

The Lancaster, Morecambe and District
Badminton League

Annual General Meeting
To be held on Monday 11th July, 2022, commencing at 7pm.
At The George, Torrisholme, Lancaster

FINAL MINUTES

1. Apologies for absence: Sue Whittaker (Kirkby BC) and Helen Kearns (Sunnyside BC).
2. Minutes of the previous meeting which have already been circulated, were accepted by the meeting and signed by Nick Haigh.
3. Matters arising: The only matter arising which is still outstanding from last year's AGM, is the proposal from Hest Bank BC to sponsor a trophy in the name of Tony Barker. The League was asked to give some thought to what the trophy could be presented for. Please contact the League Secretary with any ideas. To be brought up at the next League Committee meeting.

4. Chairs Report - Nick Haigh

Thank you all for giving up your time to attend this evening's meeting and let's hope we can do good things with it!

I would also like to thank every person that plays a part in making the League go round, on behalf of us all.

Missing from Nick's report and he asked me to add this here: Thanks to Adrian for all he has done with the fixtures and his help over the years which is much appreciated. Nick apologises for not having said this at the meeting.

It was great to get a full season post a difficult COVID period and was enjoyed by the vast majority. We held an EGM with the intention of making the league a better and happier place so let's push on that ethos. There will be lots of talk tonight with this in mind. Please can we keep on point and be concise as we will get thrown out at 11pm and I will be asleep long before then.

I am looking forward to the coming season, so let's get to it.

5. Treasurer's Report- Linda Simms

You have all seen the previously circulated accounts for the last year.

No County fees were levied in the last season.

The tournament broke even, however the expenses should have been much more. Entries were down by around 25%. We had already purchased the replica trophies in 2020 and only had to pay for re-engraving. The usual charge for trophies is around the £700 mark for the tournament; this year it was £112. We also sold the remaining new shuttles, plus around 15 tubes of used shuttles at £5 per tube, the remaining used shuttles were divided between Hest Bank and Ingleton juniors. Tournament entry fees have remained unchanged for several years now, however this may need to be reviewed for the 2023 tournament, given that this year should have resulted in a £500+ loss.

The Annual Presentation evening was well attended and enjoyed, and made a small profit of £81.50.

The League remains in a comfortable financial position, however given the ongoing uncertainty regarding costs. I would suggest that we reinstate the £40 per annum teams registration fee, with the exception of new teams entering the League for their first season. It may be possible to review this fee with an aim to reduce it in the following season, depending how things evolve.

Thank you to Peter Bracewell of Storeys BC who has kindly agreed to audit the League's accounts once again.

6. Election of officers:

The President, Chair and Vice-chair are moving into the 2nd of the 3 year term of office. After Mike Tyrrell resigned as President, Shirley Hodgson has taken over this role for the remainder of the term of office.

The positions below were approved by the meeting:

Hon. League Secretary - at present Mrs. G. Jackson (Hest Bank BC)

Hon. Treasurer - at present Linda Simms (Bolton-le-Sands BC)

Hon. Fixtures and Results Secretary - vacant. Proposal 1 from Bolton-le-Sands BC was accepted by the meeting.

Junior League representative - at present David McGonnigal (Ingleton BC)

Hon. Cup Secretary - at present David McGonnigal (Ingleton BC)

Hon. Auditor - at present Peter Bracewell (Storeys BC).

Hon. Tournament Secretary - Jan Lund (Kirkby Lonsdale BC). In error this was missed from the meeting. Jan is willing to undertake this role for next season.

7. Proposals

The proposals have been previously circulated to Club Secretaries.

Proposal 1 from the League Committee - Flexibility to move fixtures in-season.

Option 1 was agreed: Keep the rule as it stands and the same level of flexibility. Any club can move any fixture for any reason if both teams agree. If the match is not played by the end of the season it will be 0-0.

Proposal 2 from the League Committee - Number of divisions for next season.

The meeting agreed that there will be 3 Divisions next season with the finishing positions staying the same as at the end of last season.

There will be 9 teams in Division 1, 10 teams in Division 2 and 7 teams in Division 3 - who will play each other 3 times in a season.

The number of teams in each can be levelled up next season but clubs must be made aware of this before the season starts. This is if the League does not attract any new teams.

Proposal 3 from the League Committee - Late season registrations.

The meeting agreed that 'players cannot be registered with 5 or fewer League matches remaining in Division 1 and no rule for other divisions'.

