



ESSEX COUNTY BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

Draft Minutes of AGM held on June 9th 2021 via Zoom

1. Attendance and Apologies

Simon Gilhooly (SG), Eric Richardson (ER), Helen Richardson (HR) , Alan Adkins (AA), Darryl Bruce (DB), Marion Neale, Mike Worship, Colin Porter, Eric O'Brien, Sue Crompton, Trevor Rogers, Kevin Colman, Phil Tuffee, Vicky Wycraft, Tim Baskett, Michelle Isted, Sally.

Apologies

Carol Stammers, , Courtney Downey, Amanda Austin , Eric Brown (EB), Paul Barber , Martin Lawrence, Mike Frost, Graham Harding, Nicola Hutchings, Courtney Downey, Yoong Kwon.

2. Opening Remarks

Introduction by SG. This had been a strange year with minimal badminton activity. The committee had met frequently and discussed returning to play/tournaments/how to support clubs etc. BE have been working on behalf of the counties regarding various issues that have come up especially with problems on venues re-opening. Money is available to help school facilities open for badminton. First thing is to get juniors back on court - fewer restrictions for U18s. Simon would like to hear from clubs facing financial issues as money put aside to help clubs through this tricky period.

BE looking at membership again with wide ranging consultation. Essex Constitution changes put on hold until BE have decided.

Proposal to change scoring system at International level which would have trickled down to clubs was defeated.



More badminton was being shown on TV. BE launched TV channel and Badminton Europe was being broadcast on YouTube.

Active Essex has funds available for schools/clubs.

BE fees are now current until September 22.

3. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting – were accepted and agreed. Fees were paid by Leighway for last season but not recorded until after the AGM.

4. Presentation of Reports

a) Welfare Report - Amanda Austin

No issues to deal with. Amanda had been busy and proactive re the role of the club Welfare Officer and this information is now published on the county website.

This is not a scary role. All the courses needed for club welfare officers are now online and there are many resources to help. ECBA will post details of future courses.

b) Membership Secretary's Report - Courtney Downey

Little to report. Some clubs did affiliate when activity resumed briefly between lock-downs and it had been decided that these would roll forward to next season.

c) Juniors Coordinator's report - Alan Adkins

There had been a little activity for juniors. No tournaments last year but a Futures event had been set up for July. The Shires League is expected to restart in September plus a couple of friendly county matches to take place during the summer.

ECBA plans to support the county round of the National Schools event.

Mike Worship thanked Alan for his report. Sue Crompton asked if the county training held the past weekend included the stronger



players. Alan said all players in the main squad were invited along with the development squad but not all turned up.

There will be a 3* event at Redbridge over the summer where the stronger players should play.

Simon thanked Alan for his continued hard work in getting juniors training and competing again.

d) Seniors Report

No matches last season. CW attended a meeting of Senior Counties in May. Senior team events will start in September or December and probably run by BE at mutual venues. Essex would like to enter 3 teams.

e) Masters Report

No activity since the first lockdown. Masters events should start again in September. Essex to enter teams:

over 38/45/50/55/60/65 x 2 and possibly 70s

Proposed to use Redbridge/Chalkwell/*Queens Park*

Phil Tuffee asked why the change to over 38? This is to make over 40 more sustainable as some counties struggle to field over 40 teams. Challenge event - teams from Essex represented across all age groups. Strength and depth of players is incredible in Essex.

Essex do need players in the 38 - 44 age group. Anyone interested please contact Trevor.

f) Essex League

Simon will contact teams who played previously with proposals for some changes. He hopes the league can be up and running when the new season starts.

4. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Statement of Accounts



HR submitted accounts. Very little activity. £600 had been received in affiliation fees and there had been a refund of £850 for the Senior County Champs.

Mike Frost has audited the accounts. Simon thanked Helen for her longstanding work for Essex County both in her role as Treasurer and also for the many tournaments she ran.

Membership fees

These were agreed as £2.50 for the coming season (2 seasons for the price of 1)

MW asked how these would be collected. SG does not know but will find out.

Election of Officers – The following officers were elected.

Post	Elected	
President	Eric Brown	
Chair	Simon Gilhooly	
Vice Chair	Darryl Bruce	
Welfare Officer	Amanda Austin	
Treasurer	Yoong Kwon	
Tournament Secretary	Vacant	
Auditor	Mike Frost	
Secretary	Darryl Bruce	
Juniors Coordinator	Alan Adkins	
Seniors Coordinator	Vacant	
Masters Coordinator	Trevor Rogers	
Membership Secretary	Courtney Downey	

SG asked the meeting to think about the current vacancies over the summer and to let him know if there were any volunteers for the empty posts and for general help at running future tournaments.



Simon thanked all who served on the committee and also the League representatives. He proposed that Helen should be appointed as a Vice President which was approved.

5. AOB

Mike Worship reported the death of Donna Harris. Donna had supported badminton in the county and in the Southend area for many, many years and will be sadly missed.

Colin Porter asked how junior tournaments could be run with constraint on numbers. Eric and Helen said it was very challenging to keep players apart but hopefully by September restrictions will be lifted.

Mike Worship said he had an email about the BE cup but with very little detail. ECBA will follow this up and forward further information when it is available.

Marion Neale asked what proportion of clubs had been able to restart. No data on that yet but the venues at Epping and Dovedales had not reopened for badminton clubs.

There being no further business Simon thanked everyone for attending and looked forward to clubs being back on court in the new season.

6. Date of Next Year's Meeting TBA