HAMPSHIRE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Hampshire Badminton Centre, 27 June 2019**

Trevor Darlington took the chair and opened the meeting.

**1. Chairman’s Opening Remarks**:

Trevor welcomed all those attending. Trevor described his first year as Chair as challenging but it was a year of successes.

* Richard Peters has taken on the role of managing the Centre and recently the County Development role too. His contribution is very valuable indeed.
* We said goodbye to Kat Hurrell, who joins the England setup at Milton Keynes. Ollie Bakzala has taken on the challenge of County Coach and he is now running the Performance Centre too.
* We have brought back the Senior County Club and given some priorities to the senior teams. Mark Pekham has taken the reins and we are seeing the results already.
* We hosted the English National Championships, with only 3 months notice. Ricahrd as project manager and a large number of volunteers ensured we earned the thanks of Adrian Christy, Chief Executive of Badminton England.

There is a good team in place. We have a committed Management Committee, and excellent volunteers on whom so much depends.

A special mention goes to Margaret Houlton, who gives so much of her time and runs the successful Masters teams and tournaments so well.

**2. Presidents award**

Diana Troke, our President, announced a new annual award “The Trevor Shanks Players’ Player of the Year.” Trevor was a true friend of the County and embodied the spirit in which we play this game in Hampshire. Diana welcomed Trevor’s family to the meeting and was very pleased that his grandsons were able to receive the award on behalf of this year’s winner, Steve Smith. Steve received the most players’ votes of all the players who represented Hampshire in this season’s Senior County Championships.

**3. Attendance and Apologies**

Our Vice Presidents Alan Baker, Shirley Baker, and Jean Merrikin were present. Apologies were given by Hazel Mark, Janet Palmer, Denise Blayze, Arthur Bell, Jill Robertson, Marilyn Hunter, and Colin Byford.

Represented Clubs were BGB, Match Point, Solent Eagles, Winchester, Thorndon Junior, Caer Gwent, and Notorious.

**4. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 27 June 2018**

In a correction to the minutes, Hazel Marks’ award was a Badminton England Award for her outstanding contribution to the sport.

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

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

**6. Election of Officers for 2019/2020**

The following persons were elected to the Officer positions of the Management Committee by unanimous vote of the members present:

President: Diana Troke

Chair: Trevor Darlington

Secretary: Paul Jackson

Treasurer: Steve Harvey

Coaching Secretary: Mark Peckham

Fixture Secretary: Paul Fonseca

These elected officers will appoint other members of the Management Committee after this meeting.

**7. Election of Vice Presidents.**

The Vice-Presidents were re-elected en bloc by unanimous vote of the members present.

**8. Appointment of Accountant**

HWB (Hopper, Williams and Bell) was appointed as accountants with the approval of the members present.

**9. Election of Badminton England Members Representatives**

Diana Troke and Margaret Houlton were elected by unanimous vote of the members present.

**10. Decision on County Affiliation Fees**

The Management Committee proposed no change to County Affiliation Fees which remain £0 for Racket Pack (u11) members, £2 for 12 to 18 year old juniors, and £6 for seniors. This was approved by the members present.

**11. Secretary’s Report**

Paul Jackson presented the Secretary’s Report, attached to these minutes.

Club Membership numbers remain strong at all ages. There were 1837 club memberships affiliated to Hampshire Badminton Association, a slight fall from 1964 the previous season. Hampshire has 70 affiliated clubs, and 71 registered coaches.

The season official start date for memberships is to move to 1 November for this year and future years.

Compete upgrades must now be obtained directly from Badminton England by the player in question using the GoMembership system. Clubs can only obtain the basic Play memberships on behalf of their members. There are small increases in BE membership fees for players. Membership fees are now the same whether obtained through a club or directly from Badminton England.

Club membership fees have restructured slightly. Medium sized clubs see a small reduction in their fee. Larger clubs (50+ members) see a small increase.

From 2021 the Competition season will run according to the calendar year. To adjust, the 2019/20 season will run for 18 months, through to 31 December 2020. Prize funds have been increased, and a group stage is added to the Senior Silver format.

