

Minutes from Nova Badminton Club A.G.M. 14th March 2024

Attended: Susanne Mooney, Phil Parsons, Elaine Nichol, David Gough, Chris Grand, Jane Nicholls, David Wilcox Robert Round, Chris Del Manso, Fraser Roberts, Chris Mather, Andy Rhodes, Andy Holland, Paul Chigley, Adam Bates, Phil Skews, Zac Zaadstra, Phil Bowen, Asha Vargsee, Mark Adams

1. Acceptance of previous AGM and EGM

Minutes of both meetings accepted by Phil Parsons and David Gough

2. Chairman's Report – Susanne Mooney

'Good evening and welcome to our AGM for March 2024.

As chairperson of the club, and I am pleased to report that whilst we have faced quite a few challenges this year it has been a year of great change with lots of positives!

We have a new club name Nova, updated website, new bank account and new logo (thank you to all or submitted entries !)

We have increased our membership and the club continues to provide a good local opportunity, for club level badminton play in Newport.

This has been actioned by a team of people of which I am only one, who have put in their own time and effort to support the club, as the elected committee, David, Jane, Phil, Elaine Chris G and Yvonne I would like to thank you for all for your efforts and time input, into our club.

Yvonne is stepping down this year but I know she will always be available to help at socials etc. and her input has been has been greatly appreciated.'

Yvonne given gift and flowers as thanks for her contribution to the club

'Chris Grand our men's captain is also stepping down and I would also like to take this opportunity to thank him for organising and running You've Been Served our men's team in the Shropshire League.'

Chris given gift and plant as thanks for his contribution to the club.

'This year has posed one of the biggest challenges our club has ever had to deal with and that is the removal of court time. No court time no club . The school where we play have closed the courts , or are proposing to close the courts for over 60% of the school year. Some of this has been

unavoidable due to developments elsewhere in the school, meaning the school needed the sports hall for parents evenings etc. and then for exams.

It has been quite a challenge for myself and Elaine to source and secure court time and with the help of Ellie Bellingham at Telford and Wrekin Council. we have managed to get block bookings for court time at Oakengates on a Friday. This is not ideal but I am pleased to report that we have filled all four courts on a regular basis and it is very encouraging that the attitude of members has been understanding and positive towards this change.

Last weekend I met with Councillor Peter Scott and he has agreed to write to the school to ask about the plans for the community use of the sports hall, as the school transitions to an Academy. Sadly the community use hasn't been protected by any form of caveat so in the future the school could just decide to close the hall to the community. By doing this I hope the school will recognise its vital role as a community facility but there are no guarantees. Our backup plan is Oakengates at present, or a shift of day and a move to Lilleshall court time permitting. I really hope it will not come to that because there is a clash of interests with Premier badminton club and I have always tried to maintain a different day of the week so all our members have two opportunities a week to play badminton.

Thanks to the committees efforts we had a great Christmas Party at the Swan with David and Yvonne providing the Quiz. We have had an introduction to archery and a club rounders Saturday with equipment kindly donated to the club by Ron (Hopkins)

To date we haven't been able to run the Chairman's tournament due to a pesky basketball hoop taking up court space but it hasn't been forgotten !! And let's not forget "coaching corner" provided by our very own Coach Gough !

And finally, I'd like to thank all our members for your continued support, and good vibes'

3. Club Secretary's Report – Jane Nicholls

Thanks given to Chairman for all her hard work which often goes on behind the scenes. Commented how successful the sessions, a very positive atmosphere in the club and a great standard of badminton being played.

4. Treasurer's Report – Elaine Nichol

Nova Badminton Club Accounts 01/03/23 to 29/02/24			
Balance at 01/03/2023	4181.84		
Receipts during year	4837.10	Made up of:	
		Subs	4761.00
		Bank interest	6.56
		Racquet grip sales	4.00
		Donations	65.54
Payments during year	4387.73	Made up of:	
		Court fees	3661.00
		Insurance	69.31
		Website	152.31
		Badminton England	165.00
		Shropshire County Fees	20.00
		Shuttles	175.00
		Rounders Equipment	35.54
		Rounders Pitch	20.00
		AGM & EGM refreshments	45.00
		Postage re signature change	3.10
		Christmas Party Prizes	41.47
Balance at 29/02/2024	4631.21		
NB			
£325 still to be paid for Feb 24 courts			
£30 donation still to be used to purchase a tournament trophy			

- The process of updating the signatories on the account is now waiting for the bank to advise it has been completed
- Balance is up slightly.
- The number of standing orders set up has increased from 15-19
- There will be no increase in fees due to the balance being maintained and as a thank you for members' continued support with changes to venue and days sessions are being held.
- This academic year (September 23 to August 2024) the should have been available for 51 weeks, less a week at Christmas. 16 Thursday sessions (so far) have been cancelled by the school which is up from last year
- Comment made by Susanne that as the school is turning into an Academy that this may be a continuing, if not more frequent situation. This access to the hall by the community has been discussed with Local councillors who will be contacting the school.
- A thank you to Ron for is purchasing of the rounders kit for the club and also an offer to contribute to the purchase of the Chairman's Tournament trophy.

