**BLACKBURN & DISTRICT BADMINTON ASSOCIATION**

**President: Jean Wilson Chairman: Andy Howard**

**Minutes of the AGM held on Tuesday, 17th June, 2014**

The Vice-Chairman, Jane Makey, opened the meeting with the Roll Call. All teams were represented.

**Apologies from Committee Members:** unfortunately Jean Wilson and Andy Howard were unable to attend.

**Minutes of the last AGM:** the Secretary pointed out that the name Geoff Haydock (last paragraph) should actually read Geoff Haworth. The minutes were then passed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

**President’s Thoughts:** ( read by the Secretary, Cathy Hunt ) Jean Wilson apologised for her absence, due to illness. She thought the year had gone well and thanked all who attended the Cup Final, especially those Committee Members who had umpired.

She gave special thanks to Claire Edmundson, Jenny Woods, Peter Wright, Christine Harper and Cathy Hunt for all their hard work both in front and behind the scenes.

Jean ended by congratulating the winners, wishing the runners-up better luck next season, and saying well-played to everyone else! She hoped to be re-elected and looked forward to seeing all clubs next season.

**Chairman’s Report:** ( read by Jane Makey ). Andy Howard apologised that work commitments meant he was unable to attend the AGM. He thanked Jean Wilson and the Committee for all their hard work over the season and assured those present that no decisions are taken lightly by the Committee, who always want to ensure that a good game of badminton is enjoyed by all. He also stressed that feedback from clubs is of paramount importance, and asked for suggestions as to how to introduce more young players and encourage more participants. He ended by thanking all clubs for supporting the Association over the past season and asked that we try to support next season’s tournaments.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Christine Harper explained the balance sheet. Although income for this season was slightly down than the previous season, our expenditure was significantly less. Postage costs are down, thanks to the revolution that is e-mail. Also, fewer handbooks had been printed, so savings were made there. As a result, the season produced a healthy surplus income over expenditure!

**Proposals from Management:**

1. The Committee felt that this season’s mode of play had not been particularly successful and wished to revert to the previous season’s mode of play. This proposal was amended at the AGM to include clarification as to what to do if a team turns up a player short. The amended proposal was:

Rule 9C(ii) – “The mode of play shall be:

Mixed Doubles Gents Doubles Ladies Doubles

G1:L1 v G1:L1 G3:G1 v G3:G1 L3:L1 v L3:L1

G2:L2 v G2:L2 G3:G2 v G3:G2 L3:L2 v L3:L2

G3:L3 v G3:L3

G1:L1 v G2:L2

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The games need not necessarily be played in this order. Where a team is knowingly a player short at the point of completing a score sheet then that non-player must be recorded as Lady/Gent 2”.

This amended proposal was seconded, voted on and carried.

1. The Committee felt that rule 8I (in its entirety) and rule 8J should really be the other way round. At present, the fine for non-playing of a fixture comes before the rule detailing when a fixture may be rearranged.

This proposal was seconded, voted on and carried.

1. In order to give clubs a little more flexibility, the Committee proposed the following:
2. 8I (old 8J) – Combine points (i) and (ii) and adapt the wording as follows:

“ A fixture may only be rearranged in the event of a court not being available, or if an Association Club has players entered individually for a County Badminton Tournament organised by the Association. A fixture may also be rearranged in adverse weather conditions, where both teams agree. **In these cases, the Hon. Fixtures Secretary must be notified immediately”.**

This part of the proposal was seconded, voted on and carried.

1. Insert a new 8I (ii) – “ Any team struggling to raise a full team for a fixture in circumstances not covered by 8I (i) may, **on one occasion only during the season,** ask for the match to be rearranged, with the consent of the opposing team and with the approval of the Hon. Fixtures Secretary”.

(The rest of rule 8I to remain the same).

This part of the proposal was seconded, voted on and carried.

1. a) The Committee proposed a slight rewording to the beginning of 8J(i) – “Should a team rearrange a fixture without the knowledge and approval of the Hon. Fixtures Secretary, or fail to fulfil a fixture, then the offending club shall be fined…..” ( rest of the rule to remain as it is )

This part of the proposal was seconded, voted on and carried.

1. Add to rule 8J(ii) – “ The minimum number of players required to fulfil a fixture is 4 players (i.e. 2 Ladies and 2 Gents)”.

This part of the proposal was seconded, voted on and carried.

**5.**The Committee’s final proposal was to Rule 8E (i):

Change “badminton” to “sports” and remove the word “racquet”.

This proposal was seconded, voted on and carried.

**Election of Officers:** the post of Hon. Tournament Secretary was up for re-election, as Claire Edmundson wished to relinquish this role. The Committee proposed Nigel Holt for this position and this was seconded at the meeting. Those officers willing to stand were then elected en bloc at the meeting. These officers now comprise:

**President** Jean Wilson

**Chairman** Andy Howard

**Vice-Chariman** Jane Makey

**Hon. Secretary** Cathy Hunt

**Hon. Treasurer** Christine Harper

**Hon. Fixtures Secretary** Jean Wilson

**Hon. Inter-Town Secretary** Keith Ashton

**Hon. Tournament Secretary** Nigel Holt

**Hon. Social Secretary** Jenny Woods

**Hon. Junior League Secretary** Rick Smith

**Election of the Committee:** the following were elected en bloc onto the Committee: **Mubeen Bagdadi, John Bromley, Claire Edmundson, Alex Pimperton, Helen Shanks, Peter Wright and Anser Yaseen.** We co-opted **David Holt and Martin Sales** during the season and they were willing to become Committee Members. Finally, **Claire Banfield** indicated that she would be willing to serve on the Committee, which now comprises these 10 members.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

There then followed an open forum to discuss the handbook, the Cup competition, Tournaments and the Dinner Dance.

Handbook- the general consensus was that most players did not need a formal handbook.

Tournaments – were not well-attended this season. The Committee will look at a new approach and perhaps try to have midweek tournaments.

Cup Competition – some clubs liked the knock-out approach, others felt they played little badminton in the New Year. Perhaps more than one Cup competition is needed.

Dinner Dance – most wanted a cheaper Dinner Dance. Perhaps we could try for a Friday as opposed to a Saturday night. We should also try to avoid the Spring Bank Holiday weekend.