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## BRAINTREE & DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE

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**TO:** ALL BRAINTREE LEAGUE CLUBS  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**FROM:** NICOLA HUTCHINS, SECRETARY TO THE LEAGUE

**SUBJECT:** MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD AT ALEC HUNTER SCHOOL A5

**DATE:** 5 MAY 2011

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- The meeting opened at 8-06pm, apologies were received from Coggeshall, Earls Colne and Carla Cullis
- The minutes from the previous AGM on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2010 were accepted

### **Treasurers Report**

- Copies of the balance sheet were circulated and a copy is retained with the minutes
- The committee thanked Ian Marsden for his kind donation
- There was deficit of £237.98 for the season
- The income is fairly even year on year. The deficit is due to increase in insurance for the trophies, cost of score card printing, Website contract and the donation for Danny Jones
- Due to the above Carla recommended that the tournament fees are increased to £5 per person from £4. League affiliation to remain as is at £20. This was agreed by the meeting
- There was discussion as to whether the league should increase the £1 for the program on Finals Night; however as this is a donation it was felt that we could only suggest people donate more. Other fund raising ideas were suggested and the league will look into this if felt necessary. In addition it was noted that the website was a 2yr contract that will decrease by about 75% on next year's expenses
- It was also noted that Carla would like to find a replacement for the Treasurers role as she lives abroad for a considerable part of the year, but is happy to continue until a replacement is found

Melvin thanked Carla for all her work.

### **Tournament Secretary's Report**

- A full copy of Therese's report is held with these minutes

In summary:

- Entries similar to last year

- Finals night went very well and Therese thanked all those involved and those who helped; Peter Webb (venue), Kim Hart (presentations of trophies), Paul Butcher (photos, newspaper report and website publication), Louise Murphy (raffle) and all the line judges and umpires
- Bishops Stortford had a great night - well done to them, Tim Woods and Mark Whitworth had their photo in the Braintree & Witham Times for their win in the Men's Doubles
- The Committee made some more tweaks to the handicapping such that the winner of any game had to score 21 points; in general this worked reasonably well, however there were one or two anomalies that the Committee will take into account next season. Please remember to add the score to the results slips as it helps for next season
- The trophies were made ready for collection
- Therese thanked all the Committee for their hard work

Melvin also thanked Therese for all her hard work during the year

- **Entry forms will be available on the website for next season**

### **KO Competitions (John Hall)**

- John reported on the KO competitions a copy of his report is held with these minutes
- The three competitions went well this year, 2 were played before finals night, 1 after
- In the Lance Woodley Mixed 6's there were 8 clubs with 7 matches played. LBC beat Bishops Stortford in the final by 20 points. The largest winning margin was 33 points and the smallest 1, giving an average of 19.8 points per match or 1.1 points per game
- In the Combination 6's there were 7 clubs with 4 matches and 2 concessions. Bishops Stortford beat LBC in the final by 20 points. The largest winning margin was 100 points and the smallest 20, giving an average of 51 points per match or 2.8 per game
- In the Mixed 4's there were 10 clubs with 9 matches. Sandon beat Halstead in the final by 3 points. The largest winning margin was 122 points and the smallest 3, giving an average of 51 points per match or 4.25 per game
- John requested that score sheets and names are always sent in as this helps with the next round.
- John thanked all the club secretaries for arranging the matches and the committee for their support

Melvin thanked John for all his hard work.

Note; It is proposed that the Mixed 4's is renamed the 'Danny Jones' Mixed 4's in memory of our President Danny who sadly passed away last year