A National Team League will be launched in January 2021. Teams will play in local leagues and upon promotion play in regional, and then national, divisions. The winner of the National Premier League will represent England in the European Club Championships.

**12. Treasurer’s Report**

Steve Harvey presented the Hampshire Badminton Association accounts, attached to these minutes.

This will be the last year where a separate account will be presented for the Westgate Centre operation within HBA’s responsibilities. In future the Westgate operation and all other HBA responsibilities will be presented in a single account.

The accounts are once again effectively balanced. However, an extraordinary item of a VAT back-payment for maintenance and utility bills for the last 4 years of approximately £10,000 has affected the reserves.

**13. Centre Manager’s Report**

Richard Peters presented his Centre Manager Report, attached to these minutes.

Richard presented results of a survey of clubs he has carried out. The key issues reported by clubs include court time availability (especially where 5-a-side football is favoured by sports centres); a decrease in membership, especially in smaller clubs with no junior section; and the success experienced by some clubs when they move to a pay-and-play membership.

Richard outlined his development priorities for the coming year:

* More junior competition within the County, especially between junior clubs.
* A broader and more engaged workforce, especially of volunteers,
* A monthly newsletter as part of improved communication to, and between, clubs,
* A quarterly questionnaire to enable clubs to make their views known,
* More club visits to support their own development plans,
* A much improved website.
* A racket pack festival to bring the youngest players into suitable fun competition and into our Centre.

Richard presented the Nationals Report as attached to these minutes.

The Nationals was rated highly in feedback from players, spectators and officials. The format fitted our facility well, and ticket sales and other income was sufficient to cover all the costs of staging the event. Our thanks go to the Referees Eric and Helen Richardson, and to all the Hampshire volunteers who made the weekend run so well - despite the weather.

**14. Other Committee member reports**

The reports of the Committee members were taken as read, and are attached to these minutes.

Mark Peckham described a very successful year for our senior county teams. All three teams won promotion, something that has never happened before. A 4th team will be entered for next season, and our target of winning the Senior County Championship has got that bit closer.

Cristina Mitchel reviewed the Junior season. The results have been very good, especially in the Inter County Championships where Hampshire secured 4th place.

Margaret Houlton described a successful Masters season both for our teams and for some of our individual players and pairs at National, European and International levels.

**15. Badminton England Relationship manager**

Tanya Woodward presented her work through this year to the Members. Her presentation is attached to these minutes.

 Tanya has given excellent advice and support to Hampshire’s clubs. Tanya explained the position of Badminton England with respect to membership, participation at grass roots, development of the sport, and its financial stability. There continues to be significant support available to any club that seeks to develop its junior membership, its female players, its coaching, and its facilities.

**16. Welfare and Safeguarding**

Jan Harvey, the County Safeguarding officer, emphasised the importance of the safeguarding protocol developed by Badminton England and as endorsed and to be rolled-out by Hampshire Badminton Association. All clubs will be contacted in the coming season to ensure the requirements of the protocol are being met.

**17. Hampshire Youth Badminton Trust**

The operation of the Trust and the value of payments it has made this year are described in the paper attached to these minutes.

**18. Any other business.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9pm.

**Paul Jackson**

**Secretary**

**Hampshire Badminton Association.**

# Secretary’s Report

Club membership, player membership, and especially the new Racket Pack membership all remain strong in Hampshire.

Badminton England are making some important changes to membership, and rolling them out through the GoMembership service. If you are not familiar with GoMembership yet, please become so - more and more, it is the way in which badminton is going to be administered. The best value membership for players (Competitive Play) is only available if you log in to GoMembership yourself as a player; your club secretary can not do it for you.

## Hampshire’s BE registered and affiliated club memberships

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Players | Racket Pack (u11) | Juniors | Seniors (over 18) | Total |
| 2015/16 | - | 496 | 1196 | 1692 |
| 2016/17 | - | 569 | 1333 | 1902 |
| 2017/18 | - | 654 | 1310 | 1964 |
| 2018/19 | 169 | 432 | 1236 | 1837 |

Note - this is the number of club memberships, not the number of unique players.

