

# PLYMOUTH BADMINTON

## The P & D Churches Badminton League (Founded 1930)

### P&D MANAGEMENT MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was held at St Budeaux Church Hall on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February and started at 7.35pm.

Attendees;

Julian Cooper	Callington
Chris Ryan	Derriford
Alan Berry	Tavyside
Gill Jones	Derriford
Andy Crocker	Plymouth Life Centre (PLC)
Neil Hammacott	Callington
Mike Weeks	Torpoint
Daniel Warren	Torpoint
Ryan Lambourne	YMCA Kitto
Waine Parker	YMCA Kitto

#### 1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Chris Still.

#### 2) Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 meeting were approved by group.

#### 3) Matters Arising

The presentation evening is confirmed as Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.

Jo Jackson is confirmed as the Welfare Officer.

ACTION: Neil to update contact sheet.

#### 4) Fixtures Secretary's Report

Alan provided two updates.

***For Management Meeting on Tuesday 19th February 2019***

***Fixtures Secretary Report:***

*This report is being written early in January 2019. Things could change by the meeting!*

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### **Fixtures:**

- Two clubs approached me to ask for changes of fixture dates following the fixtures meeting due to them not being able to field full teams for matches:
  - Callington asked that their Men's B v Men's A fixture be moved and as it would mean that the match could affect the positions at the end of the season.
  - Victoria asked that their Medley match v Torpoint fixture be moved as they would be unable to field a full team for that match. By the time I was involved both clubs had agreed a change of date.
- The match between Ivybridge and Tavyside men was rearranged from Friday 9th November due to the extreme weather conditions that evening. Police advice giving out over local radio that evening was that people should not travel.
- The Beckley Cup match between Eggbuckland and Tavyside was rearranged from Thursday 6th to Monday 10th December due to the Sports Hall at Eggbuckland being unavailable.
- One match has been altered on the system as the fixture date was incorrectly uploaded (see below).
- **Clubs need to be aware that the league rules are clear regarding fixture changes, that, apart from exceptional circumstances, eg. hall unavailability / extreme weather: fixtures are not to be changed and a penalty should be applied. After consultation with the executive committee neither club have received penalties but both have been warned that: 1. should the opposition team have not been happy to change the date then the original date would have stood; 2. any further requests for changes by those clubs WILL result in penalties should a match need to be re-arranged.**

### **Player / Coach Affiliation: Badminton England:**

- A reminder to all club secretaries that coach affiliation dates may differ to the player affiliation date. It is possible that a coach will have been eligible to play at the start of a season but that, now, their affiliation will have lapsed. Please check!

### **Actions needed:**

- There have been two instances this season when match dates were recorded differently by the clubs involved and one instance where the club submitted information in pdf format and had to be transferred into the league format resulting in a data transfer error; apologies in that case. 1. that clubs, following the fixtures meeting submit both the home and away fixture dates: this will mean that there is a cross checking procedure in place; 2. that clubs submit their fixtures in the format requested and not in their own format; pdf files, scans, word docs and spreadsheets were all received this year!

AND

### **For Management Meeting on Tuesday 19th February 2019 (Supplementary)**

#### **Fixtures Secretary Report:**

This supplementary report is being written at the beginning of February 2019 to bring the committee as up to date as possible regarding the the league.

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**Fixtures:** • The results on the website are up to date with no results outstanding. Most clubs are now emailing the score sheet in either as the match finishes or that evening. • Can clubs be reminded that the results@plymouthbadminton.co.uk is the email address to use and not my personal or club email address. The reply confirming that the score sheet has been received will, however, come from a Tavyside Badminton email address. • For clubs information, the Beckly Cup handicap is based on match results and the score sheets are made available to the handicap committee to assist with the handicap: if the score sheets are not sent to the Plymouth Badminton email address they may not be included in the handicap procedure.

### **Green Form (Badminton England Affiliation):**

• A question was raised over the New Year from a club wishing to play a player in league matches . . . the player concerned played for a club outside the Plymouth Badminton League and so confirmation was requested of that player being affiliated by making sure that the player was included on the clubs' 'Green Form'. • The above has now raised a couple of points regarding players playing across different league clubs both at club nights and in matches and club / player insurance.

