Annual General Meeting

Thursday 23rd May 2024

Minutes

Attendees

Mel & Steve, Karen & Simon, Hon Wai Lee, Rob Cunliffe, Joannie Li, Lucy Sturgess, Zach Sturgess, Paul & Sally Hains, Jermaine Lovelace, Sachin, Matt Asbrey, Ian Mason, Bob Smith, Katie Applin, David Robertson, John Gilyeads, Jenny Cross, Stephen Ayres, Steven and Ian (Rauds Racketters), Vinay Sharma, James Conway, Becky Rice, Jini Thomas, Shyju Parakambalath, Christina Stimpson, Emily Pethers, Jonny Bougourd, Anne Gilbert, Tim Kellit, Ian Wilks, Tracy, Andrew Doughty, Ian Miles

1. Apologies

Chantall Ridd-Jones, Matt Ireland, Jeannie Mo, Bhavika Mistry, Nicoleta Giraud, Paul Knighton, Hugh Jeremy, Reena Kotecha, Ishver Patel, Sally Rimmer, Calvin Burnett, Tayyab Shahzad, Subramanian Ramani, Jon Feakin, Amy Gerhard, Megan Shields, Sean Law, Avinash Bhundia, Caroline Hossack

2. Minutes of 2023 AGM and Matters Arising

Minutes from last year – Melissa to sign off the minutes of the meeting

Melissa – Proposed
Stephen Willis – Seconded

3. Chairperson's report - Melissa Gentle

Chairmans report – Melissa Gentle – 23rd May 2024

This year we:

- Took badminton into the community – We participated in two Family Fun Days throughout August (Kettering and Wellingborough).
- We ran a badminton festival for all secondary schools in Northamptonshire. A total of 6 schools took part with 16 teams entered across the age groups. A total of 56 kids took part and the feedback we received was very positive. We aim to make this an annual event.
- Started to gather a database of all the contact persons in all the schools in the area; primary and secondary. This will be on-going and aims to be a valuable resource for the future
- Creating a database and contact details of the junior clubs in the area. – We hope to publish this on the new website once we have this up and running.
- Restarted restricted tournaments in 2023
  - 16th & 17th September 2023 – U11& U13 & U17 Restricted
  - 23rd & 24th September 2023 - Senior Restricted
  - 30th & 1st October 2023 – U15 & U19 restricted.
  - 28th & 29th October 2023 – Master restricted.
- We have scheduled 2 Badminton England Sanctioned tournaments on behalf of Northants.
  a. NCB Senior bronze at Weaver Academy on 10th & 11th August 2024
  b. NCB U15 Bronze at Weaver Academy on 5th October 2024
  - We hope to make these an annual event and look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible
- Compete in Shires League – U15, U17 and U19. U13 we did not have enough players to enter a team this season. With the trials occurring on the 9th June 2024, we hope to be in a better position this year
- We competed at ICT 2024. – We improved on last years' result and finished 24th out of 29.
- To merge the junior and senior county structures. This has happened and will take further shape over the coming year.
- We have welcomed new members onto the committee over the last year. Rob Cunniffe has joined us to be the schools representative and is also spearheading our new website.

- We are still constantly looking for more coaches and we are keen to assist with the costs involved. We do have a bursary available for those seeking to take their level 1 and level 2 course – please speak to me.

New program of restricted events are already in the diary. Please enter via the Tournament Planner on the Badminton England website to enter

- U11, U13 & U17 restricted on the 14th September 2024
- U15, U19 restricted on 15th September 2024
- Senior restricted 21st – 22nd September 2024
- Masters restricted 26th – 27th October 2024

I have had various meetings with council members and officials and with our NGB for movement on our own facility. This is an ongoing project, and we will be starting a fundraising team in the future to assist with the costs this will involve.

Junior trials set for 9th June and its very pleasing to report that we are seeing a huge percentage of new names that have signed up already. Please spread the notice as far as you can to reach out to more Juniors.

We have 6 juniors join the young leader's academy. We look forward to the impact this will have this coming year.