The number of unique players, fans and HVOs affiliated to Hampshire is 1731. Of these, 71 are registered coaches.

Hampshire has 70 affiliated clubs.

## Season

The Membership year is going to move from a 1 September start to a 1 November start. Current memberships will be valid through to 1 November.

## Badminton England Player Membership fees

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
| Fan | £3.50 | £4 |
| Racket Pack | £0 | £0 |
| Competitive Play Mini | N/A | £10 |
| Play Club - Junior | £2.50 | £4 |
| Play Direct - Junior  | £7.50 | £4 |
| Play Club - Senior | £10 | £12 |
| Play Direct - Senior | £17.50 | £12 |
| Compete Licence - Junior | + £10  | N/A |
| Competitive Play Junior | N/A | £14  |
| Compete Licence - Senior | + £12 | N/A |
| Competitive Play Senior | N/A | £24 |
| Coach (Level 1) | £0 | £25 |
| Coach (Level 2 and above) | £45 | £45 |
| Referee | £10 | £0 |

Note that players pay the same BE membership fee whether they pay direct to BE through GoMembership, or whether they pay through their club.

The “Play Membership plus Compete Licence” is replaced for next season by a new membership called “Competitive Play”. Competitive Play memberships are only available directly from BE through the GoMembership system. Clubs can not renew a Play membership as a Competitive Play membership, nor can they pay a Competitive Play membership fee to BE on behalf of their members.

## BE Club Membership fees:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2018/19 |  |
| 16+ members  | £110 |
| 9-15 members | £80 |
| 1-8 members | £60 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2019/20 |  |
| 50+ members | £120 |
| 21-50 members | £100 |
| 9-20 members | £80 |
| 1-8 members | £60 |

## County affiliation

In the 2018/19 season the County affiliation fees and income was :

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Number of unique players with Hampshire affiliation | County affiliation fee | Total income\* |
| Senior and coach memberships | 1168 | £6 | £7,008 |
| Junior memberships | 381 | £2 | £762 |
| Racket Pack memberships | 159 | £0 | £0 |
| Total | 1,708 |  | £7,770 |

* *actual amount received by Hampshire is about 2% lower than shown due to transaction costs and some variations in actual fees paid by some volunteers, fans, players, coaches and clubs.*

## Competition

From 2021 the competition season is going to move to a 1 January start.

Therefore the 2019/20 season will be 18 months long, starting 1 July 2019 and ending on 31 December 2020.

Some changes have been made to BE sanctioned competition rules:

* Senior Gold tournaments must offer a minimum £1,400 prize fund
* Senior Silver tournaments will move to a group format, and will run over two days. The minimum prize fund is to be £700 (reduced in proportion if some disciplines are not offered)
* Senior Bronze tournaments will be open only to Grade D2 players and below.

(The current Grade D is to be split into D1 and D2)

## National Team League

A National Team League will be launched in January 2021. Design and delivery of the NTL is subject to consultation. Provisionally:

* Clubs in local leagues will be invited to take part, and new Teams will be welcomed.
* Local leagues, separate from existing district leagues, will form the lowest tier.
* Promotion and relegation will move teams to a number of Regional Division 2 leagues, North/South Division 1 leagues, and a National Premier League.
* Format will include all 5 disciplines.
* A division will have each team playing home and away fixtures against the other teams.
* Teams can broadcast their own matches, and will have local commercial rights.
* NPL winners will represent England in the European Club Championships.

## Dates for your diary

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 30 June | Junior County Trials |
| 22 and 23 September | Hampshire Junior County Championships |
| 29 and 30 September | Hampshire Senior County Championships |
| All events | <https://teamup.com/ks1745a11b4f8c8338> |

We will hear about a number of changes and innovations in the reports to come. One thing remains constant - we have a fantastic facility, dedicated staff and volunteers, and an eye on the future through the combined efforts of the Performance Centre based here, the young player development sessions, and our Junior County programmes. The pipeline of young players is strong - and let’s not forget, it won’t be long before they are reinforcing the successful Masters teams!

