

Leicestershire Schools Badminton Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes 8th June 2015.

Meeting commenced at 7.10pm

Apologies: Greg Howes, Vanessa Stanton, Mark Beynon and Mandy Allen.

Present: Cathy Buckler, Dave Watts, Alaina Goodenough, Carole Spencer, Laura and Alan Cowperthwaite, Amie Houlton, Ray Phipkin, Jenny Gallacher, Dave Armstrong, Ian Watson, Mark Thornley, Chris Hall, Alan Twells, Grahame Forryan, Terry Talbot and Frank Timson.

Minutes of Last Year's AGM: After consideration by the meeting last year's minutes were agreed as a true record. Proposer Carole Spencer, Seconder Alaina Goodenough.

Matters arising: Cathy asked the meeting to agree the alterations made to the Constitution to enable the LSBA to achieve Clubmark Accreditation - the meeting agreed and Dave Armstrong signed the Constitution.

Chairman's Report: Season 2014 – 2015

The Leicestershire Schools Badminton Association promotes badminton at all ages as a healthy life long experience. The Association work with schools and clubs throughout the county and as a county Association we provide the competitive element for children from the ages of 8 to 17yrs.

Many thanks to all of our Team Managers and Coaches for the management and team selection during our competitive campaign this season. It would be remiss of me not to mention the support of all parents and volunteers. Well done to you all- we could not function without your tireless support.

I would also confirm my own and the association's appreciation for the work carried out by Carole Spencer. Although Carole does not have an official role within the LSBA her wide knowledge of our sport and many contributions at all levels continues to be invaluable.

Our associations with the Team Leicestershire is now has now been in operation for 2 years. Players of all ages are continuing to benefit from the ability based training provided by the Performance centre – again under the Team Leicestershire set up.

As an example of the success of Team Leicestershire I was fortunate to attend the 2 National Badminton League matches at Loughborough University this season. Team Leicestershire provided players and coaches for pre – match coaching demonstrations, line judges, door officials and catering for spectators. This is not to mention our own Anthony Clarke providing the commentary for Sky Sports!

We continue to be supported by Greg Howes - Leicestershire's Badminton Development Officer – Greg has worked very hard this season to maintain and promote the Schools Leagues.

Congratulations to all of our successes in competitive play both individually and at team level. We are proud of the success of our players and we must again acknowledge the efforts of our coaches and managers for all they give to the players.

Finally I would like to thank all members of the LSBA Committee who work behind the scenes to ensure all of the administration and paperwork is in order. Special mention to Cathy Buckler our Secretary and Ray Phipkin our Treasurer.

Secretary's Report

Good Evening and thanks for attending tonight's meeting.

I'm not quite sure how to sum up this season, we have undergone quite a few changes not least in the running of our training sessions under the guidance of our PC coaches.

I believe that the alterations within this structure have attracted new players and given our existing players a great deal of enthusiasm for our sport. The training sessions that I have witnessed have

been well attended and the improvement in the physical and basic ability of our players has been commented on by other county managers but I will leave that to be reported on by our Team Managers. I have registered over 130 players with Badminton England this season and hope that we can improve on that number for next year.

I am grateful for the help I have been given by our treasurer Ray Phipkin, newly appointed last year but throwing himself into the position with real gusto. His assistance at the start of the season with ordering of t-shirts and hoodies was invaluable so thanks to you Ray. As we will see from his in depth report he has radically altered the way we view the treasurer position and made it his own. My thanks again.

Another major factor for the season was the unavailability of the Sports Hall at Babington whilst alterations were and are still taking place. This meant that I had to organise the hiring of Beaumont Leys School facilities to enable Graham and Terry to carry on with the training of our younger members, great patience shown by them as well as the parents and players concerned. Hopefully we are getting near to the end of this now and the changing rooms should be in use by the end of July !!!!!

I hope that the minutes I produce from our meetings are useful and keep anyone who can't attend informed of what is going on month by month.

Finally I would like to express my thanks to all the team managers, coaches and committee members for their help when I have had to ask for it and I would like to mention that with Carole's help our Presentation Night is to be held on Friday July 3rd and hope that we have as a good an attendance this year as last year.

