

WYNDGATE BADMINTON CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at THE SPORTS CENTRE, FOLKESTONE on Monday, 25th June 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Steve Welch (Chairman); Roy Adams (Treasurer); Heather Baker (Secretary)
Colin Hogan (Match Secretary) Chris Graham Greg Dewey
Steve Dewey

Rob Hazell David Hogan Dianne Baker Peter Cash John Coombe
Ian Richardson Liyan Shi

1. **Apologies:** Mary Sullivan; Tony Gearing.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting:** Chris proposed that the Minutes of last year's AGM be accepted. Ian seconded. All agreed.
3. **Matters arising:** None.

4. **Treasurer's Report.** (Year ending 30th April 2018).

Roy reported a good year for the club from a financial point of view. All the annual subs and fees stayed the same as the previous year and he had budgeted for a deficit of about £280 but in fact we had a surplus of £284. We lost a few members, so subscriptions were down, but more matches were played, so match fees were up. Income from visitors' fees increased, but the summer pay and play was very disappointing compared to 2017.

The hire of the hall was down by £325 despite us only having one less night. This was mainly due to the Sports Centre charging us at a lower rate on some nights. Court time was in fact only two hours less than last year. Shuttle costs were lower, due to lower usage. We have only used Yehlex shuttles. The cost is £1.37 per shuttle. Affiliation fees stayed much the same, despite the new charging system introduced by Badminton England. We have had no cost yet this year for the web site, which to date Steve Welch has been managing.

At 30th April we had a surplus of £4,120, but this will be reduced by about £900 by the start of the new subscription year. We can keep the subscriptions the same next year. At 30th April we were owed £289, but Roy is doing something about outstanding fees, and there is now only one part-subscription owing. Next year we will chase harder. Out of interest, average attendance has dropped from 25 players per night to 20 (league players are counted in that number), so Roy will have to look closely at the number of courts we book for next season. It's possible that a match player may not come on a Friday if he/she has played a couple of matches during the week.

Roy was asked about the premium bonds. There was a small win in 2016, and then in May this year. Any win below £1,000 goes into club funds. If we were to win a large amount, members would receive a share on a points system – length of membership, etc.

The accounts were audited by Steve Dewey and Chris. They were accepted unanimously.

5. **Match Secretary's Report.**

South Foreland

Our **Men's A** team won the League, winning 10 out of 10 matches. Overall 13 players were used, and 7 reserves were used in 7 matches. Congratulations to both Ian and Jeff on winning all their games. A good performance by all concerned, including the reserves.

The **Men's B** team came 5th out of 6, winning 4 out of 10 games. 12 players were used, and 8 reserves played in 8 matches. Invicta won only 3 matches and came third. This is against Wyndgate winning 4 and, even worse, Ajax winning 6 matches and coming fourth. This is because rubbers count as points.

The **Mixed** team won 4 out of 4 matches and won the league. This was a disappointing league due to lack of teams. Only three. Only 3 out of 4 matches were actually played as one was conceded to us.

Ian said he could not see the point in a Mixed League if there were so few teams. He thought it better to go for the Composite. Colin suggested that if each club had two mixed teams, an A and a B team, with the same three ladies, but different men, this would make for a better league.

The **Composite** team came second to Scorpions, winning 6 out of 8 matches. Scorpions also won 6 out of 8 matches, but they win the league on countback rubbers won – 52 to our 45. Greg won all his matches – well done. We were missing a lady against Homewood away. The three games conceded would not have made a difference to the League position – we would still have come second.

North Foreland

Men's. An exceptional result. Second out of six, losing to an exceptionally strong Kings team. Colin felt that for him the Away game was the match of the season, even though we lost 7-2.

Overall a good season winning 3 out of 4 Leagues. Congratulations to all the teams and players who won their Leagues, and many thanks to those that stood in as reserves, some at the last minute. Next season may be trickier as several clubs improved as the season went on and will be stronger next season.

There were 2 non-registered players who played in the League and they both had their games taken away from them. So captains should make sure players are registered before asking them to stand in for matches.

League rule changes this year:

- (1) Players are eligible to play for a club 7 days after registration, (reduced from 14 days).
- (2) Playing an ineligible player in a team – Now just the games played by such a person are forfeited 21-0. (previously it meant losing the match 9-0). The committee may further deduct a 1 point penalty as well, at its discretion.

6. Chairman's Report. Steve thanked everyone for coming to the AGM, and commented upon Roy reporting a healthy financial state with a good club membership. With regard to Colin's report as Match Secretary he commented on the good results from our teams this year and congratulated and thanked all team members. **He reminded players to complete team request slips now for the 2018/19 season starting in September.** as the Committee will re-assess teams for next year over the summer, and team players must be registered before the start of the match season.

He thanked Roy, Colin and Heather for their hard work.

Steve said it had been a fairly quiet year for the club, but we do seem to be thriving, especially in regards to the number of women and junior players, at a time when other clubs are struggling. On the social front we had a lovely Chinese meal at a local restaurant. Many thanks to Tony for organizing it. The last club night this year will be Friday 29th June, but we will then play each Friday in July for a nightly attendance fee of £5. Club nights then start again at the beginning of September.