**Paul Jackson**

**Secretary**

**June 2019**

#

# 2019 English Nationals Report

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A summary of what went well** | **Areas for consideration and improvement** |
| Online Questionnaire (total response size 110) |
| Players rated the playing experience of the Nationals very highly (mean score 4.1 out of 5) | Increased choice of food in the bar area throughout the weekend (mean score 3.7 out of 5) |
| Players and officials rated the efficiency and organisation of the Nationals very highly (mean score 4.3 out of 5) | Improvement in the quality of viewing from the balcony - removal of basketball backboards, replacement of railings etc (mean score 3.7 out of 5) |
| Officials very extremely complimentary about the helpfulness of the organisers and the volunteers throughout the weekend (mean score 4.9 out of 5) | Players commented that they were not allowed to knock-up on court prior to the semi-finals despite being advised prior to the event they could have done |
| Overall quality and delivery of the Nationals was scored highly amongst the officials also (mean score 4.2 out of 5) | The reduced entry which was necessary for staging this year’s Nationals at Westgate was not a popular choice for many players (mean score 2.9 out of 5). Event played three days would be more preferable – at least the same number of doubles pairs and singles entries. |
| Spectators felt the atmosphere was very good (mean score 4.0 out of 5) |   |
| Spectators also rated very highly the quality of the communication prior to the tournament as being particularly good (mean score 4.4 out of 5) |   |
| Hampshire’s Views |
| Despite the time constraints and the relative lack of guidance from BE, Hampshire staged a very successful Nationals | Live stream to YouTube requires increased bandwidth and/or dedicated line for improved upload speeds |
| The event was well-received on the whole and Hampshire was generally considered to have done a very good job of staging the event | Improved planning with catering so that the kitchen isn’t overwhelmed in between finals on the Sunday |
| The team of volunteers did an amazingly efficient job and everyone commented on how smart and helpful they were. They did Hampshire very proud indeed. | Review where the accredited personnel and players need to register – make it more obvious where they had to go |
| The total number of tickets sales, although slightly less on Sunday than we would have liked, were far higher overall than we ever thought they would be. | Greater consistency of man-power on the doors to the arena ensuring only those with accreditation can enter. On a few occasions, these entry/exit points were left unmanned. |
| Our very own appointed referees Eric and Helen Richardson did a superb job on match control and were instrumental in the scheduling of games. | This event does not necessitate having a tournament referee appointed in addition to the two referees HBA appointed. Two is sufficient, especially when they are both perfectly qualified to run the event. |
|   | BE communications could and should be clearer for all age group events, especially seniors. It is very difficult to argue a rationale for the Nationals when it gets very little coverage on BE’s own website. |

Across all three surveys, the respondents have graded this year’s English Nationals as follows:

Officials - 4.2 out of 5

Players - 3.7 out of 5

Spectators - 4.0 out of 5

HBA feels this is a fair reflection of the event. There were no comments or judgments made which HBA felt were unjust or harsh. The feedback was consistent with our own views about the event which allows us to be confident in our own appraisal of the Nationals.

Financially speaking, HBA never sought to gain anything financially by hosting the Nationals at Westgate. However, a very small profit was made. This demonstrates that with careful planning and budgeting, a tournament of this scale can be delivered by a county association. The obvious benefits of having one’s own facility certainly helps to reduce the financial burden on a county association, but this cannot be measured as a like-for-like comparison as facility rates vary enormously across the country.

This is the first time the Nationals have been hosted by a county badminton association in the tournament’s history. As a consequence, many aspects would benefit from further improvement.

**Considerations for future county-staged Nationals**

Transparency as to the cost implications of staging such an event

Significantly more notice period for a county to organise and deliver the Nationals

Clarity of communication between BE, Yonex and the county association as to the contractual obligations for the Nationals.

The majority of press coverage was carried out by HBA – little information about the event on BE website and very hard to locate. Searches on the BE website in the weeks leading up to the Nationals kept on referring to the previous National at High Wycombe last August

Effort made by BE to really market the Nationals in a way which made the reduced format anything other than a negative and unfortunate consequence of staging the Nationals at a smaller venue

Some top players choose to opt out through ‘injury’. The event should be highlighting the very best of English badminton, otherwise the players themselves are discrediting the whole event. Consider ways in which not participating in their very own Nationals would impact on the player’s contract/funding, as is the case in many other sports. Prize money should act as an incentive for the best players in the country to attend.

