#### MINUTES of the

# **East Herts Community Badminton Network Meeting**

### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 Byfords, Malting Lane, Much Hadham

PRESENT:	APOLOGIES:
Sue Clarke (SC): Secretary	Julie Pike (JP), Relationship Manager,
	Badminton England (BE)
Doug Clark (DC): Chair	
Brian Jackson (BJ) Treasurer	
Jim Robson (JR)	
Ian Robinson (IR)	
Neil Clarke (NC)	

ITEM ACTION

- 1. Apologies: See list above
- 2. Minutes of the meeting of 1st March 2023 were agreed
- 3. Update from JP on behalf of Badminton England
  - JP sent a report to DC, BJ, SC and IR on 29<sup>th</sup> April. It included information regarding:
  - Disability Junior National Championships (17<sup>th</sup> June)
    - As part of this, BE has two training 'days' taking place across the East Region on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May. Any support with promoting these, particularly the Hertfordshire session on the 21<sup>st</sup> May, would be much appreciated. This is an opportunity for anyone with a physical disability, including wheelchair users, to try their hand at badminton. The training days will lead to a selection of a minimum of 4 players to attend the Junior National Championship in Sheffield on the 17th June. JP will be running the sessions and whilst team selection is the final outcome, she wants to see as many eligible young people who want to give badminton a go as possible. JP also attached the press release to provide further information.
  - Coach Education
    - Level 2 Course organised at Berkhamsted Leisure Centre: 7th, 14th May, 11th, 18th June, 24th Sept (currently has just two bookings. JP knows that there are a few more potential bookings but it is touch and go as to whether BE will need to move the course dates back. Any further promotion welcome.
    - Foundation Course organised for Beaumont School to take place on the 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> September – JP will

It was noted that **IR** forwarded the Disability Document to EBAD and Ros Cramp from Herts Disability Sports Hub

**IR** suggested that he may possibly shadow

circulate the live booking link once she has received it.

- National Schools
  - The competition will return for the 2023-24, albeit with a different format due to budget restrictions. JP is unaware of the full details currently but she has had a couple of conversations with Tanya Angus who has been consulted and is talking with Sarah Darragh next week to discuss how the new format might impact Hertfordshire. There is a small fee per team and registration will be directly through Badminton England.

• Development Restructure

- The development team is currently undergoing a restructure whereby there will be less Relationship Managers but instead National Leads in Clubs, Young People, Adults, Volunteers and Facilities. JP interviewed for both the Young People and Clubs National Role as she believes her skillset and knowledge of the game lends well to her being able to drive these areas forwards. Once the new structure has been finalised, communication will be made with Counties.
- Hertfordshire Commitments (irrelevant of what happens with the restructure, JP will be fulfilling these)
  - Racketpack Festival with Lisa Robinson (Sele SGO) on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May at Presdales School 10am-12pm (JP will be there from 9am to set up). IR has kindly offered to support and anyone else that wishes to attend is very welcome. Lisa has sorted out leaders from the schools so it will very much be run by them.
  - 7th July: Hertfordshire's Primary School Summer Celebration. JP attended last year with the support of Dave, Brian, and a team they were able to pull together. Despite it being very successful, JP is hopeful that, as we are getting racketpack festivals in to more SGO areas, even more schools will attend this year. Again any support is very welcome – can we please put the date in your diary and JP will provide more information once she has received it!
- For Information:
  - Further communication with Mervin regarding a club for primary aged children in Bishop Stortford – he is looking to do the Level 2 with a friend (who still needs to complete the foundation course) and wants to revisit this at the start of 2024.
  - 9<sup>th</sup> March ran a racketpack festival for year 3&4 with Alex Jenning (Knights Templar SGO) at Knights Templar Sports Centre: 8 schools in attendance, 81 children. JP discussed with him, as well as running this in the next academic year, to implement a year 5&6 tournament whereby the pupils play a mini

JP once that has been set up if he is able to. **BJ** is waiting for the link to be sent

**SC** to "reach out" to Mervin to offer support as a CBN. **BJ** to send contact details

- games format.
- JP is on annual leave for the next fortnight, returning on the 15<sup>th</sup> May.

### 4. Matters arising from minutes;

### a) Live Longer & Better in Herts with Badminton Project

- In discussion about this project, all members of the committee were unsure about what is currently happening regarding this project, commenting that there doesn't appear to be "much meat on the bones" as things stand
- We were told to hold back on making preparations, but September was suggested as the starting date, and time is running out
- DC has made a tentative booking for the Drill Hall in Ware, but is being asked to confirm arrangements
- We are wondering if the application for the grant has been submitted and if the social prescribers are in place and ready to identify suitable people for the project

# b) The 2023 HJBA Junior Club Tournament on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1-5pm at Wodson Park

- BJ received a review of the results from IR, and had used these to formulate a report for a newsletter for Dane End
- The feedback regarding the tournament was positive in the main, and the organisation seemed to meet the purpose
- The team from East Herts did not do badly, despite not having met each other beforehand, and is was noted that their confidence grew as the tournament progressed
- The Three Rivers team were overall winners
- Discussion ensued about the judgement regarding serves:
   "the serve must be hit in an upwards direction, with an underarm hitting action. The main rule here is that when you hit the shuttle, it must be below your waist". It was noted that without technical backup this can be difficult to adjudicate. The merits of a forehand serve versus those using the backhand were debated

# c) Update regarding Coach training

- See previous notes from JP
- The debate about the fallout regarding Level 2 training has not been resolved. BJ will report back as/when he hears anything

