

**MINUTES of the**  
**East Herts Community Badminton Network Meeting**

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**  
**Byfords, Malting Lane, Much Hadham**

**PRESENT:**

Sue Clarke (SC): Secretary	Neil Gilmore (NG), Active Communities Manager for East Herts, Everyone Active
Doug Clark (DC): Chair	Julie Pike (JP), Relationship Manager, Badminton England (BE)
Brian Jackson (BJ) Treasurer	
Neil Clarke (NC)	
Ian Robinson (IR)	

**APOLOGIES:**

**ITEM**

**ACTION**

1.	<b>Apologies:</b> see above.	
2.	<b>Minutes</b> of the meeting of 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2021 were agreed	
3.	<b>Report from JP on behalf of Badminton England</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JP sent a report to those listed above by email on 27<sup>th</sup> August. It included information regarding:</li> <li>The Young Leaders Award. SC said that she had forwarded this communication to members of the right age group from Much Hadham Badminton Club but had no response as yet. One of this group undertook the training during last year. SC needs to talk to him about how it went and to suggest that he recommend it to others depending on his response. IR noted that he was going to circulate details to the youngsters he is in contact with in the Broxbourne area</li> <li>The virtual Volunteer Conference on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept., 2-5pm. SC said that she felt that 3 hours was rather a long virtual session, and it was generally agreed amongst those present that the content of the workshop sessions did not appear to cover any “new ground”. The workshop entitled “Engaging with Schools and Young People” may possibly be of some interest to DC</li> <li>Coach Education. BJ noted that there had been a Foundation course run in July at Ridgeway Academy in Welwyn Garden City with 17 participants, all but one of whom passed. He attended the second session. A Level 2 course is scheduled for October and will be based in Berkhamsted. 5 participants are already registered, but up to maximum of 8 can take part. Another Foundation Course is scheduled for February half term. BJ has a full list of people wanting to take part in a further Foundation Course</li> <li>BJ mentioned that he had organised a trip for a group of</li> </ul>	

	<p>coaches from Hertfordshire to the headquarters of BE in Milton Keynes approximately 11 years ago. They had been able to watch the national coaches working alongside players in the women's doubles team, and it had proved a very worthwhile experience. He would like to organise a similar visit in the near future, having postponed it for several years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC noted that in April 2005 she and Neil took a group of junior club members from Much Hadham to Milton Keynes. They stayed overnight in accommodation on site and received some quite intensive coaching sessions whilst they were there. However, the cost for the participants was quite high and proved prohibitive for some families</li> <li>• Facilities. Those present discussed the venues outlined, and IR confirmed that he had been approached about the after school club at Haileybury Turnford. Bishop's Stortford have a Badminton Club run by Phil Burton at Birchwood School Sports Hall. It is uncertain whether there would be the demand for a second club at Hockerill Anglo-European College. It may well be worthwhile approaching Heidi Lawrence, as she had expressed an interest in setting up a club for Under 11s in Bishop's Stortford after Aleisha's visit to the Club there in January 2020</li> <li>• West Herts CBN. We hope that there is a positive outcome to the virtual meeting about re-establishing this group to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b>Feedback from committee members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dane End Club has remained open over the school summer holidays. BJ is currently running 2 group sessions on Thursday and Friday evenings, and has only cancelled one or two sessions because members were unable to be present. Members pay £2 for each session attended</li> <li>• An eight year old girl from the club has been accepted to train with the County Squad</li> <li>• IR ran 3 sessions on Goodman Field in Waltham Cross coaching the Fit and Fed Group run by Broxbourne Council</li> <li>• DC and BJ assisted IR with the Cheshunt Park National Play Day on 4<sup>th</sup> August. SC and NC were unable to help as SC had been "pinged" and needed to self-isolate</li> <li>• IR will be coaching at St Pauls Primary (Hoddesdon), St Cross Primary (Hoddesdon), Cuffley Primary, Holy Trinity Primary (Waltham Cross), Four Swannes Primary (Waltham Cross) for 6 weeks in each school during the coming term</li> <li>• Wizard Juniors will be starting up again at Goffs Academy shortly</li> <li>• IR will be running "No Strings" sessions on 2 courts at Goffs-Churchgate Academy at the cost of £22 per evening hire</li> <li>• The U3A Return to Play Tournament has been confirmed for Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September, running from 2 until 5pm at Wodson Park. IR would very much appreciate the presence of other members of the CBN committee for this event</li> </ul>	

