

Lee Meakin

All positions were proposed by Cath Bagley and seconded by Stuart Smerdon. All in favour.

Honorary Life Membership

An Honorary Life Membership was awarded to Stephen Blackburn to recognise his longstanding membership of the BDBA. Nicky Percy made a short speech outlining Steve's contribution and achievements. He was presented with a certificate and bottle of whiskey by the President Carole Booth. Steve thanked everyone and spoke about how important badminton is to him and how many good friends he has made over the years.

AGM business concluded.

Any Other Business

The following items were discussed after the conclusion of the AGM.

- Stu Wickstead advised that Kirkham are looking at a venue change to Ribby Hall, and he will advise details in due course, once confirmed.
- Nikki Wilford is on a mission to get the badminton courts reinstated at Thornton YMCA. She has contacted Badminton England for funding and is raising a petition to support this activity. The manager at the YMCA is also keen to support this activity. Further details to follow, including request to sign the petition.
- Serena is to organise a Christmas Do at one of the Ribby Hall party night. Date will be 7th December and tickets will be £45 per person. Further details to follow from Serena.
- Nikki gave a reminder about the Levels Tournaments on Saturday.
- A full committee meeting will be held in August to discuss the new season and some of the items raised.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Attachment 1

BDBA Accounts Year Ending March 2024

**BDBA
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
ACCOUNTS**

	<u>YE 31 MARCH 2024</u>	<u>YE 31 MARCH 2023</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Registration fees	1,365.00	1,393.00
Club subscriptions	310.00	315.00
Presentation evening	660.00	520.00
Shuttle sales	-	185.00
Cup		480.00
Sponsorship	150.00	150.00
Tournament	280.00	
	<u>2,765.00</u>	<u>3,043.00</u>
 <u>Expenditure</u>		
Insurance	1,036.00	1,036.00
Trophies	335.10	250.00
Shuttles		
Coaching expenses	-	
Bank charges	64.00	63.20
Website fees	54.00	60.00
Presentation night	628.98	330.50
Tournament costs	280.00	
Cup costs	169.80	792.50
Sundry	20.00	33.00
	<u>2,587.88</u>	<u>2,565.20</u>
 Surplus/deficit for the year	 <u><u>177.12</u></u>	 <u><u>477.80</u></u>
 <u>Balance sheet</u>		
Cash in hand and at bank	6,557.39	6,490.27
Shuttle stock	-	-
Debtors/prepayments	290.00	60.00
Creditors/accruals	- 125.00	- 5.00
Net assets	<u><u>6,722.39</u></u>	<u><u>6,545.27</u></u>
 <u>Capital account</u>		
Balance b/fwd	6,545.27	6,067.47
2021 surplus/deficit	177.12	477.80
	<u><u>6,722.39</u></u>	<u><u>6,545.27</u></u>

Attachment 2

Match Secretary's Report

Hello everyone and welcome to the Blackpool & District Badminton Association Annual General Meeting.

I would like to thank the club match secretaries, team captains and players for making my job relatively easy but, if I could just mention one thing, can we have surnames on the match slips please, just once will do.

We have just finished an interesting season with, in my view some positives and negatives which I will explain in this report.

In the Mixed League, we had an extra team (Poulton B) which was helpful in the formation of the leagues, it meant 8 teams in the 2 divisions. The Levels League continues to attract 7 or 8 teams and, I know clubs would enter teams or more teams if they had the available courts. Hopefully, next season we will see more teams in this league and hopefully make it 2 divisions.

Congratulations to all the league winners and runners up and a well done to all teams. No team achieved maximum points.

Hesketh-Fleetwood A regained the Mixed Division 1 trophy. Last season's winners Poulton A were runners up.

Mixed Division 1 seemed to be a league of 2 halves with the bottom 4 teams having a mini league of their own. There were good matches in the battle against relegation but, it was Lightning B and Stanley A who found themselves travelling back to Division 2.

In the seasons since resumption from Covid, there has been the practice for top teams in Mixed Division 1 to bring in County players, from other leagues, to play one or two matches against the other top teams. This practice is disappointing in my view and has influenced the overall table position. I have no objection to players from outside the area playing in the BDBA if they play regularly throughout the season but, the practice of bringing in County players for one or two important matches for the sake of winning silverware is a big negative and, in my opinion should stop. Let us know later in the AGM if you agree.

The top two teams in Mixed Division 2 were several points clear of the rest of the field. Lids won Division 2 with Kirkham Charter A runners up. Both teams making a long-awaited return to Division 1. New team Poulton B ended their first season in 3rd place, an excellent achievement.

It was great positive to see many young players throughout the teams in Division 2, some playing in their first season. I hope they enjoyed playing and hopefully, we will see more young players coming through in future seasons.

Comfortable winners of the Levels League were once again Lightning A with Hesketh-Fleetwood runners up. They were closely followed by Lids with their best achievement in the Levels League to date.

In the cup competitions, the rounds have always followed on usually in consecutive weeks. One team was disappointed to find that, after winning on a Thursday evening their next cup match was the following Monday which was difficult for them even though it was their home match night. As we don't have that many rounds anymore, I propose next season to have a week's break in between the first round and semifinal to give teams more time to arrange their players.

The final of the Gazette Cup was a close match won by Kingfisher B beating Hesketh-Fleetwood A by only 22 points. Congratulations to Kingfisher B who last had their name on the trophy 20 years ago!

In recent years, the Bridgewood Trophy has been dominated by Kirkham Charter A, Kirkham Charter B and Lids however, this season all those team were beaten convincingly by the same team. Poulton B with their new team, a mixture of youth and experience proved too strong and played well above their handicap to win the Trophy. After winning their semifinal by 2 points, Kirkham Charter B had to settle for runners up.

Next season 2024/ 2025 season will be my 50th year playing in the BDBA and, I am happy to say I am still enjoying my badminton and look forward to seeing you all, and new players' next season.

That's the end of the Report, thank you for the support and let us have your views later during the meeting.

Attachment 3

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution, Standing Orders and Competition Rules

Proposed change to Rule 3.30 League Competition Rules Reserve Players

The current rule states:

3.3. Reserve Players If a player needs to miss a match for any reason they may be replaced by a reserve, drawn from the club's remaining registered players for whom a playing level has been agreed with the Match Secretary. Any player may play for a higher team but a seventh appearance above the lowest team for which he/she has played shall automatically 'tie' the player to the next team above. Tied players may not play for a lower team unless they miss three consecutive league matches of the team to which they have become tied. Under no circumstances will substitutes be allowed for any player once he/she has commenced playing in a match.

Proposal:

3.3. Reserve Players If a player needs to miss a match for any reason they may be replaced by a reserve, drawn from the club's remaining registered players for whom a playing level has been agreed with the Match Secretary **except for the "A team" who must use a player from the B team or eligible to play for the B team**. Any player may play for a higher team but a seventh appearance above the lowest team for which he/she has played shall automatically 'tie' the player to the next team above. Tied players may not play for a lower team unless they miss three consecutive league matches of the team to which they have become tied. Under no circumstances will substitutes be allowed for any player once he/she has commenced playing in a match.