HAMPSHIRE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION LTD

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Westgate Badminton Centre, on 21 June 2017.**

In the absence of the President, Trevor Shanks, Diana Troke took the chair and opened the meeting by welcoming those present. We then observed a minute’s silence remembering three of our friends who had passed away during the year, Kathie Adams (Vice-President), Kieran Dix (former U21 Team Manager) and John Biggs (former Junior Section Chairman and coach).

1. **County Chairman’s Opening Remarks**: Diana Troke used her opening remarks to consider the state of our sport with the loss of funding and the related downsizing of the workforce. She appealed to us all to try to attract more players, more leagues and generally volunteer to help in the cause of re-invigorating the sport. She thanked Hazel Marks for her many years as Secretary of the County and Claire and Colin Byford for the many years they had been involved with the juniors and with the Tournament Committee. The Westgate School girls had won the National Schools Final, a competition in which there had been 8000 schools entered, comprising 44,000 participants. Hampshire is looking forward to a bright future with all the good work that is going on in the County. She concluded by wishing Jill Robertson and Trevor Shanks a speedy recovery from their ailments.
2. **Attendance/Apologies**:

10 Affiliated Clubs were represented.

Apologies were received from Marilyn Hunter (Vice-President), Jill Robertson (Vice-President), Jean Merrikin (Vice-President), Trevor Shanks (President), Jan Harvey (Tournament Co-ordinator and Child Welfare Officer), Steve Harvey (Treasurer and Hampshire Youth Badminton Trust Secretary/Treasurer), Jo Dix and Mark Peckham (St Denys BC), Sheena Eves (Andover Sports BC), Hayley Tucknott (Phoenix BC), Nicolette Lock (Nomads BC), Sue Davey (Henry Cort Juniors BC) and Paul Fonseca.

1. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 22 June 2016:**

It was agreed that these were a correct record, with one small correction, of the Annual General Meeting on 22 June 2016 and the Chairman duly signed them.

1. **Matters arising from the Minutes**:

There were no items arising that were not covered by other Agenda items.

1. **Secretary’s Report**:

The Secretary, Hazel Marks, had circulated a Report, in which she reflected on the death of three of our stalwarts, Kathie Adams, Kieran Dix and John Biggs. Two new senior clubs and the loss of two junior clubs, plus the renewed take-up of insurance bearing membership fees, meant that we actually had more members, both senior and junior, than for a few years. Long may the trend last. Following a more successful year at the Westgate Badminton Centre, it was agreed that Alex Roe should diversify his role and he has been appointed County Development Officer half-time and continue as Assistant Manager of the Centre half-time. HBA Ltd is investing some of their reserves in his Development role. The last of the 60 editions of the Newsletter was circulated in November, a victim of the progress toward the digital era and more modern trends. Hazel paid tribute to Janet Palmer its long-time editor and to Trevor Darlington who had printed it for us and thanked all those who those who had continued to work hard for all aspects of the County’s activities. She concluded by reflecting on the past 19 years during which she had been County Secretary and the changes that had come along the way. As she retired from office she thanked everyone for the happy memories she took with her and wished them all the best for a more modern future.

**6. Treasurer’s Report**:

The Treasurer Steve Harvey had already had the accounts examined and we had before us the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account, as well as the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 April 2017, as yet unsigned by the Directors in Steve’s absence. The Net Current Assets, the total of reserves scattered among our various accounts, stood at £62,040 after taxation, a profit of £673 on last year's figure. The profit on the year was largely due to an increase in membership following our campaign warning clubs what they were doing in failing to ensure that all their members were covered by the BE insurance. We had also published only one edition of the Newsletter instead of three. This was the last one. Digital media should prove to be a cheaper way of communicating. We were very pleased to have the Accounts explained to us by Arthur Bell, our accountant as well as being a Vice-President of the Association.

**7. Match Secretary’s Report:**

The Match Secretary, Paul Jackson, had submitted a final report on the season for the AGM. This showed that the 1st Team had finished in the top half of the Premiership, having only just returned there. The 2nd Team had a disappointing season in Division 1 South finishing 7th of 8 and were relegated. The 3rd team finished in 5th of 8 in Division 3 South. Fixtures for the new season have been arranged on designated dates but the venues have yet to be fixed. All our teams will be playing on the same dates as before. The 1st and 3rd teams will stay in their respective Divisions and 2nd team will play in Division 2 South East. It was noted that the French Badminton Association had gone back on their decision to allow our players to play both in the French League and in our ICC. We could lose most of our current 1st team players for next season as a result of this decision. Paul also detailed proposed changes by BE to the future structure of the Divisions, some of the Regulations, fines for kit breaches, cost cutting measures in respect of referees and umpires and the acceptance of Paul’s proposal that the Shires League be expanded to include an U20 League. We shall enter such a team, along with U14, U16, U18 teams. It is understood that 11 teams have already been entered. We had been in danger of receiving a hefty fine for fielding team shirts which did not conform to the BE Regulations in respect of the size of the printing on them. It now seems that BE will take no action for lest season, but is threatening to be strict this season. Paul has written to Mark Downie to try and clarify the situation. Our players still have plenty of wear left in old shirts. **We await the official response**. Paul was thanked for all his hard work as Match Secretary.

