

MINUTES OF ABERDEEN AND DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE 2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Venue: Aberdeen Grammar FP Club

Date: Thursday 18 August 2011

In Attendance: Robin Ripley, Chairman and Grampian Police Badminton Club
Ian Wright, Secretary
Colin Anderson, Committee and Racquets Badminton Club
Ken Watson, Committee Member and Weatherford
Malcolm Campbell, Committee Member
Diane Cooper, Committee Member and Central Buchan Badminton
Emma Low, Central Buchan
Graeme Cowie, Gordonians Badminton Club
Mark Pain, Granite City
Hilary Cowe, Banchory Badminton Club
Simon Green, Banchory Badminton Club
Rachel Rennie, CAS
Colin Ross, Fetteresso
Kim Stuart, Racquets Badminton Club
Gopinathan, Bimalson, Titan Smashers Badminton Club
Tong Teh, Titan Smashers Badminton Club
Stephen Hammond, Westhill Badminton Club, Titan Smashers
Abs Masid, 71 Club
Kirstien Oliver, Granite City

1. APOLOGIES

Hamish Duncan, Aberdeen University Badminton Club
Lindsay Kessack, 71 Club
Roy Brownlee, Portlethen Badminton Club
Lesley Alsop, Vetco Gray Badminton Club
James Law, Beacon Badminton Club
Richard Burnett, Central Buchan Badminton Club
Rob Wheadon, Cults Badminton Club
Jason Guyan, Fetteresso and CAS Badminton Clubs
Graeme Cowie, Gordonians Badminton Club
Julie Price, Westhill Badminton Club
Donald Leith, All Star North East Junior Badminton Club
Steven Chapel, All Star North East Junior Badminton Club
Punithan Ponnusamy, Titan Smashers Badminton Club
Nicol Webster, Westhill Badminton Club
Rhoda Wilkie, Glen Ythan
Fiona Hay, Grampian Police

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

Proposed by Colin Anderson and seconded by Colin Ross

3. MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Welcome to the 2011 Annual General Meeting. I extend a particular welcome to new representatives.

I would like to thank the Committee members for their commitment over the last year. In particular Colin Anderson for organising the Club Doubles Tournament and to Nicol Webster for coordinating the singles league, which has proved to be extremely well received and will continue this season.

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 appears to be an increase in the numbers of players wishing to play competitive badminton and this was reflected in entries to both the Aberdeen and District and North East Group Tournaments hosted in Aberdeen. Our local juniors (North East All Stars) are doing well in tournaments throughout the country with some of them also selected to represent Scotland.

Holding the Club Doubles tournament on a Friday evening at the central venue (RGU) proved very successful with a large entry of 62 players. The men's doubles was won by Ross Watson and Andy Hinchcliffe, The Ladies Doubles by Joanne Carr and Marta Kutt and the Mixed Doubles by Pauline Duncan and Andy Hinchcliffe.

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 Friday evening's dependant on entries.

I would encourage all clubs to participate. The tournament is handicapped and if the committee get the handicapping right there should be some very close games.

Last season we again continued holding matches for a large number of clubs at a 'central venue'. This continued to be successful with 86% of all scheduled fixtures completed.

We are grateful to RGU for providing us with facilities to enable the Central venue fixtures to take place and enable the League to survive. The committee have managed to secure a booking at Kincorth Sports Centre this season as our central venue with matches scheduled between 8pm and 10pm. All players are required to be there ready to play for 8pm sharp.

Due to the take up on using the central venue there will be no option to reschedule any fixtures here.

In order to give clubs as much notice as possible the committee will be holding the fixtures meeting very shortly, with matches due to start on 16th September.

The committee had a relatively easy job this season with all matches played in good spirits and no disputed claims to resolve.

We encourage all clubs to endeavour to play fixtures when scheduled, 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 that the Secretaries of both clubs concerned should notify our Secretary Ian Wright 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 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.

I look forward to seeing you at matches and tournaments during the forthcoming season.