Treasurer's Report

Following my election at the last AGM the first task was to resolve the provisional accounts. This gave the opportunity to carry out a deep drive into all income & expenditure figures to be able to report gross figures for every item rather than just a net profit or loss. Also to move expenditure between items to really allocate these amounts correctly.

The 2013/14 accounts were finally audited and signed off on 16th September 2014 indicating a profit of £643.04 as at 30th April 2014. This compared to the £3,134.63 profit as at 30th April 2013.

The next important task was to establish a budget for 2014/15 which initially forecast a loss of around £2,500.00 The forming of Team Leicestershire with the restructuring of income resulted in the LSBA income & expenditure account for 2013/14 having a vast decrease in surplus from 2012/13 accounts. Lengthy and pro-active discussions between the LSBA and the PC resulted in an agreement that the PC would pay the LSBA an initial donation of £1,500.00 to compensate for this situation and to help with the day to day running of the LSBA. The PC also agreed to make from September 2014 a total of 10 monthly payments of £250.00 as a donation to initially help off-set 2014/15 forecast budget loss of £2,500.00.

In order to help track income and expenditure a new process was introduced by the design and use of template forms for (i) Match Fees-Remittance Advice Payment Form; (ii) Tournament – Remittance Advice Payment Form; (iii) NMBL Event-Remittance Advice & Request for Payment Form; (iv) Tournament Event-Remittance Advice & Request for Payment Form. All these forms have been on the LSBA web site to download by the LSBA tournament organisers & team managers and I would take this opportunity to thank them for "buying-in" to this process.

To help with the ordering & tracking of "LEICS" T-shirts and "LEICS" Hoodies then again a new process was introduced by the design and use of template forms for (i) "LEICS" T-Shirt-Order & Remittance Advice Payment Form; (ii) "LEICS" Hoodies-Order & Remittance Advice Payment Form. All these forms have been on the LSBA web site for players to download.

From the forecast budget (prior to the PC agreement) the items that stand out are:-

(i) Grants which had been indicated as £1,500.00 but due to a change in funding, none were available. We have received a different type of grant from Leicestershire Legacy Fund-Silver Award of £450.00 towards the purchase of a defibrillator; however will need to return the money if not spent on a defibrillator. We also received a donation of £200.00 from Kelbenton Ltd V the company Mark Beynon is employed with.

(ii) We also had additional items such as T-Shirts, Hoodies & Catering. The cost of T-Shirts had been previously agreed at charging a standard £22.00 for shirts irrespective of size - hence loss. The cost to purchase was Junior:- 16 @ £19.50 & Senior:- 55 @ £25.50. The hoodie prices had also been

previously agreed but the selling price was the same as the purchase price being £19.00 for Junior and £22.50 for Senior.

(iii) Catering has been a venture completely separate from the direct control of the LSBA. This venture led by Sharon Beynon with her colleagues has resulted in a net income of £120.00 and the money has been handed over to the LSBA to be used towards the general running of the LSBA.

(iv) To really monitor usage we have also incorporated on the new template forms a requirement to indicate the number of shuttles used at each match, tournament and event. The budget based on the previous season assumed again a total of 132 dozen shuttles would be used. We have in fact only purchased 98 dozen shuttles and although prices have increased this season the total reduction on spend has been approximately £565.00. Out of 98 dozen purchased there are 22.5 dozen left of different types.

(v) The Junior Badminton England Membership cost is now £4.00 in lieu of £3.00 and the numbers have also increased by 21 to a total of 129 which is £84.00 additional expenditure over budget.

(vi) The school league should finally show a net profit of approximately £150.00. The main reason this is down on profit is that the LSBA still have to pay the administration fees for May, June & July to complete the current contract. In the past the contract was for 12 months from August to July but as the School League for 2015/16 will no longer be under LSBA control then we need to include 15 months. In the past a rolling 12 month payment process has been used irrespective of the correct 12-month accounting agreement period.

(vii) The Shires league shows a net profit of approximately £800.00, but if we take into account we used 19 dozen shuttles worth £292.00 then really the net profit is £508.00.

(viii) We have also saved around £474.00 of hall hire cost from the budget.

