

**Leicestershire Schools Badminton Association**  
**Annual General Meeting Minutes 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020.**  
**Virtual meeting on line (Zoom) due to Corvid 19 Epidemic.**

**DRAFT ( 28-07 -020**

Meeting commenced at 7.30.pm.

**Apologies:** Ray Phipkin, Colin Kent, Liam Drake ( LRS ), Helen Rosso ( BE), Anna Watts, Scott Johnson ( parent).

**Present:** Dave Armstrong, Carole Spencer, Alex Sherwin, Chris Sherwin, Natalie Clare, Dave Watts, Adam Sewell, Chris Hall, Greg Howes, Michael Shaw, Laura Cowperthwaite

Dave opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending 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** Dave Watts.

**Matters arising:**

**Chairman's Report: Season 2019 – 2020**

I have been providing an end of season report as LSBA Chairman for the last 10years.? Prior to taking on the Chairman's role I have been involved as Secretary, Publicity Secretary and 5 years as Team Manager. An involvement for well over 20 years!

The start of the Season was a very busy one! Our Secretary Paul Murray tendering a surprise resignation within our pre-season period!! I would like to express my thanks to members of the committee for their efforts to get the season under way as normal. Special mention to Carole Spencer, Ray Phipkin and Dave Watts.

At the time of writing this report the whole Country and indeed most of the world is struggling with the effects of the Corvid 19 Pandemic!

On behalf of LSBA I would like to pay tribute to all those working in the NHS and other key workers for their tireless dedication in these troubling times.

The knock-on effect on our own Sport and Association has been devastating!!

Most of our Shires teams have reached the play- offs -however it is not sure whether they will be concluded, ICT has been postponed and is unlikely to take place soon.

Badminton England are currently operating a '5 week rolling cancellation window' for all Senior & Junior Tournaments for this remainder of the season.

Closer to home our own AGM, LSBA Championships and Presentation night is seriously in doubt.

Also, all PC training has been cancelled for the foreseeable future.

On a positive note the LSBA committee are working hard to ensure the disruption is kept to a minimum and will be looking to return to normal as soon as it is safe to do so.

Once again, many thanks to all our Team Managers and Coaches for the management and team selection during our competitive campaign so far 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.

This is our 7th year of the formal Team Leicestershire set up. I am sure all those involved will agree his has been another successful year for the Performance centre coaches and assistants.

We continue to be supported by Greg Howes- Leicestershire's Badminton Development Officer. His efforts and involvement are not only Junior but all aspects of Leicestershire Badminton. We are also indebted to Greg, assisted by Michael Shaw, for stepping in at the last minute and taking up the role of LSBA Match Secretary.

Congratulations all our successes in competitive play both individually and at team level so far this season. Details of will shortly be found on the LSBA website.

With out 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 to Carole Spencer, Greg Howes, Terry Talbot, Graham Forryan for their efforts.

A final mention to all members of the LSBA Committee who work behind the scenes. We could not function without the efforts of our hard-working committee.

Dave Armstrong – Chairman April 2020.

## **Secretary's Report – Season 2019 - 2020**

Well what a 'season' and it is not over yet!!!!??

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 season started unexpectedly with the sudden resignation of our Secretary, Paul Murray. Many thanks to Paul for his short time with the LSBA. We wish him and his family well in the future.

The start of the season was very hectic. However, the whole of the Committee pulled together to get the season under way. I took on the role of acting Secretary at the time and would like to thank Carole spencer, Dave Watts, and Ray Phipkin for their valued assistance.

Towards the end of the Season we were hit with Worldwide Corvid 19 Pandemic! The challenges as a Nation, Sport, Association and personally are enormous!! However, I am confident that we will be able to get through this if the efforts achieved so far are anything to go by!!

I would like to add my thanks for the members resigning from the committee this year, all their hard work has been appreciated by players and committee members alike.

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

Dave Armstrong (acting) Secretary 2019 -2020.

## **Treasurer's Report**

See attached

## **Match Secretary's Report**

Last summer, whilst the position of Match Secretary was in transition, I stepped in to organise the Shires fixtures for the forthcoming season. With the help of Mike Shaw and Alan Cowperthwaite I headed to Milton Keynes and managed to fix the bulk of the dates there and then. Over the next few weeks, after a few exchanges of emails, the season was ready to go.

I am pleased to report that, as our team captains are so efficient in their organisation, I was little troubled thereafter with having to make further arrangements.

**Report for the U12's:** Won all 6 games and would've finished 3rd in the league.

**Report for the U14's:** Won 5 and lost 1 currently sitting 5th in the league so therefore have qualified for a home fixture in the play offs.

**Report for the U16's:** Won 5 and lost 1 currently sitting 5th in the league so therefore have qualified for a home fixture in the play offs.