5. 2010/11 LEAGUE CLUB DOUBLES TOURNAMENT REPORT

Holding the Club Doubles tournament on a Friday evening at the central venue (RGU) proved very successful with a large entry of 62 players The men's doubles was won by Ross Watson and Andy Hinchcliffe, The Ladies Doubles by Joanne Carr and Marta Kutt and the Mixed Doubles by Pauline Duncan and Andy Hinchcliffe.

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 one or two Friday evenings dependant on entries.

We would encourage all clubs to participate. The tournament is handicapped and if the committee get the handicapping right there should be some very close games.

6. LEAGUE STANDINGS 10/11

The Final League Standings were available on the League Website and most matches were played during the season.

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 Secretary circulated the balance sheet at the meeting and informed those present 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.

9. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Following the success of the League Club Doubles Tournament and to further encourage participation, the Chairman proposed revising the league affiliation fees to include two entries per club in the respective event in the tournament.

If agreed the proposal would be for the League tournament to be held over two Friday evenings at the central venue with no other fixtures scheduled on these dates and the dates to be notified along with the league fixtures.

The annual affiliation fee of £30 per team was proposed without increase. Following discussion the proposal was unanimously agreed.

10. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

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

- Chairman Robin Ripley
- Secretary Ian Wright
- Scorecard Secretary Ken Watson
- Tournament Secretary Colin Anderson
- Singles Secretary Nicol Webster
- Trophies Secretary Julie Price
- Committee Members Diane Cooper
 Punithan Ponnusamy

11. 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.

12. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

The league trophies for all divisions were presented to the previous season's winning teams:

Div	Mixed	Gents	Ladies
1	Westhill	Fetteresso A	CAS
2	Central Buchan B	Westhill	Racquets

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.

14. AOCB

Singles League

The Chairman informed those present that following the success of last season's trial and further players interested in participating it was agreed that the singles event within the Aberdeen and District League would continue.

Banchory Hall Availability

Hilary Cowe advised that due to the terms of their hall let (booked for matches) they would also be unable to reschedule any of their home matches once the fixtures were booked. It was agreed that the same rule regarding the central venue fixtures would also apply to Banchory.

Death of Local Player

Colin Ross informed those present of the death of one of the long term stalwarts of the league and coach to numerous youngsters Ross Weir had died recently. Colin undertook to write a letter of condolence on behalf of the North East Group and Aberdeen and District League.

Aberdeen University Team's home venue.

Several clubs raised concerns regarding the lack of court time provided for matches by the Aberdeen University teams having only one and a half hours court time. The Secretary informed those present that he would check the league constitution regarding minimum court time and if appropriate write to the University Club

Secretary. On checking the minimum requirement was confirmed as three hours for one court halls and this time was provided.

Proposal to revise rules 21 and 22 of the league constitution

The following revised rules were proposed and duly accepted.

21. To represent a club, a player must be a full paying member of the club. No player shall play for more than one club, in any one section of the League, in anyone season without consultation of the committee. The player involved must submit in writing, reasons for deferral to the league secretary for the assessment of the committee. The committee reserve the right to accept/reject the proposal.

22. 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 league secretary, for the committees consideration: a list of the Clubs top 3 players (in the case of Ladies Doubles) or top 6 players (in the case of Men's or Mixed Doubles). The distribution of the designated top 3 or 6 players is a decision for the club(s) concerned (all 3 or 6 players may be nominated to play for the top 'A' Team.

The designated top 3 or 6 players are entitled to play for their Clubs 'B' team on only one occasion throughout the season. Additionally only one of the registered players may represent their clubs 'B' team in any one match.

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.

Proposal to allow Select Ladies Team to participate in Men's Doubles League

The letter submitted by Rachel Rennie and previously distributed for consideration of permitting a "Select Ladies" team to participate in the men's doubles league in order to provide them with the opportunity to play at a higher standard locally to enable them to be more competitive at Scottish level matches and tournaments. There was broad support for the proposal and following a vote it was unanimously agreed that the team be permitted to enter the league in the lowest division.

Further discussion took place and following a further vote it was also agreed that should the Ladies team win the division that they would be awarded the trophy and gain promotion on merit.

Robin Ripley
League Chairman

Ian Wright
Tournament Secretary