Possible adaptation to contract between Yonex and BE to ensure that volunteers are provided with clothing/uniform for the event

More input from BE with regards to the televising/streaming aspects of the event so that the tournament reaches are much further audience as a consequence of smaller venues having a lesser capacity. This would also help to ensure counties are in a good position to attract sponsorship from companies attracted to a ‘global’ audience

If this is to be the true pinnacle event for most of these players’ careers, afford them the chance to qualify through a series of staged qualification events where those who qualify for the Nationals have done so as a result of a fair and reliable process and not simply gradings/rankings which can give a misleading account of a player’s performance level

 **Summary of the income/expenditure for the Nationals**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Income (entry fees, ticket sales and sponsorship) | £ 13,572 |
| Expenditure | £ 12,785 |
| TOTAL | £ 787 |

**Richard Peters**

**June 2019**

# HAMPSHIRE YOUTH BADMINTON TRUST REPORT

Registered Charity Number: 1006727

**REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

**Objective**

To encourage and facilitate the playing of sports, and in particular the sport of badminton, by the young people of Hampshire.

In support of this the Trust:-

Provides grants to individuals whose families are having difficulty in financing badminton to the levels of which the individuals are capable.

Provides grants for the organisation and sponsorship of courses for Leaders & Coaches recommended by junior groups and clubs

**Trustees**

Diana Troke Chairperson

Stephen Harvey Secretary & Treasurer

Shirley Baker

Colin Byford

**Report**

Two applications for grants were received during the year with awards totalling £360.00 being agreed. This compares with no applications in the previous year. A communication will be sent to all Junior Clubs and coaches early in the new season to remind them of the purpose of the Trust.

The current reserve is considered sufficient to meet demands at the present time.

No applications were received in respect of Leaders or Coaches courses for young people.

**Financial Report**

 2018/19 2017/18

Opening balance 3639.49 3569.49

Receipts 30.00 130.00 Grants 360.00 -

CAF Account fee - (60.00)

Closing balance 3309.49 3639.49

**Closing**

The Trust remains very grateful to its benefactors who make donations and/or carry out fund raising. Information about how to make an application for a grant can be found on the HBA website, the Westgate noticeboard or via coaches.

**Steve Harvey**

**Trustee Secretary & Treasurer**

**15 June 2019**

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# Master’s Section Report

## Trials

Trials were organised in September 2018 for the 40, 45, 50 and 55 age groups for anyone interested in playing in Masters events during the season. Practices for the other age groups were organised by the captains.

## Masters County Challenge (formerly ICC)

This was played in divisions around the country on Jan 12th and 13th with each team’s position being dependent on their performance in the previous year’s event.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age group | Division | League position | Wins | Draws | Losses | Outcome |
| 40s | 1B | 7th of 7 | 0 | 1 | 5 | Relegated |
| 45s | Premier | 1st of 7 | 4 | 2 | 0 | Champions |
| 50s | 1B | 3rd of 7 | 2 | 3 | 1 |  |
| 55s | 1B | 1st of 6 | 3 | 2 | 0 | Promoted |
| 60s | 1B | 1st of 5 | 4 | 4 | 0 | Promoted |
| 65s | 1B | 4th of 7 | 3 | 0 | 3 |  |
| 70s | Premier | 2nd of 6 | 3 | 0 | 2 |  |

## Masters County Championship (formerly the Inter County League)

We had teams in all of the age groups with the following results:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age group | Region | Wins | Losses | Position | Playoffs |
| 40s | South | 4 | 4 | 3rd of 5 | - |
| 45s | South | 4 | 2 | 2nd of 4 | - |
| 50s | South | 1 | 7 | 5th of 5 | - |
| 55s | South West | 5 + 1 winning draw | 0 | 1st of 4 | 4th |
| 60s | South | 5 | 3 | 3rd of 5 | - |
| 65s | South East | 3 | 3 | 4th of 7 | - |
| 70s | South Central | 6 | 0 | 1st of 4 | 2nd |

The 55s made it to the Finals where they lost to Essex 4-8 in the semis, and lost to Cheshire 5-7 in 3rd/4th playoff.