On a personal note, Steve said that (as he had already made known) he is stepping down as Chairman and bidding farewell to the club, due to a persistent wrist injury and concerns about his back. He recalled joining the club sometime in the 1990s and still remembers the penetrating, searching look from Roy when someone pointed him out across the hall as a potential new member – 'Is this someone we would want at our club?' But he was let in! In 2003 he was elected Chairman, taking over from Martyn Bailey, although he said he felt that everyone else actually took a step backwards before he could react! Also in 2003 the Morehall Badminton Club joined us en-mass because their club was struggling with lack of members. And in 2006 the new scoring system came in, then in 2007 the school closed and we had to move to the Sports Centre, and at the same time change the day we played on.

Steve recalled some lean times with low membership numbers and few teams in the leagues, but we have slowly recovered to become one of the best clubs in this area. Long may it continue.

Steve finished by saying a big thank you to all members for making our club such a friendly one – a pleasure to turn up and play every Friday evening.

Chris said a big thank you to Steve for being our Chairman for so long and gave him a bottle of wine as a token of appreciation.

7. **Election of Officers.** As Steve Welch is standing down as Chairman, Roy nominated Steve Dewey to be our new Chairman. Heather seconded. All in favour and he was thus elected. The rest of the Committee was willing to stand again. Steve Welch proposed and Peter seconded. All in favour.

8. **Appointment of Auditors.** Chris and Steve Dewey were prepared to continue. Steve Welch proposed, and Ian seconded. It was unanimously agreed.

9. **AOB.**

(1) The Web Site. Steve Welch has managed this to date. Colin Hogan agreed to take it on, and this was unanimously agreed. At present it is in Steve's name and Colin and Steve will get together and decide how to transfer it and whether it stays with the same host. The next year's subscription is due in September.

The web site needs updating – it still has pictures of our old venue at Wyndgate School.

It was agreed that we would keep details of the Data Protection Act on the website, and members can be referred to that for guidance and information on procedure.

(2) Nets for matches. Greg asked if, as we appear to have sufficient funds, we could buy a couple of our own nets for matches, and keep them in the club box, as the Sports Centre nets have lots of holes in them. The nets cost £25 each. Ian pointed out that someone would need to put them up and take them down again. After some discussion it was decided to mention the state of the nets to the Sports Centre first – if they do nothing about them we will consider buying our own.

(3) Refreshment for matches

As a team everyone takes along something to eat. No-one is officially responsible for taking along squash or juice to drink, but the team captain usually takes responsibility and it was agreed that this is how it should be.

(4) Courts

July and August

Roy said that for July he will initially book 3 courts (7 p.m. to 8 p.m.) 3 courts (8 p.m. to 9 p.m.) and 2 courts (9 p.m. to 10 p.m.) and see how it goes.

Last year the attendance in August was pretty dire. August is not arranged by the club as such, but when it comes to booking courts it is easier for Roy to book (as for the club) because he is able to book for the whole of the month, whereas an individual can only book one day in advance. Roy will put something up at the club so that we have an idea of who will want to play through August. The problem is that people do change their minds on the night.

Courts through the season

John said it had been much better this year. No long waits in between games. This may have been due to lower attendances, as well as to the fact that we had more courts on match nights.

Match practice

Greg suggested that if there was a match cancellation, match players should be allowed to have one court for one hour for match practice. After some discussion Ian proposed that if a match was cancelled match players should have one court - on the other side of the hall - from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and should pay £3 each. Greg seconded, and this was agreed.

(5) League teams.

Colin would like to organise it so that the Men's A and B teams (South Foreland) play each other in the last two weeks of September.

Ian wondered if we could have two teams in North Foreland. Colin said he was not sure he would be able to fit all the matches in – we would have to go into May, and would have no leeway. It may also upset club members if there were more matches. Peter did not think we would get enough team members in any event. We would need commitment from players. Ian suggested we gauge it from the forms coming in. Ian also suggested it may be better to drop S.F. Men's second team and have a second team in N.F. where the opposition is stronger. However, there would be further to travel for away matches, and team members may lose heart if they got regularly beaten.

John said there was a rumour that North and South Foreland might amalgamate. Colin said there was no mention of this at the moment.

(6) Juniors

On one club night this year juniors were invited along. This was to try and encourage new members. It was considered to be a good idea and Greg will try and arrange another such evening next season.

(7) Trophies

Roy produced the trophies he still had from last season plus those for this season, as follows:

2016/2017 season

South Foreland Men's A: Greg Dewey, Ian Richardson, Rob Hazell, Kevin Yates, Colin Hogan, Jeff Hall.

South Foreland Men's B: Peter Cash, Mick Aldritt, Don Hobday, Colin Greenstreet, John Coombe, Ben Care.

South Foreland, Mixed Division 1: Greg Dewey; Steve Dewey; Rob Hazell; Sarah Baker; Chris Graham; Issy Hills.

Composite: Chris Graham, Sarah Baker, Graeme Morris, Greg Dewey, Kevin Yates, Rob Hazell

2017/2018 season:

South Foreland, Mixed Division 1: Greg Dewey; Steve Dewey; Rob Hazell; Sarah Baker; Chris Graham; Issy Hills. Laura Falvey and Alex Greenstreet stood in when required and deserve special thanks. Laura played two matches, and Alex one.

South Foreland Men's A: Greg Dewey, Colin Hogan, Colin Greenstreet, Ian Richardson, Jeff Hall, Rob Hazell.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.