**Suffolk Badminton Association**

**88th Annual General Meeting**

**29th June 2022**

**via Zoom**

**Minutes**

1. **The Chairman**, Mike Tee, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Apologies** 
   1. Received from
3. **Approval of Minutes**
   1. The **minutes** of the 2021 AGM were accepted and signed as a correct record.
4. **Matters Arising**
   1. There were no **matters arising** not already on the agenda.
5. **Chairman’s Remarks.(see attached report)**
6. Report attached.
7. Difficult return to play post COVID. Many clubs experienced difficulties particularly with venues. SBA has tried to assist with venue issues, but as most are school based, where there is a trend to return first use of sports halls to academic activities this has been problematical.
8. Badminton England has provided constant guidance throughout the year and SBA has worked with them to provide return to play information to all clubs.
9. Core activities have been managed successfully with a degree of emphasis on juniors which has had some success locally in Ipswich in more players but needs to be replicated across the rest of the County.
10. Development Plan being revised and updated for 2022/23. SBA retains finances to implement initiatives.
11. Thanks to all the volunteers. Plea for further volunteers, particularly for a secretary.
12. **Treasurer’s Reports and Accounts (see attached report)**
13. The Treasurer, Sue Driver, presented the accounts for 2020/2021.
14. SBA current balance is £29,229 up £1,194 after adjustments of outstanding invoices post preparation of the account
15. Ringfenced areas stayed the same except the juniors.
16. Adoption of the Accounts as submitted by the Treasurer be accepted. Proposed: Sue McKinley, Seconded: Steve Cook. Agreed.
17. **Committee Reports**
18. Coaching (Ben Williams)
    * Coaching courses continue to be supported but arranged by BE..
    * Current courses are Level 2 starting in June and Foundation in November.
    * Finance remains available to assist with Coaching Course fees. Particularly keen to assist clubs who do not already have a coach..
19. Development (Peter Webb)

* Kesgrave and Woodbridge Pay and Play sessions are back up and running and are achieving pre pandemic numbers
* SBA would support other Pay and Play facilities across the county or No Strings sessions, but it would require local volunteer support to run them.

1. Competitive Play (Mike Tee)

* See report attached.
* Managed to complete a full years programme of tournaments, but not without some difficulties.
* Programme of tournaments has been changed by BE so it is now based on calendar years.
* Programme for 2023 have been sanctioned.
* Junior and Senior County Championships were run.
* Suffolk players entering national circuit tournaments is generally small, particularly in seniors
* Looking to introduce ‘Futures’ tournaments aimed at junior club players. This would better suit most of our club juniors and provide a good starting platform. Requires club support in running each tournament.

1. SCC (Stephen Smith & Dan Hooper – not present)
   * Two teams entered with matches from January 2022.
   * First team finished 4th, second team 6th. Second team had difficulties raising teams due to players who wanted and agreed to play subsequently couldn’t.
   * Discussion required regarding SCC in general. Two teams planned to be entered.
2. Juniors (Ben Williams/David Driver)

* See report attached.
* Summary provided on Shires U14, U16, and U18. Successful season overall.
* Very young team sent to ICT which finished 10th.
* Congratulations to all players who took part in both the squads and matches.
* Re-organisation of junior squads into groups.
* Ben and David thanked the junior committee for its support.

1. Masters (Sue McKinley)

* Report Attached. Details of results and statistics are shown.
* Growth in players at youngest group has led to 2 teams being proposed for over 40’s.
* The following age groups have been entered for the 2022/2023 league season – over 40 (2), 50, 55, 60, 65.
* The County Challenge in January 2023 teams in 40, 50 and 60’s.
* New players are always welcome.