The 70’s made it to the Finals where they beat Lancashire 9-0 in the semis, and lost to Kent 3-6 in final.

## Hampshire Masters Open

This was our 28th Open, a Silver tournament on the Masters’ circuit with entries in 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65 and 70 age groups. It attracted an entry of 161 players in 109 pairs from 24 counties. There were 24 pairs of ladies in 5 age groups (40 and 45, and 60 and 65 combined), 42 pairs of men in 7 age groups, and 43 mixed pairs in 6 age groups (40/45 combined).

Hampshire winners were Linda Coombes and Diane Fawn in 70’s ladies, and Trevor Darlington in 45’s mens with Paul Mitchell (Surrey).

## National Champions

70s Ladies Doubles - Linda Coombes and Vicki Betts.

35s Women’s Singles - Jo Dix

35s Women’s Doubles - Jo Dix and Sarah Burgess

35s Mixed Doubles - Sarah Burgess and Andy Penn

**Margaret Houlton**

**Masters Representative June 2019**

# Junior Section Report

## Shires results

U14: 6 / 32 in the season and 2nd in the Finals

U16: 8 / 32 in the season and 7th in the Finals

U18: 15 / 38

U20: 4 / 9

**ICT**: 4th place

**U14**

It has been an extremely successful year for our U14 team, which came back home from the finals with a fantastic Silver medal. During the season, the team won 5 matches, lost 1 and qualified for the plays offs in 6thposition. After winning the play offs, the team travelled to Wolverhampton for the Finals. In the finals, our U14 team beat Warwickshire (16-4), Nottinghamshire (13-7) and just lost to Berkshire (11-9) in the gold medal match. An excellent and commendable result and great effort of all our players! Well done U14!

**U16**

Similarly to the U14 team, the U16 team won 5 matches, lost 1 match and secured a place in the finals after winning the play offs. At the finals, our team faced very tough opposition and came 7thoverall, which is an excellent achievement. We have a very strong U16 young team and majority of them will play again in U16 next year. With a large number of strong county level players in this age group, the Junior Committee has decided to enter an additional team in this age group for the next season.

**U18**

Won 4 matches and lost 2 and came 15th overall. We were unfortunate that we had to concede an important match due to the Nationals and not being able to send a team to Surrey and it was not possible to rearrange. However, taking the U18 team to ICT and coming 4th in the entire country, proved that our 15th position in the league was not a realistic placing.

**U20**

Played 4, won 2 and lost 2. This has been a difficult team to select, as most players being played are under 18. A lot of these players are also playing senior County too – so the addition of this age group is demanding. Therefore, the Junior Committee decided that we will not be entering a team for this league next season. It has no finals and, whilst was a good idea a few years ago, it is providing no benefit to our players and just causing a lot of work to administer.

## Medals at National Championships

U19: Annie Lado won Gold in GD & Silver in XD

U15: Michael Pang won Bronze in BS & BD

U13: Maria Mitchell won Bronze in GD

U11: Yarik Lewis won Gold in BS and Silver in BD

**Hampshire Junior players selected in the Junior England Performance Pathway:**

Sam Jones

Annie Lado

Yarik Lewis

Maria Mitchell

We have had great support from parents throughout the year supporting and team managing Shires matches. Thanks

go to all team managers who supported our teams at the matches and produced comprehensive match reports.

Well done to all our junior players that have represented the County either in age group Shires matches, ICT or Senior Level.

##

##

## U18 ICT 2019

### Coaches : Ollie & Tash

### Boys : Joel Francis, Thomas Ley, Alex Jackson, Michael Pang, Finn Saunders

### Girls : Ellie Darlington, Isabelle Honnor, Annie Lado, Abigail Thring, Angelina Wong

### FINAL POSITION : 4TH !!!

### Hampshire climbed 9 places from their final position last year, and finished in an incredibly impressive 4th position out of 34 Counties.

