

Leicestershire Schools Badminton Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes 20 May 2019.

Held at

The Community Room, Tesco Store, Beaumont Leys Shopping Centre

Meeting commenced at 8:00.pm

Apologies: Terry Talbot, Greg Howes, Laura and Alan Cowperthwaite, Michael Shaw

Present: Dave Armstrong, Paul Murray, Carole Spencer, Alex Sherwin, Natalie Clare, Dave Watts, Grahame Forryan, Ray Phipkin, Adam Sewell, Chris Hall

Dave opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and introducing the top table, and stating the main purpose of the meeting is to receive reports from officers/members of the committee, election of officers and approval of accounts.

Minutes of Last Year's AGM: After consideration by the meeting last year's minutes were agreed as a true record. **Proposer** Dave Armstrong **Seconder** Paul Murray **Agreed.**

Matters arising:

Chairman's Report: Season 2018 – 2019

I once again take great pleasure in providing this end of season report.

This Association work with Schools, Clubs and Local Sports Associations throughout the County to provide Competitive play for children from the ages of 8 to 17 yrs.

Again Many thanks to all of our Team Managers and Coaches for the management and team selection during our competitive campaign this season.

Unfortunately I have to report that during the season we had to except the resignation of two of our most respected Team managers.

I would like to thank personally, both Amie Hault and Alaina Goodenough for the time as Team Managers. We could not expect more dedicated and caring managers.

Also thanks to all parents and volunteers – we could not function without your tireless support.

I would like to once again our Junior County Captain – Chris Hall a position he has held for 5 years. Chris provides a valuable connection between the players, performance centre and parents.

This season has been a testing one for team selection/management. Chris's support and experience has been invaluable.

We continue to be supported by Greg Howes- Leicestershire's Badminton Development Officer – ' Mr Badminton 'efforts and involvement is not only Junior but all aspects of Leicestershire Badminton.

Congratulations all of our success in competitive play both individually and at team level. Details of which can be found on the LSBA website.

This is our 6th year of the formal Team Leicestershire/ Performance Centre set up. Well done to Chris, Mark, Antony and all coaches involved.

Team results so far to date):-

U14 Shires Teams reached the Play off for entry to the finals

U16 Shires Teams have reached the finals and finished in 2nd place.

U18 Shires Teams have reached the finals.

The U18 ICT Team had a fantastic tournament this year finishing 2nd out of 32!!! This is the first time Leicestershire have reached this lofty position!

The legacy of this result is that we are continuing even further to reap the success of the "Team Leicestershire/ Performance Centre set up.

More players are now making the transition from Junior play to senior play. This is Bourne out by junior players pushing for places in the Senior County teams and local club leagues.

LSBA players also continue to do well in the National Age Group Tournaments.

We also continue to provide junior players that of interest to the England Junior Selectors.

Without players there would be no LSBA. We have a dedicated network of coaches and officials that take every opportunity to 'talent spot' for young new players. This is done at area coaching sessions, schools leagues, trials and club coaches introducing their players. A special mention again to Carole Spencer, Greg Howes, Terry Talbot, Graham Forryan for their efforts.

As mentioned above this season has been a testing one for team selection/management. As a result it has been identified that we need to look how we can better manage both Managers, players & parent's expectations. In the off season we will looking how best to achieve this. As Chairman I would welcome all coaches, players, parents and officials to contribute to this debate.

A final mention, not only those mentioned earlier, but to all members of the LSBA Committee who work behind the scenes.

Secretary's Report – May 2019

Good Evening everyone and thanks to you all for attending this year's Annual General Meeting.

Having been elected to undertake the role last season I feel that, and I hope others agree that I have managed to create a seem less effect in the role following Cathy's previous tenure of the role for a few years.

The role like others in the Committee carries out tasks through the year in the background to the players coaching and training in order to keep the Association moving forward. Through the last year we have dealt with some unforeseen sensitive issues, but together with the rest of the Committee we have appropriately and collectively dealt with the same, whilst implementing a continuous improvement of our processes to deal with such matters in the future.

The main aim of the association being to enable our Managers and Coaches to have a regular flow of up and coming players through the age bands and to for them to assist the players in achieving their potential.

