

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BADMINTON COMMITTEE OF THE
WIMBLEDON RACQUETS & FITNESS CLUB HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER
2018 AT 7:15PM**

PRESENT: Mr. M. Boovanahalli; Mr. R. Debidin Mr. W. Fannin; Mr. P Friel Mr. K Manro;
Ms. H. Nicolson (elected Chairman); Ms. J. Wadey; Ms. C. Wu
Mr. B. Beckman (Head of Badminton)
Mr. L. Clements (Club Operations Manager) for items 188/18(B) to 193/18(B)
Mr. G. Maxwell (Club Development Manager for items 188/18(B) to 193/18(B)
Abdul Malique for items 191/18(B) to 193/18(B)
Aaron Cheng (past member) for 193/18(B) in part

APOLOGIES: Nil.

188/18(B) WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER: PF was welcomed into the Committee.

189/18(B) NOMINATION OF NEW CHAIRMAN: HN was nominated for Chairman
proposed by RD. CW seconded nomination. HN unanimously voted in as Chairman.
HN proposed CW act as Deputy Chairman and it was agreed

190/18(B) MINUTES AND ACTION POINTS: Minutes of the meeting 12 September 2018
were confirmed approved with exception of two amendments:

- a) MB advised he wishes to make amendments to minutes for the A Sessions Team
(172/18(B)) and will send comments through.

ACTION: MB to provide wording to CW to amend the A session Team
172/18B(B)

- b) GM advised he wishes to make amendments to minutes in 172/18B(B) regarding
Relationship with Heads of Sports.

ACTION: GM to provide wording to CW re to amend the A session Team
173/18B(B)

Action Points:

- a) REGRADEING POLICY: GM advised he was unable to complete action point arising
from section 172/18B(B)(f) "Other Issues", "Regrading Policy" as he did not have
original email to action accordingly.

ACTION: CW to send email to GM and action completed during meeting.

- b) COMMITTEE EMAILS: It was noted that Committee email passwords would need to
be reset and new Chairman would be given access to appropriate emails.

ACTION: LC to reset passwords and distribute email credentials to
Committee members as appropriate.

191/18(B) BOARD: Nil.

192/18(B) MANAGERS' REPORT:

- a) BOARD MEETING: The managers reported that Richard Hunter was reelected as
Chairman. As director quorum was not achieved past chairman election, no further
decisions made at meeting.

- b) ALLOCATION OF SHUTTLE MACHINE FUNDING AND BADMINTON BUDGET:
LC advised to proceed with the Committees' proposal of reallocating the shuttle machine
budget of £1500 towards funding of the A 1st teams (as discussed in section 172/18(B)(a)
A Session/ Teams of 12 September 2018 Minutes). The request that the BC should
receive a percentage of badminton profits to use for specific improvements to badminton
section remains pending as no quorum was established at the previous Board meeting.

- c) REGRADEING: It was confirmed that Board received 3 written complaints and 2 letters
regarding regrading complaints. No further details provided to Committee.

- d) COURT ALLOCATION FOR C and C+ SESSION: LC requested BC to consider whether the C and C+ members can be in one hall given current number of attendees and to ensure that court usage is being used efficiently. HN to revert to LC.

ACTION: HN to revert regarding court allocation

193/18(B) A SESSION PROPOSAL BY AC: The Committee invited AC to discuss with the Committee his views on the A session and his proposal for potential improvement. It was noted that although discussions have ensued previously with other members of the club, no conversations have been direct with the Committee until this meeting.

AC's proposal included:

- AC to bring in top county players considered of A+ standard as visitors to A session.
- Creation of A/A+ split
- 7:00pm – 8:30pm: A and A+ players play separately during this time period. A players may not select A+ players during this period. 8:30 pm onwards, A and A+ players would play together
- a free/ discount in membership fees for AC in exchange of introduction of high standard players

The Committee and AC engaged in discussion. AC confirmed that he would be able to bring in around 6 regular players based on the above proposal, but that these players will not wish to become WRFC members as they live far away and are members of other clubs. AC viewed this as a method to attract top players into the session and improve the standard. HN asked how many potential new members of A+ standard AC considered that we would be able to attract and AC answered that it would be hard for him to say. WF asked if AC would be available to play for the club A-Team and AC replied that he would not be able to commit to this due to other commitments. MB asked AC's view regarding how to attract top players. MB noted his view that top silver and gold players would be attracted by hosting better tournaments at the club. KM noted Committee is working on attracting better players ie: regrading, subsidizing A Team and general discussion addressing issues. HN queried whether AC would be interested in coaching junior sessions at the club but AC advised he is unable to given his other coaching, personal commitments and his time playing badminton.

The following issues were identified:

- Limited A players will be able to interact with A+ players
- A has a diverse skillset
- A session members may be dissatisfied that they have paid for full session whereas guests can attend for visitor price (previously discussed to be £8). This may attract guests but not members.
- There is no guarantee the guests will continue play after 8:30pm and therefore play with weaker members in the session therefore is might be better to start session as a mixed session if A/A+ split was to occur
- There is no classification of A+ players and this will need to be created
- This cannot be open only to AC's players and we should draw elite players in general
- If trial occurred – how long should this trial be for
- Pricing for the session as an additional tube of shuttle required
- Free/ discounted membership would be unfair given tough current criteria for full time elite players.