Email: info@nscba.co.uk
Mobile: 07703582674

Melissa Gentle

4. Treasurer's Report - Hon Wai Lee / Melissa Gentle

Junior Accounts

INCOME EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31/05/2024

		2023/2024		2022/2023	
		£		£	
INCOME					
	Squad & match fees	£ 24,198.52		£ 4,824.00	
	Bank/Card Fees	(207.60)			
	ICT Players fees	£ 1,750.00		£ 1,715.00	
	NBA ICT entry contribution				
	Local Tournaments	£ 241.00			
	NSSF Affiliations	£ 930.00		£ 830.00	
	Savings account interest	£ 332.53			
	Other - shuttle sale			£ 198.00	
	Shirts Income			£ 740.00	*added shirts income and printing
	Printing Income			£ 150.00	
	Senior County Income less refunds	£ 2,321.00			
		£ 29,563.45		£ 8,257.00	
EXPENDITURE					
	Hire of Hall	£ 12,743.70		£ 1,386.84	
	Coaches expenses	£ 6,102.50			
	Additional coaching resources				
	Affiliation/Entry Fees	£ 1,143.00		£ 200.00	
	ICT accomodation	£ 3,130.40		£ 2,856.00	
	ICT Expenses	£ 2,560.00	Shirts & Minibus	£ 850.00	
	Trophies & Engraving	£ 1,380.47		-	
	U15/U17 BE Tournament Expenses			-	
	Entry Fees	£ 439.35	Shires League, Herts Team Challenge & Paypal fee		
	Shuttlecocks	£ 1,370.00		-	
	Coaching course contribution			£ 250.00	
	Summer Fairs & festivals	£ 787.53			
	Subscriptions	£ 374.79			
	Admin, Post and Insurance			-	
	Parents evening			-	
	Website	£ 184.07		£ 219.06	
	Tournament support			-	
	Refunds	£ 56.66		£ 44.00	
	Misc	£ 297.96		-	
	Shirts	£ 2,212.50		£ 1,415.00	*shirts for county and ICT - inc printing
	Debtors	£ (3,253.60)			
		£ 29,539.33		£ 7,221.82	
NET TO/(FROM) RESERVES			£ 24.12		£ 1,035.18
RESERVES					
Opening		£ 45,681.61		£ 29,880.22	
Movement		£ 24.12		£ 1,036.18	
Closing		£ 45,705.73		£ 31,540.40	
Represented by:	At bank	£ 44,572.72		£ 31,090.40	
	Paypal??	£ -		£ 12,291.21	
	PSA account	£ 2,300.00		£ 2,300.00	
		£ 46,872.72		£ 45,681.61	

Notes

1 First year fully running and the set up costs were always going to excedeed the income. We were aware of this and with healthy reserves, this wasn't something we were concerned about. If we manage to collefct all outstinding fees, then our projected end of year accounts would have been in surplus.

2 Coaching staff is now being paid for coaching, against 2022/23

3 Shirt costs for the year 2024/25 will be greatly reduced due to the 2 year

4 Would suggest that we change the collection of the fees to the start of the season, as its clear player/parents seem to think that this is a pay as you go, and we cannot run a county on this basis. At the time we broke the membership fee into monthly payments for affordability,however this is taking up a lot of admin time. County players need to make a commitment for the year. County fees are non-refundbale.

5 Would advise that the o/s amounts of membership fees be collected from the list given, as this would give a postive balance a the end of this season. I understand that this will be a difficult process and I don't want this to damage the reputation of the county but it isn't fair for those that have paid and continue to pay. Parents need to be more aware of what is included in the membership fee - not just training sessions.

6 We have had major issues with the bank and hand over: its taken 6 months to sort the address out and the new mandate signatoires. So Karen and Melissa have managed to keep the accounts ticking over and pay our creditors on time to enabel the smooth running of the junior county.

7 We have an U15 Bronze tournametn scheduled for the 5th October. We can always run two next year (2025) and make these a regular annula event. We will need volunteers to help run these events and learn how.

