

ESSEX COUNTY BADMINTON ASSOCIATION ('ECBA')

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting ('AGM') held at 8pm on Wednesday 8th June 2016 at Shenfield Parish Hall

1. Attendance

Vice Presidents: Mrs Y Harris,

Officers & Committee: Eric Richardson (Chairman), Eric Brown (President),
Helen Richardson (Hon Treasurer), Carol Stammers,
Simon Gilhooly, Paul Barber, Jenny Chu, Allison Pearson

Other ECBA Members ('Members') representing: Barking BC, Chelmsford Casuals BC, Colchester Badminton Federation, Danbury BC, Davenant BC, Eastwood BC, Emmerson Eagles BC, Epping BC, Leighway 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 Darryl Hardcastle, Roy Lord, Amanda Austin, Sheila Tyrrell, Sheila McCoig & Brandon Ngooi.

3. President's Remarks

Eric Brown gave his President's Remarks saying that it had been another very busy year.

It was an exciting year, with a visit from Adrian Christy (Badminton England CEO) to discuss the future of Badminton England and Essex. We also held a workshop attended by various interested parties to discuss the future direction of the Essex County Association.

The County Committee is still not any bigger but the amount of work has increased and is likely to continue increasing. He was thankful for the work done by the Committee and due to a few members working hard running events to raise funds, the County will not be increasing affiliation fees next season.

Essex has teams we can be proud of, especially the Masters where we have a World Champion. The Senior Teams performed well, although the 3rd team were relegated. The new competition format with all teams playing on 3 weekends throughout the season worked well, but sometimes made it difficult to field our strongest teams on all occasions.

6. Presentation of Reports

Copies of all reports can be downloaded from the ECBA Documents page of the Badminton Essex website: <http://www.badmintonessex.co.uk/docDownloads.asp>

a) *Junior Report*

The Junior Report was produced by Helen Richardson.

The highlight of the season was the U15s 2nd place in the National Shires League Finals.

b) *Senior Report*

Team Reports were provided by the Team Managers.

1st team. Managed by Cas Westley, finished in 4th place in Division 1 South

2nd team. Managed by Mark Law, finished in 5th place in Division 2 South East.

3rd team. Managed by Lee & John Scott, finished in 8th place in Division 3 Central and are relegated to Division 4 next season.

Many thanks to all team managers for their work this season.

c) *Masters Report*

The Essex Masters teams once again achieved considerable national success. In the Masters County Championships they won 4 of the 6 age groups and in the County Challenge won 2 of the 6 Premier age groups. Many thanks go to Roy Lord for his work as Masters Coordinator

d) *County League Report*

The County League report was produced by Simon Gilhooly. Although the league worked well this season, the lack of ladies competitions continues to be an issue.

7. Presentation of Accounts

Helen Richardson (Treasurer) presented the Income & Expenditure Accounts for year ending 31st March 2016.

The following key points from the accounts were highlighted:

Since last year's published accounts, ECBA have made a profit of £8041. Of this, £4087 was actually profit from the 2014/15 season that hadn't been included in the published accounts due to timing and £3954 was profit from the 2015/16 activities.

Senior & Junior Tournaments ran by the county made a profit of £6736.

The cost of running the 3 Senior Teams reduced last season due to matches being held over 3 weekends at central venues.

Trophy Storage - £449. The Chairman explained that the county have quite a number of old competition trophies which have been previously been stored in various lofts. With people moving on, they've been held in commercial storage for a few months until formal agreement has been made on what to do with them.

Paul Barber recently obtained a valuation which confirmed that none have any real commercial value, but if they had to be replaced would cost between £700 - £1000 each. The overall insurance value would therefore need to be around £15,000, which for items with no intrinsic value is not good value.

There are a number of possible options for disposal. 1) Offer trophies to the most recent winners, 2) Offer them to affiliated leagues for re-use, 3) Leave the ECBA Committee to dispose of them in the best way. It was agreed Option 3 was the most appropriate.

Following the proposal by Phil Tuffee and seconded by Gary Webb, the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2016 were approved and adopted.

The Chairman thanked Helen Richardson for her work in managing the accounts.

8. Election and Re-Election of Officers

The President, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer have agreed to continue in their respective roles for a further year and were re-elected. As Eric Richardson was standing down as Chairman, Simon Gilhooly had agreed to take it on subject to other vacancies being filled, particularly the role of Secretary. It was explained that this primarily entails taking the minutes of 4 Committee Meetings and an AGM each year and acting as a central point of contact with BE. Although there were no immediate volunteers from the floor, there was an expression of interest.

If no volunteer for the role of Secretary is confirmed within two weeks, an EGM would be called to discuss the way forward.

It was agreed to leave the role of Auditor with the Committee.

The Vice Presidents were all re-elected en-bloc.

President:	Eric Brown
Chairman	Simon Gilhooly (subject to confirmation)
Vice-Chairman	Darryl Hardcastle
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Helen Richardson
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.

County League Secretary. Simon Gilhooly agreed to continue next season.

Gary Webb asked what the process was for electing Vice presidents as he wished to nominate Eric Richardson. His nomination from the floor was accepted and ER was duly elected.

Trevor Rogers asked that given recent moves, would Essex still be able to run the same number of tournaments next season. The answer was yes. Eric Brown said he wanted to get more clubs involved in running events on a profit sharing basis. He would also organise a Referees course if required.

The Chairman thanked all Committee members and other people including parents, for all their hard work during the season.

9. Any other Business.

1. BE Membership

Eric Richardson informed the meeting that BE are raising the affiliation charges of some membership categories by £1.00 for the 2016/17 season. However the ECBA fees will remain unchanged.

BE will be introducing a revised membership structure from the start of the 2017/18 season which will commence 1/9/17. This will offer improved membership benefits for players and clubs.

2. ECBA Strategy

Following our workshop in February and subsequent discussion, the county hope to formalise the updated strategy in the next few months.

10. Date of next AGM.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 7th June 2017 at Shenfield Parish Hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed:

Date:

Eric Richardson
Chair - Essex CBA