

**PRESIDENT Dr W E A Mitchell**

**VICE PRESIDENTS S Beckton & N Jamieson**

**CHAIRPERSON HON SECRETARY, TREASURER & MATCH SECRETARY**

**Ian Livesey Roger Cook**

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See Tees Active League page on the Badminton Website @ **www.teesvalleybadminton.co.uk**

**MINUTES OF 2016 AGM HELD AT MIDDLESBROUGH BADMINTON CLUB**

**TUESDAY 13th SEPTEMBER**

**PRESENT**

President T Mitchell  
Vice President S Beckton

Chairperson I Livesey   
Secretary/Treasuer R Cook – Thornaby Pavilion (Also League Match Secretary)  
Committee Members J Hurst - Middlesbrough L Barwick, S Barwick – Ormesby

S Firth - Westgate S Henry – Hartlepool

A Bell – Thornaby Pavilion W Robinson – Yarm

P Young, P Hensby – Marske

N Fallon, D Hunter – Huntsman Tioxide : T Robson, G Bartley – Richmond : A Barwick – Ormesby

E Trueman, M Trueman – Larchfield Street : D Knights, D Johnson, J Cooper – Cleveland Cobras

L Donaldson, J Tyrie – Westgate : M Smiles, D Pedlow – Marske : S Smith - Yarm

**1. Apologies for Absence**

S Robertson – St Matthews.

**2. Minutes of the previous AGM held 15th September 2015**

Copies had been sent out to all Clubs following last year’s AGM. The minutes were also available on the Website.

The Minutes were accepted as a true record and the original signed by the Chairperson.

Matters Arising

At the 2015 AGM, the Management Committee agreed to clarify the rules on promotion/relegation - Rules 18, 19 & 20. This has been done. See Appendix 1.

The alterations were accepted by the Meeting.

There were no other matters arising.

**3. Presentation Dance**

The Secretary reported on the end of season Presentation Evening, held at Billingham Synthonia on Friday 6th May. We again held a Race Night which was very successful and enjoyed by all who attended. The event made a Profit of £301. See Appendix 2 for details.

This season’s Presentation Evening is planned to be held on Friday 5th May 2017. It will again be a Race Night.

**4. Statement of accounts**

The Income/Expenditure Sheet for 2016/2017 was distributed. See Appendix 3 for details.

The League have made a donation of £500 to Tees Valley Badminton Academy (Teesside Performance Centre renamed), to help introduce and develop more young players (especially primary school age children) to competitive badminton. This will help maintain good numbers & competition in the future.

The October 2016 League Tournament made a loss of £36.

Money carried forward is £2,308.15. There was a loss for the 12 months of £194.72.

The League Fund stands at £1,077.96 and the Dance Fund stands at £1,230.19.

The Accounts have been audited by the Chairperson. They were accepted by the Meeting.

**5. Fixing of League Fee for 2016-2017**

The Management Committee recommended the League Fee remain at £3.00 per team. This was accepted by the Meeting. The Treasurer would accept fees at the end of the Meeting.

**6. Final League Tables**

Copies of the 2015/2016 Final League Tables had been sent to all Club Match Secretaries. They were also available on the Website. In addition copies were made available at the Meeting. The Final League Tables were accepted by the Meeting.

**7. Issues from 2015-16 Season**

The Secretary reported that at the April Meeting of the Management Committee, he (as normal) presented the statistics for the season. Details are as Appendix 4.

From the list it can be seen that 84 matches were affected. This represents 22½% of the372 total number of matches scheduled to be played. Main offenders were Gents ‘A’ & Ladies Divisions with 20 matches each.

50% of the Gents ‘A’ Division was down to problems with Middlesbrough.

Looking at the Ladies League, Westgate were the only Club that played with a complete team for all their matches.

The Committee then discussed whether the league format should be changed for the ladies. A suggestion of 4 players per team was discussed. The idea was circulated to Clubs (via Club Match Secretaries) for comment. Only received 3 replies.

At the Management Committee Meeting the previous week the topic was again discussed.

The Committee agreed that whilst the idea of only having 4 players per team might be an attractive proposition, there were a number of disadvantages that needed to be considered.

With only two games being played at a time, if one finishes ‘early’ there is then dead court time. Consequently a match will last a lot longer which means more expense in court hire. In addition 4 players have to share the cost rather than the traditional 6 players.

Therefore the overall consensus of the Committee was not to go down the 4 player per team route, but stick with 6 players per team. However the Committee still had concerns that 9 teams in one division still caused problems with the number of matches to be played.