8 Debtors - list of county juniors that haven't paid the full membership fee - Committee voted to collect as many of these

Senior Accounts

INCOME EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31/05/24

		2023/2024			2022/2023	
		£			£	
INCOME						
	Memberships	£ 2,879.97		£	2,649.27	
	Senior Squad	£ 30.00		£	485.00	
	Masters Squad			£	-	
	Tournaments	£ 459.65		£	497.00	
	Other	£ 29.50		£	268.00	
	Bank Interest	£ 78.57		£	33.65	
		£ 3,477.69				£ 3,932.92
EXPENDITURE						
Senior	Court Hire			£	199.76	
	Shuttles		£ 1,266.00	£	-	
			* from 2022/23 -			
	Entry Fees	?	£ 2,475.00 BE invoice	£	1,500.00	
	Training/Coaching			£	430.00	
	Expenses		£ 60.49			£ 2,129.76
	Shirts		£ 1,890.00	£	-	
	Printing		£ 210.00	£	-	
				£	-	
				£	-	
						£ -
Tournaments	Court Hire			£	691.20	
	Shuttles ?			£	498.75	
	Trophies		£ 2,793.95	£	71.96	
						£ 1,261.91
NBA Activities	NSCBA			£	-	
	Handbook & Website			£	-	
	Admin		£ 20.00	£	10.00	
	Others			£	430.50	
						£ 440.50
			£ 8,715.44			£ 3,832.17
NET TO/(FROM) RESERVES			£ (5,237.75)			£ 100.75
RESERVES						
Opening			£ 22,210.35			£ 22,109.60
Movement			£ (5,237.75)			£ 100.75
Closing			£ 16,972.60			£ 22,210.35
Represented by	At bank		£ 19,348.56			£ 22,210.35
	Paypal		£ -			
			£ 19,348.56			£ 22,210.35

1 **Note :** restricted court hire hasn't been passed over to seniors due to admin issues with Juniors.

2 All income from restricted is in the account

3 We have modernised and replaced the masters trophies for the Masters restricted and this has been big expenditure for this season and an investment for the future. We look forward to a growing restricted masters tournament.

League Accounts

NORTHANTS BADMINTON LEAGUE AGM ACCOUNTS
Year 1st June 2023 - 31st May 2024

	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
Opening balance of accounts (1st June)	9,816.49	9,791.93	9,858.28
Income			
Team affiliation fees - 2022-23 (back paid)	65.00	30.00	
Team affiliation fees - 2023-24	85.00		
Bank interest received (SH Fund)	143.22	54.56	1.55
Total Income	293.22	84.56	1.55
Expenditure			
Website			37.50
Replacement trophies and engraving			
Bank charges	55.00	60.00	30.40
Total Expenditure	55.00	60.00	67.90
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	**238.22**	**24.56**	**-66.35**
Closing Balance at end of year (31st May)	**10,054.71**	**9,816.49**	**9,791.93**
Sports Hall Fund (Not for league expenses)	8,528.39	8,385.17	8,330.61
Current account	1,526.32	1,431.32	1,461.32
Cash			
Balances per bank & cash at end of year	10,054.71 *	9,816.49	9,791.93
* current time			
Less Creditors			
Website costs owing to IW	-180.00	-90.00	
Replacement trophies and engraving (est.)	-60.00		
Bank charge for May 2024	-5.00		
Total	-245.00	-90.00	0.00
Plus Debtors			
Team affiliation fees - 2023-24 (owing)	40.00		
Bank interest still to come (SH Fund) (est.)	14.00		
Total	54.00	0.00	0.00
Adjusted balance per accounts at end of year	**9,863.71**	**9,726.49**	**9,791.93**

Information

Four clubs have NOT paid their team entries this year.
Mereway (£15), Bugbrooke (£5), Harborough F. (£5), Pyghtle (£15)

Payment details (for these and next years fees)
Northants Badminton League
Sort code: 40-35-04
Acc num: 01069225

Please email me when payments are made: **ianwilkes.coach@gmail.com**

The account will be moved from HSBC to Lloyds to stop getting charges

5. Match/Fixtures Secretary's Report - Lucy Sturgess

We entered three teams into the Shires League this season at U15, U17 and U19.
Initially, it was very difficult to get the fixtures organised with little or no response from some counties resulting in numerous emails being sent.

Under 15
There were 30 teams in the U15 age group and Northants came 25th. We played 6 games winning one of the matches and losing the other five.