**Report for the U18's:** U18's won 5 and lost 1, would've had a home playoff.

**Report for the U20's:** Played all 4 matches. Won all four. Top of the league!

As with many sporting events this year, there is uncertainty over how the season will finish. However, it is the intention of the Shires organisers to complete the finals if at all possible.

Greg Howes

LSBA Match Secretary

## **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:**

This was my first year as a manager and what a year it has been. My super littlies gave it their everything and am so proud of them all.

Our first match was a tough one against Warwickshire (who tend to win most leagues at most ages) but we came away with an awesome 14-6 win. Considering for most of the team this was their first appearance for Leicestershire it was an amazing win. Next up was a long trip to Cheshire and a few players not available. I was a little apprehensive but I shouldn't have been. Another amazing win Leic' 18 - Cheshire 2.

Our third game in 3 weeks came as a home match v Herts 2. This was a little easier beating them 20-0.

After our little Christmas break we were straight back into our matches with 3 matches in 4 weekends. First was Yorks 2 at home winning that 19-1, but the following weekend was Yorks 1 away (another tough opponent) again the team gave it their all and we came away with a fantastic 15-5 win. Last up was Norfolk at home and probably our easiest match winning another 20-0.

Within the league we finished 3rd overall and off to the shires finals (whenever they will be)

I have thoroughly enjoyed my year with the team and can't wait to manage them again. They are a fantastic bunch of kids and supporters (couldn't do it without them) and wish them well for the rest of this season.

Natalie Clare U12 Manager.

### **U14's Manager's Report:**

This seasons under 14yrs County team was a young team comprising of U12's playing up an age group as well as a core of U13's and a couple of true U14's.

We started the shires league qualification games with a 19-1 win at home against Yorkshire 2<sup>nd</sup> team.

We continued the winning run by beating Lincolnshire side who we beat 20-0. The last home match saw the U14's go against an inexperienced Northumberland side that we ended up beating 19-1 utilising the whole squad. The first away fixture saw us come against a very strong Warwickshire side that easily beat us 17-3. The very next week saw the team travel all the way over to Norfolk getting a convincing win of 17-3. The 4<sup>th</sup> match in 4 weeks saw the last qualification match against local rivals Nottinghamshire, another convincingly win to us 20-0. Winning 5 out of 6 games has been phenomenal with such a young squad and we have secured a home playoff if the finals are to go ahead. We have been lucky enough to play most the squad again this year and I cannot thank the players and parents enough for their support as we had a very crowded shires fixture commitment. A special thanks goes to the players and parents that travelled over to Norfolk as that was a very long day due to the roadworks. Alex and I are extremely proud of the children's effort and attitude again this year, it was a pleasure managing them and look forward to the rest of the season.

Finally, on an individual front we have had four of the girl's competing in the U13 Gold Competitions and bringing home medals, so well done to Sylvie Walker, Matilda Sherwin, Katie Houlton and Lexie Edwards. The majority of the squad have been competing nationally on the BE tournament circuit and recording some great results and medals. Well done on this season's results so far.

Chris and Alex Sherwin Joint U14 Managers.

### **U16's Manager's Report:**

It's been a long fought season for the U16s in the Shires League with many new faces representing the team. Fortunately, we managed to play all 6 games in our pool winning four and losing just two.

First up was a convincing win versus Lincolnshire a good, dominant opener and chance to try out a few partnerships. Next up, the always strong Warwickshire. With several players unable to play, we drew upon our reserves, whom for some were making their first Shires League, and County, appearance. Together, they players put up an amazing demonstration of passion and resilience, losing only 13-7, of which many games were decided in three ends and scores very close. This was followed up with confident wins against Staffordshire

and Derby and then one of the closest matches many of the players will ever experience against Buckinghamshire. Thanks to some, 'out of their skin' performances, this match went all the way to the last game to which we took an incredibly well earned 11-9 victory, a true team performance. To challenge for the playoffs, we still had to face Nottinghamshire, a team that we know very well, away. This meant a journey to Mansfield, and another player making their debut in a tough match. Our aim was simply to take as many rubbers as we could, where we could. The players stepped up, showing the great team spirit they have all season, which saw the games go very close with lots of extended rallies and many deciders being settled in the third end. Although losing out, the result had set us on the fringe of the playoff positions but some of the teams have a game in hand so only time can decide our finishing place.

I'd like to thank all the players and parents that continue to support this squad, the new players who took their opportunities to represent, and for the spirit demonstrated across the squad.

Players that represented (rubbers played) this year are Carly (8), Sylvie (24), Lexie (20), Matilda (16), Violet (8), Emma (12), Ria (4), Naomi (4), Leo (24), Will (23), Tom (23), Mitchell (8), Eddie (14), and Dani (4)

Adam Sewell U16 Manager.

