

Lancaster, Morecambe and District
Badminton League
Annual General Meeting 2024
Tuesday 2nd July 2024
Draft Minutes

1. Apologies for absence - David McGonnigal, Emma Cornthwaite, Linda Simms, Chris Carter and David Costley-Woods
2. Minutes of the previous AGM 2023 which have been circulated previously were accepted as an accurate record by the meeting and signed by Nick Haigh (present Chair).
3. Matters arising. There were no matters arising.
4. Chairs Report - Nick Haigh

'This is my final report as Chair.

This season just gone has been on the whole a successful one. We continue to be able to maintain the 3 Divisions and the end of season Tournament.

Thanks and good luck to our new incoming Chair Jess Logue.

I hope that the future is good and the League continues to go forward.

Thank you and well done to Storeys BC, Adrian Greenwood and Adam Cowell who have kept play going over the summer.

I would also like to thank the League Committee as a whole for the by and large thankless work that do that goes largely unseen without whom the League would not function.

Linda is finishing now as League Treasurer after 10 years and thanks to Chris Carter for taking on this role.

A huge thank you to our League Secretary for doing all the boring admin stuff. I would never be able to do and also for making sure I get to meetings!

Nick was presented with a thank you gift by the League Secretary.

5. Treasurers Report - Linda Simms.

The unaudited accounts had be circulated previously.

'I hope you have all had sight of my final Treasurer's report. The League remains in a stable position.

The increase in team fees from £40 to £50 per team has had a positive effect on the balance the League holds, however costs are further curtailed as historically committee members clean the 30 plus trophies rather than outsourcing this service. A new provider for trophies will need to be sourced for 2024/25 season due to the retirement of Nigel from Classic Engraving after 54 years service.

Please bear in mind that even though we do have a comfortable bank balance, we are very fortunate at the moment due to the good relationship we have with our suppliers, we can settle invoices after the events we hold have taken place. Jamie at Carnforth High has

been extremely helpful and supportive of our annual tournament, again awarding us a fantastic discount on the already reasonable court charges at Carnforth, which equates to over £200 for this years Tournament alone. The annual tournament made a profit of £231.20. The Tournament organisers took the decision to not pass on the £10 charge for engraving for winners in 2023, so the effect of this will only be seen in the 2024 figures.

Nigel (Classic Engraving) has also historically kindly invoiced us after the event has taken place.

We are still holding £215 raised by entrants in the December Mystery Mixed for the Youth Games.

The League does need to maintain a healthy float, as this may not always be the case, and expenses will more than likely increase in the coming seasons.

Finally, please can I thank Peter Bracewell who has kindly audited the League's accounts for me for the last 10+ years.

Linda Simms

Lancaster League Outgoing Treasurer.

6. Election of officers

New Chair - Jess Logue for 3 years.

President - Nick Haigh (3 years) steps up to the role of President

Vice - Chair - Amy Dickinson for 3 years.

All roles below were proposed and seconded by the meeting:

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

Hon. League Treasure - Chris Carter (Hest Bank BC).

Hon. Results and Fixtures Secretary - Mrs. G. Jackson (Hest Bank BC)

Junior League representative - David McGonnigal (Ingleton BC).

Hon. Cup Secretary- David McGonnigal (Ingleton)

Hon. Tournament Secretaries - Sandra Moody and David Costley-Woods (Sunnyside BC)

Hon. Auditor - Peter Bracewell (Storeys BC).

7. 3 Proposals to be voted on.

AGM proposals (3)

1. Proposal from Bolton-le-Sands BC

Fixtures

Rule 1a

Wording to be removed

Following the published season fixtures, clubs have to the start of the season to request rearrangement, with agreement of the opposition. During the playing season matches may only be postponed/cancelled due to playing hall unavailability.

Wording to be added

1.a) Following the published seasons fixtures, clubs may approach the opposition to request rearrangement of a fixture at any time during the season. The opposing team may refuse this change if not convenient. The league secretary must be advised of new agreed date for website asap.

Rest of the wording for rule 1a to remain the same.