(ix) In the NMBL this year we entered one Primary, two U12's, two U14's and one U16's teams. The NMBL matches resulted in a loss of around £191.00 but as a matter of interest as we used 15.5 dozen shuttles worth £279.00 then really the net loss to take part was £470.00.

(x) The ICT event is always a loss and this time was £1,000.00.

(xi) The main income again was from tournaments looked after by Dave Watts. The U15 Bronze & Silver Tournament had a net profit of £1,694.00. The U12's Doubles Tournament had a net profit of £292.00.

(xii) Due to swapping around the dates of the LBA Junior singles tournament with the second LSBA American tournament meant we have only one rather than two LSBA American tournaments in this accounting period. However, due to all the efforts of Graham Forryan / Terry Talbot the tournament on 6th December 2014 produced a net profit of £405.00.

(xiii) Informed figures have been used to reflect monies still due or to be paid out. The "controlled" manner of reducing expenditure and the PC donations have been able to result in a profit. The 2014/15 accounts have been audited and signed off on 26th May 2015 indicating a profit of £877.51 as at 30th April 2015. This compared to the £643.04 profit as at 30th April 2014. Without the agreement of the PC to make the initial donation to the LSBA and then monthly donations the LSBA would have been faced with a heavy loss.

The Budget for 2015/16 is really looking at what further cost cutting items can still be made (i.e. Honorariums ?) bearing in mind as there will be no direct income from the School Leagues and that most grant funding has been withdrawn.

The LSBA receives match fees from players for all county & external events with the exception of the ICT. In future need to consider what should be an "event fee" rather than a "match fee" that players should pay to take part in the ICT. Also need to consider increasing the match fees for certain tournaments / events from £5.00 to say £6.00 and also ensure then total match fees collected for each match reflects the minimum players required for a team. Total match fee required for a team of 8 players would be £48.00. If more than 8 players made up the team then the team manager could split the amount certain players paid as long as the total £48.00 is collected.

We could consider that the Senior Shirts need to now be charged to the players at the purchase price from the supplier which is £25.50 in lieu of a reduced price in 2014/15 of £22.00 which created the £3.50 loss for each Senior Shirt sold. Would suggest that we now update & load new order form to the LSBA web site ahead of the LSBA Presentation night.

The LSBA has already started discussions with the PC to seek donations in the region of £3k. The PC has agreed again to make from September 2015 a total of 10 monthly payments of £250.00 as a donation to giving a total of £2,500.00. The LSBA have further requested a sum of £520.00 to cover the £4.00 Badminton England Junior Membership Fees for 130 members. The PC considers this is incorporated on the 10 monthly payments but the LSBA is seeking this as an additional sum.

We have already agreed to change the split of the LBA hall hire cost to be £1,000.00 PC and £500.00 LBA in lieu of 2014/15 of £792.00 PC and £720.00 LSBA. The LBA needs to receive £1,500.00 from the two organisations in total. *It is worth noting that if the LSBA was charged for the LBA hall hire for all court hours it uses it would come to £3,882.00 and for the PC this would have been £8,640.00. One thing we can all see is how much foresight of the guys in the late 1970s/early 80's when the funds were raised to build the hall benefits junior badminton in Leicestershire.*

Shuttle cost has increased, and Badminton England Junior Affiliation Membership Fees may increase?

The LSBA need to be in a situation that we can continue to provide the funding and opportunity for players to take part in as many matches, tournaments & events as possible in respect of county and non-county games.

Finally, thank you to all committee members for their help & support for this first year in the role as treasurer, with special thanks to Cathy Buckler as we always seem to be on the same page when trying to get things done! Also many thanks to Phil Conley for auditing again the LSBA accounts.

During the discussion regarding finance a question was asked as to whether we could maybe run more tournaments in our area to help raise funds. Dave Watts explained about the sanction that we need from Badminton England to run tournaments and that the calendar for this season was already sorted out but did not discount the fact that more might be able to be run in the future.

(Balance sheet etc. as per attached sheets)

Match Secretary's Report

For the 2014/15 season teams were entered in each of the U13, U15 and U17 age groups to the Shires League.

Each team had six fixtures:

The U13's played 3 home matches and 3 away with York being the most distant fixture.

The U15's played 2 matches at home and 4 away and met Warwickshire in the play-offs on 4 April 2015 which was played at Warwickshire.