Treasurer asked if more racquet grips will be needed. Agreed they will and she will purchase some.

Treasurer confirmed that while the basketball hoop is still preventing the use of the fourth court we have ensured the club has only paid for 3 courts.

5. You've Been Served Team Report - Chris Grand

So far, the team have won 1, lost 5 and drew 1.

3 games are remaining, all home games. Possibility of a good result in those games as 2 of the opposing teams use feathers and the other team we have previously beat.

Discussion of advantage the team gain when using plastics and that more practice needed by the team with feathers, prior to matches.

Chris announced that he will be moving away at the end of the year and so will be stepping down as Team Captain.

Thanks given to Chris for all his hard work and gift and plant handed over by Susanne.

6. Website Update – Phil Parsons

- Over the last 12 months there has been 1994 visits to our website. The cost of this equates to just 24 weeks session fees of £5 from a pay and play member , (or 38 weeks of a player paying the standing order of £15 p/m)
- There was 284 visits to the website and Facebook in one month, an increase of 76%
- We appear high on the list when a person searches 'badminton near me' when searching from our area.
- The cost of the website is £120 per year. It has brought in 8 new regular players this year.
- Please ensure that any friends/ new players are directed to contact the club through the website to ensure we can arrange their visit.
- Asked that any outstanding membership forms can be completed and returned.

7. Elections

All existing committee members resigned and elections for new ones held.

Chairman – Susanne Mooney proposed by Zac, seconded by Dave Gough

Club Secretary – Jane Nicholls proposed by Asha, seconded by Phil P.

Treasurer – Elaine Nichol proposed by Dave G , seconded by Zac

Communications – Phil P, proposed by Susanne, seconded by Asha

Team Captain – Chris Del Manso proposed by Chris G, seconded Chris M

Welfare Officer – David Gough proposed by Susanne, seconded by Chris M
Social Secretary – David G proposed by Jane, seconded by Phil P
Offer of assistance made by Robert which was welcomed.

8. Fees

No change in fees as mentioned in Treasurer's report.

9. Any Other Business

Code of Conduct. Jane explained how the role of Welfare Officer is going to be developed to ensure the club retains its friendly and supportive ethos.

Part of this will be making information about who the Welfare Officer is and how you can contact them more visible on the website and in the session. As part of this, a code of conduct will be adopted to set out the positive behaviour that is expected to be shown towards all members in our club.

Copy of the Code of Conduct policy shared (see below). Vote held and agreed the policy will be adopted and added to the website.

Code Of Conduct

All individuals involved in Nova Badminton Club will, at all times:

- Treat everyone fairly and equally regardless of their age, gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, background, or circumstances
- Respect the spirit of fair play in badminton. This is more than playing within the rules. It also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others
- Conduct themselves in a manner that takes reasonable measures to protect their own safety and safety of others
- Promote the reputation of the sport and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute
- Protect themselves and others involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour

Any Other Business Continued

- New shuttlecocks, Mavis 600 are going to be used in sessions. Remaining new Mavis 300 shuttlecocks to be used up by YBS men's matches.

- Discussion of ideas for socials included:

A Feather's Night

Pot Luck supper

Pickleball night

Bowling

Trip to Badminton England Tournament

Rounders

Ideas for Christmas get together asked for

- Discussion of the merits the club joining Badminton England and the costs involved. The cost of membership would be £120 for the club to join and each club member would need to pay their subs of £15 plus county fees. It was decided that due to the limited benefit this will provide to the majority of members, who aren't playing in the league, we would remain unaffiliated.
- The new T-shirts will be available soon. Susanne showed a sample of the design. Mick Woodhall has advised that the price of the round neck t shirts will be £10 and polo shirts £14. Susanne will take orders and collect money.
Coaching – coaching corner will resume in Summer once the basketball net has been fixed and 4 courts available again.
- Pegboard – reminder that you should pick from the first 8. If you are repeatedly playing with the same people and would like to change, please put your peg to the bottom of the board. Alternatively, ask a committee member for assistance.
- All members asked if they are interested in playing on the team to contact the new Team Captain, Chris Del Manso

Meeting closed.