

MINUTES of the East Herts Community Badminton Network Meeting

**Wednesday 17th January, 2024
Byfords, Malting Lane, Much Hadham**

PRESENT:

Sue Clarke (SC): Secretary	None
Doug Clark (DC): Chair	
Brian Jackson (BJ) Treasurer	
Ian Robinson (IR)	
Neil Clarke (NC)	
Jim Robson (JR)	

APOLOGIES:

ITEM	ACTION	
1.	Apologies: None	
2.	Minutes of the meeting of 13 th September 2023 were agreed	
3.	There were no updates from Liam Cooper on behalf of Badminton England on this occasion	
4.	Matters arising from minutes:	
a)	Live Longer & Better in Herts with Badminton Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that £2,217.00 has been deposited in the EH CBN account for this initiative We will have a careful audit trail for how this money is spent IR explained that he intends to book 8 sessions at Laura Trott Leisure Centre for Over 50s in the Broxbourne/Hoddesdon area Clare Smith, Social Prescriber for the NHS for Hoddesdon and Broxbourne PCN, is supporting IR with this in terms of getting information and fliers to the relevant GP surgeries etc She intends to join him for the sessions which are likely to be held on Mondays either from 11am or 1pm IR also works in liaison with Matthew Ridley and Andrew Ricks (Active Local Officers), and thinks that they may be helpful in promoting the initiative in his area IR suggested that the Sports Partnership team may also help IR noted that he has previously led sessions of "balloon badminton" for more immobile participants IR may have an assistant who will work alongside him DC has a template for a flier, sent to him by Will Slemmings (Strategic Lead for Health, Herts Sport & Physical Activity Partnership), which he and IR will adapt for our use It was felt that the picture should show participants of both 	IR to let DC have Clare's contact details, so that DC can ascertain who would be the contact in the Ware area, and also ask Matthew and Andrew to identify the Active Local Officers in the Ware area IR to promote the initiative both in his area and in Ware using Facebook DC to liaise with Brenda at the Drill Hall to make bookings SC to liaise with U3A

	<p>genders if possible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was suggested that the sessions at the Drill Hall in Ware will start after Easter There will be a nominal £2 charge for each session JR noted that he would be willing to support if he is available 	<p>groups in the area once dates have been set</p>
b)	<p>Update regarding Coach training and tournaments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IR reminded the committee about the Under 13s tournament, which will be held on 3rd March from 1 until 5pm at Wodson Park. Teams have already been entered from Gosling, Comets, Abbey and Swifts, along with at least one from the clubs that IR runs IR enquired if we could provide a team from East Herts BJ noted that the Foundation Coaching course that has been set up for 17th/18th February is undersubscribed, as it presently only has 7 participants It was emphasised that funding can be applied for to help with the cost of the fee The Primary Schools Coaching and Tournament is due to take place on 24th March, 2024 	<p>SC to encourage players to come forward from Much Hadham Club and liaise with DC and BJ re forming at least one team</p> <p>SC, BJ, DC and IR to circulate details about the Foundation Coaching course to club members of the appropriate age</p>
c)	<p>Magic Little Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £500 was transferred to the EH CBN account as a Magic Little Grant In December, 2023, IR had the opportunity to work with the latest cohort of GCSE PE students at John Warner School in Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire. Three dozen shuttles for inter-house tournaments and 4 rackets as prizes were gratefully received by the PE department after the award of the grant from www.localgiving.org/magic-little-grants/ which will raise awareness and participation of badminton in the school IR thanked BJ for his help with the paperwork to obtain this grant The school have booked IR for another group of students Membership has been paid for 4 students to join the Club that IR runs at the school. That is further measure of sustainability built into the system 	
d)	<p>Sharing feedback from committee members and news about badminton across the county</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JR explained that Richard Hale didn't offer coaching opportunities for this academic year although he did exchange emails with the head of PE. He likes to think it wasn't worth them taking him on "for free", largely because their system requires a teacher to supervise free/external coaches at all times. Nevertheless, he says that he will write again in September, all other things being equal SC noted that she had heard that there was now a badminton club at Herts and Essex High School in Bishop's Stortford The new National Badminton junior session at Leventhorpe Leisure Centre now runs each Thursday from 6-8pm. 	<p>SC to check with Club members if this is, indeed, the case</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IR is organising a Supersingles tournament for National Badminton on Saturday 17th February 1-3pm at Leventhorpe Leisure Centre. It will be open to all those who can manage a competitive rally, with medals for winners and chocolates for all. £17 entry with half price entry to National Badminton Members. 	
e)	<p>Review of the interclub tournament on 1/10/23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numbers were lower for this tournament than they have been on previous occasions, but that made the event more manageable Participants were divided into two age groups There were 28 entrants altogether, each paying £5. £140 was raised £57.60 was charged for the hire of the Drill Hall, giving a surplus of £82.40 We could arrange something similar again next year It was suggested that we could organise a parent/child tournament in the Autumn 	
5.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is currently £2,740.12 in the bank, and £153.49 in cash. This is £2,893.61 in total 	
6.	<p>Any other business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DC raised the subject of the digital membership card recently offered by BE. He does not have a mobile that can be used for this purpose, and it was thought that many people may well be in the same situation. He was not sent information about this by BE in any case Wendy Train, in correspondence with JR on the subject, wrote: "That was NOT easy to do. I now have my Badminton England membership digital card in my smartphone wallet. But why is it tricky? Firstly I tried to "find" any mention of the digital membership card. The BE website found NO mention of it. That is ridiculous. Without your (JR's) link, I would not have managed. I do think it is a good idea to have cards, but BE need to promote it and offer clear advice about getting them" JR noted that he was heartened by SC's observation that U18s would love a glitzy Membership Card, especially if the QR Code were useful outside of badminton. He also observed that at an HBA AGM, four or five years ago, the half a dozen or ten Clubs attending were unanimously in favour of bringing back Membership cards, including for reasons of Insurance, whereby if 1-player on court had not been affiliated (or were exempt in a Club session by way of the "Visitor Rule") then ALL insurance could be null & void. It was unanimously felt that JustGo is a failure on many levels. The system is not fit for purpose e.g. when trying to add a new member to the club, the system will not admit two people with the same email address. It is necessary to contact the Membership Team under these circumstances, 	<p>SC to forward the link re digital membership cards from BE to DC, BJ, IR and JR</p>

	<p>despite it being obvious to administrators from the clubs that two children from the same family are highly likely to share the email address of one of their parents. Why can this not be addressed?</p>	
<p>Next Meeting: Wednesday 13th March 2024 10.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. Byfords, Malting Lane, Much Hadham SG10 6AN</p>		