# d) Sharing feedback from committee members and news about badminton across the county

- BJ and IR really enjoyed attending the All England Seniors Tournament held at Herts sports Village on 17<sup>th</sup> April
- IR noted that after discussions about the Opportunities Fund with our HSP Active Local rep for Waltham Cross (Jess Baird), National Badminton (Julie Bradbury) he has secured a grant for 3 students from Four Swannes Primary (PE Lead Marcia Alcock) to have five months of coaching at Goffs Academy plus a racket. IR suggested that DC may

**SC** to draft email to be sent to Dave Bartlett and Will Slemmings and circulate it before sending it on be encouraged to get a grant for pupils from the Sele ward, but DC said that he is not interested in pursuing this at the moment

- There is a Super Singles Event at Goffs Academy, Cheshunt, from 2-4pm on Tuesday May 30th, during half term. Entry is open to all at £17 per player. Register interest with <a href="hello@nationalbadminton.org.uk">hello@nationalbadminton.org.uk</a>. IR will provide chocs, certificates and medals or trophies, and will send an email nearer the time.
- National Badminton are offering "Golden Tickets" to our players, who can bring a friend and then get 50% off their next subscription and their friends' if they join.
- Ku Qureshi has asked IR for more opportunities for her to grow as a coach, so he has been her assistant whilst she leads on Saturday mornings at GLL Hatfield Leisure Centre
- IR is running a Tactics course for intermediate players on Sundays July 2nd,9th.16th, and 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.30-11am at the Leisure Centre
- There will also be a mixed doubles team match on June 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday 9-11am (2 men and 2 women. £10 entry per player. Perhaps the CBN would like to enter a team of social standard players?)
- Then on July 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday 9-11am, there will be a parent/child tournament open to all (£10 entry per pair) IR will be in touch nearer the time.
- IR has begun working for Keith Burns at Abbey BC on Tuesdays 6-8pm at Beaumont School. He noted that it is an excellent venue, busy group, good pay and lovely children
- Anna Collis has left David Lloyd Hatfield to start a Taco and Waffle bar. DL have not offered IR any other hours or a pay rise.
- Lisa Robinson, based at Sele School, has finalised timings now for the wwWodson Games on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June at Wodson Park

There are two sessions:

Session 1 - schools arrive 9am, 9.30 start, 12pm finish Session 2 - schools arrive 12.30pm, 1pm - 3.30pm

As always there will be an opening ceremony, followed by a coaching session (45mins) and a competition session (50mins) in each sport. We are looking at presenting at the end gold, silver and bronze medals within each sport, as well as highlighting one pupil in each event that demonstrate the school games values of determination, honesty, passion, respect, self belief and teamwork. Lisa asked IR to arrange his sessions around the above so that there is a coaching session as well as a compete.

 IR was thanked for his support with this. Lisa has allocated 2 children from each school to do badminton, and said that she would confirm numbers once bookings close at the end of April SC to ascertain whether or not St Andrew's Primary School in Much Hadham were informed about this

Timings for the day: 9-9.25am / 12.30-12.55pm 9.30-9.45am / 1-1.15pm

Arrival
Opening Ceremony

with country's flags

9.50-10.35am / 1.20-2.05pm Coaching in Sport 10.35-10.50 / 2.05-2.20pm Break (Feel free to

bring a snack – no nuts though please)

10.50-11.40am / 2.20-3.10pm Competition in Sport 11.45-12pm / 3.15-3.30pm Presentations

- NC and SC said that will not be able to support with this, as it is the day before their son's wedding
- The U18 county match will be held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June starting at 9am at Herts Sports Village:

Herts U18 team has reached the Shires League finals. This will be a chance to see the best junior county teams in the country playing against each other, but more importantly a chance to support our Hertfordshire team

#### Treasurer's Report

- There is currently £747.72 in the bank, and £13.49 in cash.
   This is £761.21 in total
- It was noted that the account regarding the Parent or Grandparent/Child Tournament on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023 is as follows:

Income Expenditure

36 entries @ £2 per entry £72
Donation £1
Hire of Ware Drill Hall for 2 hours
Purchase of prizes £8
Purchase of refreshments
Total £73
Expenditure

£40
£8
£9.50
£57.50

The difference of income over expenditure = £15.50

- IR intends to make a Magic Little Grant Bid 2023. He has spoken to the Deputy Head (Tara Haddock) at John Warner School, Hoddesdon, and they have the following suggestion:
- 1. Organise an inter-house badminton competition at John Warner ( 4 hours @ £20 =£80)
- 2. Purchase rackets as prizes (4 rackets @ £30 = £120)
- 3. Coaching session for the school team for the National Schools Competition (2 hours @ £20 = £40)
- Purchase of shuttles for the coaching and competition (5 x ½ dozen @ £10 = £50)
- 5. 3-months membership subscription at National Badminton's John Warner after school club for 2 students at the school (2 players x £34.50 per month x 3 months = £207)

**TOTAL**: £497

 It was noted that EH CBN now bank with Lloyds. Much Hadham Badminton Club now bank with Virgin Money

## Any other business

 Graham Cobb, Herts County League Organiser, has written a document entitled "Hertfordshire County Badminton Association A Strategy in the Making". This was circulated

**BJ**, **IR**, **SC** and **NC** to forward their views about this document to

5.

6.

by Paul Kempster, ahead of the next HBA committee meeting and the AGM due to be held in June 2023

- This document was sent to BJ, DC & JR as members of HBA Management Committee with an indication that it was for use only within the HBA for the time being. Copies were passed on to SC & IR by JR and DC respectively such that a CBN view might be developed in due course
- As this document was only circulated to the committee of EH CBN on the day prior to the meeting, nobody had the opportunity to read it in any detail
- It was decided that we would have an interclub tournament during the Autumn term.

DC asap

**SC** to put this on the agenda for discussion at the next committee meeting

Next Meeting: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

Byfords, Malting Lane, Much Hadham SG10 6AN