



# HARBOROUGH LC Junior Badminton Club



## Minutes of Annual General Meeting Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024

### 1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendees: John Fannon (JF), Steve Chapman (SC)- Chair, Ray Phipkin (RP) - Treasurer, Linda Haynes (LH) - Secretary, Nancy Fitzmaurice (NF), Julie Hine (JH), Hattie Hine (HH)  
Apologies: Penny Fannon, Mia Fannon, Thomas Boothaway

### 2. Matter's arising from minutes of the last AGM (i.e., 04/07/2024)

There were no matters arising from last year's AGM.

### 3. Chairperson's Report

The past year, or is it 15 months, since our last AGM has seen the club continue to be successful. There is little to report outside of one incident that involved uncharitable behaviour by a club member, but that helped to prove that the club has effective procedures in place to deal with this kind of incident in a composed manner.

It's clear that the club remains on a good footing and continues to be popular. Let's not overlook the fact that this very popularity does raise challenges on occasion. Head Coach Ray Phipkin does an admirable job of juggling the requests of players and parents who want to switch sessions, as well as managing the numbers as some fall by the wayside.

In past years, I've reported a less than enthusiastic take-up at our Christmas parties. That was not the case last Christmas, nor at the recent award presentation, where we enjoyed a good turnout by players and parents. Perhaps the catering helped. My sincere thanks to the hard-working committee members who go to some lengths to sort out the food. And to other volunteers who add value to the club and make it what it is. Among those individuals are the helpers on Wednesdays and Assistant Coach John Fannon for maintaining the website and, this year, arranging the engraving of the awards trophies. A couple of years ago, I commented that it was good to see more players wearing the club kit. That commitment continues. It's now rare to see a player not wearing the esteemed black & red strip of the LC Juniors club. It justifies our policy of providing those garments at no additional cost.

Looking ahead, is there anything the club should aspire to over the next 12 months? Personally, I would like to see more players accepting the challenge of local tournaments. I'm not sure what we can do as a club to encourage this but it's something to discuss, perhaps at a committee meeting at the start of the next term. I know these tournaments are often held at weekends, sometimes with an early start and typically demand travel arrangements that may be tricky to organise. But still speaking personally, I can recall playing in countless weekend tournaments over many years in my teens and I look back on those times with fondness.

I believe they also helped to improve my badminton playing ability beyond what I would have achieved through the coaching sessions alone.

Let me finish by thanking all the members of the committee for their voluntary duties to the club. Your time and effort continue to be hugely appreciated. Thank you.

#### **4. Secretary's Report.**

LH reported that it was nice to see club is still going strong and to see a new junior member of the committee at the AGM tonight (HH).

LH agreed with both the Chair and Treasurer in that more competitions would be good for the club and suggested that maybe junior members could encourage this.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report**

RP distributed copies of a detailed Treasurer's Report and the Income & Expenditure breakdown for 2023/2024, and Balance Sheet, all as of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

The Treasurer's Report covered agreements made by the committee in respect of membership fees, session times for the season and the decision to refrain from running the summer holiday sessions. The latter decision was made based on the poor take up of this arrangement in previous years, and the small loss made by the club from the summer holiday sessions held last year.

It was reported that membership fees for the 2024/2025 season would increase to £23.00 per month over 10 months (Sept-June) still giving outstanding value for money at £6.39 per child per session (with 3<sup>rd</sup> child free). Additionally, this covers free club hoodie and entry fee to club internal tournament events and free meal at the Christmas Party, and at the Presentation Night.

The report outlined income and expenditure in great detail and summarised with confirmation that the club's finances are healthy with a balance of £2,364.21 to take into the 2024/25 season. The Treasurer suggested the committee consider the best ways to invest this surplus back to it's club members.

A budget forecast was provided by the Treasurer indicating a profit of £162 and confirmation that the club needs at least 51 members at the current agreed membership rates to break even in 2024/25 with the alternative being to further increase membership fees.

A full copy of the Treasurer's Report as well as the Income & Expenditure breakdown and Balance Sheet can be found on the Club's website, under 'member information' - <https://www.harboroughlciunions.org.uk/memberparent-information/>

#### **6. Head Coach's Report (30 June 2024)**

The Head Coach (RP) provided a detailed report outlining the intent during the season to hold three main club Wednesday night sessions (4-5pm, 5-6pm & 6-7pm). The report outlined each of the session dates and attendance rates.

The report went on to outline purchase and use of shuttles, Badminton England's "The Racket Pack" award scheme and arrangements for club coaches and volunteers. The report highlighted the club's continued support for the opportunity made to members aged 16+ to attend UK Coaching Safeguarding and Protecting Children courses, free of charge.

The report went on to set out the arrangements for restringing/replacing rackets and advice on best type of racket to buy.

It concluded with the Head Coach thanking all parents, players, club coaches, volunteers and committee members for their help and support over the last 12 months.

A full copy of the Head Coache's Report can be seen on the club's website , under 'member information' - <https://www.harboroughlcjuniors.org.uk/memberparent-information/>

## **7. Election of Committee**

Nominations were invited for committee roles and due process for elections took place. The roles are confirmed as follows: -

- Chairperson – Steve Chapman
- Secretary – Linda Haynes
- Treasurer – Ray Phipkin
- Coaching Co-ordinator – Ray Phipkin
- Welfare Officer #1 - John Fannon
- Welfare Officer #2 – Nancy Fitzmaurice
- First Aid Leader – Nancy Fitzmaurice
- Junior Membership Representatives – Hattie Haynes, Mia Fannon, Thomas Boothaway
- Parent/Carer Representative(s) – Penny Fannon, Julie Hine, Nancy Fitzmaurice

A discussion took place around the need for new members to help take the club forward as without volunteers the club cannot operate. It was agreed that a separate email would be sent to parents as well as continuing to promote at events such as the Christmas Party and Presentation Evening.

The workload of the Treasurer is particularly burdensome, and LH agreed to take on some of these duties. RP & LH to meet up and discuss how this could work.

## **8. Coaches Weekly Session Fee & Coaches Affiliation Fee**

It was agreed that the club would continue to pay the coaches' affiliation fees. It was proposed that coach fees increased to £22 per hour from £20 per hour; still considerably under the going rate. This was unanimously agreed.

Also agreed was that the club would pay for 2 courts for 7-8pm to allow the 6-7pm players to play on for free (or for players from earlier sessions to return as appropriate). The adult session would continue to pay for 2 courts. Hopefully this arrangement would reduce the risk and frequency of RP personally funding courts where attendance is low from those paying for the 7-8pm adult sessions.

## **9. Club Tournament 2024**

This was discussed in the context that it is difficult to know when to hold this due to it falling within the exam season. It was proposed and agreed to hold the presentation evening prior to the next AGM.

The tournament would take place over the same period as last year with the allowance to extend the period so that the presentation could be held at the end of the academic year.

## **10. Membership Fees**

The proposal made by the Committee to increase fees to £23.00 payable over 10 months was ratified. Motion passed unanimously.

## **11. Club Hoodies / Club Shirts**

A stock-take and quality check is necessary. There are a small number of club short and shorts in stock – there has not been a good take up by members of these items. LH has organised new stock.

## **12. AOB**

It was confirmed that there would be no summer sessions this year due to consistent low take up.

A discussion took place around facilitating play between clubs, in particular, with South Leicestershire Badminton Club for which RP is the Head Coach. RP agreed to speak to the SLC committee. It was suggested that it may work better for SLC players to come to MH to play.

Date of next committee meeting was agreed to be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October @ 7.30pm, The Wharf Inn, Welford.