### **Actions Needed and a Proposal:**

1. That ALL players playing regularly at another club should be listed on the club affiliation list for insurance purposes: there is no charge for this at Badminton England and can be done by the player themselves by adding their membership to that club. 2. That ALL players playing in a league / cup match for a club need to be on their affiliation list. There are a number of players playing in the league / cup for a second club who are not currently listed as being affiliated at that club. 3. Proposal: from next season only those players listed as being 'affiliated to that club' will be considered as eligible to play in teams representing that club.

**ACTION:** Neil to add following items onto the list for the Fixtures Meeting

- a) Clubs to submit home and away fixtures to Fixtures Secretary to allow cross-checking
- b) Clubs to submit fixtures in format requested
- c) Players playing regularly at another club to be listed on that affiliation list

The committee discussed rearranged fixtures and whether penalties should be applied. Alan explained that the Exec committee had made deliberations on whether penalties were due but this approach was discussed and it was decided that all re-arrangements should be considered by the whole committee and not part thereof.

**DECISION:** The revised process would be as follows; a) clubs provisionally agree to change fixture date b) clubs would notify Fixtures Secretary with reason for proposed re-arrangement c) Fixtures Secretary to email committee with information and a request for a decision on penalties d) Fixtures Secretary to confirm re-arrangement with penalties to be applied (or not)

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### 5) Treasurers Report

As follows:

#### Account Summary 2018/19

	Amount	Date	Statement No.
Brought forward	£4748.50	23/5/2018	78
Total Debits	£1673.76		
Total credits	£976.30		
Closing balance	£4051.04		
Statement amount	£4339.04	23/1/2019	85
Difference	<b>-£288.00</b>		

#### Notes

£0.00 Affiliation not appearing on the latest statement

£0.00 Eggbuckland affiliation not appearing on the latest statement

£0.00 Xmas tournament entry & raffle not on latest statement

£0.00 Varley trophy payment not appearing on latest statement

£0.00 Xmas tournament hall hire not appearing on latest statement

£0.00 Website payment not appearing on latest statement

-£288.00 Restricted hall hire not appearing on the latest statement

-£288.00

The view from the Treasurer was that the Xmas and Restricted Tournaments had at least broken even (allowing for a sensible allocation of shuttle costs).

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### 6) Items for Management Committee decision(s)

*All information listed below should remain confidential. If people or teams are identified by name in any of our discussions, the information relating to the discussion must remain within the Committee and not relayed back to individuals unless there is a requirement for a letter to be sent to an individual or a Club from the Committee*

#### a) Beckly handicaps / Liskeard complaint

Waine raised a query over the handicapping for Kitto's Beckly match. They played the same team they had played 3 weeks earlier. In the league match, they won by 29 points but were given a handicap of minus 151.

Julian explained the process for handicapping, that committee members submit a handicap suggestion (even for matches including their club) and that outliers are excluded. Generally, the committee tries to use league score sheets as a guide but due to time constraints, this did not happen in this instance and this might have influenced the handicapping. Julian explained that in an ideal situation, the score sheet would have been consulted and Waine accepted the explanation.

The committee discussed the Liskeard email thread. The committee were satisfied with the process for determining handicaps (see above) but were disappointed in the tone of the email as volunteers give up their time to help make a competition happen and give it their best endeavours. The committee also discussed Rob's request to exclude Liskeard from next year's competition – see decision.

DECISION: Clubs, at their discretion, can refuse to participate in the Beckly Cup. However, this decision should be communicated by the Club's Secretary to the League Secretary on or before Fixtures Meeting.

ACTION: Neil to add this to list for Fixtures Meeting.

#### b) Christmas Handicapped Tournament feedback

Alan circulated the following document.