1. **Tournament Organiser’s Report**:

In Jan’s absence it was noted that the WPC was now covering all the junior events including the Junior Restricted, renamed Junior Championships, which was played on the designated weekend in September. The Senior Silver Singles, Senior Restricted and Senior Open Gold were run by HBA’s Tournament Sub-Committee, with the valued help of Jo Dix and Colin Byford. Sadly, Colin and Claire had announced their intention to retire from the HBA Tournament Committee and they will be sorely missed. All the tournaments had been well supported and will be played on their assigned dates in 2017-18. The draft BE Calendar was not yet complete in respect of tournament dates for next year.

1. **Coaching Secretary’s Report**:

Kat Hurrell reported that the Performance Centre, having taken on the responsibilities for the Hampshire juniors two years ago, have continued to build on developing the squads. The coaching team is Kat Hurrell, Melissa Stride, Ollie Baczala and Ross Green and Sally Lado does the Administration. Graham Hurrell, who was coaching the Senior squad, has now taken up the post of Head of Junior Pathway with BE and is no longer our Head Coach. Nigel has now also handed over the running of the Performance Centre to Kat as Head Coach, and Sally as Administrator.

1. **Junior Secretary’s Report**:

The Junior Secretary, Sally Lado, had submitted a written report in which she recorded the Shires League results at U14, U16 and U18. They finished 4th, 7th and 20th respectively in their Groups. The U18 ICT team went to Nottingham and finished 19th out of 35 Counties. The U18s suffered some long-term injuries which contributed to their worse than usual results. Sally also reported on the new U20 League. She went on to detail work that was planned before and during next season, including the Trials, Championships and the Senior Restricted. In the age group Nationals Hampshire had 4 National Titles with Max Flynn winning the U19 Men’s and Mixed Doubles and Annie Lado winning the U17 Women’s and Mixed Doubles. Michael Pang won a Silver medal in the U13 Singles, Libby McMorrow won Bronze in the U19 Women’s and Mixed Doubles and Sam Jones won Bronze in the U15 Boys’ Doubles. Well done to them all.

1. **Masters’ Events**:

The Masters' Secretary Margaret Houlton had supplied a comprehensive written report:

MASTERS COUNTY CHALLENGE (formerly the Inter-County Championships). This was played in divisions around the country on Jan 14/15 with each team’s position being dependent on their performance in the previous year’s event.

40’s Played in Division 1B - and finished 5th of 6 Won 1, lost 3, drew 1.

45’s Played in Division 1B and finish 2nd out of 7 – Won 3, lost 1, drew2

50’s Played in Premier and finished 6th out of 7 – Won 1, lost 4, drew 1 - relegated

55's Played in Division 1B and finished 2nd out of 7 – Won 5, lost 1

60’s Played in Division 1B and finished 2nd out of 7 – Won4, drew 2

65’s Played in Premier division and finished 6th out of 7 – Won 1, lost 5 - relegated

70’s Played in Premier division and finished 4th out of 7 – Won 3, lost3

MASTERS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (formerly the IC League). We had teams in all of the age groups with the following results: (Played in South except 45 and 55 in South West and 70 in one division)

40’s won 2, lost 6 – 4th of 5

45’s won 4, winning draw 1, losing draw 1 – 1st of 4. Went to finals, beat Yorkshire in the semi-finals, but lost to Essex in the Final.

50’s won 4, winning draw 1, lost 3 – 2nd of 5

55’s won 2, winning draw 1, losing draw 1, lost 3 – 2nd of 3 on countback

60’s won 4, lost 2 – 2nd of 4

65’s won 2, lost 4, conceded 1 – 6th of 8

70’s won 6, lost 1, – 2nd of 8.

HAMPSHIRE MASTERS’ OPEN This was our 26th Open, a Silver tournament on the BE Masters' Circuit with entries in 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65 and 70 age groups. It attracted an entry of 1148 players in 111 pairs from 25 counties. There were 24 pairs of ladies in 5 age groups (55/60 and 65/70 combined), 39 pairs of men in 6 age groups(40/45 combined) and 48 mixed pairs in 7 age groups. There were Hampshire winners in ladies 65 and, with a partner from another county, in ladies 45 and mixed 70; and runners-up, with a partner from another county, in mixed 40, mixed 55 and mixed 70.