Teams in our section were Warwickshire, Sussex, Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Kent.
We beat Sussex 12-8 which was a great result.

Under 17
There were 33 teams in the U17 age group and Northants came 27th. We played 6 games winning one of the matches and losing the other five.

Teams in our section were Worcestershire, Nottinghamshire, Hertfordshire 2, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Norfolk

We beat Worcestershire 14-6. Well played team.

Under 19
There were 29 teams in the U19 age group and Northants came 29th. We played 6 games unfortunately losing all the matches.

Teams in our section were Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Nottinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Bedfordshire.

The score against Cambridgeshire was 10-10 but we lost out by points in this game.
Thank you to all the parents that supported the players and the committee by recording the scores and providing snacks for all the home matches. It is much appreciated.

To ensure that we can continue with the Shires League for the next season, it is essential that each team has appointed parent representatives. Their role would be to ensure that the teams are aware of the match dates, locations and start times.

This year it took a while to get parents in place but this really is a necessity for the start of next season to ensure the counties success in the League.

Seniors
1st Team got relegated to division 3 coming last in the division. We did not win any games this season

Standings

Senior County Championships – Division 2 – Division 2 - Central

		Points	Played	Won	Draws	Lost	Rubbers	Games	Points
1	Worcestershire 1	60	7	6	0	1	60 - 17	126 - 43	3395 - 2684
2	Norfolk 1	56	7	6	0	1	56 - 21	125 - 60	3591 - 3025
3	Staffordshire 1	41	7	4	0	3	41 - 36	93 - 82	3307 - 3111
4	Oxfordshire 1	38	7	3	0	4	38 - 39	87 - 89	2960 - 3224
5	Warwickshire 3	35	7	4	0	3	35 - 42	78 - 99	3111 - 3348
6	Lincolnshire 1	31	7	3	0	4	31 - 46	77 - 104	3226 - 3293
7	Bedfordshire 1	26	7	2	0	5	26 - 51	69 - 115	3104 - 3495
8	**Northamptonshire 1**	**21**	**7**	**0**	**0**	**7**	**21 - 56**	**60 - 123**	**3025 - 3539**

2nd team came 4th out of 5 teams winning 2 games against the 3rd team.

Senior County Championships – Division 4 – Division 4 - Central

		Points	Played	Won	Draws	Lost	Rubbers	Games	Points
1	Cambridgeshire 3	70	8	7	0	1	70 - 18	145 - 47	3850 - 2831
2	Essex 4	62	8	5	0	3	62 - 26	134 - 62	3782 - 3123
3	Lincolnshire 2	59	8	6	0	2	59 - 29	126 - 72	3726 - 3225
4	**Northamptonshire 2**	**25**	**8**	**2**	**0**	**6**	**25 - 63**	**64 - 129**	**3132 - 3649**
5	Northamptonshire 3	4	8	0	0	8	4 - 84	11 - 170	2102 - 3764

3rd team came bottom of the league losing all matches but the only way now is up 😊

Senior County Championships – Division 4 – Division 4 - Central

		Points	Played	Won	Draws	Lost	Rubbers	Games	Points
1	Cambridgeshire 3	70	8	7	0	1	70 - 18	145 - 47	3850 - 2831
2	Essex 4	62	8	5	0	3	62 - 26	134 - 62	3782 - 3123
3	Lincolnshire 2	59	8	6	0	2	59 - 29	126 - 72	3726 - 3225
4	Northamptonshire 2	25	8	2	0	6	25 - 63	64 - 129	3132 - 3649
5	**Northamptonshire 3**	**4**	**8**	**0**	**0**	**8**	**4 - 84**	**11 - 170**	**2102 - 3764**

It has been difficult at times to fulfil teams and there is an acceptance that we need to organise some match play and training sessions.

On behalf of the seniors, a group of us have previously have a discussion regarding last season and the upcoming season

The general consensus as previously highlighted was the lack of commitment of players, both in match weekends and in regards to training

It was highlighted that a Friday night at weavers was not the most ideal date for all for a number of reasons, some of these being the day and location of the venue. However, it was agreed, mainly through first team members that we would like to have training sessions in place for next season. One of the proposed ideas was that if it was possible, as individual teams we would like to nominate a team captain, responsible for communication with the committee and other members of the team.