(This will be discussed further under Item 8)

**8. Formation of League Divisions 2016-2017**

Mixed League

Last season we ended up with 25 teams. A=6, B=7, C=6 & D=6.

‘A’ Division had 6 teams because Middlesbrough withdrew their ‘A’ team, after the declaration of divisions at last year’s AGM.

Hartlepool is only entering one team & has requested that the ‘A’ Team be dropped. The reason for this is that half of last year’s team have moved out of the area. If this request was rejected they would withdraw both teams and re-enter a single team next season.

Whilst the Committee were unhappy about this, they reluctantly accepted the situation in the best interests of the League. Similar demands in future will not be accepted.

St Teresas have withdrawn from the League and as a Club look like folding.

Cleveland Cobras has entered two additional teams.

Because teams had withdrawn from ‘A’ & ‘B’ Divisions, the task of deciding the new divisions was not straightforward. The LMS then explained to the Meeting the process that had been used.

Take the previous season’s Final League Table. Carry out the 2 up/2 down process.

Remove teams not entered. Add new teams to the bottom of the list.

From total number of teams, decide on sizes of new divisions.

E.g. : XD – 7,7,6,6 or 7,6,6,6 : GD – 7,8,8 or 7,7,8.

Then allocate teams in order to new divisions.

Check that all teams who topped their divisions last season are promoted. If not adjust.

Therefore for the new Season there are 25 teams. Division sizes are A=7, B=6, C=6 & D=6.

Promotion/relegation will be 2 Up and 2 Down across the divisions.

The LMS then read out the new Mixed Divisions for the coming season.

Gents League

Last season we ended up with 24 teams. A=8, B=8 & C=8

Middlesbrough has withdrawn their ‘B’ Team. Hartlepool has withdrawn their ‘C’ Team.

St Teresas has withdrawn. Cleveland Cobras has entered a fourth team.

Therefore 22 teams. Division sizes are A=7, B=7 & D=8.

Promotion/relegation will be 2 Up and 2 Down across the divisions.

The LMS then read out the new Gents Divisions for the coming season.

Ladies League

Last season we had 9 Teams in one division.

Teesside Sport has withdrawn their team. Cleveland Cobras has entered a team.

The LMS informed the Meeting that if Teesside Sport had not withdrawn, there would

have been 10 teams, resulting in two divisions of 5.

At last week’s Management Meeting it was agreed that the Ladies League should go to two divisions. A = 6 teams & B = 3 teams. In Division ‘B’ the 3 teams play each other home and away twice.

The LMS explained that by taking this action, the problem of too many matches is removed. In addition it addresses the problem of the lower team players not wanting to play in matches against the much better teams. Whilst the LMS accepted that this decision will not satisfy everybody, the Committee believed that this decision is in the best interest for the League overall.

Promotion/relegation will be 1 Up and 1 Down across both divisions.

The LMS then read out the new Ladies Divisions for the coming season.

See Appendix 5 for details of the new Divisions.

The LMS advised the Meeting that the Mixed Fixtures Lists would be sent out in the next

24 hours along with the Match Secretaries List.

The Level Doubles League Fixture Meeting has been set for Tuesday 27th September @ Middlesbrough BC starting @ 7pm.

Season starts Saturday 8th October and ends Sunday 23rd April.

The LMS strongly recommended that the period up to the Level Doubles League Fixture Meeting should be used to re-arrange any Mixed Fixtures. Once the Level Doubles Fixtures have been arranged, it is very difficult for some Clubs to then re-arrange Mixed Fixtures.

**9. Election of Officers**

a. President E Mitchell

b. Vice-President s S Beckton & N Jamieson

c. Chairperson I Livesey

d. Hon. Secretary R Cook

e. Hon. Match Secretary R Cook

f. Hon. Treasurer R Cook

**10. Election of Management Committee**

Mike Baxter had resigned from the Committee and has been replaced by Samantha Cook (Both Westgate). All other existing Members had agreed to continue.

With no other nominations all the existing Management Committee Members were voted onto the Committee.

Therefore Management Committee Members are – L Barwick, S Barwick, A Bell, S Firth

S Henry, J Hurst, P Hensby, W Robinson, B Watson, & P Young.

**11. Dates of Tournaments**

League Tournament

The local TABL Tournament will be held Monday 3rd to Friday 7th October at   
Middlesbrough.

