

Annual General Meeting 2024

Tuesday 16th July 2024, 7:30pm

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

The meeting was chaired by Nigel Birkett (Retired chairman).

Apologies

There were no apologies and 14 attendees.

Chairperson's report

Nigel reminded everyone that he had actually already stepped down as chairperson and provided the report from the last committee meeting. He outlined his views for the role to be more titular and to be a role model with the following responsibilities:

- Chair the whole club (3 adult sections and one junior section).
- Chair committee meetings and Annual General Meeting.
- Act as a role model for the club.
- Prepare a written chairperson's report for each meeting, addressing any issues needing to be discussed and highlighted, giving praise and thanks where appropriate.
- Bring issues in the world of badminton, or more specific to individual sections, to the committee and membership for information and discussion.
- Have access to club bank accounts performing authorisations in conjunction with the treasurer.
- Support section representatives and other committee members as the need arises and act as sounding board to try to resolve any issues brought to the chairperson's attention.

Secretary's report

Nick Hounsome explained that some historic club documents still existed in paper form and requested that a time limit be set for the retention of club documents. The meeting agreed that this should be 7 years in accordance with the understanding of current financial requirements.

Section report: Beaufort Park

Jackie Millward thanked Nigel for all that he has done for the club and for the section and that it was great to see that other members of the section are now helping out with the board and making sure games tick over. She emphasised that we must, as a section, take collective responsibility for game selection and help to run club nights. Any member must also challenge those members, who have their own agenda when it comes to games selection and who they can pick from. Beaufort Park is



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not a private members section and those who only want to play with a select few should book a court elsewhere and not use club night for their own ends.

Club nights are always busy and we have taken on a few summer members to replace those who only play in the winter. As always, there is a balance between numbers, income and court time.

Jackie mentioned a very special member of B/P who has decided to keep playing but not rejoin for the coming season: Joanne Elson has been a member of the club since the 1970's and has been a tremendous player, committee member and given so much of her time and energies to the club and county. Jo has won so many tournaments and awards, but her gold medal at the worlds master in Canada must surely be one of her most outstanding moments in her badminton career. Jo is a master tactician, highly competitive and still an amazing player. Beaufort Park will miss her very much.

Section report: Wednesday Advanced

Vince Laporta reported that Wednesday is continuing to thrive with its membership as previous years. There have been 37 paid memberships over the year with 33 current members.

Club night attracts around 26 players but this can vary due to visitor attendance with 10 visitors once attending unannounced.

Membership is predominantly male and the section would like to encourage gender diversity at club nights.

There are currently 27 affiliated members 2 affiliated elsewhere.

The section has taken £450 of visitors fees at £5.00 a night

Around 100 tubes of shuttles were used for the year which equates to 2 tubes used each club night.

Bishop Road Badminton club has unfortunately closed. The section bought their surplus of 19 tubes of shuttlecocks at a discount..

Colin Palmer has helped no end with the memberships and figures and has also stood in for Vince on Wednesday club nights when Vince was unavailable.

Section report: Monday general

Dave Melaney reported that the past year has been good, with a large turnout each week from full members (48), affiliated members (15) and visitors alike with a regular stream of enquiries, and, over the course of the year the section has gained 10 further affiliated members to add to the 5 remaining from 2022/2023 *[Note that "affiliate" here refers to a type of membership for Monday and not the Avon Badminton Association affiliation]*.

The section expects a strong uptake with members rejoining for the 2024/25 season and several affiliated members demonstrating a strong interest in becoming full members.

Dave addressed the issue of fees and the slight deficit and proposed a small increase for the new season that should put the section in credit barring significant changes to expenses *[See later]*.

Paul Thomas is acting as deputy section representative.





Section report: Juniors

Penny Shears thanked Jackie, Will and Phil for their help.

The section reached its full complement of players this year but will be losing a group of 6th formers who stopped coming due to exams at Christmas, this opens up space for some more juniors this September. The section only runs for 1 hour with 4 courts which limits the maximum possible numbers.