Proposal 4 from the League Committee - 50% rule.

The meeting agreed that the League keeps the 50% rule for a player's starred team, as it is at the present time.

Proposal 5 from the League Committee

The meeting agreed that the League keeps the Loan Player system for a club's lowest team for next season.

Proposal 1 from Bolton-Le-Sands BC - League fixtures.

The meeting agreed that League fixtures will be passed back to the hands of the League Secretary to complete as per the handbook and to co-opt an independent person.

Proposal 2 from Bolton-le-Sands BC - Internal communication

The meeting agreed that 'Any email or contact between League members must follow the required protocol, it must not be of an abusive, aggressive or hostile manner or it will be deleted and not dealt with. The sender will be issued with a first written warning. If resent in a polite factual manner it will be dealt with.

Following any member being given two formal written warnings in the current season, there will be a penalty imposed'.

This matter will be referred to the next committee meeting.

Proposal 5 from Bolton-le-Sands BC - Marsden Trophy

The meeting agreed that resurrecting the Marsden Trophy should be investigated with proposals coming back to the League Committee.

Proposal 1 from Storeys BC - Teams made up of 4 men and 2 women.

This proposal was not accepted by the meeting.

Proposal 2 from Storeys BC - Creation of a levels division

The meeting accepted this proposal but it requires communication with Clubs to see if they could get a team so we know how many teams we are looking at.

This matter to be referred to the next committee meeting.

Proposal 1 from Ascension BC - Number of votes clubs have at the AGM.

The meeting agreed that the present system is to continue - clubs have the number of votes based on the number of teams fielded last season.

Proposal 2 from Ascension BC - Number of votes on the committee

The meeting agreed that the present system is to continue. That everyone on the committee except the President has a vote.

Proposal 3 from Ascension BC - 'No tournament, other than private internal club events, shall be organised without the knowledge and sanction of the league committee.'

The meeting agreed to keep this wording in the League Handbook.

Proposal 4 from Ascension BC - 'Teams can star 4 men and/or women for each team'.

The meeting did not accept this proposal.

Proposal 5 from Ascension BC - 'Starred players must play at least 50% of league matches. Cup matches are not included towards the 50% rule.'

The meeting did not accept this proposal and to keep the wording in the League Handbook as it is.

Proposal 6 from Ascension BC - 'The 50% rule does not apply to a club's bottom team, as the bottom team finds it hardest to field players'

The meeting accepted this proposal.

Proposal 7 from Ascension BC - change of wording to Rule 1e) and 1f).

'Clubs with more than one team must draw on reserves from lower teams chosen in the strongest ability order. The use of a player from a 'C' or 'D' team in order to 'protect' the B team is not permitted. After 6 matches they are not eligible to play for the higher team unless starred up to a higher team; cup games played up do not count towards the '6' games allowed to play up'.

The meeting agreed this change of wording for the League Handbook.

Proposal 8 from Ascension BC - 'In the event of disciplinary action being take , the Club or player involved shall be invited to discuss the matter at a disciplinary meeting with the league committee. The outcome of any issues shall be decided by the committee'

The meeting did not accept this proposal.

Proposal 9 from Ascension BC - Changing wording to membership to exclude the keeping of a register for new players.

The meeting did not accept this proposal and to keep the wording as it is in the League Handbook.

Proposal 10 from Ascension BC - Remove from the League Handbook 'No player shall play for more than one team on a single night.'

The meeting did not accept this change of wording in the League Handbook.

Proposal 11 from Ascension BC - 'Each game can have a scorer if requested by any player. The scorer may intervene in the event of a dispute being unresolved and order that a 'let' be played. The League Committee shall have full power to appoint a neutral adjudicator should they consider it necessary.'

The meeting accepted the amended wording of the submitted proposal, as above, to be changed in the League Handbook.

8. A.O.B.

- * Lancashire County fees are payable next season and to be increased to £3.50 per head which includes any juniors who play in the senior league. The County is developing a website which will enable invoices to be generated for Leagues.

- * In-season committee decisions - Linda Simms

The meeting agreed that if due process were followed in that the whole committee were emailed with a query and a request for a decision and a reminder sent or an invite to a committee meeting and if the club representative cannot attend that club can send another club member. If the committee member does not respond then those who do attend the committee meeting or respond to the email request can make the decision, going with a majority decision.

- * The Cup is to be a Knock Out and will require 3 weeks.

Gaye Jackson
League Secretary