Handicapped Mixed Doubles Monday, Open Singles Tuesday, Handicapped Level Doubles Wednesday, Open Mixed Doubles Thursday and Open Level Doubles Friday.

Entry Fee is £7.00 per player per event for the Gents Singles & Doubles and £6.00 per player per event for the Ladies Singles & Doubles and the Mixed.

Entry Forms have been emailed to Club Secretaries, are available on the website & forms   
 were available at the meeting.

The Secretary asked Clubs to encourage their members to enter this tournament.

Badminton England Tournaments

Teesside Badminton Development Association (TBDA) will be running the Tees Valley

Gold, Silver & Bronze Senior Tournaments plus the Cleveland Senior Bronze.

All 4 tournaments come under the “Integral Collection Classic” banner, following the continued generous sponsorship from local company, Integral Collection Ltd.

All four tournaments will be played at Thornaby Pavilion Leisure Centre.

See Appendix 6 for details of tournament dates and prize fund.

**12. Any Other Competent Business**  
 Umpires Initial Training Course

There is an Umpires ITC being held at Thornaby Pavilion on Saturday 8th October.

If anybody is interested in playing please contact the Secretary.

Membership Structure Pricing 2017-18

The Secretary advised the Meeting that the BE Membership Structure Pricing will be changing for the start of the 2017/18 Season.

Clubs will have to pay a fee, but Individual Membership would be cheaper.

(The overall fee for Clubs with 12 or more members would work out cheaper)

For players who play regular Circuit Tournaments there will be an annual ‘Compete’ Fee, which would replace the ‘Player Admin Fee” charged for each tournament entered.

If Clubs wanted to see a copy of the document they should contact the Secretary.

Roger Cook

Hon Secretary

**APPENDIX 1**

**EXTRACT from “RULES - UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2012”**

Leagues/Divisions/Matches/Players

18. The League shall be divided into divisions of normally seven teams each (but not more than eight). The teams, which shall play in each division, will be laid down by the Management Committee and confirmed at the AGM preceding the commencement of the season.

19a. For Leagues where the majority of Divisions consist of seven (or more) teams, at the end of the season, the top two teams in each, except for the top Division, shall be promoted to the bottom of the next higher Division. The two bottom teams in each Division shall be relegated to the top of the next lower Division.

19b. For Leagues where the majority of Divisions consist of six (or less) teams, at the end of the season, the top team in each, except for the top Division, shall be promoted to the bottom of the next higher Division. The bottom team in each Division shall be relegated to the top of the next lower Division.

In the event of resignation or new applications, the required number of teams shall be   
deployed to make up the Divisions as laid down in Rule 18.

20. Teams applying for membership of the League, if accepted, will automatically start in the lowest Division of the League.

**PROPOSED ALTERATION**

Leagues/Divisions/Matches/Players

18. The League shall be divided into divisions of normally seven teams each (but ideally not more than eight). The teams, which shall play in each division, will be laid down by the Management Committee and confirmed at the AGM preceding the commencement of the season.

19. The Management Committee will use the following guidelines

19a. For Leagues where the majority of Divisions consist of seven (or more) teams, at the end of the season, the top two teams in each, except for the top Division, shall be promoted to the bottom of the next higher Division. The two bottom teams in each Division shall be relegated to the top of the next lower Division.

19b. For Leagues where the majority of Divisions consist of six (or less) teams, at the end of the season, the top team in each, except for the top Division, shall be promoted to the bottom of the next higher Division. The bottom team in each Division shall be relegated to the top of the next lower Division.

19c. The team finishing a season in first place in a division will get promoted, even if this results in teams from mid-table (3rd/4th/5th) in the division above, being relegated.

19d. In the event of resignation or new applications, the required number of teams shall be   
deployed to make up the Divisions as laid down in Rule 18.

20. Teams applying for membership of the League, if accepted, will normally start in the lowest Division of the League.

**APPENDIX 6**

**TEESSIDE BADMINTON DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

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**BE Senior Circuit Tournaments 2016 - 2017**

**THE INTEGRAL COLLECTION CLASSIC**

**Tees Valley Senior Gold**

**8th & 9th April 2017**

**Prize Fund of OVER £2,000.00**

**Tees Valley Senior Silver**

**3rd & 4th December 2016**

**Prize Fund of OVER £1,000.00**

**Tees Valley Senior Bronze**

**11th February 2017**

**Prize Fund of OVER £500.00**

**Cleveland Senior Bronze**

**29th April 2017**

**Prize Fund of OVER £500.00**

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