

ESSEX COUNTY BADMINTON ASSOCIATION ('ECBA')

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting ('AGM') held at 8pm on Wednesday 10th June 2015 at Shenfield Parish Hall

1. Attendance

Vice Presidents: Mrs Y Harris,

Officers & Committee: Eric Richardson (Chairman), Eric Brown (President),
John Gardner (Hon Treasurer), Allison Pearson,
Helen Richardson, Darryl Hardcastle, Carol Stammers,
Simon Gilhooly, Paul Barber

Other ECBA Members ('Members') representing: B&BP BC, Chelmsford Casuals BC, Colchester Badminton Federation, Danbury BC, Dragons BC, Eastwood BC, Fitzwimark BC, Leighway BC, Powerplay BC, Ramgarhia BC, Redbridge BC, Riverside BC, Stanway BC, Southend District, The Badminton Academy, and Thurrock BC.

Eric Richardson took the Chair.

The Chairman opened the AGM of the ECBA, welcomed all those present and introduced members of the Senior Committee to the Meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Amanda Austin, Shirley Jackson, Gary Webb, Denise French, Lee Scott, Martin Lawrence and Hawkwell BC.

3. President's Remarks

Eric Brown gave his President's Remarks saying that it had been a very busy but varied season.

Our Representative County teams achieved mixed success this season.

The Masters achieved considerable success in the season. The County 3rd team gained promotion and the 1st & 2nd Teams held their own.

Highlights of the junior season, was the Essex U13 team successfully defending the National Finals of the Shires League.

The major concern for the President – "I am now 74, all the committee (who are few in number) are a year older". What is the role of Essex? – Does it need to exist?

The President believes that the county has an integral part to play between Badminton England and the players. He reported that Badminton England is currently discussing the role of the counties and Adrian Christy is attending a meeting in the county in October.

6. Presentation of Reports

a) *Junior Report*

The Junior Report produced by Helen Richardson was reviewed – click on the icon.



The highlight of the season was the U13s qualifying directly for the National Shires Finals by coming 4th overall. The team then successfully defended their title in the finals. An excellent achievement.

b) *Senior Report*

Essex Senior County Reports are attached. Click on the icons.



1st team. Managed by Cas Westley finished in 3rd place in Division 1

2nd team. Following their promotion to Division 2 last season it proved to be a tough season. Finished 4th out of 5 teams.

3rd team. Led once again by Team Manager Lee Scott, the 3rd team had a good season overall, gaining promotion from Division 4. Many thanks to Lee and John Scott for all their work.

c) *Masters Report*

The Essex Masters teams continue to achieve considerable success at many age groups in both the County Championships and the County Challenges. Many thanks go to Roy Lord for his work as Masters Coordinator.

A summary of the results is attached. Click on icon.



d) *County League Report*

The role of League Secretary has been taken on by Simon Gilhooly, who has been taking a fresh look at the rules. His aim is that the League will be owned by the clubs involved rather than by the county committee. The position of League Secretary will now be voted for at the AGM and the League fixture meeting will elect a League committee. Over the summer the League Secretary will work with the clubs to finalise the rules of the League with special attention to

rearranged/postponed matches. The intention is to charge entry fees by club rather than by player, hopefully this will lead to more clubs fielding full teams in all matches. All the players must be affiliated to Badminton England but don't have to be members of clubs, however to play in the County League players do have to be affiliated to Essex.

The Essex League report is attached. Click on icon.



Essex League Report
2015.pdf

7. Presentation of Accounts

John Gardner (Treasurer) presented the Income & Expenditure Accounts for year ending 31st March 2015.

Key points from this year's accounts are that income from membership fees has declined from last year. The county is now less funded by membership fees and more by profits from events run. However, tournament profits are substantially down (£4K) from last year. The advent of the BE £2.50 fee was difficult to administer. Essex will be increasing their tournament entry fees next season.

The expenditure on both Junior and Senior teams has increased also Junior Development costs are higher, some of this due to some of the 13/14 season costs being included with all the 14/15 costs – especially the U17 ICT. Next season the county will apply to the Napier Trust fund for funding towards the costs of the event.

