

WYNDGATE BADMINTON CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at THE SPORTS CENTRE, FOLKESTONE on Monday, 26th June 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Steve Welch (Chairman); Roy Adams (Treasurer); Heather Baker (Secretary)
Richard Oliver (Match Secretary) Chris Graham Andy Morris
Steve Dewey

Rob Hazell Colin Hogan Dianne Baker Peter Cash David Hogan
Ian Richardson Sarah Baker Liyan Shi Greg Dewey John Coombe

- 1. Apologies:** Mary Sullivan; Jeff Hall; Tom Adaway; Issy Hills; Connor Willson; Kevin Yates.
- 2. Minutes of previous meeting:** Colin proposed that the Minutes of last year's AGM be accepted. Chris seconded. All agreed.
- 3. Matters arising:** None.
- 4. Treasurer's Report.** (Year ending 30th April 2017). Our income this year increased significantly as a result of a £10 increase in membership fees and a £1 increase in match fees. We also did better with higher attendances for the July and August pay-and-play nights. Our membership increased by just one this year.
On the expenses side the hire of the hall increased by over £480 due to the extra pay-and-play nights and in fact the only night that we did not play was Good Friday. Shuttle costs have increased again as we are now paying £16.45 for a tube of 12 Shuttles but this year the quality of the Yehlex shuttles appears to have improved. Roy did also operate the policy of only putting new tubes of shuttles in the box. He has been left with a large number of good shuttles that we are currently getting through. The net result for the year was a surplus of £262.03 compared to a deficit last year of £104.28. We now have £3,835.97 to carry forward as at 30.4.2017 but Roy expects net expenditure of about £800 between 1st May and the start of the new season – i.e. we should have approximately £3,000 at the beginning of next season.
The average attendance increased from 23.5 to 24.8 persons per night.

Comments:

- (1) John raised the question of whether we need £3,000 in the bank. Roy said that the balance goes up and down during the year. We could lose a few members and the balance would go down. Our membership fees and match fees are comparable with other clubs.
- (2) Steve Welch said he is happier with the better shuttles.
- (3) Steve Welch asked if we had any wins on the Premium Bonds this year. The answer is no.

The accounts were audited by Steve Dewey. Chris had not yet had a chance to read them. The accounts were accepted unanimously.

- 5. Match Secretary's Report.** We had all-in-all another successful season. Richard copied the incomplete tables from the South Foreland website just this afternoon – complete results not available. He distributed the copies he had obtained. However, he understands that we did win all four competitions – Men's 1, Men's 2, Mixed 1 and Composite.
In the North Foreland our Men's team came third but that looks highly creditable knowing the strength of that league.
On the match arrangement side of things, pretty much as last season – two matches less than last season, so a little less income.
There were five postponements. Four were re-arranged and one conceded.
Richard congratulated everyone who took part.
Richard confirmed that he will now be stepping down as Match Secretary and indeed will not be joining the club next year. He stated that ours is a great club and always has been to his mind. He has enjoyed badminton here for quite a number of years (can't remember how many!) and would wish to

come down on a few odd occasions, so it is not a complete goodbye. He wished members all the best for the future and hopes we all keep the fires burning for the sake of badminton!

Steve Welch thanked Richard for performing the job of Match Secretary for the past five years.

6. Chairman's Report. Steve thanked everyone for coming to the Club's AGM. He commented on Roy reporting a healthy financial state with a good club membership. Regarding Richard's Report as Match Secretary, he commented on the good results from our teams this year and congratulated and thanked all team members, and **reminded players to complete team request slips for the 2017/18 season starting in September**, as the Committee will re-assess teams for next year over the summer

Steve thanked Roy, Richard and Heather for their hard work.

He 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, in March Tony organised an Indian meal for us at a local restaurant. Unfortunately Steve couldn't make it, but understands it went off really well. Many thanks to Tony for organising it. The final club night is 30th June, but we will play every Friday in July for a nightly attendance fee of £5. Club nights then start again at the beginning of September. Steve thanked all club members for making it a pleasure to attend club nights.

Here Peter confirmed that he and John would be willing to arrange pay-and-play through August, as they did last year. Roy confirmed he will book the courts again.

7. Election of Officers.

Colin said that he would be willing to stand for Match Secretary. Steve Welch nominated him, and David seconded. He was thus elected. Other Committee members were willing to stand again and Richard proposed their re-election. Ian seconded. Members present were in favour. Andy was not sure if he will be fit to play next year. Greg asked if an honorary member could be part of the Committee. Andy said a Committee member would need to be there and aware of what is going on when it comes to election of team members. Roy said that the Committee Meeting will be in July, when teams will be chosen. Andy will be a member up until the end of August. Everyone was happy with that and it was agreed. Andy will still be managing juniors on Saturday morning.