Additionally, we would like to be responsible for organising our own training sessions. We have previously been using a WhatsApp group chat, using a poll to vote on which day suits majority players best, and with the aim of trying to organise one a month to start with, and if successful, increase to two sessions a month.

We acknowledge that ideally we would want the senior teams to be training together and alongside each other, as there are occasions, as we have seen this season, where players from the second team have been requested to play up a team to support the firsts when numbers have been low. Additionally, by training together we would hope to push some players to play at a higher level, as well as try to develop a better team morale and ethic, as this season, this is certainly something that was lacking and in some ways can be seen through our results. Due to this, we would like to try to improve commitment levels of the senior county players and have a more positive impact in the upcoming season, in the hope that this will improve the results of all three teams.

Lucy Sturgess

6. Head Coach's Report - Stephen Willis

Head Coach Report
23rd May 20024

Season update,

Our first full competitive season has come to an end and its been great to see player development on court and on a social level.

Nine players played badminton overseas in Denmark last summer before the season started (after trials)

Ethan Feakin continues to press for a place on the England pathway by winning Gold medal in Gold Singles events – We look forward to seeing his progress over the coming year.

We also welcomed back Hayden Feakin to competitive badminton again and he made a large contribution to the team on his last junior badminton year.

I have a few players I would like to acknowledge for outstanding contributions to Northants badminton.

Ethan and Vivian for best boy/girl ICT for effort and team performances during the week.

Alfie Rimmer and Beatrix Ngan for best overall development across the year and for results

Alfie Rowley for his positive attitude and his conduct after his non selection for ICT. I know it was very hard for him, in all my years in badminton I have not seen such positive behaviour when dealing with disappointment. He will be a great asset to the senior teams in the future.

This was the first year since pre pandemic that we have competed in the shires league. I would like to thank players and parents for supporting this process as its important for players to compete in a team environment as well as BE individual tournaments.

Training has remained focused on developing skills and mastering technique as I am aware many of these young players are not getting this outside of our county sessions.

Merging the U19s into the later Wednesday group created a mixture of positives and negatives.

The group became full and it did not allow some of the players to move up to higher group and this was frustrating for coaches and players. I think we lost a couple of players due to this but they may have left anyway.

It has left group 1 with a lot of potential and with players that are keen to progress, but Its hard to get the progress needed with only 1 session a week however there are very good signs going forward.

We have tried to focus developing the girls in group 1 as we need more options in the future to fill teams and create competition.

I believe more competition within the girls at training is a priority and it makes the improvements within this group to date more impressive but we cant rely on this long term.

We have healthy training environment within the boys age groups and this has produced better players and competition for places.

Managing parent expectations of progress is something we as the coaching team are continually managing as we delve into matches against established counties.

At the moment it feels okay to be the underdog in battle.

The focal points of the season are Trials, Shires, ICT. This past season this was a new experience for many of us but all players have stepped up well to all these challenges.

ICT

The team selected to represent us improved on last year's results and for a moment we dared to dream of a top half place. However, on reflection progress in small steps is a much better approach. There was a fine line between us and our opponent and some very close matches against strong established counties. It shows we are on the right track for the future.

Eight of the ten players are eligible to return next year as well as potentially a new injection of players waiting in the wings.

Looking at the other counties at the recent ICT, many teams will have to rebuild next year, due to players that are too old to return for 2025 and I feel we can capitalise on this next time. There could be a huge shift in the results next year.

I believe a top half finish must be our ambition for 2025.

To achieve top half, we need to encourage more of Northants players to enter BE tournaments in all three events and to support them and help build their confidence to enable them to persevere and to better deal with pressure.

I would like to thank the coaching team and all the troops in the background that work behind the scenes. Positive parental support and trust in our plan is vital. And thank you to the players for stepping out onto court and to keep showing up, chasing shuttles.