1. **District Forum Report:**

John Laphamhad reported that the Inter-District KO Cup had had to be cancelled again this year at short notice, as only three

Districts were able to send a team. It was agreed not to try and run it again. John had already stated that he was not willing to

try again another year. **The Management Committee will consider whether or not to try and run a different kind of event**

**along the lines of one played in Sussex. Tanya suggested it and will explain to the Committee.**

**13 Westgate Centre Chairman’s Report:**

Diana Troke had sent a written report in which she reminded us, despite the ongoing financial challenges, how good our Centre

is and reported that we had a very good hard-working team of staff, coaches and volunteers. On court our results had also been

very good. She explained that Assistant Manager Alex Roe was now spending half his time going out as our new Development

Officer and that a Duty Manager had been appointed to cover the other half of his old duties.

**14 Development Report:**

There had been staff changes at BE and Lee Ward is now covering the whole of the South of England. Tanya Woodward, our new Partnership Manager, works closely with Hampshire and three other Counties, and reports to Lee. She is developing a good working relationship with Alex our Development Officer. She presented a report in which she referred to the current focus being grassroots. She shared with us a number of sources of funding, in particular there is funding for work in primary schools upward now. Schools have no money for what they see as extras, but badminton is still one of the sports included in GCSE Sport courses and we can help with that provided we can fund coaches free in the daytime to work in the schools. No Strings Badminton sessions are becoming important in the effort to draw in more grassroots players. Clubs are to be encouraged to run No Strings sections. Tanya is now setting up courses for Coaches and was reminded that HBA will pay half the course cost for Level 1 Coaches.

**15 Hampshire Youth Badminton Trust Report:**

The Secretary/Treasurer of the Trust, Stephen Harvey, reported that there had been grants made by the Trust totalling £275 during this year, compared with £250 the previous year. Annual income to the Trust derives from donations and interest from the bank deposit, which is currently running at a minimal amount. Financial support is also provided by HBA on an as required basis. There is now a total of £3569.49 in the Trust fund. Steve reminded us that where possible all personal donations should be made via the Gift Aid scheme in order that the tax element can be reclaimed from the HMRC in the year following donation.

**16 Election of Officers for 2017-18**:

The following were elected en bloc:

President: Trevor Shanks

Chairman: Mrs Diana Troke

Secretary: Paul Jackson

Treasurer: Stephen Harvey

Coaching Secretary: Mrs Kat Hurrell

Tournament Coordinator Vacant

Safeguarding Officer: Mrs. Jan Harvey

Match Secretary: Paul Fonseca Proposed by Sally Lado and Seconded by Kat Hurrell

**17 Acceptance of Members of the Management Committee:**

Masters' Representative: Miss Margaret Houlton was accepted by the meeting as the Masters’ Representative

Junior Secretary Mrs Sally Lado appointed by the WPC.

**18 Election of Vice-Presidents**:

Dennis Blazye continues to be a Life Vice-President.

The following Vice-Presidents were unanimously re-elected en bloc:

Mrs Shirley Baker Mrs Janet Palmer Arthur Bell FCA

Mrs. Marilyn Hunter Mrs. Jill Robertson Colin Byford

Mrs Jean Merrikin Alan Baker Graham Troke

Following her retirement from the position of Secretary, it was proposed by Ann Paine and seconded by Shirley Baker that

Hazel Marks should become a Vice-President. She was delighted to accept the nomination.

**19 Appointment of Accountants**:

HWB (Hopper, Williams and Bell) were re-appointed as our Accountants.

**20 Election of Hampshire's Representatives at the Badminton England Members' Meeting (formerly Council) for 2017-18:**

Miss Margaret Houlton (Voting Member) and Mrs Diana Troke (Non-voting member).

**21 Affiliation Fees for 2017-18**:

Badminton England Affiliation Fees for 2017-18 will follow a revised system next year. Tanya Woodward explained the new format. They are re-introducing a Club Fee, Adult Clubs and Junior Clubs: £50 for 1-10 members, £70 for 11-15 members and £100 for 16+ members. Individual players decide whether they are to play in BE sanctioned events and whether they are paying as members of a club or paying direct to BE. Be claim that for most players they fees will be lower than last year. All Junior members will pay no fee unless they are to compete in BE events.



\*COMPETE membership is a £10 upgrade from PLAY membership – so £20 joining through club membership or £25 joining through direct membership. This is also a £10 upgrade for COACH members.

**Hampshire County Fees will be frozen for a further year in view of the healthy state of our finances. These are £5.50 for Senior Club Members and 50p for Junior Club Members. We have not changed our format and shall not charge a club fee.**

**22 Any other business:**

There were no items of other business.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm to be followed by a finger buffet supplied by Margaret Houlton on behalf of the Westgate Badminton Centre. A very pleasant informal ending to the proceedings.