

MINUTES OF ABERDEEN AND DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Venue: Banks O' Dee Sports Club

Date: 2nd August 2023

In Attendance:

Steven Plank	Racquets / League Chairman
Tom Metcalfe	Inverurie / League Secretary
Jamie King	Granite City / Fixtures Secretary
Dan Broadhead	Banchory / Committee Member
Kim Garrett	Racquets / Committee Member
Claire Elder	Ladies Elite / Tournament Secretary
Ken Watson	Committee Member
Jamie Sreenan	RGU
Duncan Grant	ABA
Natasha Mackay	ABA
Neil Cuthbert	Fetteresso

1. APOLOGIES

Ryan Clunie	Committee Member
Steven Chappell	Committee Member
Ken Lavèty	71 Club / Committee Member
Ray Mckaig	Glen Ythan
Finlay Bayer	University
Andrew Strachan	Aberdeenshire
Martin Fragell	ABA
Calum Davidson	Granite City

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

Proposed by Jamie King and seconded by Tom Metcalfe.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. ABERDEEN & DISTRICT BADMINTON LEAGUE 2022/2023 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As per tradition, I will start by thanking everyone on the committee for their work over the 2022/23 season in particular our League Secretary, Tournament Secretary, Website Secretary, and Fixtures Secretary for the contributions they have made. They've all played an important role in ensuring we had a successful season.

It was great to have such a good turnout of teams from the 12 clubs in our league. This past season we had 11 mixed doubles teams, 21 men's doubles teams, and 7 ladies doubles teams which was very similar to last season.

As per previous years, we used Kincorth Sports Centre as our "central venue" for a number of league matches and will continue to do so next season. We have already secured the booking with Kincorth Sports Centre, with matches scheduled to be played 7pm – 9pm on Friday evenings starting from the first week in September. We encourage all players to be there ready to play for 7pm sharp so as to help minimise the risk of running out of time. As standard, Kincorth require payment in advance, consequently clubs using the "central venue" are required to pay for the first half of the season's hall hire by 1st of September and payment for the second half of the season by 1st January 2023. Invoices will be sent out to the relevant clubs along with their annual league affiliation fee.

The fixtures list for the upcoming season is already underway and a copy will be sent out to all clubs in due course. We kindly ask that all club and team captains review the fixtures list and advise at the earliest opportunity of any discrepancies or issues spotted. We encourage all clubs to endeavour to play fixtures when scheduled, but if you are not able to do so, could both clubs please notify the Scorecard Secretary and League Secretary of the mutually agreeable alternative match date. Efforts should be made to try and play all scheduled fixtures in each half of the season.

It is requested that scorecards for completed matches are sent to the Scorecard Secretary as soon as possible but no later than 7 days after completion of said match. Should any match not be played, either by agreement or dispute, the secretaries of both clubs concerned should notify the Scorecard Secretary and League Secretary (no later than 7 days after the scheduled fixture date) by email with their reasons for claiming or forfeiting the match.

Club secretaries will receive reminders from Badminton Scotland to affiliate for the 2023/24 season and it is a requirement of the league that clubs are affiliated to Badminton Scotland so if club secretaries are able to sort out affiliation as soon as possible once able to do so, that would be appreciated.

As per usual we will present the league trophies to the league winning teams later this evening. Any team wishing to take home their trophy will be asked to sign a form to say they have received it and will then be asked to return the trophy at the club doubles tournament next year.

I look forward to seeing you at matches and tournaments during the forthcoming season.

Many thanks,

Steven Plank
Chairman
Aberdeen & District Badminton League

5. 2022/23 LEAGUE CLUB DOUBLES TOURNAMENT REPORT

We held the Club Doubles tournament at the central venue in Kincorth where we had an entry of 12 MD pairs, 3 LD pairs, and 13 MXD pairs. These numbers were down from the previous tournament in the men's and ladies events but similar in the mixed event. The winners of the events were:

MD: Blair Spence & Murray Spence (Granite City)
LD: Dixie Crawford & Katie Abbott (Racquets)
MXD: Neil Cuthbert & Rachael Rennie (Fetteresso)

The tournament was a success with a lot of close and competitive matches. The tournament will again be held at Kincorth in the second half of the season allowing players the opportunity to play in one tournament each side of Christmas. As always, we encourage all clubs to participate.

6. LEAGUE MATCHES REPORT & STANDINGS 2022/23

The final league standings were available on the league website and most matches were played during the season (out of 197 matches scheduled, there were 7 walkovers and 1 declared null & void). The committee requested Secretaries to (1) keep them up to date with rearranged matches and (2) send scorecards in as soon as possible following the match being played (using the correct electronic scorecard) and ensure full names (first and last names) are entered on the scorecard.

7. BADMINTON SCOTLAND

All clubs were reminded that to participate in the League, clubs must be affiliated to Badminton Scotland. Affiliation should be done ASAP at the start of the season. The club affiliation fee is currently set at £75. Individual affiliation fee introduced by Badminton Scotland at £15 each for adults and £10 each for juniors. If any clubs have any issues or difficulty affiliating, they are advised to contact Badminton Scotland for assistance. Club secretaries are also encouraged to check that their list of active players registered is accurate.