The Committee strive to keep Managers, Coaches, Players and Parents informed of all events and processes through the season.

Finally I offer my service for re-election for the role for the forthcoming season.

Treasurer's Report

See attached

Match Secretary's Report

Alan is retiring from the role at the end of the season.

The LSBA Committee thanks Alan for all his help and assistance he has provided over the years and wishes him all the best for the future.

Match Secretary next season: -

Alan will attend the Shires League AGM on Saturday 6 July 2019 with Greg. Please can we take the opportunity as part of the match secretary's report to thank Greg for taking on the position and wish him every success. Michael Shaw will also be shadowing Greg with the intention to be able to offer his service to the role for the season 2020-2021.

Badminton England tournament calendar is expected to be issued by 6 July. During the first week in September 2019, a meeting is to be arranged between the Team Managers and the Match Secretary to review and plan the Shires fixtures and procedures for Team Managers.

Welfare Officer: -

Laura Cowperthwaite has offered to continue as Welfare Officer for one more year but would like to relinquish the post at the end of next season.

Manager's Reports:

Below is a brief summary of the team's activity with the Full Reports for them available in Carole's Newsletter (attached).

Primary Manager's Report:

Refer to the LBA Newsletter previously prepared and issued by Carole Spencer. A copy of the same is also on the LSBA website.

U12's Manager's Report:

The U12's had a very successful season in both the Shires League and individuality.

We won all 6 qualification fixtures beating Yorkshire, Lancashire, Buckinghamshire, Norfolk, Warwickshire 2 and Nottinghamshire to gain automatic qualification to the Shires League Finals. We beat Oxfordshire 18-2 in the first round to guarantee a top 4 finish. We then narrowly lost 11-9 to Surrey to play off for positions 3 or 4 against Warwickshire which we easily won 15-5 to claim the bronze medal. Excellent result with a fantastic team spirit.

Individually the U12's has been very competitive with Katie Hault (Silver WD and Bronze WS), George Clare (Gold MD) and Oliver Sewell (Bronze MD) all claiming Medals at U11 Nationals. Matilda Sherwin managed a Bronze Medal in WD at an U13 Gold Tournament . The rest of the squad have secured medals at most BE tournaments with Leicestershire often dominating the finals. It culminated with 9 players from the U12's squad gaining qualification for the U13 Nationals at Milton Keynes where they all gave good accounts of themselves and Team Leicestershire.

We also managed to win the Primary North Midway League which was held at Babbington thanks to Carole Spencer.

With such a competitive squad there will be more success to come and more importantly they have had a smile on their faces all season when competing. It's been an honour for Alex and myself to manage them and look forward to the future.

U14's Manager's Report:

Shires League -

The Leicestershire U14s did exceedingly well to finish 10th in the league. This included strong wins against Warwickshire 2, Norfolk 2, and Yorkshire 2, but we took a heavy loss despite competitive games against Notts and only a very narrow loss against Warwickshire 1 prevented a top 8 finish with a home draw for the playoff.

We travelled to Herts for the playoff match where the players performed with real pride and resilience. We were only just beaten by a few points in many of the games though so were unable to progress any further.

This season has seen more consistency with 10 players representing the U14s and thanks must be extended to the U12/13 players whom without, we could not field a competitive team. Five of the six matches consisted of only three true U14 players, thus a credit to all those for being competitive at this level.

I'd like to thank all the players, and parents, involved for the commitment they have shown this year, the spirit of the squad has been an absolute pleasure to be part of.

U14 County Championships –

This year's Championships saw 29 players participating across the three events. This consisted of MS (10 entries), WS (11 entries) MD (8 pairs) WD (10 pairs), and XD (10 pairs). Many new players from outside of the PC entered and gave the event some real diversity.

The standard of play and conduct of all players was exemplary with tough physical and mental battles.

A massive well done and thank you to all those who participated and the parents for their support and encouragement to all involved with the event.

U16's Manager's Report:

Shires – achieved 2nd place in the finals

Yorkshire team tournament – Managed by Chris and Alex Sherwin the team achieved 3rd for 7 teams

U18's Manager's Report:

Shires – achieved 5th place in the finals

U18's Inter County Championships 2019

Entered the tournament as 3-4 seeds achieved 2nd place, fantastic achievement by the team players and manager.