The section also only runs from September to Easter as there is a problem with the sun shining through the windows making it virtually impossible to see the shuttle on one side of the court. It is also not possible to hire the hall for about 6 weeks due to exams and this doesn't include Bank Holiday Mondays when the school is not open.

There is now a better mix of girls and boys which is good and hopefully there will be some new players in September (There have already been a few inquiries).

The section accepts complete beginners' as well as more experienced players and so consequently could do with more help. If any one wishes to help please contact Penny, you don't have to attend every week.

Treasurer's report

Alastair Byrne reported that In the 2024 financial year (September 2023 - August 2024 inclusive), across the entire badminton club we are estimated to, just about, break even. This is an estimate as of the July 2024 AGM, as there are still unknown variables, mostly due to visit fees, for July and August.

The club has an average forecast credit balance over the year of approximately £5000.

Alastair had some proposals for fee increases *[See later]*.

The income and costs for the year were/are estimated to be as follows:

	Beaufort Park	Monday General	Wed's Advanced	Juniors	Overall
INCOME	£	£	£	£	£
Match Fees	2,505	-	200	-	2,705
Membership Fees	16,154	7,897	6,428	2,142	32,620
Visitor Fees	924	492	60	34	1,509
	19,582	8,389	6,688	2,176	36,834
<i>Jul/Aug est. fees</i>	200	70	50	0	320
Estimated total income	19,782	8,459	6,738	2,176	37,154
COSTS					
Affiliation	- 1,078	- 1,242	- 611	- 100	- 3,031
Courts	- 10,971	- 4,800	- 3,280	- 781	- 19,832
Shared	- 30	- 30	- 30	-	- 90





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Shuttles	- 5,003	- 1,414	- 943	-	- 7,359
Other	- 50	-	-	- 300	- 350
	- 17,132	- 7,486	- 4,863	- 1,181	- 30,662
Jul/Aug est. courts	- 1,800	- 1,560	- 1,040	-	- 4,400
Jul/Aug est. shuttles	- 942	- 471	- 471	-	- 1,884
Estimated total costs	- 19,874	- 9,517	- 6,374	- 1,181	- 36,946
Estimated annual surplus/loss	- 92	- 1,058	364	995	208

There was a lot of discussion about how much fees should be raised and how big a net bank balance was appropriate.

Election of Officers

The officers resigned and the new officers were elected as follows:

Chairperson

Ivan Fowler

Secretary

Nick Hounsome

Treasurer

Alastair Byrne

Club Captain

Josh Parsons

Section Representative: Beaufort Park

Jackie Millward

Section Representative: Wednesday Advanced

Vine Laporta with Colin Palmer as deputy

Section Representative: Monday General

Dave Melaney with Paul Thomas as deputy





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Section Representative: Juniors

Penny Shears

Social Officer

Will Robinson (Elected in his absence)

Website and Media

Nick Hounsome (website)

Welfare and Safeguarding

Penny Shears (Juniors) *[See later discussions]*.

Approval of Constitution

The draft constitution provided by Nigel Birkett was approved by all attendees.

Next Committee Meeting

There was no enthusiasm for a committee meeting before the next AGM. It was decided that one would be called if, and when, necessary.

The next AGM will be on Tuesday 15th July 2025

Other Business

Safeguarding

Penny Shears raised the issue of safeguarding beyond the junior section. There was much uncertainty as to what was involved.

Josh Parsons stated that it was policy for Beaufort Park that any minors getting a lift should be accompanied by at least two adults.

Penny appealed to members to ask the wider membership for guidance from anyone who may have experience of safeguarding issues in their professional lives.

Fee Rises

Ivan Fowler asked when fees would be raised. Alastair Byrne said that he would finalise the fees with the section representatives before the start of the new season on September 1st.





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Communications to the Secretary

Nick Hounscome asked about emails he was receiving in his capacity as secretary regarding fixtures and affiliations which he was not able to deal with. He was assured that he could ignore them and that he would not be given as contact in future.

Final Notes

Where committee members have provided written reports, these will be archived with the meeting minutes and other club documents.

The minutes and constitution will be made available through the website.

Ivan is not on WhatsApp so please communicate with him using email.

Nick Hounscome (Secretary)

