

**MINUTES OF ABERDEEN AND DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE 2017
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Venue: Aberdeen Grammar FP Club

Date: 17 August 2017

In Attendance:

Robin Ripley	Chairman
Ian Wright	Secretary
Ken Lavety	71 Club
Ken Watson	Scorecard Secretary
Steven Chappell	Aberdeen Badminton Academy
Colin Ross	Fetteresso BC
David Ross	Glen Ythan BC
Colin Anderson	Racquets BC
Joan Prieur	Aberdeenshire Council
Nicol Webster	Westhill BC
Jamie King	Granite City
Kieran Mackenzie	RGU
Sarah Kennedy	RGU
Simon Green	Banchory BC
Mark Gauci	ASV
Steven Plank	Racquets
Lizzie Findlay	Ladies/ Racquets
Francesca Bell	Aberdeen Uni
Andrew MacKenzie	Badminton Scotland

1. APOLOGIES

James Law	Beacon BC
Diane Cooper	Central Buchan

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

Proposed by Nicol Webster and seconded by Joan Prieur

3. MATTERS ARISING

NONE

**4. ABERDEEN & DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE 2016/2017
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Welcome to the 2017 Annual General Meeting. I extend a particular welcome to new club representatives (Aberdeen Badminton Academy).

I would like to thank the League Secretary Ian Wright and Committee members for their commitment and support over the last year, in particular to Colin Anderson for organising the Club Doubles Tournament.

I would also like to record our appreciation to Ken Watson for maintaining the league website and updating the results.

During the last season there was a slight reduction in numbers of players entering both the Aberdeen and District and North East Group Tournaments hosted in Aberdeen.

We again held the Club Doubles tournament on a Friday evenings at the central venue (Kincorth) there was an entry of 52 players. The men's doubles was won by Nick Darcey-Evans and Sam Muir, the Ladies Doubles by Jodie Harris and Maria Leith and the Mixed Doubles by Julie Hammond and Barry Wallace.

The committee have decided that the tournament will again be held in the second half of the season in order to give senior players the opportunity to play in one tournament in each half of the season (North East Restricted is scheduled by Badminton Scotland). We will be using the central venue on two Friday evening's in March with the playoffs on the last Friday in March.

I would encourage all clubs to participate, remember entry is included in the affiliation fees. The tournament is handicapped and if the committee get the handicapping right there should be some very close games, like we had this year.

Last season we continued holding matches for a large number of clubs at a 'central venue'. This continued to be successful with 169 fixtures completed out of 172 scheduled

We are grateful to Kincorth Sports Centre for providing us with facilities to enable the Central venue fixtures to take place and enable the League to survive.

The committee have again managed to secure a booking at Kincorth Sports Centre this season as our central venue with most matches still scheduled between 7pm and 9pm, giving us the flexibility to extend slightly to conclude the matches removing the requirement for clubs to complete games at a later time.

There is again a significant increase of team's entering the league from the start of last season. There are no spare dates for matches at Kincorth requiring us to extend the season with the first matches to start on 15th September. A number of other clubs with multiple teams also have no capacity to offer any alternative dates, consequently all clubs should advise their players and all matches effectively require to be played on the scheduled date. There are 196 matches scheduled for the forthcoming season.

Kincorth require payment in advance. Consequently clubs using the central venue will from this season onwards require make their payment for the first half of the season's hall hire to the league secretary at the Annual General Meeting and the payment for the second half of the season by 1st January 2018.

In order to give clubs as much notice as possible the fixtures list were compiled and distributed some time ago. It is proposed to continue with this practice in order to ensure accurate court booking requirements for the central venue.

We encourage all clubs to endeavour to play fixtures when scheduled by taking advantage of the facility to play with a reduced team if required, but if you are not able to do so, could both clubs please notify the league secretary and Ken Watson of the mutually agreeable alternative match date. Efforts should be made to try and play all scheduled fixtures in each half of the season.

It is requested that Score cards for completed matches are sent only to Ken Watson. Should any match not be played, either by agreement or dispute the Secretaries of both clubs concerned should notify the League Secretary by e-mail with their reasons for claiming or forfeiting the match, at the time rather than waiting to the end of the season, in order that the committee can consider the circumstances?

The Club Secretaries among you should by now have received the Badminton Scotland Affiliation forms. Could I remind all Club secretaries that it is a requirement of the league that clubs are affiliated to Badminton Scotland in order to participate in our leagues. We do get reminders of any clubs that do not affiliate.

As previously notified I am standing down as Chairman and our Secretary Ian Wright is also standing down. I have been involved with the Aberdeen and District League initially as a club secretary and then on various committee posts for approximately 30 years and Ian for approximately 17 years again as club secretary and league secretary for 13 years.

We have seen significant changes during this time with the steady decline in teams participating. There were seven divisions in the Men's and six in the mixed leagues when I first became involved.

Along with other members of the committee over the years we have introduced and supported several initiatives to try and keep our sport active and increase participation. These included supporting the introduction of junior teams participating in the senior leagues, as a spin off from this there have been a number of these junior players developing and progressing to represent Scotland. We supported a singles league for several seasons and perhaps the most radical we permitted the "Ladies Elite" team to participate in the Men's doubles league. I was contacted by leagues in the North West of England enquiring on how this worked and they have since introduced similar arrangements.

We have tried to remain impartial when trying to resolve any disputes over matches preferring to let the badminton decide the result rather than the committee whenever possible.

I have enjoyed my time playing badminton, involvement in organising leagues and tournaments and made many life-long friends along the way.

With the extra teams entering the league it looks like things may now be heading in the right direction. I wish the new committee and all clubs success for the future.