### **U18's Manager's Report:**

#### U18 Shires League Report

Going into this season we knew we had a strong U18's squad, the goal starting the year was to gain qualification for the season-ending finals. As we looked down the fixture list for the season, we knew that we had one very stern test against Warwickshire. This proved to be the case as we quickly dispatched Notts, Northants and Yorkshire 2 by a 20 – 0, and Lincs 19 - 1. The expected test against Warwickshire, turned out to be another close affair with many of the games going to 3 ends, however, unfortunately the final score did not go in our favour as we were beaten 14 - 6. We were due to face Norfolk but that was cancelled due to storm Ciara (doesn't that seem a long time ago). With the season coming to the sudden stop it leaves as wondering where this team would've finished, if the play-offs were to take place and the team went to qualify for the finals, I'm sure we would've been the team that everybody wanted to avoid.

Chris Hall (manager)

### **U18's Inter County Championships 2019**

ICT Competition on hold pending BE review underway at the time of this meeting.

### **Development Officer's Report:**

#### **Primary Schools**

##### **Badminton England/Team Leicestershire – free badminton coaching**

Badminton England kindly granted funds to both Carole Spencer (County) and myself (City) to attract 12 primary schools to their 'Racket Pack' offer. This was followed by our Performance Centre matching the funding, thereby offering primary schools free badminton coaching for six weeks. The response in the North West primaries was immediate and 6

schools signed up. With a few exceptions, listed as entering below, the response from City primaries was poor. Therefore, the offer for free badminton coaching was extended to those County schools on the periphery of the City. As shown above there was an immediate positive response from schools in Anstey, Groby, Glenfield and Braunstone, signing up for the remaining 6 places.

**The Primary Schools County Challenge** ramped up this year following this investment and was aimed at increasing the number of children attending Team Leicestershire's 12-2pm and 4-6pm sessions on a Saturday at Babington Academy:

**Round 1:** Sandfield Close (City), Rowlatts Hill (City), Rushey Mead (City), The Hall (Glenfield). Tournament at Babington on Wednesday 9 October. Won by The Hall.

**Round 2:** Entries: Sandfield Close B Team (City), Thurnby Lodge (City), Latimer (Anstey). Tournament at Babington on Wednesday 11 December. Won by Thurnby Lodge.

**Round 3:** Entries: Millfield Academy (Braunstone), Highcliffe (Birstall), Woolden Hill (Anstey). Tournament at Babington on Wednesday 12 February 2020. Won by Millfield Academy.

**Round 4:** Entries: Lady Jane Grey (Groby), Latimer B Team (Anstey), Martinshaw (Groby), Thurnby Lodge B Team (City). Tournament at Babington on Wednesday 1 April 2020 cancelled due to virus concerns.

**S Leics Round:** The Hall B Team (Glenfield), Foxton and Fleckney. Tournament at Leicester Grammar, Thursday 18 June 2020. Planned but awaiting national advice.

**County Final:** Thursday 2 July 2020 at Babington. Planned but awaiting national advice.

### **Leicestershire Performance Centre Junior Training**

At the time of writing this year's primary schools project has been highly successful. At the time of writing, both 12-2pm and 4-6pm sessions are now full, despite the early halt to proceedings as a result of the corona virus.

### **Juniors - General**

There is no let-up in the number of phone calls I receive from parents asking where their sons and daughters can undertake badminton. This proves what we always knew – kids love badminton!

### **Adult League**

Despite having 4 new clubs join the LBA this year (DMU, Mowbray, Highfields and Rainbow Racquets), player numbers continue to tumble. Season 18/19 finished with 609 registered players. 2019 ended at 572. To date this has risen to 614. The LBA, along with the LSBA, has appointed a development group to address this problem.

Play was brought to an abrupt halt by the global crisis with just over 100 matches to be concluded. A number of proposals are to be presented to the clubs in order to decide the outcome of this season.

Greg Howes – Development Officer

### **Publicity Report:**

No Report as the role remains vacant.

## **Election of Officers:**

Previous officers standing apart from:

Resignation: Greg Howes - Match Secretary

Nominations for Match Secretary received from Michael Shaw and as no other nominations received the following will be elected unopposed: -

Chairman	-	Dave Armstrong
Honorary Vice Chairman	-	Colin Kent
Secretary	-	Dave Armstrong.
Treasurer	-	Ray Phipkin
Tournament Secretary	-	Carole Spencer
Match Secretary	-	Michael Shaw
Development Officer	-	Greg Howes
Welfare Officer	-	Natalie Clare
Publicity Officer	-	To be advised

## **2020-2021 Season**

### **Managers**

Primary	(North Midway)	Anna Edwards/Dave Watts
U12 Manager	-	Anna Edwards
U13 Manager	(North Midway)	Natalie Clare
U14 Managers	-	Chris/Alex Sherwin
U15 Manager	(North Midway)	Chris/Alex Sherwin
U16 Manager	-	Adam Sewell
U17 Manager	(North Midway)	County Captain
U18 Manager	-	County Captain
U20 manager	-	Natalie Clare
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 (post meeting – this needs to be agreed/confirmed)

**The Meeting Closed 8.45 pm**