

Hertfordshire Badminton Association

Minutes of the committee meeting held, by way of a conference call,
on 18 May 2020

Present:

Paul Kempster	PK
Dave Bartlett	DB
Gill Bartlett	GB
Doug Clark	DC
Graham Cobb	GC
Simon Gouldstone	SG
Bob Green	BG
Brian Jackson	BJ
Eddie Lintott	EL
Mike Newlove	MN
Jim Robson	JR
Andy Walden	AW
Colin Walker	CW
Paul Widdicombe	PW
Steve Willis	SW
Nick Goode	NG

1. Chairman

PK reported that he had attended the BE/CBAs Zoom meeting on 16 April 2020. The main points were:

- a) The final weekend of Senior County matches would be played on 7 and 8 November.
- b) BE continued to engage with, and inform, its members by way of regular emails.
- c) The BE AGM was likely to take place in October. PK had agreed to provide feedback on whether Herts had successfully run its AGM on Zoom.

2. Herts AGM

It was agreed that:

- a) The AGM would take place on Zoom at 7.30 pm on 29 June 2020.
- b) The agenda would follow the traditional format.
- c) Committee members would submit their reports to SG a week in advance. They would be made available to clubs, either directly or through the web site, and committee members only needed to make a brief summary at the meeting.
- d) AW explained that there was a polling facility on Zoom should voting be necessary.

3. County League

GC reported as follows:

- a) In line with the decision taken at the HBA committee meeting on 16 March 2020, the outstanding matches had been cancelled. The league positions were accordingly frozen and, in common with HABL, promotion and relegation would take place as normal.
- b) The date on which the new season would start was unknown although GC intended consulting with clubs in the usual way about entries.
- c) It was not yet clear if a fixture meeting could take place in September and JR explained that the HABL AGM had tentatively agreed that fixtures may need to be arranged by phone/email.
- d) No replacement for FixturesLive had yet been secured. The options appeared to be using the BE system or another commercial provider such as League Republic. PK agreed to investigate further.

4. Accounts

CW had circulated the draft annual accounts and reported as follows:

- a) CW explained the background to the £3165.00 taken by way of a phishing exercise and that he had had to record it in the accounts as an extraordinary item. The matter had been reported to the police and to the bank which had indicated that it was not likely to refund the sum in question. The matter was not completely closed as the beneficiary bank still had to respond and there might need to be negotiations with Queenswood as to whether they expected HBA to pay the full amount.
- b) Apart from the extraordinary item, the financial position was satisfactory. The loss at the end of 2018-19 of about £2000.00 had been reduced to £200.00 at the end of 2019-20, even after the donation of £500.00 to each of the Welwyn Hatfield and East Herts CBNs.
- c) In terms of activities, the Masters had broken even and the major item of expenditure in relation to Senior County was the £2900.00 entry fee paid to BE. There was some discussion about accommodation costs for Senior County matches but there were unavoidable as some matches took place in locations such as Warwick.
- d) CW asked whether the HBA should waive the affiliation fee (£3.50 for senior and nil for juniors) for the forthcoming season but the meeting decided it should remain unchanged.

5. Development

DB reported as follows:

- a) He proposed that HBA Facebook should be made available for anyone to post. He felt that it was important to keep open lines of communication during the current crisis and to be able to make available resources such as the HSP webinars and

the documents PW had circulated. He had asked Ben Vranjkovic to make the necessary changes.

- b) DB and NG explained that the development of Monks Walk School provided the best opportunity for years to have a dedicated facility for HBA and HJBA. The discussions currently involved BE, Sport England, the DfE (which would be paying), the local authority, HSP and the school's PE teacher. The current plan was for four courts but DB/NG's aim was for six courts that met the Sport England standard plus additional facilities. The extra two courts and the facilities was likely to add £200k to the cost and HBA/HJBA might be asked to assist at some point. There would be further reports in the coming months on progress.

6. Masters

SW reported that teams had been entered in the following categories: O40, O50, O55, O60, O65 and O70 plus the Challenge in January 2021.

7. Tournaments

EL explained that entries for the Open closed on 1 June but it appeared unlikely that it would take place.

8. AOB

- a) All committee members were happy to be re-elected.
- b) It was agreed to continue to use Queenswood.
- c) PW reminded PK that he had made two nominations for Vice Presidents. PK agreed to pursue.
- d) PK's response to TMH was being finalised to send.

9. Future meetings

- a) AGM 29 June
- b) Next committee meeting TBA but probably August.

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