Robin Ripley
Chairman
Aberdeen & District Badminton League.

5. 2016/17 LEAGUE CLUB DOUBLES TOURNAMENT REPORT

See Chairman's Report

6. LEAGUE STANDINGS 2016/17

The Final League Standings were available on the League Website and most matches were played during the season. Ken Watson pleaded with Secretaries to (1) keep him up to date with rearranged matches and (2) send scorecards in as soon as possible following the match being played, i.e. the next day. (Using the correct electronic scorecard)

7. BADMINTON SCOTLAND

All clubs were reminded in order to participate in the League clubs must be affiliated to Badminton Scotland.

8. BALANCE SHEET

The updated balance sheet was circulated at the meeting and informed those present at the meeting that the League was presently in a good financial position and would continue to administer the hire costs of the central venue on behalf of all teams playing matches there.

The treasurer's account with IW/ RR has been closed as per committee discussion. The balance sheet reflects £0. Although, £35(Grammar FPs cost), £100 (Token website gesture) and £1295.04. The new Treasurer/ Secretary should open a Treasurer's Account with their own bank.

9. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

The annual affiliation fee of £35 per team remains.

10. PROVISIONAL DIVISION OF THE LEAGUES

The Committee was given discretion to divide up the divisions and leagues as appropriate in line with the revised league constitution.

11. PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CHANGE - RULE 19

EMAIL SENT OUT TO ALL CLUBS AT THE BEGINNING OF MAY 2017

Club/ Match Secretaries,

At last year's AGM it was agreed the committee would revise Rule 19 to allow multiple teams to be entered in the same section of the league from the same club for Season 2017-2018. Following significant debate at the meeting last year the consensus was that players should no longer be able to play down, which would align us with other racquet sport leagues.

The committee have drafted the proposed Rule 19 change below. The rule is aimed to be sustainable and easily policed by the committee. For reference the previous wording of the rule can be found in the

constitution: <http://www.aberdeenbadminton.co.uk/0000-2016-2017-season/constitution-aug-2013.pdf> . This constitution change will be tabled for adoption at the AGM in August and as promised we are issuing for review prior to that meeting.

Regards,
Ian Wright
League Secretary
ABERDEEN & DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE

19.

Should any Club entering the league have more than one team in the same section of the league (i.e. Ladies, Men's or Mixed Doubles), the Club(s) concerned must, prior to either (any) of these teams playing their first match of the season submit to the Hon. Sec., for the committees consideration, a list of the Club's top players as indicated below.

For a club with 2 teams; the list should comprise of the Club's top 3 players (in the case of Ladies Doubles) or top 6 players (in the case of Men's or Mixed Doubles). These nominations are thereafter recognised as being the A Team players for that season.

For a club with 3 teams; the ranked list should comprise of the Club's top 6 players (in the case of the Ladies Doubles) or top 12 players (in the case of the Men's or Mixed Doubles). The Ranks 1-3 (in case of Ladies Doubles) and 1-6 (in case of Men's or Mixed) will thereafter be recognised as A Team players for that season. The Ranks 4-6 (in case of Ladies Doubles) or 7-12 (in case of Men's or Mixed) will thereafter be recognised as B Team players for that season.

This rule can be applied in a similar fashion for clubs with 4 or more teams in the same section.

Any player may play 'up' as many times as required to fulfil matches. However, players are not permitted in any circumstance to play 'down'. In the event of a team fielding an ineligible player in a match, the opposing team will be granted a walk over and the defaulting team fined 2 points.

In the event of a higher ranked team vs a lower ranked team match (i.e. A vs B or B vs C or A vs C etc) where there is one couple short then the higher ranked team is required to field the full 3 couples and the lower ranked team can field 2 couples. NOTE: Rule 11b. is not applicable for such matches. i.e. to play an internal club league fixture there must be a minimum of 5 couples.

During the season if a new player joins the club who is deemed to be a ranked player then written consent to the committee, via the league secretary, must be made to amend the nominated team players. Similarly if a ranked player leaves a club during a season written consent, via the league secretary, should be sought to amend the nominated list of players.

12. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

Mixed 2 and Ladies 2 Cups have been missing for a number of seasons now. The league instructed the committee to purchase new Cups this season and have all engraving done.

The league trophies for some divisions were presented to the previous season's winning teams (a plea for missing trophies was also made):

Div	Mixed	Gents	Ladies
1	Fetteresso B	Westhill	Westhill
2	University	University A	University
3		Beacon	

13. REQUEST FOR HELP AT NORTH EAST GROUP OF BADMINTON SCOTLAND TOURNAMENTS

The Chairman informed those present that the North East Group of Badminton Scotland were responsible for organising three tournaments each season:

- North East Restricted (Under 19's singles, adult open and handicap events)
- North East Junior Restricted
- North East Junior open

The Chairman asked those present if they or any members of their clubs would be prepared to assist in helping manage the tournaments at the venues, and if so to contact Colin Ross (Fetteresso) who was Chairman of that organisation. The first of the tournaments to be held in November – Colin Ross will be in touch

14. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The following people were elected to serve on the Committee for the following season.

- Chairman Steven Chappell
- Secretary Steven Plank
- Fixture Secretary Jamie King
- Scorecard Secretary Ken Watson
- Tournament Secretary Lauren Dyce/ Mausam Thapa
- Trophies Secretary Rachael Rennie
- Advisory Role – 17/18 Robin Ripley / Ian Wright

AOCB

Robin Ripley
League Chairman

Ian Wright
League Secretary

Ken Watson
Score Card/ Website