The Committee thanked AC for his time and the Committee continued the meeting. RD noted conversation with Sam Phillips that guests such as Surrey County second and above should be given invitation to play in A session, not only AC's players. RD advised that individuals have left because of session fees being prohibitive against quality of play.

It was concluded that the interests of current members would be paramount and therefore the Committee would discuss with current A members their opinions. It was concluded that KM would create a survey to be sent to A session members immediately to canvass opinion and that Committee would consider responses. The Committee confirmed that A session guests fee should be £10 given issues noted above (therefore previous decision as recorded on September 12, 2018 at section 172/18B).

ACTION: KM to create survey, BC to review and Managers to circulate

ACTION: BB to confirm which current A members would be A+ and the classification for A+ members

ACTION: HN to invite Sam Phillips and Stuart Wardell to next Committee meeting

194/18(B) HEAD OF BADMINTON'S REPORT: The Head of Badminton's report was referred to.

a) **TEAMS:**

i. B+ Ladies: It was discussed whether B+ Ladies should have 2 teams given the low numbers. BB advised that only 1 team should be formed. The Committee agreed.

ii. Communication of team trials: HN raised the issue of Team Trials and shared concern that many members did not seem to be aware of the schedule and procedure. BB replied that Team Trials had been taking place but that it had been slightly overlooked this year and not as well advertised as usual due to his workload. It was agreed that BB should publicize better team trials going forward.

iii. A Teams: BB confirmed that he would assist to organize A Teams in addition to playing home games for A Team.

b) **SESSION REPS:** CW advised session rep nominations are required to be sent to members.

ACTION: BB to send notice for session reps on 8 October and leave nominations open for 2 weeks. Following, BB shall revert to Committee.

c) **COMPLAINTS BY MEMBERS:** It was noted that a complaint was outstanding and action point was with BB.

ACTION: BB to draft email and circulate to Committee

d) **BADMINTON ENGLAND:** HN proposed BE Head of Performance Pathway, Graham Hurrell to be invited to the club to discuss the status of the clubs' performance centre and advise on any potential opportunities for future sponsorship.

ACTION: BB to provide contact. HN to contact Graham Hurrell.

195/18(B) MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT: JW reported reconfirmed that all fixtures lists had been put up on the Match Notice Board.

196/18(B) BADMINTON FOR THE DISABLED AT WRFC: Lorraine Brydie has reported that there might be some additional wheelchair players looking to play at WRFC and hope that we can accommodate them.

197/18(B) VETERANS SECTION: It was agreed that this session would be initially a closed session and noted it would commence on 27 October 2018. Cost for session confirmed to be £7.

198/18(B) CHARITY/ JOINTS RACQUETS : PF confirmed he would join the Charity/ Joints Racquets Committee as BC representative.

199/18(B) TOURNAMENTS

- a) WIMBLEDON U/19 TOURNAMENT: Sat/Sun 13 & 14 October 2018. Report to follow in next minutes.

ACTION: BB to advertise event.

No action required by Badminton Committee

- b) HIRO YAMAMOTO TOURNAMENT: Sun 4 November 2018

The Committee agreed that:

i. Tournament fees to be £18

ii. Entries to close 1 November 2018

ACTION: CW to check court allocation for tournament.

- c) V4U SRI LANKAN CHARITY TOURNAMENT: Sun 9 December 2018

- d) YONEX SINGLES TOURNAMENT: Date to be arranged.

ACTION: BB to confirm date

- e) CRANBROOK SINGLES & WIMBLEDON GOLD TOURNAMENT: Sat/Sun 2 & 3 February 2019

ACTION: BB to confirm date

- f) DEVLIN TOURNAMENT: Sun 10 February 2019

- g) SURREY COUNTY BA MASTERS TEAMS TOURNAMENT:

- h) SUMMER HANDICAP TEAMS TOURNAMENT:

200/18(B) MEMBERSHIP MATTERS: BB to address complaint by member.

ACTION: BB draft email to member and circulate to Committee for input.

201/18(B) SURREY COUNTY BA COUNCIL: It was noted that Marion Eyles attended council meeting on Thursday 4th October.

ACTION: HN to request update from Marion regarding above.

202/18(B) ALL ENGLAND BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS (MARCH 2019): No update.

203/18(B) SAFETY ITEMS/ACTION POINTS FOR MANAGERS

- a) BETTER PUBLICITY OF WRFC BADMINTON WINS AND EVENTS

It was discussed that better awareness of badminton events need to be made.

ACTION: GM to raise awareness by publicizing above information on the website.

- b) POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS: MB raised issue of why do individuals attending on Sunday (introduction session) trials do not want to join the club and requested managers get feedback from these potential members to understand why they decide not to join the club.

- c) FEEDBACK REGARDING WHY INDIVIDUALS ARE LEAVING: MB request managers to gain information from members leaving the club on why they decide to leave.

- d) RECEPTION SCREEN: It was confirmed this matter from the previous meeting requires follow-up. Action: HN to write letter to managers and Board

204/18(B) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – ANY COMMENTS: None

205/18(B) CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS: None

206/18(B) ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Date of next meeting confirmed as 7 November 2018
7:15pm