Paul Barber enquired whether the increasing team costs were an ongoing trend. The Chairman explained to the meeting that the format of the Senior County Championships will be changing next season. Currently the Essex 1st team plays 3 weekends during the season with the county paying accommodation costs. The 2nd and 3rd team play home and away matches with the county paying the hall hire and shuttle costs. From September 2016 all the county's teams will be playing at central venues over 2 Saturdays plus 1 weekend. Badminton England will pay for the courts and shuttles with the county paying entry fees of £650 for each team. This will be cheaper overall for the county.

There is a third sheet attached to the accounts that explains that following publication of the accounts an error was discovered. The Badminton England invoice for the costs of holding the U13 Bronze in February had been paid by Essex when the event was actually managed by Colchester Federation.

Trevor Rogers of Stanway BC asked what the committee's view of the loss was, should the county be aiming to run at profit? The Chairman replied that the county were looking to reduce the cost of the senior events are intend to make more out of tournaments. Trevor also enquired whether the committee had looked into the possibility of sponsorship for the county's teams. Unfortunately there are too few people on the committee to have the time to look into this, however if any of the players have relevant contacts then the committee would support this.

Following the proposal by Paul Barber and seconded by Pete Moseley, the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015 were approved and adopted.

The Chairman thanked John Gardner for his work in managing the accounts over the last 25 years. John has now decided to step down as Treasurer.

8. Election and Re-Election of Officers

The President, Chairman and Vice-Chairman all agreed to continue in their respective roles. They were proposed by the Committee, seconded by Members and elected or re-elected on a show of hands. However the roles of Secretary, Treasurer and Auditor are vacant. The Vice Presidents were all re-elected en-bloc.

President:	Eric Brown
Chairman	Eric Richardson
Vice-Chairman	Darryl Hardcastle
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Vacant
Auditor	Vacant
Vice Presidents	Mrs J Brewster, Mrs J Chamberlain, V Chamberlain, Mrs Y Harris, J Havers, Mrs S Jackson, Mrs S McCoig, E Summers and Mrs S Tyrell.

Since the role of Treasurer is currently vacant and there have not been any formal nominations for the post, the committee proposed that Helen Richardson will take on the role on a caretaker basis until a suitable volunteer can be found. The Chairman and Vice Chairman also to become authorised signatories on the bank account with any one authorised signatory being able to sign for unlimited amounts. This was seconded by Pete Moseley and on a show of hands the meeting agreed this proposal. A replacement Auditor will be identified as soon as possible.

County League Secretary. Although not a formal officer of the association, the revised County League Rules require the League Secretary to be elected at the Essex AGM by representatives of the County League Clubs. Simon Gilhooly was proposed by the Committee and elected through a show of hands.

Eric Richardson announced to the meeting that he will step down as Chairman at the next AGM.

The Chairman thanked all our Committee members for all their hard work during the season, much of which goes unseen.

9. Any other Business.

1. Proposed changes to Club England & Essex membership Fees.

A summary highlighting the changes is attached. Click on icon.



Membership Fees
2015.pdf

Essex has not increased its fees for many years. The Senior Club fee is to increased by 50p and the Junior club fee by 25p

2. Changes to the Senior County Championships.

The Senior County Championship divisions are being restructured and matches will all played at central venues on 3 designated weekend during the season.

A summary of the new divisions is attached. Click on icon.



Proposed Sections
2015-16 (Draft) v4.pdf

3. Adrian Christy (BE-CEO) Meeting

A general meeting with Adrian Christy the Badminton England Chief Executive Officer will be held on 8th October 2015. The meeting will be open to people drawn from Districts, Clubs, Performance Centres, players, parents etc. Adrian will give a presentation on any subjects of importance to those attending and will be happy to answer any badminton queries that delegates may have.

4. Eric Brown – BE matters

BE have sent out a tournament survey to find out what tournaments are being held in counties, districts etc that they don't know about and to determine whether there is an appetite for more events

BWF have made minor changes to the service law which clarify when the service starts

Eric Brown informed the meeting that he is willing to help in any badminton problems members have.

10. Date of next AGM.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 8th June 2016 at Shenfield Parish Hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.

Signed:

Date:

Eric Richardson
Chair - Essex CBA