### Topping their first group beating Kent, Cheshire & Cumbria took them into the 1-8 play off positions. Drawn against Surrey, Norfolk & Devon on day 2, they beat Norfolk & Devon comprehensively. It came down to who won against Surrey & Hampshire – our old nemesis ! The match ended in a 5-5 draw but Hampshire took it on games won !

### Finals day and 1-4 finals ! Warwickshire were always the favourites to win the competition. Unfortunately for Hampshire we lost a close first match against Yorkshire 6-4, and then drew against Leicestershire (this time the win went against us). Final game against Warwickshire was 9-1 to them but we were proud that we took the most points off Warwickshire in the entire tournament.

### So, finishing 4th was an incredible result – well done U18s !!!

**Cristina & Sally**

**June 2019**

# Senior Section Report

The Wednesday evening senior county squad was successfully reintroduced this season. The aim was to make this the “Flagship of the County” based at Hampshire HQ. This goal has been achieved with high attendances and a high standard of play.

The enthusiasm of our players young and ….. experienced has given us a historic season of all three teams achieving promotion.

The 1st Team have returned to the Premiership and are already preparing for an interesting next campaign.

The 2nd Team have pushed up to Division One South and the 3rdTeam up to Division 3.

All this may seem easily accomplished but each Team had its moments of nail biting, stress, plenty of toil and sweat.

A lot of highlights, far too many to single out, but to each and every player a BIG well done and THANK YOU.

To the Managers … Paul Jackson (2ndTeam) and Trevor Darlington (3rdTeam) a huge thanks for all your efforts over the season.

Finally, a thank you to all the Senior Players who welcomed the younger elements into our squads. Their help and encouragement continually pay dividends.

The future looks bright but we mustn’t become complacent. In the not too distant future we will have a 4th Team and a 3rd Women’s Singles will make singles results worth 50% of the match result. To date we do not have a Hampshire Singles Practice Session based at Hampshire HQ.

**THE AIM IS TO WIN THE PREMIERSHIP**

To achieve this we need more court time at Hampshire HQ, sharing peak times fairly through the week with other private enterprises, under a Hampshire Flag, producing Hampshire Teams. Not rocket science I hear you say ……. Clearly I’m banging the Hampshire drum …. But that’s my job!

**Mark Peckham**

**Senior Squad Manager & Head Junior Coach**

**June 2019**

# Tournaments Section Report

In total, Hampshire BA hosted a total of 12 Badminton England sanctioned tournaments in 2018/19.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| U13 Bronze | U15 Silver | U17 Bronze | U19 Silver | Senior Bronze | U17 Silver | U13 Bronze | U15 Bronze | Senior Gold | U14 Open | U16 Open | Senior Singles Silver |

In addition to these, Hampshire also hosted the English National Championships, The Hampshire Junior and Senior Championships, and a number of U14-20 Shires fixtures and Masters fixtures.

This number will increase to 14 for season 2019/20 as Hampshire will host two additional senior tier 4 (‘Copper’) events to meet the increasing need for ‘grassroot’ level senior competition.

Hampshire continues to provide excellent tournaments with entry numbers increasing in all but the U13 age category this season.

**Richard Peters**

**June 2019**

# Centre Management and Badminton Development Report 2019

**Westgate Badminton Centre**

1. Much work has been done to improve the visual elements within the centre such as notice boards, TV display, updated reception area, refurbished seating in the gallery.

2. Significant increase in the numbers of young children taking up badminton - Team Westgate junior programme currently has 56 children receiving coaching every Saturday morning, an increase of 30% on this time last year.

3. Greater publicity and marketing of the centre is attracting many more members of the public into the centre - individual court bookings have increased 300% in the last six months compared with the previous six months.

4. A welcoming and friendly atmosphere greeting all visitors as they enter, especially on tournament days. Feedback is consistently excellent.

5. The centre now offers a fully subscribed adult beginner programme (BE Essentials) providing coaching on Friday nights.

6. The badminton shop is now being run by *BadmintonHQ*, soon to be offering an online and shop-based service to all customers.

7. A new centre membership system commenced on 1st June 2019 as a way of providing a much more competitive service to the local badminton community in the light of increasing local competition.

