**Stockport & District Badminton League**

**Minutes of the League AGM held at Cheadle Social Club on Monday, 21st May 2018**

**Apologies for absence** were received from Liz Bell, Neil Cooper, Freda Freeman, Judith Hartley, Phil Hartley, Paula Kite, Irene Nottingham.

**Members Present**

Mrs M Curwen President

Mr D Walker Chairman

Mrs R Flatman Secretary

Mrs A Tinson Co-opted member

Aerospace, CAP and Carrington were not represented. The total number of members attending was 34.

The Minutes of the previous AGM were signed as a true record.

**Chairman’s Remarks**

I would like to thank the Committee for their work throughout the season and the Clubs for playing.

It has been a tremendous achievement for the juniors this season.

Judith Hartley and Freda Freeman have both stood down from the Committee from the end of this season which we would like a vote of thanks for all their work during their numerous years helping with the Committee.

Dave Walker

**Secretary**

The Committee has met 2 times this season but has been in contact via e-mail to resolve queries quickly.

There were 23 Clubs and 47 teams during the season.

As we have presented the trophies for the Open and Handicap tournament winners, the Divisional winners and the Messer competitions before the meeting, please can I stress that they **must** be signed for. Unfortunately, there has note been enough time to get the trophies engraved as some of the Divisions were decided late on so these will be done at the end of next season. The trophies should be returned to Sue Orwin by the next season’s Handicap tournament at the latest and should be cleaned.

Paula Kite has completed her 2 year term as President so the Committee has asked Mel Curwen (Astra Zeneca) to be the new President, which she has accepted.

Any new teams/clubs or withdrawals need to be notified to me before 30th June 2018. The Committee meeting to draw up the new divisions for 2017/18 season will be agreed the following week, after which the Club Secretaries will be notified of the new divisions by e-mail. The Management meeting (followed by the Fixture meeting) will be held on Monday, 16th July at 7.30pm at Cheadle Social Club (here). Forms for changes to the handbooks will be e-mailed out and can either be returned by e-mail or handed in at the Fixture meeting.

As Judith Hartley and Freda Freeman have both stepped down from the Committee this leaves us with open positions for anyone who would like to join the Committee as a co-opted member. If anyone is interested, please let me know at the end of the meeting.

Finally, thank you to the rest of the Committee for their work during the year.

Ruth Flatman

**Treasurer**

The Treasurer presented last 3 years unaudited accounts at the meeting with the following comments:

* There were 5 League fees still outstanding at the point the accounts were produced, with 4 of these have been paid subsequently
* Some money that has been received has not been identified and is shown as “Suspense” on the face of the accounts
* Updated accounts will be completed to the end of May and then get them audited all together

Also, there has been a donation of £200 received from Josie Sutton estate which the Committee is looking for suggestions as to how best to utilise this.

Due to the accounts not being able to be finalised before the AGM as the year end is currently 31st May, there was a discussion on whether to move the AGM to June, however, it was felt that more people would be away or to move the year end to 30th April as most of the costs would be in the accounts. There was a vote to move the year end to 30th April by the meeting which was carried unanimously.

**Results Secretary**

I’d like to start with a few thank you’s. Firstly to Monkhouses for supplying scorecards and to Yehlex for supplying the trophy’s again this year. Secondly to all the team captains and club match secretaries for sending their results, in the majority of cases, on time, and using the electronic system. Last, but certainly not least to everybody on the Committee who have been on hand to offer advice on decisions during this season.

A quick summary of the season:

396 games played

45 rearrangements (vs 45 last year)

29 late cards (vs 30 last year)

3 concessions

Almost an entirely electronic submission, with only two teams opting to send their cards by post.

Fines:

I’m not going to fine this year again, however, next year they will return. I had hoped that electronic scorecards would mean people had more time to get scorecards in. Canute, GHAP A, David Lloyd, Parrswood A, Disley C, Parrswood B, Manor B and Bramhall B would all have been in the firing line had I fined this year – take this as a final warning!

Division winners as follows:

Prem: Racketeers A

Div 1: Carrington A

Div 2: Syddal Park C

Div 3: Parrswood B

Div 4: Tatton A

Congratulations to all the winners.

It’s been another good season with few disputes, two sets of poor weather contributed to a number of rearrangements.

I’d remind all teams that players should be registered in order of strength, and that no reserve players for a team should be stronger than the 3rd man/lady in the team above. Any changes of order should be sent to the Results Secretary in good time. I’d also ask again, as I do every season, that you notify me as soon as you know you are rearranging.

Thanks everybody, have a great summer and see you at the fixtures meeting.

**1 of 2**

Neil Cooper

**Tournament Secretary**

The aim of the tournaments is to breakeven but this year a profit of £186.11 was made on the Senior tournaments. This was mainly due to the increase in entry fees to £7.50 – the first increase for 8 years.

There was a major change to the structure of the Handicap tournaments this year as instead of playing the semi-finals and finals on a different day, all events were played to a conclusion on the day. This resulted in more entries and appeared to be better thought of by the players.