1. Promotional & Website (Peter Webb)

* Continually updated, but Committee to discuss revisions
* Clubs can use the SBA web site to advertise as well to help.
* Communication Strategy

1. **League Reports**
2. IDBL - See submitted report
   * Full league programme, Junior tournaments and Playford Trophy achieved. No promotion or relegation. Committee congratulated IDBL for all their efforts in bringing competitive club play back.
   * Planned amendment to opportunities for players to play up being proposed in order to help clubs fulfil fixtures next season.
   * Noted that sadly, Ian Young passed away after 56 year’s service to badminton
   * AGM on the Monday 5th September 2022.
3. NBF – submitted report included..
   * NBF reported a 25% reduction in teams following the COVID period reducing the league programme Significantly there was also ! in 6 matches conceded.
   * The lower league players seem to be where the main reduction has happened, particularly Ladies. Proposing a new mixed format league of Level doubles and XD to encourage players back.
   * Successfully ran two tournaments for doubles and an international one. Less entries but still successful. Programme for these tournaments next season set for Doubles – 6 Nov 2022 and the international 18/19 Feb 2023.
   * The biggest challenge to get Ladies back playing.
4. BDBL (not present)
   * No report Submitted.
5. **Badminton England Matters**

* Clubs and Coaches interaction in Suffolk has been low. Newsletters to clubs and Coaches has been maintained but little feedback, requests for assistance or clarification has happened post COVID.
* Continuing to liaise with SGO’s across Suffolk and SBA to promote badminton in schools. Further Racket Pack festivals planned for primary age in 2022/23.
* National Schools Competition not being supported by BE this season due to financial constraints, but SBA have agreed to fund the County Finals to maintain interest in the sport for these age groups. Possible regional finals for eastern region being investigated with appropriate counties.
* Special Olympics programme of events to be expanded in support of para badminton.
* Sue Storey has started as the new Chief Executive of BE
* Inclusive Badminton Festival will be offered to clubs as part of ‘The Big Hit’ week in September. Mike McCarthy as part of Special Olympics, learning disabilities has been invited/asked to be a partner.
* Continue to support Coaching courses, Racketpack festivals, No strings badminton, club matters.
* Reported that 10 % Badminton England fee increase has been agreed. For 2022/23.

1. **Election of Officers**

**President –** Steve Cook (elected by Council) thanked Mike Tee and the SBA Committee

The following officers were then elected.

| **Role** | **Name** | **Proposed** | **Seconded** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Chairman | Mike Tee | Steve Cook | Sue Driver |
| Treasurer | Sue Driver | Steve Cook | Abhay Samel |
| Secretary | Nominations Sought |  |  |
| Vice Presidents | Steve Cox | Sue McKinley  en bloc | Steve Cook  en bloc |
| A Girling |
| P Feek |
| Stephen Smith |
| Tony Bristow |
| Carol Bowden |
| M Hurlock |
| Nicola Sturgeon |
| Ian Young |
| Committee | Stephen Smith | Mike Tee  en bloc | Linda Sheppard en bloc |
| David Driver |
| Daniel Hooper |
| Peter Webb |
| Sue McKinley |
| Ben Williams  Abhay Samel  (Welfare Officer) |

Sue Driver has decided to continue until a replacement is found..

1. **Affiliation Fees 2022-23**

* The Council proposed no fee for U12, Juniors £1.50 and Seniors £3. Proposer Sue Driver, Seconded Sue McKinley.
* Collection of SBA Affiliation fees will be through the GO membership system alongside BE fees.
* **Agreed.**

1. **County Teams 2020-21**

* The Council had proposed no change to running a first and second team in the ICC. But further discussion will be needed at Committee to confirm entry.
* **Agreed.**

1. **County Tournaments**

* Same programme planned for 2022/23. Tournaments for juniors – U13, U15, U17 and U19 and adults – Tier 4, senior bronze and senior silver.
* Looking to introduce a lower tier of junior tournaments based on school year ages – ‘Futures’ – to encourage tournament play for junior club players to experience matches at a appropriate level of ability.

1. **Sport Development**

* To arrange Coaches Forums – Assistance and support across the County in clubs and schools.
* Advance discussions with Secondary Schools and UOS regarding players and their development. Suffolk One for example.– offer schools free membership to SBA?
* Develop a programme of Camps for junior players/ families/ ladies arranged and run by SBA/County/Club/PC. Voluntary help required.
* Open days arranged by SBA and supported by clubs/volunteers to introduce or develop interest in the sport and possible club membership.
* Ladies/Adult only events.

1. **Any other business**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.32pm.