Greg said he would be happy to take Andy's place on the Committee. Roy nominated Greg, and Richard seconded. All in favour.

8. Appointment of Auditors. Chris and Steve Dewey were prepared to continue. Richard nominated them and Ian seconded. It was unanimously agreed.

9. AOB.

(1) Teams: Colin proposed that it be written in the club rules the criteria for selection to a team: i.e. that each new season the team selection shall be the strongest team available in order of team, 1,2,3, regardless of who played in the previous seasons team and regardless whether certain players played in that team and won the division. He suggested a "Captain's Meeting" before the start of the season, in order to discuss team selection.

Andy said that new players were not always able to commit to each and every match.

Steve Welch said that we have gone for the strongest pairs.

Chris pointed out that we often struggle to pick teams because slips are not returned.

Ian said that team selection should be a matter of common sense.

Andy pointed out that match players must be prepared to play the matches.

Steve Dewey said that sometimes missing a match is unavoidable, and then reserves get a chance to play.

Colin said that people get upset if they've won and then they get dropped.

Lee said that part of the selection criteria could be internal leagues.

Chris said that it is not a matter of saying that a player is not good enough, but rather that sometimes others are better.

Ian said it is not so easy to fill places in the North Foreland League.

Peter said, speaking of matches on home nights, that sometimes someone doesn't come, and then you have to get someone from the Club to make up the team.

Ian said we should look at people who are regular attendees.

Andy said that the problem comes with the success of the club – the more people in the club, the more people want to play.

Ian said he will speak to people on Friday and get them to fill in slips.
John and Ian suggested that players should come to club night on at least 50% of the nights to be included in a team. In this case matches on club nights count as attendance at club night.
Colin said it is not fair for one person to be in four teams – three should be the maximum
Ian, Andy and Steve pointed out that we need people we can rely on.
Colin suggested a third Men's team in S.F. This would, of course, increase the number of home games, and so impact upon club nights.

(2) The Peg Board

Colin said that people were picking all over the place, not from the next six.
Chris said people have said they have been overlooked.
Roy said we had had one written comment to that effect.
Colin said we should say four from the first six. The rule could be relaxed when a mixed or ladies game is wanted, but only in the selection of the lady/ladies.
Chris said that we have to be sensible about it – sometimes people say “no”.
Greg suggested we pick from eight.
Ian pointed out that we don't want to get stuck with the same set all night.
Chris said we have to be flexible.

Steve Welch said that in the light of the above comments the Committee will discuss the issues and we will put a notice up. We can't be too dogmatic about it. The Committee will come to a decision as to the wording, a note will go on the board, and an email will be circulated to instigate it.

(3) Badminton England

Colin pointed out the new fees for Badminton England. Two levels of membership have been introduced. The fee payable by a member playing league matches is £10 and to play in tournaments and County Matches, etc, the fee is £20.
Roy said he will look at the information from Badminton England, but he is not concerned about it.

(4) Matches on club nights

John commented that home matches impact on club night. He wondered whether home matches could be played on the other side of the curtain or if some home matches could be scheduled for another night of the week.
Roy said that on home match nights he books five courts from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., six courts from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. and four courts from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. He has not tried asking for six courts from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. It is hard to plan it, as people turn up at different times. However, if people are playing in the match they are not playing on the club courts. It is not possible to get another night for matches – there is no availability. Last season the average attendance was 24.8 – but not always at 7 p.m. At the start of the season 32 people turned up. It is impossible to say how many will come and at what time.
Roy said he can put up a list of what courts we have each night. However, he sometimes has to cancel and rebook if a match is changed.
Andy pointed out that if we put in another team the number of home nights goes up. (As mentioned by Colin in AOB (1) above.

(5) Lighting.

John commented that the lighting is getting worse.
Greg said he had mentioned this and been told that money is tight and it is very expensive to replace lights.
Richard said it is the same at the Stour Centre.
Andy and Greg said they will both register a complaint.

(5) Slippery floor

This was mentioned again. Greg said that if it has been recently washed it is “grippy” and if not it is slippery. It has been mentioned, and they have changed what they mop the floor with. We can always borrow the sweeper.

(6) Trophies

Roy produced the trophies he still had from last season. These were presented to the following players:
Mixed: Ian; Greg; Rob; Sarah; Chris; Issy (Greg will deliver hers to her)
Men's 1: Ian; Greg; Steve Dewey; Rob; Colin; Kevin (to be delivered).

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.