The U17's played 3 home matches and 3 away and also reached the play-offs, which were played at Cheshire on 19 April 2015.

All the fixtures were completed as originally agreed except the U15 match against Derbyshire 2, which was scheduled for 12 October 2014 but by mutual consent was played on 22 March 2015, the last possible date of the season.

The home fixtures were all played at Babington so it has not been necessary to pay for extra court time. There was more court availability this year which has made arranging home fixtures easier.

In addition to the Shires League fixtures team managers arranged some friendly matches against local counties either using available court time at Babington or playing away.

Next season teams will again be entered in the 3 age groups of the Shires League and I shall attend the AGM planned for Saturday 27 June 2015 at Newport Pagnell.

Manager's Reports:

Below are extracts from Full Reports contained in Carole's Newsletter.

U11's Manager's Report:

We started our season with two match play sessions to help with pairings and team bonding which I feel has been hugely successful.

The U11's don't play in a League as the older age groups so we decided to arrange a few friendly matches one against Derbyshire and we played Warwickshire home and away, winning all three matches.

In the Warwickshire match we were able to give four of the younger player's games, which is great experience for them for next season.

In the primary Midway League this season we had some very hard fought matches where we very narrowly missed out on 2nd position, but we were very proud of our 3rd position only losing to Warwickshire by one or two points who ended up in 1st position overall.

Some of our U11's have also been involved in U12 and U13 events this season giving them lots of experience. The keenness of the players and the support of their parents has grown throughout the season with many of the U11's travelling the length of the country gaining lots of experience by entering the national tournaments, more than we have every had six of these children qualified for the U11 nationals in Essex where they all did amazing well especially Owen and Ayush who came away with a bronze medal in the doubles. The last competition of the season will be the U11 Championships in June will be a very tight competition this year for the current U11's.

The growth of the young players this season on and off the court has been amazing to see, we really are developing a lovely group.

Amie Hault

U12's Manager's Report:

The Under 12s A team, who were undefeated in the first leg of the North Midway league, returned to Sheffield to play the 2nd leg. The day started with a great win against Yorkshire 2nd team 9-1. This was the start of many more wins, a 6-4 win against Derby and a 10-0 win v Nottingham took them on the road to victory. These wins meant that Leicestershire went through to the top half of the competition.

The next three matches were won 8-2, 7-3 and going into the last match knowing that the gold medal was in sight the whole team gave a great performance even though they had been playing for over 6 hours. They dug deep and pulled off a convincing win of 7-3 the gold medal was theirs. What a fantastic result, 12 matches won over the two legs with no losses.

Mark King/Anthony Clarke

U13's Manager Report:

We had a good start to the season with a win in our first game. Over the six games we came out with three very convincing wins. The whole team have represented Leicestershire fantastically and have all played their hearts out in every game.

Six of the players have also been active in the Badminton England tournaments this year and have amassed quite a few medals between them.

On the whole a great season for all involved.

Alaina Goodenough

U14's Manager's Report:

The under 14s Leicestershire 1st team who were also undefeated in the first leg of their North Midway League tournament returned to Sheffield to play the 2nd leg on 8th February.

Their first match was against Cheshire, previous tough opponents, who put up a good fight with some very close matches. Leicestershire won the match only losing one game. Great 9-1 win to start the day!

Next up was Staffordshire, another win, this time 8-2, with again some close matches!
The third match was against Yorkshire's 2nd team. The team were feeling confident now having got two wins under their belt and didn't disappoint winning convincingly 10-0.

The final group match was against Nottinghamshire, who came 3rd in the first leg, the team beating them narrowly 6-4 on that occasion. The team rose to the challenge, with first place in the group stage now in their sights and won the match 9-1!!

This meant that the team would now meet Yorkshire 1, the winners of the other group to play for first or second place of this league.

They had beaten Yorkshire 1 in the first leg but the team were not complacent and didn't wanted be defeated at this stage. The match started with 2 wins in the mixed, after the singles, the score was 4-2 to Leicestershire, we needed two more wins to secure the match! The team went on in the doubles to win three out of the four games! Leicestershire 7 Yorkshire 3!