#### ***Christmas Handicapped Tournament – A Discussion Document***

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*Firstly, this is being put forwards as a discussion document to 'encourage' players of all abilities to enter and enjoy the Christmas Handicapped Tournament. I have played and enjoyed the tournament since the early 1990's and have seen (and been on the end of!) the ups and downs of handicapping.*

*Over the last few years, however, there has been a 'predictable' conclusion to the Main event and therefore also the Plate event with, in general, the top pairings going through to the Main event regardless of the handicap set. Apart from two 'rogue' results last year, both this years' tournament and last years' tournament were predictable with regards the pairings who went through to the Main Event: last year the rogue results put two of the stronger pairs through to the Plate event, where they met in the final! The two weaker pairs who went through to the main event were knocked out in the first round!*

*The scores this year between the stronger and weaker pairings could all be said to be 'fair' as they were close but did the stronger players have to work as hard to win or were they able to 'cruise' to the win with the weaker pairings working much harder to achieve what they did? In other words should the stronger pairings have been given a further -4 point handicap and the weaker pairings a further +4 (or more) handicap to properly level up the game?*

*A handicap is there to even out the pairings and give all involved the opportunity to win the game / tournament. If both pairings play their best then the score should, and I stress should, be very close 'either' way at the end. Over the last few years the results have been in general 'acceptable', but have, in the vast majority of instances, gone the way of the stronger pairing. It should be as hard for the stronger pair to win a game as the weaker pair.*

*Following this year's Christmas Tournament I was told the following:*

- The handicaps are set so that the stronger pairings are 'expected' to go through to the 'Main Event' and the weaker pairings to the 'Plate Event'. ◦ Comment: so it was pointless for the 'weaker' pairs to try their hardest in the round robin as the handicap was set for this to happen!*
- At last years event, two 'weaker' pairings went through to the 'Main Event' with two stronger pairings being left in the 'Plate Event'. Taking what was said above then it is logical that the two weaker pairings would be knocked out of the 'Main Event' early – this happened! - and that the two stronger pairs would reach the final of the 'Plate Event' - this also happened!. ◦ Comment: that means that two 'weaker' pairs were denied any chance of winning a trophy as their handicap was not right even after playing well in the round robin AND the two 'stronger' pairs were guaranteed the winners / runners-up at the expense of the other 'weaker' pairs! I therefore pose the following questions:*

***What do we, as a league, want from the Christmas Handicapped Tournament(s)?***

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• *Currently we have a round robin of games and then two knockout events. • Do we need the round robin IF the pairs that will go through to the two knockout tournaments can be predicted in advance?*

***Does the league need to revisit the handicapping procedure? Badminton England guidelines for handicapping makes it clear that handicapping can go from -12 to +18 points and are there to 'balance up' the events.***

• *Have the handicaps been too generous to the seeded pairings in recent years? • Does there need to be a rebalance; possibly a swing of the pendulum the other way?*

*And finally . . . one of my junior county players came to me after playing a handicapped, round robin, tournament I had organised for a group of juniors and said to me . . . "that was the hardest tournament I have ever played in!". The reason for that was he had had to play consistently well and not make mistakes. And no he didn't win but came third with the final positions being in doubt until the last round of games!!*

The summary of the discussion was as follows;

- All pairings should have an equal chance of success
- Committee recognised that the handicaps were algorithm generated
- Committee felt that "weaker" handicaps could sensibly be tweaked for next tournament as a trial
- More support to review handicapping would be most welcome

### ACTIONS:

Neil to encourage people to volunteer on handicap committee and develop some role descriptions prior to AGM

Julian to tweak algorithm for next Xmas tournament

### 7) **Tournament Report**

Julian provided a brief update. Tournaments were very well run and thanks to all who helped to support the organisation.

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### **8) DCBA / Badminton England**

New Badminton England rep will come to the AGM and is keen to help the development of female players.

Cornwall have offered funding for a ladies club trial at Callington on a Thursday.

BE staffing is still very tight.

Grant bids are still available for clubs up to £500 as well as coaching funds too.

Level 1 course at Horrabridge Sat 7<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. Level 2 course TBC.

### **9) AOB**

The following points were raised;

- Score sheet tweaks

**ACTION:** Alan will make some tweaks to the score sheets and distribute for review.  
Neil to remind clubs at Fixtures for clubs to insert full names of team members.

- AGM date provisionally set for Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7.30pm

**ACTION:** Julian and Neil to book room and confirm to league

Meeting ended at 9.10pm