Stephen Willis

7. Social Media Report - Sachin Kumar Sharma

FaceBook

Please ensure that all players follow the Facebook page. Badminton England are now following us and have added posting from our accounts to the BE web site

We list events and the achievement of the players on this site

Instagram

We list events and the achievement of the players on this site
There are about 1500 people seeing the posts but 1300 are not following us so we need to reach out to them. We have 165 followers.

There are about 70 accounts engaged

BE and a lot of academies are following us too

If you have any suggestions please get them through to Sachin
We need to try to ensure that we share the data for anyone who wants to look at clubs

8. Election of Officers

- Chairperson – Melissa Gentle happy to re-stand
- Treasurer – Hon Wai Lee happy to re-stand
- Match/Fixture Secretary – Lucy Sturgess stepped down. TBC
- Secretary – Karen Sturgess happy to re-stand
- Honorary League Secretary – Jermaine Lovelace happy to re-stand
- Social Media – Sachin Kumar Sharma happy to re-stand
- Development Officer / Head Coach – Stephen Willis happy to re-stand
- Vice-Chairperson – Becky Rice happy to re-stand

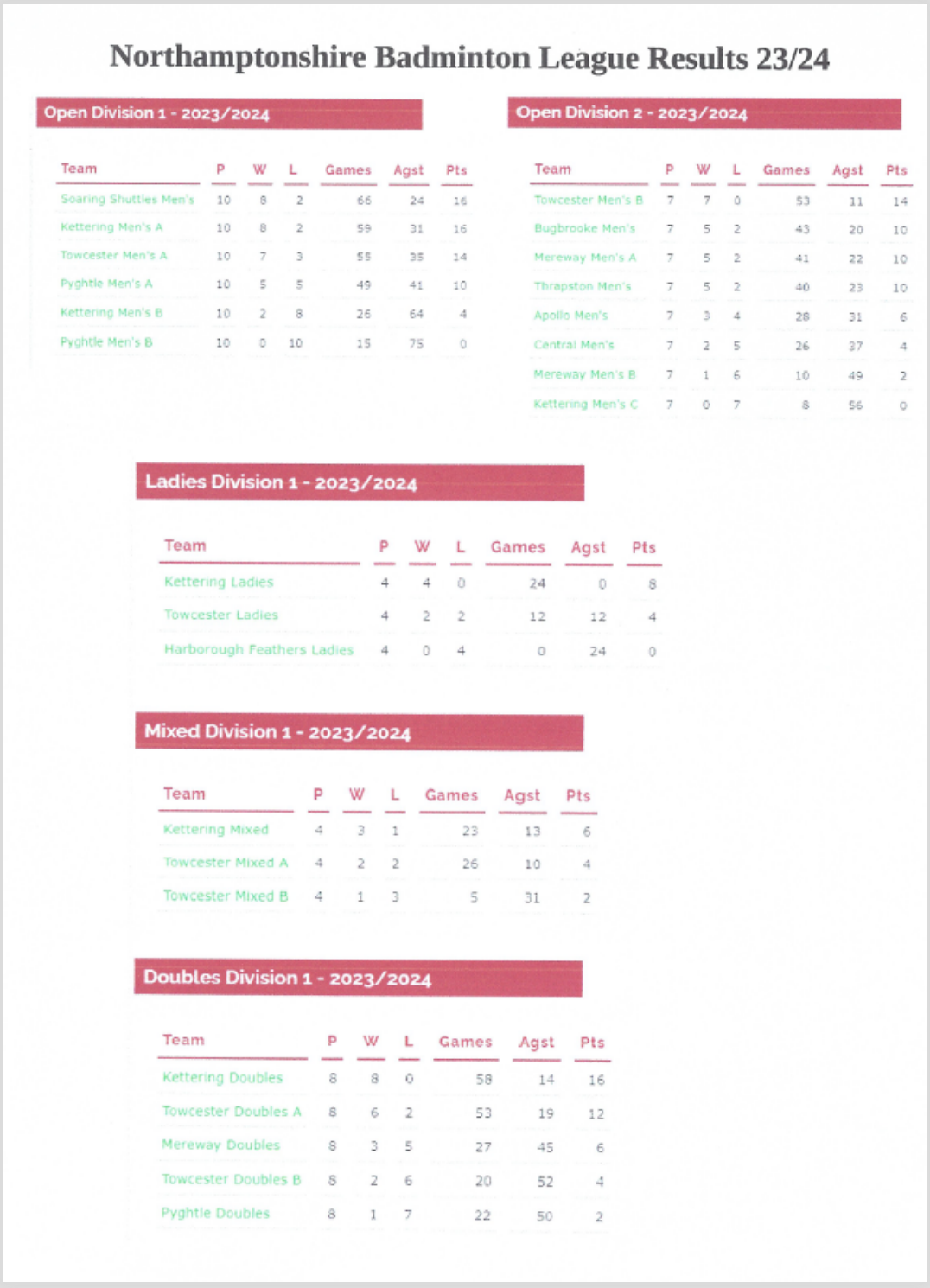
This was proposed by Rob Cunliffe and seconded by Anne Gilbert. This was voted in unanimously.
Note: The Vice-Chairperson position is an "officer" position. Apologies, I had this in the incorrect section

