

SW Herts Independent Badminton League

Meeting Notes for AGM – Tuesday 21st. June, 2011

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All clubs were represented except Harpenden Racqueteers.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last AGM had been circulated prior to the meeting, and they were duly approved.

Approved Gadebridge
Seconded Lockers Park

Carried unanimously.

3 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising which were not already highlighted for discussion in the agenda.

4 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The present Officers standing again are:

Organiser	Ron Duckling
Match Co-ordinators	Brian Gibb
	Bob Leigh
	Lynne Leigh
Ordinary Members	Brian Baker
	Liz Bateman
	Graham Hall

There were no further nominations from the floor, and the committee were elected en bloc.

Approved Little Bushey
Seconded Comets

Carried unanimously

5 ACCOUNTS

The accounts were presented and discussed. The key element in the accounts was the loss made on the annual tournament. The accounts were duly approved.

Approved Harpenden
Seconded Warners End

Carried unanimously

6 BADMINTON TOURNAMENT

The annual tournament had been held in October, and was enjoyed by those who took part. Unfortunately this was just six men and six ladies. We had hired the entire badminton hall (9 courts) and were able to hold not just the usual Mens and Ladies competitions but also a mixed competition.

The event ran at a large loss, and it is felt by the committee that it is not worth repeating next year. The event could be resurrected at some time in future, should there be a demand.

7 RE-INSTATEMENT OF RULE 18

At the 2010 AGM the meeting voted to suspend the rules governing eligibility of players for the Medley B (Rule 18). It was agreed at the meeting to suspend the rule for one year, and to review the decision at the next (2011) AGM. It was understood by the committee that the club which raised the issue (Harpenden) had undertaken at the meeting to follow the rule as closely as possible. During the year, Harpenden failed to follow the spirit of Rule 18, playing two ladies from their first mixed team in a large number (7 in one case and 8 in the other) of their Medley B matches. Harpenden went on to win medley B. As a result, the committee decided that since they had not followed their undertaking at the last AGM, they would be disqualified and the division awarded to the second place team, which was Wendover.

This matter was discussed at great length. Harpenden defended their position by saying that the notes of meeting originally stated that they would not play their County players. These notes were subsequently modified to reflect what the committee members recalled of the meeting, namely that Harpenden would only deviate from the rule when it was absolutely necessary. Harpenden said that they refrained from playing County players, which they would have been able to do had Rule 18 been in place.

A vote was taken on the proposal that the committee should not have disqualified Harpenden.

Approved Hawks
Seconded Wendover

The proposal was carried by 6 votes to 5. Harpenden are therefore restored as winners on the Mixed Division 1.

A proposal was then put to the meeting by the committee that Rule 18 be re-instated. Some teams said that they would not be able to field a team for the Medley B under those circumstances. Other teams said that they would be unhappy to play in Medley B if there were no restrictions preventing the more successful clubs from fielding their best players.

Approved Hawks
Seconded Wendover

The proposal was carried by 7 votes to 6.

The committee agreed to re-instate medley A as an option, and depending upon the entries received, will either run both competitions, or just the most popular choice.

8 WEBSITE

The league website has a new web master because the previous webmaster has moved away and was unable to continue maintaining the site. In view of this, and the fact that results submitted have to be checked by the match co-ordinators against the extensive set of rules governing the league, the committee do not believe that an interactive results system is possible. In view of this, it was proposed that the idea of an interactive results system be dropped.

Approved Bushey Barons
Seconded Warners End

Carried unanimously.

9 LEAGUE INSURANCE AND AFFILIATION TO BADMINTON ENGLAND

The rules of Badminton England (BA) have changed, and the committee are no longer insured against third party risk unless all clubs in the league are affiliated, in which case the league can be affiliated and the insurance is free. Some clubs are not affiliated to BE and arrange their insurance separately. One club has no insurance at all. Insurance can be arranged for the committee, but it is expensive and the cost would be carried by all clubs, including the majority who are already affiliated. It was proposed that all clubs in the league must be affiliated.

Approved Warners End
Seconded Bushey Eagles

The motion was carried with a 14 to 1 majority.

10 DATE OF FIXTURES MEETING

The fixtures meeting will be at the **Leverstock Green Guide HQ** at 7:30 pm on Thursday 1st. September 2011 .

11 PRESENTATION OF LEAGUE TROPHIES

The trophies were awarded to the winning teams.

12 PRESENTATION OF FAIR PLAY TROPHY

The fair play trophy was won by Harpenden Racqueteers, but since they were not represented, it will be handed over at the Fixtures meeting

13 ANY OTHER BUSINESS, INCLUDING

The committee received complaints during the season that venues were not ready for matches to start on time, and home teams were late arriving. Clubs are reminded that the rules on lateness apply as much to home teams and the venue as they do to away teams.

Clubs were reminded that they must use only the current score sheets, since they have the latest contact details for match coordinators.

League entry forms for next season will be re-issued to clubs with the option to enter a team into Medley A.

One of the rules states that a team must play 75% of its matches, otherwise it will be expunged from the league. This occurred once this year, and all results from that team were removed from the league tables. There was discussion regarding the best way to handle this situation to be fair to the remaining teams. Ultimately it becomes a committee decision, but the match organisers did agree to advise the other teams in the division if and when one team is likely to be unable to fulfil enough of its fixtures.

Matches with the new scoring system are shorter, and there is less likelihood of matches over-running, but if this should happen, the match can be settled by playing the last three rubbers with a single game to 31, with no setting. If this is likely to happen, the home team must advise the visitors as early as possible during the evening.

Bushey Barons proposed a vote of thanks to the committee for their hard work during the year.

14 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 9:50 pm.