8. A new Westgate/Hampshire website is currently being constructed which will effectively amalgamate the two sites. This will prove to be much more user-friendly, accurate and useful for everyone linked to badminton in the Hampshire area and beyond.

**Development of Badminton in Hampshire**

I was appointed as Development Manager for Hampshire from 1st April 2019. Since then, I have been working hard establishing a clear Development Plan. In order to produce this, an online survey was sent to all BE affiliated clubs in Hampshire. A total of 20 clubs completed the survey (representing approximately 30% of the clubs within Hampshire).

A summary of the comments I received through this survey are as follows:

*Like so many clubs in the area, we are trying to encourage and recruit new members to join us. We are an ageing club and aware that we need members, ideally some juniors, to join and help boost the numbers. That is something that we (as a club) are working on but any help with recruiting players would always be appreciated. Thank you for your continued help and support with badminton in and within Hampshire.*

*Direct contact with the clubs, not via Email*

*More support in terms of coaching and awareness of new national badminton league*

*Advertising in local areas*

*Support more training courses for beginners/returners.*

*Our club disaffiliated from BE and a key factor in this was they didn't want to pay a fee to Hampshire badminton for BE membership when they don't get anything from Hampshire badminton in return. So a question for you is what do we get for that affiliation fee each player pays Hampshire Badminton? To be more positive, how could Hampshire help?*

*At the very minimum being proactive in providing information, not boring long lists of County Results. If you are going to rely on the web site, it should be updated at least once a week. Get out of Westgate and visit some of the clubs for a chat. I've given up making suggestions - nothing changes.*

*It would be nice to have other coaches visiting the club and offering advice to our players.*

*Increased promotion.*

*Assistance to get more coaches trained - Assistance to set up a No Strings session - Promoting our club online.*

*Need more coaches. N.B. all our coaches are volunteers and not paid, the fees would have to a least double if they were. Catch 22!!*

*No specific requirements, just more visibility so that it doesn't seem county/Westgate focussed.*

*We need a focal point for all the clubs. There are other club initiatives in our area and it would be nice to coordinate so that we are not duplicating and all levels of play are catered for.*

*We affiliate because we have to, we have no juniors in the club, our members are all 20+ to 60+ with a number of players playing in the Masters teams for Hampshire. We advertise as a league club so do not facilitate beginners. We are purely a social but competitive club which the guys just want to come along to and play their badminton whether it is club, league or County. As with any club there is only the few who give all their time to running the club. We thrive well on the numbers we have so not sure Hampshire BA can add anything to the pot at this time.*

*Maybe Hampshire badminton should be represented by current players both league and county who are in touch with both !!*

*Encourage juniors & county players to play within local leagues.*

*Our membership structure is mostly over 40s so we lose players and don’t gain any younger adults. We don’t have any Coaches. I suspect there are fewer young adults playing and those that do are playing in fewer clubs. Social badminton with competition in local leagues seems to be on the decline. We need to encourage more younger players who aren’t necessarily County standard but who want to enjoy a competitive level of play.*

*Identifying and feeding in any beginners with raw talent into the PC.*

*Care about club badminton finally*

Having received this feedback from a number of clubs, I am committed to addressing the areas raised. As a consequence, I have produced an action plan (in conjunction with Badminton England) which clearly sets out the following key priorities for 2019/20:

Priority 2.1

Improved quality of communication between HBA and badminton clubs within Hampshire.

Priority 2.2

Develop school/club links across the county, specifically (but not uniquely) East Hampshire.

Priority 2.3

Increase opportunities for adult beginners to join a club.

Priority 2.4

Increase opportunities for ‘grassroots’ junior competition.

Priority 2.5

Develop a larger and more sustainable and better qualified workforce of coaches across the county.

Conclusion

I am very keen to hear all about your badminton club. Please contact me at your convenience to arrange a date for me to visit your club and see it in action! Of course, if you have any specific issues you feel I could help you address, please let me know. I am very happy to assist you and your club in any way I can.

I can be contacted by email at centre.manager@hantsbadminton.net

**Richard Peters**

**Centre Management and Badminton Development**

**June 2019**