9. Election of Committee Members

- Assistant Coach – Simon Sturgess happy to re-stand
- Schools Representative – Rob Cunliffe happy to re-stand
- Club Representative – TBC
- Parent Representatives – TBC
- Safeguarding – Becky Rice happy to re-stand

This was proposed by Simon Sturgess and seconded by Rob Cunliffe. This was voted in unanimously.

10. Presentation of League Trophies



Northamptonshire Badminton League Results 23/24

Open Division 1 - 2023/2024

Team	P	W	L	Games	Agst	Pts
Soaring Shuttles Men's	10	8	2	66	24	16
Kettering Men's A	10	8	2	59	31	16
Towcester Men's A	10	7	3	55	35	14
Pyghtle Men's A	10	5	5	49	41	10
Kettering Men's B	10	2	8	26	64	4
Pyghtle Men's B	10	0	10	15	75	0

Open Division 2 - 2023/2024

Team	P	W	L	Games	Agst	Pts
Towcester Men's B	7	7	0	53	11	14
Bugbrooke Men's	7	5	2	43	20	10
Mereway Men's A	7	5	2	41	22	10
Thrapston Men's	7	5	2	40	23	10
Apollo Men's	7	3	4	28	31	6
Central Men's	7	2	5	26	37	4
Mereway Men's B	7	1	6	10	49	2
Kettering Men's C	7	0	7	8	56	0

Ladies Division 1 - 2023/2024

Team	P	W	L	Games	Agst	Pts
Kettering Ladies	4	4	0	24	0	8
Towcester Ladies	4	2	2	12	12	4
Harborough Feathers Ladies	4	0	4	0	24	0

Mixed Division 1 - 2023/2024

Team	P	W	L	Games	Agst	Pts
Kettering Mixed	4	3	1	23	13	6
Towcester Mixed A	4	2	2	26	10	4
Towcester Mixed B	4	1	3	5	31	2

Doubles Division 1 - 2023/2024

Team	P	W	L	Games	Agst	Pts
Kettering Doubles	8	8	0	58	14	16
Towcester Doubles A	8	6	2	53	19	12
Mereway Doubles	8	3	5	27	45	6
Towcester Doubles B	8	2	6	20	52	4
Pyghtle Doubles	8	1	7	22	50	2

Hoping to be able to add the scores directly onto the web site in the future
General email address used for the score cards which worked well

New trophies were purchased and handed out

Trophies taken back so that they can be engraved

11. Rule Changes

Proposal for 2 teams to be promoted and 2 teams re-promoted for the September 2024 – April 2025 season. This rule change was accepted.

Rushden will be putting in a Mixed and Ladies team next year.

There was discussion on the Division layout for next year and Mereway B were asked if they would consider whether they move down a division to even the numbers out.

Each club does need to pay their league entry fee

12. Arrangements for 2024 - 2025

<u>Affiliation fees</u>

Keep this at £10

This was proposed by Melissa Gentle and seconded by Jermaine Lovelace. This was voted unanimously.

13. AOB

- Masters trophies were handed out to winners who had not received their trophy.
- Could we consider a different venue next time as it was rather squashed. The room we had booked was unavailable due to electrics not working, but it was agreed that a larger venue would be considered