Those who did enter the Handicaps had plenty of games as all the events except the Handicap Mixed (where there was a plate event anyway) were played in groups. Hopefully all will enter in the future again as a result of this.

Thanks to everyone who helps with the tournaments in whatever way – shuttle monitors are always welcome!

Ian Little from YEHLEX again sponsored the tournaments with the provision of all the shuttles and trophies. Our thanks go to him for this sponsorship – it is much appreciated as it does keep the cost of the entry down considerably, which certainly encourages people to participate in the tournaments. The Bramhall Sports Centre staff were as always very supportive and helpful.

Sue Orwin

**Messer Trophy Organiser**

The Trophy was won this year by Racketeers who beat Parrswood B in a match where the score of 12-3 did not reflect the length and closeness of the games – with the 3 mens doubles matches taking over 2 and a half hours.

Likewise in the Group A final, the score did not reflect the match itself with the actual games being very long – the first round of matches tood nearly an hour! The Group B final between Parrswood B and New Mills was closely fought with Parrswood eventually winning 9-6.

This year the trophies were presented on the Group Finals and Finals nights. This was much better for the teams involved and made the Finals more of an occasion.

In terms of running the competition, to ease the problems of arranging fixtures, I sent out the first round matches prior to the Fixture Meeting and notified Clubs as soon as both teams were in the next round giving them more time to arrange the games. This certainly seemed to be beneficial in enabling matches to be played within the time frame.

Thanks to Chris Brough for displaying the results on the website throughout the year which improved the profile of the competition and to those Clubs who returned results promptly which enabled the competition to progress smoothly.

Sue Orwin

**Junior Tournament Organiser**

The tournament this year had the least number of entrants since I began organising the event.

It was particularly sad to see only 3 girls and 3 boys enter the under 19=8 doubles. As we could not run those two events we created a mixed doubles event which went down well even thought the pairings had not met each other before.

However, those who did play enjoyed themselves and had a lot of games in a round robin system. Thanks to all the usual helpers, John and Pam Hardman, Stuart Scoffins and Alan Nottingham. We had some new helpers this year, Julian Cherryman and Don Bullough which was great.

Poynton Leisure Centre was as efficient as ever and I have booked the tournament for 16th March next year.

Irene Nottingham

**Junior League Organiser**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Team** | **Matches Played** | **Matches Won** | **Matches Lost** | **Matches Drawn** | **Points For** |
| Disley | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 425 |
| Poynton -Cheshire East | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 413 |
| College Green | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 410 |

As can be seen above the overall result was a close affair. The rules of the competition agreed in advance for this year was that in the event of matches and games won being the same the winner would be the team scoring the most points. Disley and Poynton were inseparable in terms of match results and games won but Disley just edged it on points, as can be seen above.

Whilst Poynton had the strongest squad with two Derbyshire U16s their priority was to spread the matches across a range of players including two of their U15 girls.

Mellor have also been involved but could not be considered for a league position as a number of their players were overage.

A return to junior club’s playing on a home and away basis is possible as we have proved this year and if the League are happy I will organise it again next season. The big advantage as far as the League is concerned is that there has been little cost with no hall to book for a day event. What would be good is a few more teams involved and I am left wondering why so few clubs are promoting junior badminton.

Finally, I must express our thanks to Irene Nottingham who made a supply of shuttles available saving the partaking Clubs from providing them. I will be asking Phil Hartley to provide a small number of medals in the hope that the League will pay for them. Thanks also to Paula Kite (College.Green), Gina Brownsword (Disley) & John Hardman (Poynton) for their unstinting support.

As I coach at all of the Clubs involved I was sitting on a wide fence on who eventually won but I was proud of the efforts of all the players that took part and am confident in saying that the real winner was the game of badminton. In all 20 players took part in League matches.

Stuart Scoffins

**Website Co-ordinator**

The old website has now gone and a new website will be set up for the next season.

**Election of Officers**

The following were re-elected to serve on the Committee for the forthcoming season:

Dave Walker Chairman

Ruth Flatman Secretary

Neil Cooper Results Secretary

Sue Orwin Tournament Organiser

Sue Orwin Messer Trophy Organiser

Irene Nottingham Junior Tournament Organiser

Stuart Scoffins Junior League Organiser

Chris Brough Website Co-ordinator

There was one volunteer, Ross Owen, who had come forward for the position of Treasurer following Malik no longer wishing to continue. There was no one else who came forward on the night. Therefore, the vote was to elect Ross Owen as Treasurer, proposed by the Committee and seconded by Ann Tinson. The vote was carried.

A vote of thanks to Malik for the work that he has done as Treasurer.

The Handicap Committee will be printed in the handbook before the start of the season.

**Any other business**

League fees – based on the healthy position of the League’s bank account there was a discussion to reduce the League fees which will hopefully encourage teams to stay in the League and bring them in line with other Leagues in the area. The proposal by Sue Orwin was to reduce the fees to £25 which was seconded by Helen Moorcroft (College Green). The vote was carried unanimously.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.