

# **Avon Badminton Association**

## **Minutes of AGM held May 14th 2009 at UWE**

### **Chairman's Introduction:**

Our chairman Ken Stott welcomed the attendees to the meeting, and thanked everyone for making the effort to attend. As in previous years, various reports are included in the handout given to all attendees at the meeting. Included in this handout is the chairman's report to the meeting. Rather than read it out verbatim, Ken briefly commented on the highlights of this report. The overview of this message is that there has and continues to be progress in improving the position of badminton both nationally and locally. Badminton has secured an increased share of the monies available from government for sports development, and the opportunities have never been greater.

The handout issued to the clubs at this meeting will be distributed to non attending clubs at the league meetings at the start of the season. The handout will also be available by email (on request) from the secretary Alan Busvine (abusvine@blueyonder.co.uk).

Ken introduced Steve Nelson, Chief Executive of Wesport the West of England Sports Partnership. Steve has kindly agreed to attend our meeting, and explain the role of Wesport in enabling effective communication between the governing bodies, local authorities, education establishments, clubs and grass roots generally, and promoting and developing sport in the area. Wesport are instrumental in bringing the various organisations together to promote a cohesive and effective approach. Badminton is one of Wesport's principle sports, and they are working closely with Badminton England and Avon Badminton to promote Badminton. A copy of the powerpoint presentation is included with these minutes.

Steve Ken thanked Steve on behalf of Avon Badminton Association for his address, and also for the support given to Avon Badminton, and in particular to Penny Shears (Avon Development Officer).

### **Apologies for absence:**

Apologies for absence received from: Link Ladies, Whitchurch Park, Severn Vale Juniors, Tickenham, Chew Valley, Exiles, Imperial, Holly Lane, Pill, Nigel Holland.

### **Attendees:**

Academy, Avon Jets, Beaufort, Bristol & District, Chew Park, Clevedon Feathers, Cuba, Fiveways, Highbury, Nailsea & Yatton Optomists, Portishead, Portishead Juniors, Racketeers Juniors, Raysfield, Redwood Lodge, Severn Vale, St Lukes, St Ursulas. (Total 18 clubs).

Chairman (Ken Stott), Secretary (Alan Busvine) , Treasurer (John Forster), Coaching Secretary (Gary McDonald) , Registration Secretary (Brenda Bird), Vice President (Jeff Malborn) , Match Secretary (Steve Bird), Cooptee (Naomi Leppier), Development

Officer (Penny Shears), Bristol League rep (Moir Roberts), Mid Glos League rep (Alan Kitley), N. Somerset League rep (June Malborn)

### **Minutes of 2008 AGM:**

Bristol League proposed acceptance, N. Somerset seconded. Carried.

Matters arising:

Paul Philips requested at last years meeting that 2007 minutes to be distributed to those clubs who did not attend due to date mix up. Alan Busvine will ensure a copy is sent to Paul

Development. Severn Vale noted as in process of applying for Premier Club, and Adrian Cantwell reported to the meeting that they have now achieved that status. Ken extended congratulatio to them on Behalf of Avon Badminton.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The report is contained in the handout. John briefly explained the figures. It should be noted that the county teams required only £1500 of their usual £2000 budget last year, For the 2009/2010 season they have notified that due to the fixtures (notably Dublin) there will be increased travelling costs, and the council has therefore agreed an increase in budget to £2000 to cover these additional expenses.

There were no questions from the floor on the accounts.

The treasurer therefore reccomends that an increase of fees in line with inflation, as per the constitution. The council endorsed this recommendation at the last council meeting. Since this is an automatic increase as described in clause 6 of the constitution no vote is required.

### **Election of Officers:**

Before commencing the formal process of election of officers, our Vice President Jeff Malborn addressed the meeting.

Ken Stott our chairman, has made an enormous contribution to sport locally, and Badminton in particular over numerous years. He has been Avon's representative at the Badminton England's council for a numerous years. Through his tireless chairmanship of Avon Badminton in the last ??? years, through his enthusiasm and drive, he has been insturmental in assisting the team in harnessing the available oppportunites

In recognition of the dedication, that Ken has given sport and Badminton in particular over a lifetime, the Council of Badminton England have elected him as Vice President.

This news was greeted with warm applause from the floor.

As most of you will be aware, Ken is retiring from the position of chair this year due to ill health. As you know Avon has been without a president for several year's, our last president being John Vallis.

Jeff then continued by nominating Ken Stott to be Honorary President of Avon Badminton Association. This motion was seconded by Brenda Bird. The floor were asked to vote on this proposal and returned a unanimous vote in favour. Ken Stott was duly elected as President.

**Chairman:** With the position vacant, nominations were requested from the floor. One nomination was received.

Adrian Cantwell was proposed by Mid Gloucestershire League, seconded by North Somerset League. Adrian accepted the nomination, and a vote was put to the floor, which was carried.

**Secretary:** Alan Busvine prepared to stand again. No alternative nominations were received from the floor. Proposed by St Lukes, seconded by Clevedon Feathers. Vote carried by floor.

**Treasurer:** John Forster prepared to stand again. No alternative nominations were received from the floor. Proposed by Nailsea and Yatton, seconded County Match Secretary. Vote carried by floor.

**Affiliation Secretary:** Brenda Bird prepared to stand again. No alternatives were received from the floor. Proposed by Bristol League, seconded Clevedon Feathers. Vote carried by floor.

**Coaching Secretary:** Gary MacDonald prepared to stand again. No alternative nominations received. Proposed by County Match Secretary, seconded by Affiliation Secretary. Vote carried by floor.

**Publicity Officer:** Zia Haque not present at the meeting, and it is not known if he is prepared to stand again. There were no nominations from the floor. It was agreed that Zia would be contacted by council post meeting to see if he is prepared to stand again, and if not council may co-opt another, without referral back to the membership.

**Coopted Officers:** The current coopted members are Jeff Malborn and Naomi Leppier. Jeff indicated his willingness to continue, Naomi however has indicated to council that she does not wish to continue on council. Council therefore asked the meeting if anyone was prepared to contribute to council. Ian Coles of Clevedon Feathers indicated he was prepared to stand, and was duly coopted by council.

### **Any Other Business**

June Malborn.... George Rowden . Over the years the support has diminished. Council don't want to see it phased out. Given the reduced level of support over the last few years, we are wondering if a revised format is necessary to reinvigorate interest.

There were various views expressed from the floor, but the overriding message was one of difficulties with player numbers and available court time. It is evident that some clubs

are severely stretched with the balance of league teams and players, and fitting further matches into the schedule is extremely difficult.

Among the suggestions discussed:

Should be run as an out of season precursor to the start of season.

Run on a specific date(s) at a specific venue.

Keep the same format, but run through April, May, June.....(June Malborn was not in favour of this proposal, and would decline to organise the event with this format).

Relax the rules regarding player eligibility.

Run it in conjunction with the Badminton Marathon.

The council will look at the options at a forthcoming meeting, and decide on the best way of going about it.

Jeff Malborn announced veterans AGM next Monday at Congresbury.

Steve Bird announced County Restricted Tournament is on 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> , 27<sup>th</sup> September at St Ursulas School. Details on web site.

Steve Bird is hoping to start a singles ladder, all standards can enter, especially Ladies. Details on the web site.

Meeting closed at 9.02pm.

Next council meeting August 4<sup>th</sup> August