5.	<p>where the participants will be 10 ladies and 10 men</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IR would like to run a Christmas Cracker Event for Juniors on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December at Wodson Park from 3 until 5pm. He suggests that this should be for 24 players, 6 from each of All Saints/Hertford, Dane End, Much Hadham and Wizards. The age group is debatable at the moment</li> <li>• IR will be in touch with Barrie Green regarding an Enrichment Course at Herts Regional College in Turnford. BJ mentioned that on a previous occasion when he had coached there, he had taken his own nets as the ones there had been in a poor state</li> <li>• 20<sup>th</sup> October is the deadline by which the grant that IR was awarded must be spent</li> <li>• Much Hadham Club has had a break over the school summer holidays, but restarts on 3<sup>rd</sup> September.</li> <li>• Subs here are £26 for the year, or £9.50 if payment on a termly basis is preferable</li> <li>• There will be 3 groups of up to 12 running consecutively</li> <li>• Much Hadham will be running a BIG hit Come &amp; Try event on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September, as advocated by BE. This will run for 45 minutes before the usual first session starts i.e. from 5.45 until 6.30pm and 30 minutes at the end for any interested adults i.e. from 9.15 until 9.45pm</li> <li>• Hertford Club will start again on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September and All Saints on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September. These 2 clubs have been operating jointly on Mondays over the summer months, as the Drill Hall has been used as a Vaccination Centre on Wednesdays</li> <li>• DC's grandson will be helping during the All Saints sessions, and stopping on to join the adult group afterwards</li> <li>• Subs here at £75 for the year</li> <li>• DC has contacted Sandy Edwards regarding distributing leaflets in schools to advertise these 2 junior clubs, but this has not been confirmed as yet</li> <li>• IR explained that he has sent 50 leaflets advertising local clubs to the heads of PE via the Admin Team at secondary schools in the district.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sharing news about the Pre School Badminton Tots Sessions run by IR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC thoroughly enjoyed the session she observed led by IR at Bear Cubs Nursery in Broxbourne</li> <li>• There were 5 participants all aged 3 years</li> <li>• IR ran 4 sessions, each for half an hour</li> <li>• The activities were short-lived, as was necessary with this age group: Warm ups involving agility, balance and co-ordination, Throwing games, Practised movement and Racket skills</li> <li>• The children each received a Racket Pack sticker at the end of each lesson, and a Racket Pack Smash Certificate Level 1 at the end of their time working with IR</li> <li>• SC was especially interested in the focus encouraging the children to keep both arms up, a skill frequently not seen in older players</li> </ul>	<p>This event to be discussed at the next meeting</p> <p>IR to send DC list of contacts that may be useful in this regard</p>
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6.	<p><b>Sharing news about badminton across the county</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tournaments organised by Herts Junior Badminton Association are listed on their website</li> <li>• A tournament and coaching for Primary School Children will be running on 27/2/22</li> <li>• Open Tournaments organised by BE are listed, as are the closed tournaments</li> </ul>	
7.	<p><b>Friendly Tournament</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This will be held on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October from 1.30 until 5pm at the Drill Hall</li> <li>• It should be emphasised that this is a Friendly Tournament, and not one where one club is pitched against another</li> <li>• BJ has already spoken to Dane End Club members, and to date 4 Under 11 year old are interested in participating, and 3 Over 11s</li> <li>• It was decided that we will play doubles games rather than singles, and they can be mixed or all girls/all boys</li> <li>• Participants can choose their partner if they would like to do so</li> <li>• Entry fee will be £2 per player</li> <li>• A box system will be used to arrange games</li> <li>• There was a brief discussion about whether or not county players should be included, but no decision was made</li> <li>• A cut off date for the end of September should be given expressing interest in taking part, and after this time we will communicate by email about exact timings etc</li> </ul>	<p><b>SC</b> to draw up draft flyer advertising this event  <b>SC</b> to try to ascertain whether or not there are any other junior clubs in the East Herts area who should be invited to take part  <b>SC</b> to send invitation to Bishop's Stortford Club  <b>IR</b> to try to ascertain whether Anna Hollis is still running a club at Haileybury</p>
8.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IR has requested a further repayment from the grant: £878.30. DC signed a cheque for this amount and BJ handed it to IR</li> <li>• To date IR has now drawn £5,577.36 from the £10,000 grant, leaving £4,422.64</li> <li>• The EH CBN has £5,650.24 in the bank and £3.18 in cash, £1,230.78 of which is not included in the grant</li> <li>• The accounts have been audited, and BJ gave the auditor 2 bottles of beer in remuneration</li> <li>• It would seem that HSBC want to charge for our account: £5 a month, plus a fee for every transaction. BJ is looking for an alternative bank/building society</li> </ul>	
9.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IR visited Broxbourne School Sports Hall with Paul Widdicombe</li> <li>• IR commented that it was very informative to view a facility with somebody who can spot the common errors, such as the lighting being the wrong way etc., along with a very clever electronic measuring gadget to establish that the height clearance would only be to club standard</li> <li>• IR agree that the facility was something to be proud of but was more than put off by the pricing</li> <li>• He has managed to negotiate with Goffs Academy (Kevin</li> </ul>	

	Yardley - facilities manager) a half price rate (£5.50 per court per hour!) and the whole hall on Tuesdays 8-10pm for an adult No Strings, for less than the hourly rate at Broxbourne (£30 per hour for half / £54 for whole 4 court hall)	
<b>Next Meeting:</b> <span style="float: right;"> <b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021</b>  <b>10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.</b>  <b>Byfords, Malting Lane, Much Hadham SG10 6AN</b> </span>		