News was also shared that a new RDO had been appointed and that an announcement would follow shortly from Badminton Scotland.

8. BALANCE SHEET

The updated balance sheet was presented at the AGM and those present were informed that the League was presently in a good financial position and would continue to administer the hire costs of the central venue on behalf of all teams playing matches there. It was noted that costs for hall hire have risen as well as shuttle costs and website costs, these could affect the finances going forwards. The Edinburgh Badminton Academy match was a success and made a small profit for the league.

9. ANNUAL LEAGUE SUBSCRIPTION

The annual league affiliation fee of £35 per team remains.

10. PROVISIONAL DIVISION OF THE LEAGUES

The Committee was given discretion to divide up the divisions and leagues as appropriate in line with the league constitution. The Committee requested that all clubs advise ASAP of any additional teams they wish to enter or existing teams that wish to resign from the league for the upcoming 2023/24 season.

The Committee also requested that all clubs confirm that their club nights, match nights, and all contact details on the league website are accurate and up to date.

11. REQUEST FOR HELP AT NORTH EAST GROUP OF BADMINTON SCOTLAND TOURNAMENTS

The Secretary informed those present that the Badminton Scotland North East Group was responsible for organising the following tournaments each season:

- North East Junior Restricted: date TBC.
- North East Senior Restricted: date TBC.
- North East Junior Open: date TBC.
- North East Senior Open: date TBC.

Further details of the above tournaments are to be added to the League/NEG website. The Chairman asked those present if they, or any members of their clubs, would be prepared to assist in helping manage the tournaments at the venues, and, if so, to contact Steven Chappell & Colin Ross (both of whom are on the NEG Committee).

12. CONSTITUTION CHANGES

The following constitution changes were voted on at the AGM, constitution changes will take effect at the start of the 2023-24 season. For full details of the changes see updated constitution.

2. Vote Passed: Introduction of a 'Code of Conduct'.

3. Vote Passed: Club Representative from each club to join the committee.

12a. Vote Passed: Individual Membership to Badminton Scotland required to play in league.

15a. Vote Passed: League definitions for each league (Men's, Mixed, Ladies).

16c. Vote Passed: Update wording or point 16c (Forfeit/ Walkover).

17d. Vote Passed: Changes to playing up rule.

24. Vote Passed: Changes to postponed matches wording.

25: Vote Passed: Changes to disputed/unfinished matches, options added to make it easier for captains to decide on a way to complete the matches.

26, 27 & 29: Vote Passed: changes to durations to submit scorecards, raise issues/disputes & appeal decisions.

Vote Passed: Increase the number of ladies in a team to 4, format to be decided. 4 players in a team should make matches longer and more competitive for the ladies league. Multiple updates to the constitution put into effect to reflect this change.

13. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The following people were elected to serve on the Committee for the upcoming season.

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|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| • League Chairman | Tom Metcalfe |
| • League Secretary | Vacant (TBC) |
| • Scorecard/Website Secretary | Calum Davidson |
| • Fixtures Secretary | Jamie King |
| • Tournament Secretary | Claire Elder |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Kim Garrett |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Steven Plank |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Dan Broadhead |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Ken Lavèty |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Jamie Sreenan |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Ray Mckaig |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Martin Fragell |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Finlay Bayer |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Neil Cuthbert |
| • Ordinary Committee Member | Martin Anderson |

14. AOCB

- i. Dates for Club Doubles & Playoffs at Kincorth Sports Centre:
 - Club Doubles Tournament currently booked for Sunday afternoons: 17th & 24th March 2024, 12pm-4pm.
 - Playoffs currently booked Friday 29th March 2024, 6:30-10pm.
- ii. Confirmation of Club's nominated players:
 - Each Club will be required to confirm their nominated players before their first fixture.
 - The list of nominated players will be detailed on the website.
 - Each League Committee member and each Club Secretary should review the list of nominated players and notify the Committee of any objection in a timely fashion.
 - If, throughout the season, any issues arise, the Committee should be notified as soon as possible.
- iii. The League Chairman to create a League "WhatsApp" group chat to include at least one contact/representative for each club. This would hopefully provide a more effective form of communication between the Committee and clubs as opposed to relying solely on email which often goes unanswered and unacknowledged.
- iv. Ken Watson gave a parting statement as he intends to step away from local badminton after the AGM. Ken referenced some recent issues within the committee and referenced the new code of conduct to be implemented this season.

15. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

The league trophies were presented to the **2022/23 season's** winning teams as listed below:

Division	Mixed	Men's	Ladies
1	ABA A Oilers	ABA A Oilers	ABA A Oilers
2	Granite City	Inverurie	
3		ABA D Devana	

Steven Plank
League Chairman

Tom Metcalfe
League Secretary