## League Secretary's Report

- A copy of the League Tables & Top Pairs is held with these minutes
- Dick got most fixture lists this year by the end of Sept with very few errors - thank you!
- Analysis of Dicks receipt of completed score cards this year showed no improvement from last year
  - Missing score cards from Sept/Oct was already 9 and it got steadily worse through the season. Dick has had to enlist help from many secretary's from both home and away team e.g. men's 2 Sandon v Sudbury took over 4 months to locate
  - An average score return of <10 days is fine
  - Late return of cards makes it extremely difficult to do mid-season and end of season tables. **Please remind all your team captains to return them to Dick**
- Dick reported on the league tables;
  - Only one team retained their title - Haverhill in Ladies 4's 1, however this was a very tight league with only 3 points between top and bottom and the lowest winning total for 35 years
  - Dick brought up the subject of potentially handicapping teams within e.g. the mixed 6's - see further discussion later
  - Men's 4's 1 was won by Br Nomads, who won Div 2 last year.
  - Only 9 conceded matches this year, but 5 of these were in the Mixed 4's. All clubs did well to do all the rearrangements caused by the poor weather in Dec/Jan
  - 8 matches were conceded this season compared with 13 last season. This was very good considering the bad weather we had in Jan and Feb
- Top pairs; No 100%'s this year.
  - Lyndsey Rutherford was top in L2 last season and now top in L1 this season
  - Emily Cotgrove and Clayton Hayman were also top pair in Mixed 6 1 this year having been top pair in Mixed 6 2 last year
- This years' weird and wonderful;
  - 141 days to send a score card
  - Coggeshall v LBC in the mixed with Ross Ranson and Melvin Hutton playing!
  - Haverhill being very overzealous and sending in 2 score cards for the same match (luckily with the same score on!)
  - Coggeshall v Earls Colne in the ladies, who on closer inspection were alias Haverhill
  - And of course the usual 'Simon Gilfrin' incident of confusing winning with losing (easily done!)
- The Golden Shuttle this year was awarded to Tiptree. Citation is below;

*"Looking back at this seasons Tables there is a team here who has achieved something which has never been done before, and my records go back to 1976-77. Not only did this team fail to win a point, they last all of their 8 matches 6-0. An easy way out would to have been disheartened and to concede some of their matches, but they carried on and played all of their matches – well done to all involved in this".*

*Dick Williams*

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

It was again noted that the Mixed 4's has been renamed the Danny Jones Trophy

### **Election of President;**

Ian Marsden (Vice Chairman) was nominated by Melvin Hutton and seconded by Nicola Hutchins. There were no other nominations, thus Ian was elected President unanimously. Ian gave a short acceptance speech, praising Danny Jones for all his hard work and acknowledging that Danny would be a hard act to follow.

- This leaves the position of Vice Chairman vacant, it was agreed to vote on this position in at the fixture meeting in September. Nominations so far; Norman Hume
- All officers were willing to stand and being no other volunteers the Committee was re-elected on block from the floor. The Committee is as follows:

Chairman	Melvin Hutton
Vice-Chairman	Ian Marsden
Secretary	Nicola Hutchins
League Secretary	Dick Williams
Treasurer	Carla Cullis
Tournament Secretary	Therese Hutton

**However as previously mention Carla Cullis is looking to relinquish this position so nominations welcome please**

- The Knockout Handicap Committee was also willing to stand again. Further volunteers are welcome to come forward or be persuaded by others:

Knockout Secretary	John Hall
	Nicola Hutchins
	Dick Williams
	Michelle Clarke
	Therese Hutton
	Gina Smith

## **AOB**

- There was significant debate over the potential to handicap some of the divisions. This subject came up largely due to the merging of the 2 mixed 6 divisions last year giving a large differential over the division. There were many points/suggestions/concerns about how this may work in practice
  - What happens if new players who are better join mid-season

- Bigger clubs not so keen on handicapping as they can fill teams from other leagues
- Some clubs who had ended up in a higher division than they wanted said they are considering leaving the League, but if this system were adopted may consider staying
- This system could encourage clubs to enter more junior players
- The handicap should apply throughout the season if adopted
- Teams should apply for the handicap when entering the team or at least 1 week before the fixture meeting
- It was agreed that clubs should discuss this as adoption of this would involve a rule change.
- The Committee will prepare a proposal for discussion and forward it to all clubs with voting forms
- Clubs should be prepared for a decision prior to the fixtures meeting
- There is a £5 for non-attendance at meetings, this will apply to all clubs who were not present tonight
- Please can all clubs provide an email address if possible as this makes circulation of documents much easier.
- If you have any information you would like to be put onto the website, contact the committee or Paul Butcher - Paul.Butcher@badmintonbraintree.org.uk
- Sadly Tiptree informed the League that they would be closing due to lack of members, the meeting thanked Tiptree for their contribution to the League and hoped that they may re-form in years to come
- **The next meeting (Fixtures) was agreed as Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2011 7-30pm, Alec Hunter School A5. All Clubs are reminded that non-attendance at any meeting will result in a £5 fine**
- **The seasons end will be 6<sup>th</sup> April 2012**
- **Finals Night 2012 is proposed as 27<sup>th</sup> April, with Semi's 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> April 2012. This is due to Easter being 8<sup>th</sup> April**
- **The next AGM will be Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> May 2012 8pm at Alec Hunter School A5**

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed:

[www.badmintonbraintree.org.uk](http://www.badmintonbraintree.org.uk)