Brilliant result for the team who were undefeated over the two legs and came home winners of the gold medal!!

Well done to each and everyone of the players who played really well.

Laura Cowperthwaite

U15's Manager's Report:

It's been a very successful season for the Under 15 team this year. Leicestershire finished eleventh of the thirty eight Counties in the Shires League with wins over Norfolk 1, Worcestershire, Derbyshire 2 and Norfolk 2. Eleventh place put Leicestershire into the play-offs, but that was a step too far as we were beaten by a very strong Warwickshire team.

Thirteen different players were used in the season with only three being true under 15s, so the rest of the squad will be eligible to play again next year.

Mark Beynon

U16's Manager's Report:

ROUND 1 26th October 2014

The 1st leg didn't start well with the Twells Team Bus being delayed due to a SWAN on the M1!! This limited the amount of warm up time that the Team had, which did have an impact on the first Match, which was against a strong Cheshire Team. As there were only 4 teams for the 1st leg the format was changed to increase the number of games per match.

Results of the first round of matches:

Match 1 Leicestershire 7 v Cheshire 9

Match 2 Leicestershire 11 v Yorkshire 5

Match 3 Leicestershire 11 v Warwickshire 5

We finished 2nd place overall, with a great chance to push for 1st place on the second leg.

ROUND 2 - 2 February 2015

There were now six teams entered, with Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire 2 taking part. However, with points carried over these teams could not win the competition.

Match 1 Leicestershire 10 v Yorkshire (2) 0

Match 2 Leicestershire 5 v Yorkshire (1) 5 (Leics won on points)

Match 3 Leicestershire 4 v Warwickshire 6

Match 4 Leicestershire 10 v Cheshire 0

Match 5 Leicestershire 4 v Nottinghamshire 6

The final results meant that the top 3 teams finished on the same number of matches won. The final result was based on games and points. Leicestershire came through as the ultimate winner, another fantastic result.

Well done and thanks to all the players, parents and Chris & Pete Hall for all their help.

Alan Twells

U17's Manager's Report:

The under 17yrs team had a successful season in the Shires Leagues by winning four out of their six matches, beating Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire 2nd, Lincolnshire, Warwickshire, they got a 10 all draw v Derbyshire, only losing one match which was against Yorkshire 1st team.

This was enough to put them through to the Playoffs against Cheshire. The players tried their hardest but unfortunately Cheshire proved to be too strong on the day and Leicestershire lost 15 - 5 .

This has been a busy season for many of the players as they also enter National tournaments which takes them playing all over the country.

The County Championships is always a tight affair, competing against your team members and players that you train with weekly is always a nervous occasion but one the players relish.

Then comes the mighty ICT which is always the pinnacle of the season, and something they have to train hard for. Then its a well earned rest, well from badminton, for some it's those dreaded exams !!!!

Chris Hall

U17's Inter County Championships 2014

DAY 1 - The first match was against Isle of Man, a somewhat unknown quantity however a win was expected in this opening match, as it proved with Leics. running out 7-3 winners. The second match was the crunch match in the group, against Kent. We knew going in to the tournament that this would be an extremely close affair. This proved the case as the match finished tied 5 all, sadly Kent taking the win by 1 end. The 3rd match on a hectic first day was against reigning champions and pre-tournament favourites, Bucks. Despite some impressive performances Leics. went down 10 -0. Last match of the Day, was against the tournament debutants Hereford, Leics. eased to a 10-0 victory.

DAY 2 - Drawn into a group with Devon, Worcestershire and Middlesex. In what originally looked like a tricky group the players, proved too strong for any opposition dismissing of the group 8-2, 10-0 and 9-1 respectively.

DAY 3 - Leics were drawn into a final group with Notts, Suffolk and Oxford, for the final two days. The first match in the box was against the old enemy Notts. The match looked as if it all would hang on the mixed, Leics again proved too strong coasting through both mixed and eventually easing to a 7-3 victory. Suffolk was the other match on day 3, a team which had perhaps looked like the easiest match in the group. Leics won again 7-3, however this match was far from easy as the coaches noted and commended the amazing work ethic from the entire Suffolk team, which made every game a tricky encounter.