Development Officer's Report:

Primary School Competitions/Promotions

Once again, less Schools but more children

Last year I reported that we had seen a fall in participation in Leicester City from around 20 to 12 schools participating. Yet again we have seen a slight drop in the number of City primary schools taking part in our promotions. This is hard to believe when there are so many testimonials regarding what we do and so many success stories out there. I have not taught a class in these ten years where the vast majority of children have not loved the game of badminton. So, schools pick up the phone and book us for next year!

Badminton in general

I am now in my tenth year of organising coaching and running competitions that have mainly been directed at schools. In the last few years that concentration has been more and more on primary schools. This is where learning skills for life start, and after all we have the largest secondary school's badminton league in the country waiting for these children. Despite the fall in participation above, I am inundated with calls from parents wanting to get their children involved in badminton. Many of our sessions around Leicester are full and it is becoming quite difficult to find them places. We need two things to happen. Firstly, we need more coaches. I am pleased to say that Badminton England is helping us recruit more. Secondly, we need to stop the ever-increasing use of sports facilities for exam purposes. Despite the academic importance of such exams, this is another form of what schools refer to as 'intervention' and defies the aim of getting children moving rather than sitting around. However, finishing on a very positive note, the number of children engaged in Team Leicestershire's coaching programme continues to grow, resulting in our County teams being some of the strongest in the country, at all age levels.

Publicity Report:

No Report as the role remains vacant.

Election of Officers:

Previous officers standing apart from:

Resignation: Alan Cowperthwaite Match Secretary

Nominations for Match Secretary was Greg Howes being assisted by Michael Shaw and as no other nominations received the following will be elected unopposed. **Proposer** Carole Spencer, **Seconded** by Grahame Forryan **passed unanimously**.

Chairman	-	Dave Armstrong
Honorary Vice Chairman	-	Colin Kent
Secretary	-	Paul Murray
Treasurer	-	Ray Phipkin
Tournament Secretary	-	Carole Spencer
Match Secretary	-	Greg Howes
Development Officer	-	Greg Howes
Welfare Officer	-	Laura Cowperthwaite
Publicity Officer	-	To be advised

The above all **Proposed** Dave Watts, **Seconded** by Adam Sewell

2019-2020 Season

Managers

Primary	(North Midway)	Anna Edwards
U12 Manager	-	Natalie Clare
U13 Manager	(North Midway)	Chris/Alex Sherwin
U14 Managers	-	Chris/Alex Sherwin
U15 Manager	(North Midway)	Adam Sewell
U16 Manager	-	Adam Sewell
U17 Manager	(North Midway)	County Captain

U18 Manager	-	County Captain
County Captain	-	Chris Hall
BE Events Organiser	-	Dave Watts
Parent Representative	-	position vacant
Catering Manager	-	position vacant
Schools representative	-	position vacant
Junior Club representative	-	Carole Spencer
Website Manager	-	position vacant although John Fannon is currently assisting on an ad-hoc basis.

Any Other Business

Match fees for next season to be held at £5 per player per match, but generally £40 per shires team per match.

County Championships for next season to be held through September 2019 with the exception of the U12's which will be held May 2020

Carole Spencer expressed a big thankyou to Angie Connors for her assistance with the LBA newsletter.

U12 pre-season training session has been cancelled.

Consideration should be given next season to offer some form of catering facilities/snack bar at home tournaments, to be raised at the next LSBA Committee meeting.

The meeting agreed for the LSBA Constitution to be amended to capture school children up to the age of U20.

Carole Spencer is currently working with the Badminton England representative to engage junior schools to become "Racket Pack" schools and asked whether the LSBA should be involved in this. To be reviewed by the LSBA Committee at the next Committee meeting.

Players fees payable by the LSBA and the players will be changed next season to the LSBA will pay the £4 base fee, but Badminton England currently propose that players rather than the club, then pay the £10 to compete.

Safeguarding procedures – agreed to adopt and abide by the Badminton England Safe Guarding policies and procedures, **Proposed by** Chris Hall, **Seconded by** Alex Sherwin.

The Meeting Closed 9:30pm