This proposal was agreed by the meeting (14/11)

2. Proposal from Carnforth BC

Carnforth BC only has one proposal for the league AGM:

[Start]

Add the highlighted words to Club rule '1. f)'

*1. f) After 6 matches they are not eligible to play for the higher team unless starred to a higher team; Cup games played up do not count towards the 6 games allowed to play up. Referral to the Registrations Sub-Committee with details of the situation is required if the starring needs to be amended. There are no restrictions on pool players, unless as in Rule 2 in Eligibility of Players, they play more than 6 times for the club with which they are registered. **This rule does not apply to players starred in a clubs bottom team or clubs reserves i.e. there are no restrictions on the number of times players starred in a clubs bottom team, or reserves for a club, can play up into a higher team.***

Reason..... the current rule is a barrier to participation. Without the proposed wording it means captains (Carnforth A for example) are having to potentially find pool/loan players from other clubs to play when players in the bottom team (Carnforth B for example) are available and winning to play. Players new to a club/league should be given every opportunity to play more games in order to develop.

[End]

The proposal was not agreed by the meeting (12/13).

3. Proposal from the League Committee

General No. 4 in the League Handbook.

Remove 4b) - 'The team that finishes 2nd to bottom of Division 1 and the 2nd from the top in Division 2 compete in a play-off. The winner plays in Division 1 the following year. The match takes place on the same night and venue as

the Cup finals. The Division 2 team can choose not to take part in the play-off and concede the match. The team's Club Secretary is required to officially inform the League Secretary within 7 days of the League positions being confirmed.'

4a) To be amended to 'One team at the bottom of Division 1 at the end of the season shall be relegated to Division 2 and the top team in Division 2 at the end of the season shall be promoted to Division 1. The committee reserves the right to lift teams in order to fill vacancies in higher Divisions.

Retain - 'In the event of teams finishing level on points, positions will be determined by the number of matches won. In the event of two teams still being tied, individual game points will be counted to determine placing'.

Rationale- This rule was voted in over 5 years ago and no Division 2 team since then has chosen to participate in the play-off.

This proposal was agreed by the meeting (16/9).

8.A.O.B.

a) League Secretary highlighted the new process which will be trialled next season and requested any comments about this when it is introduced to come to her so the League Committee can review it.

The new pool/loan player system for 2024/25 (to be trialled)

All requests for pool and loan status for players must be made to the League Secretary and agreed by RSC at the beginning or during the season. Mobile numbers to be provided.

Pool players can be added only if they are weaker than the starred players for a club's lowest team.

Loan players are starred players registered for the club's lowest team in Division 3 only.

The player's home club always has priority for their own registered players, and only unneeded players are available for the pool/loan system.

The League Secretary will set up a league **pool** WhatsApp group for men and a separate one for women from Division 3.

The League Secretary will set up a league **loan** WhatsApp group for men and a separate one for women from Division 3.

The League Secretary will set up a **pool** WhatsApp group for men and a separate one for women from Division 2.

Only the league secretary can add or delete members to the above groups

Club secretaries only (as well as pool/loan players) will be added to the WhatsApp groups

All agreed pool/loan players will be added to the correct group

Juniors must have a parents details added

WHEN CLUBS NEED A PLAYER

Club secretary only puts the request on pool and loan groups. The process is:

Pull up from Club's lower team.

Division 3 pool players

Division 3 loan players

Division 2 pool players.

This must be within 7 days of the match date.

Concise request with date, venue, start time and player required.

First to reply to pool (Div 3) is selected.

If no response from pool Div 3, loan Div 3 can be utilised and then pool Div 2 however pool Div 3 has priority.

BENEFITS

Cuts down on club Secretary workload

All pool Div 3 get the same opportunity to play

All loan get the same opportunity to play

Club secretaries can see who has committed to play, and advise if their pool player is needed by home club. Club secretaries can also see if a player is fielded who hasn't been requested through the group. Home clubs needs always takes priority

All clubs secretaries can see requests have been made fairly as requests are time stamped.

b) New membership option from Badminton England.

Club players can renew their own memberships with a 10% discount.

The system used by Clubs at present where the Club's membership Secretary registers all club players.

Concern was raised that there could be some confusion with this and that clubs need to know which players are renewing their own membership so they can adjust club subs to be paid.

c) The Lancashire County fee for 2024/25 season is to stay at £5.00 for all competitive players in the League, including juniors.

d) At the Westmorland League AGM it was agreed that Lancaster Morecambe and District League can enter handicap competitions in their Annual Tournament. Information will be found on the Westmorland League website.

Gaye Jackson
League Secretary