



Bradford & District Badminton League

Formed 11th September 1925

AGM Notes

Date: Thursday June 12th 2014

Time: 7.30pm

Venue:

Shipley & District Social Club
70, Saltaire Road,
Shipley
BD183HN

Clubs Represented: Allerton Congs, Baildon Bridge, Belle Vue, Bingley, Bradford & Shipley Civil Service, Brighouse, Crosshills, Eccleshill, Harrogate, Ilkley Moor, Menston, North Bradford, Wilsden.

Apologies Received From: Moorlands.

Clubs Not Accounted For: Ilkley, Keighley Phoenix, Provident & Bradford College.

Meeting Notes:

1. **Opening:** Ashley welcomed everyone, acknowledged apologies from John Hall (Moorlands) and asked if anyone had any other apologies to announce. There were no other apologies received. Ashley referenced the entry forms, these were now due in and needed to be in by Tuesday so that work on the website updates and preparation for the fixture setting for the coming season could begin. In particular clubs were asked to include directions venues so that these could be added onto the website for the coming season. In addition, this year's entry form also gave opportunity for clubs to include new composite teams if they wished to do so, if enough clubs wanted to enter composite then a composite league could run from this September.
2. **AGM 2013 Notes:** Were read at the meeting and agreed.
3. **Chairpersons Report:** The season had in general been a good one. Three new teams had entered at the start of the 2013 season and no matches were lost to bad weather. The only loss of venue was due to short notice from schools using the sports hall for exams. The floor at Titus Salts had caused some concern over the last 12 months, but is now reported as been resolved, which was confirmed by people attending the meeting. The league and clubs continue to face the challenge of declining participation with some clubs folding, or merging over the last 2 years - resulting in some players being lost. To try and address this

issue of decline Ashley stated that the committee would make efforts this year to communicate with local sports centre to ensure that people using the centres were aware of the Badminton Bradford League. **Badminton England:** For clubs that maybe interested badminton England funding this year is focused on participation. An example of good practise was from Wilsden. Using some funding they had set up a junior club before the main club night and had used it as a way of filtering some young players through into the league teams. They would be happy to talk to anyone that may be interested in developing in the same direction. **The tournaments** were by in large successful. The Higson tournament suffered slightly from one of the 8 teams pulling out on the morning, but was reported as being good value for money for those that participated. Feed back regarding the tournament was listened to which will be used to improve the next one. **Presentation:** Numbers were down again from last year. Thanks to those who helped to organise it.

4. **Treasurers Report:** A summary sheet was available for members to look at. A small loss has been incurred this year, but the league still has sufficient reserve to continue without any changes to fees. One question was raised regarding the cost of the tournaments. £600 pounds for two tournaments seemed expensive for the numbers taking part, were clubs happy with the league spending this amount. A brief discussion resulted in approval as it was felt that the tournaments helped the league fulfil the objective of promoting badminton. They were a way of attracting non members in as well as an opportunity for current members to play more badminton.
5. **Secretaries Report:** There has been much publicity over the last few years regarding the shrinkage of clubs and in particular the uptake of ladies playing in the league. Two important issues that still need to be resolved. However, there is another challenge facing the league as we move forward. The league relies heavily upon Ashley and we have not had a treasurer for 2 years, leaving Ashley to look after this additional role. The challenge over the next 12 months is to find a treasurer and ensure that the league was not dependant on the efforts of one person.
6. **Match Secretaries Report:** The speed of score sheets being submitted has greatly improved, however there are still some examples of score cards being difficult to read and two cases in which the card could not be read at all. **New Score Cards:** Will be introduced for the coming season, these are largely the same as the old ones, the default penalty faults will be removed as they are no longer new and every one should be mindful of them, which will leave space for people to write comments or details of new players on the front. Cards can still be posted or faxed, but there is a new email address for people that want to email, this is on the card and is: resultsbradfordleague@gmail.com. **Calendar:** The coming season will start on 15/9/14 for mixed weeks and 22/9/14 for levels. Half terms wont be accounted for in the grid to be supplied as not all schools operate with the same timetable. Clubs will need to negotiate fixtures between July 17th and September 3rd. After this date matches may not be able to be changed.
7. **Election of Officers:** No nominations received. The meeting voted to for the committee to serve another term. Ashley, Chairperson, Matthew Secretary, Sharon Match Secretary. Treasurer: Vacant (Ashley care taking).
8. **Clarification Of Rule 19:** This was discussed and voted upon. Clarification of the points deducted and clubs reminded that both home and away teams needed to keep scorecard records and submit. The meeting agreed the clarification.
9. **Proposal:** A proposal was submitted by Provident & Bradford College. With reference to the ladies. Provident Ladies had experienced a number of teams coming with a pair short. On this basis they proposed to reduce the numbers in a ladies team to 4 players and to reformat the ladies league using the proposals drafted up last year as a guide. The meeting briefly discussed the proposal and unanimously declined the proposal. Most clubs felt that to reduce the number of ladies per team would accelerate shrinkage even further and the smaller teams would result in greater costs for clubs.

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11. **Concerns Raised:** Eccleshill raised a concern that the leagues were vulnerable to false positioning. The example they gave was at the end of the season an increasing number of teams aren't completing their fixtures which gives a large number of points to teams that would not normally have won. A second example raised by the meeting was at the beginning of the season when 1st team players used the league rules to play down for a couple of matches to gain match practise resulting in weaker teams accumulating points that they would not normally achieve. Clubs were reminded that proposals for rule changes could be submitted at any meeting now and that if someone wanted to submit a proposal for the September meeting then this could be considered and voted upon and implemented in time for the new season if clubs wanted it.

12. Dates for the coming year:

- Fixture Meeting: 17/7/14
- Autumn Meeting: 1/9/14
- Christmas Tournament: 4/1/15
- Winter Meeting: 19/1/15
- Higson Tournament: 22/2/15
- Spring meeting: 18/3/15
- Presentation: 15//5/15
- AGM Meeting: 11/6/15
- Fixture Meeting: 16/7/15
- Autumn meeting: 1/9/15

13: Closing: Ashley thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting

Meeting Closed at 8.40pm