

**Minutes of the York and District Badminton League AGM
held at RI, Wednesday 29 August 2012**

Committee

Life President	John Bellerby
Chairman	John Fowler
Match Secretary	Paul Hobman
Treasurer	Angela Hobman
Secretary	Hazel Winfield

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Steve Martin (YUSC) & Angela Hobman.

2. Trophies

John Fowler presented the trophies to the winners of the 2011/12 season. These were:

Ladies 1	RI M/W A
Ladies 2	RI M/W B
Mens 1	RI M/W A
Mens 2	Clifton C
Mens 3	Tadcaster 86
Mixed 1	Clifton A
Mixed 2	University Students B
Mixed 3	RI T/T A
Mixed 4	Selby Drax B

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were read out & approved as a true record. Proposed by Paul Newnham (Selby Jubilee), seconded by Mark Winfield (Fulfordgate).

4. Election of officers

All officers indicated their willingness to stand again & as there were no other nominations they were all re-elected.

5. Chairman's report

John highlighted the following areas which the league committee has taken steps forward in during the past year. These were:

- the Community Badminton Network, which aims to recruit more players & offers coaching;
- the creation of a new website to replace the existing Communigate site; and
- publishing the first edition of the badminton newsletter with the second to follow shortly. John asked if any clubs would like any articles included in the newsletter to let any member of the committee know.

John congratulated all the divisional league winners with special mention to Clifton, who as well as winning the mixed division 1 title, also won the Yorkshire League division 3 title. He also congratulated Clifton on its coaching efforts which had been well received.

John highlighted the need for more young players to be brought into the league & asked any clubs with U15 players to consider entering them into the Bronze standard Badminton England U15s competition to be held in York on 4 November (details available on the Badminton England website).

John encouraged clubs to support the county association & Badminton England by becoming affiliated to Badminton England. This had benefits for the clubs as they are listed on Badminton England's club finder web page & also contributes to a stronger national body.

To close, John stated that promoting junior play in clubs & encouraging them to receive coaching would be one of the league committee's priorities & he asked all attendees to take this thought back to their club members for consideration.

6. Treasurer's report

Paul presented the audited accounts on Angela's behalf. The accounts showed a healthy surplus so it was proposed that league entry fees & fines remain the same for the 2012/13 season ie £5 per team

entry & £4 fine per late card. The accounts were accepted by the meeting & there were no questions arising.

7. Match Secretary's report

Paul congratulated Clifton on winning the mixed division 1 title by 5 points ahead of York RI A. He highlighted the clubs strength in depth as they also kept their mixed B & C teams in division 1. York RI won the men's & ladies division 1 titles after a season long struggle against Clifton. Paul also commented on Tadcaster 86's tremendous season as their four teams finished the season with 3 second spots & winners of the Men's division 3 title by 33 points.

Paul reported that fines have increased since last year with the main reasons being the cards are received by Paul after the 7 day deadline or incomplete cards (ie no names, dates, scores etc). He asked all clubs to ensure that cards are fully completed & posted to him so that it reaches him within 7 days of the match date (not forgetting to put a stamp on!).

He thanked John & Hazel for their efforts with moving the league's reporting structure into the computer era, by producing the electronic newsletter & regularly publishing the league tables on the League's Communigate pages. This all helped the committee's aim of trying to encourage more clubs in the York area to join the League.

Paul mentioned that the fixtures meeting would take place the following week. For the benefit of new club secretaries Paul explained the process involved in agreeing fixtures, including the distribution of the league directory and issuing copies of fixture lists to the other club secretaries & the League Match Secretary. He also explained that the league entry fee would be due at the fixtures meeting as well as any fines incurred. Paul reminded clubs that the nomination of A B or C team players must be sent to him before the team's first match otherwise the team listed on the opening match scorecard would be the one entered into the league records.

Paul thanked Angela for her assistance with the compilation of the league records & wished all teams an enjoyable & injury free season.

8. Rule amendments

An amendment to rule 7.4 was proposed by the committee. Currently clubs with more than one team in the same division are required to complete inter-club matches before Christmas. However, due to a couple of clubs now having 3 teams within the same division it was proposed to extend the deadline until the end of January. Seconded by Paul Newnham (Selby Jubilee) & carried by majority vote.

It was also proposed by the committee to introduce a £10 fine for Club's who didn't send a copy of their fixture list to the League Match Secretary within 14 days of the fixture meeting. If for any reason Clubs would be unable to meet this deadline they should contact the League Match Secretary before the 14 days expires. Seconded by Margaret Sinclair (Riverside) & carried by majority vote.

9. Formation of divisions

The following composition of the divisions for the 2012/13 season were agreed.

Ladies – 2 divisions of 6 & 5 teams

Mens – 3 divisions of 8, 7 & 8 teams

Mixed – 4 divisions of 8, 7, 7, & 7 teams.

10. AoB

David Dewey (Badminton England) gave an update on the work in the area & said there had been an overwhelming response to the Olympics & all adult trial badminton courses had been sold out. He also mentioned that badminton had started to see growth again especially in 18-19 year-olds. There are 100 Community Badminton Networks across the UK & York was classed as improving. There are 35 performance centres and discussions are on-going about York becoming a satellite centre. David also mentioned that their usage of Energise was now at capacity & he is looking to improve/enhance coaching opportunities. David highlighted the need to target juniors/students & mentioned that Badminton England are thinking of introducing a competition below the bronze U15 level. He asked clubs to encourage new members & coaches to inspire new players & stated that currently there are not enough coaches in York/Yorkshire.

Clarification of the rules was sought regarding team players being members of clubs. The committee responded that there is no specific rule for this, but the expectation would be that club members are

used wherever possible, but should there be a need to draft players in for matches these should be of a similar standard to the rest of the team.

Paul Newnham (Selby Jubilee) offered to provide details of their insurance policy to other clubs. Paul also thanked Fulfordgate for helping him with this issue last year. David Dewey pointed out that affiliation to Badminton England includes public liability insurance.

John Fowler mentioned that the combination league proposed at last year's AGM was still under consideration.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.