DAY 4 - The final match of the competition was against Oxford, this match was expected to be close and proved that way, the players showed that fighting spirit that they had been consistently doing throughout the four days ground out a 6-4 victory. Leicestershire finished 17th.

Many thanks to all the players who represented Leicestershire proudly and many thanks to all the coaches and supporters who gave up their time to make the ICT the experience it is! A special thanks to Hayley Deas and Pete Hall who assisted me over the four days.

Chris Hall

Additional Information added by Manager's

Under 12yrs Team Travel to York and get Silver Medal!!!! – 6 boys and 6 girls travelled to York to take part in a singles and doubles tournament on the Saturday and a team tournament on the Sunday where they achieved a silver medal. Well done to all players.

Under 14's attended the York Invitational Team Event on 17th May and returned with a Silver Medal only losing to the winners Cheshire 8 – 7 – well done to all the team.

The website contains a full report on both events.

Alan reported that the North Midway League results this year were exceptional as the U12, U14 and U16 teams had all finished in 1st Place we believe this is the first time that this has happened for the County.

Development Officer's Report:

This year has been a busy one for development within the City and County please refer to the attached Newsletter for detailed information supplied by Greg.

Publicity Report:

We do not have a publicity officer so no report submitted but we think that the Newsletter that Carole has done this year like last year gives a good review of all aspects of Badminton within our County.

Dave thanked Carole for taking the time to put this newsletter together, Carole said that it was the information submitted that made it as good as it is and thanked everyone for their support especially Angie who helps put it together. May it long continue.

Election of Officers

Previous officers standing

No other nominations so the following will be elected unopposed. Proposer Dave Watts, Seconded by Terry Talbot.

Chairman	-	Dave Armstrong
Honorary Vice Chairman	-	Colin Kent
Secretary	-	Cathy Buckler
Treasurer	-	Ray Phipkin
Tournament Secretary	-	Vanessa Stanton
Match Secretary	-	Alan Cowperthwaite
Development Officer	-	Greg Howes
Welfare Officer	-	Carole Spencer
Publicity Officer	-	Vacant

2015-2016 Season

Managers

U11 Manager	-	Jenny Gallacher
U12 Manager	-	Amie Hout
U13 Manager	-	John Allen
U14 Manager	-	Alaina Goodenough/Chris Rodgers
U15 Manager	-	Laura Cowperthwaite
U16 Manager	-	Vacant
U17 Manager	-	Chris Hall/Alan Twells
County Captain	-	Chris Hall
BE Events Organsier	-	Dave Watts
Parent Representative	-	Jenny Gallacher
Catering Manager	-	Vacant
Schools representative	-	Vacant
Junior Club representative	-	Vacant
Website Manager	-	Mark Thornley

Any Other Business

Website: Mark Thornley said that he had received good comments from other Counties regarding the standard and information on our website and that it had recorded over 1,000 hits per month so shows that it is being used by players, parents and other interested parties.

Alan asked that if the website was so popular it would be a good idea to link it to publicity items that might be sent in and perhaps the committee should include Publicity as a standard item on their Agenda.

Carole said that Greg has a slot where he can sometimes get reports in the Leicester Mercury but not sure what the timescale would be to achieve this – committee to request info from Greg.

Jenny asked did we have any more information regarding the alterations taking place at Babington Cathy had spoken recently to James and he thinks that hopefully by the end of July the changing rooms and toilets will be available but not sure if there is any more electrical work to be carried out. Still ongoing at the moment.

Carole informed the meeting that Vanessa and herself were sending out the letters for the training invites for next season but was not sure that the decision made by the coaches regarding no trials this year was correct as the 4 Talent ID sessions that had been organised had proved successful as we now have 8 players attending training and more will be invited in September, and as the Association is for Leicestershire Schools Badminton we might run the risk of missing out on a player with potential if the schools are not requested to send anyone along to be assessed.

Comments noted and to be discussed at the next committee meeting on 17th June.

Alan suggested that it might be an opportunity for the U17's to assist as part of a community work project which would be good for them if they put it onto their university applications. He knows that these projects are run by some schools but no one at the meeting was aware of any running and the practical applications.

Laura asked about the suggestion by Ray regarding match fees – this is referred to the next committee meeting being held on 17th June.

The Meeting Closed 8.50pm