

## Avon and BadSquash Committee

Meeting Minutes  
14Sept 2017

### Opening

The regular meeting of the Avon and BadSquash Committee was called to order at 19:30 on 14Sept 2017 in Vivo Squash Club, Bristol by Seamus Singh.

### Present

Mark Regan, Richard Bickers, Richard King and Seamus Singh

### Apologies for Absence

Duncan Higgins

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 June at Redland Squash Club, Bristol were approved.

### Matters Arising

1. County Knockout Event - An action from the previous meeting for **Mark Regan** to put together a group and work it out, report by end of the summer. **Outstanding - MR**
2. An action from the previous meeting on **Richard King** to put together a document that outlines the committee's expectation of what will happen and what a club needs to do if we support a club in putting on an event, such as a report and pictures. **Outstanding - RK**
3. Composition of Committee
  - a) No progress had been made on finding a secretary. It was agreed to create a document outlining the role and publish it on the BaD site. **Outstanding - SS**
  - b) Development Officer: Richard King shared a conversation he had with Rose Bamber on the role and after some discussion the committee felt the role should be put on ice whilst we worked on the means of funding it year on year. It was agreed that our focus will be on projects initiated by the committee level and look at England squash's ideas and work with those. Projects such as the one recently done with Chew and special events in the city are the type of thing we should focus on. Gloucester had been a beta site for Squash 101 which involved the county working with the University which resulted in 2500 kids in the programme. SS to talk to Mark Toseland about their experience.
4. Tournaments Schedule - An action from the previous meeting for Richard King to create a calendar of events and find out from all the clubs what their events are including. **Outstanding - RK** *He will continue collecting all the events, find gaps in ES calendar for the county tournaments, collect the rest of the events from the clubs in county and publish article on BaD. RK said this would be complete by mid-October.*
5. Governance - An action from the previous meeting for Richard Bickers to contact Richard Antcliff for help in this regard. Richard Antcliff had now 'retired'. After some discussion, the committee agreed with SS's suggestion that a working party be created to look into all aspects of Governance for the county including the pros and cons of becoming a Charity.

- SS will publish an article on BaD site inviting people who have an interest or expertise to form a working party to look at this.
6. Fundraising – Considering the decision to put the role of a Development Officer on ice it was agreed the county needs to identify ways of funding the various projects and activities it has planned. There was discussion around increasing team fees and it was agreed that any increase must be communicated to the teams along with a clearly defined plan to spend the extra income generated. SS proposed that a working party be setup to work on this and report back to the committee by the end of November after which the committee will consult with the county so that any changes can be communicated with the teams in good time before the Winter season starts. SS will publish an article on the BaD site inviting those with an interest and expertise to form a working party to look at this.
  7. Articles Created by the Press Officer - **Outstanding - MR, MI**
  8. Equipment Donation Scheme – **Outstanding - SS**
  9. Can we still get free walls from ES? – **Outstanding – SS**
  10. Separate email address for each of the major functions, ie treasurer@avoncounty.co.uk etc – **Outstanding – RB**
  11. Create a Newsletter to keep the county updated of what is going on? - **Outstanding – SS**
  12. Publish a Message from the Chairman on BaD site - **Outstanding – SS**

#### **Setup Fundraising/Investment Working Party**

SS proposed that a working party be setup to work on this. SS will publish an article on the BaD site inviting those with an interest and expertise to form a working party to look at this.

The committee party will:

- Identify projects/programmes it wishes to fund
- identify costs of programme
- create a budget

The working party will research and propose:

- ways of generating additional income
- what additional income to be spent on

#### **Recommendations from Referees/Marking Working Party**

MR reported that a series of marking courses will be put on.

The first course for 15 Oct had been organised and Roy Gingel will be running it. The cost of running the course will be £150. The county will underwrite this cost but participants will be asked to pay for their attendance.

It was agreed that the county will, in principal, underwrite 3 courses during the year. This will be subject to a review after the first course. The remaining courses will go ahead pending a successful review. This was proposed by Richard King and seconded by Mark Regan

The working party has also been working on a handbook for Avon Squash Captains. This was going through review by the working party and will be published shortly.

#### **Club Fees and ES Affiliation**

- a) After some discussion it was felt that any increase to team fees would need to be communicated clearly to the county along with specific plans on how the additional income will be spent. Between now and January the committee agreed the following process:
  - By end of November propose the level of fee increase and what the additional income will be spent on
  - Get feedback from the County during December using SurveyMonkey
  - Before the new season starts the committee will make its decision on whether or not to increase Club Fees.
- b) The committee discussed ES Affiliation and the pending introduction of penalties for teams fielding players who have not been registered with ES through their clubs. It was agreed that by the third match a player plays in the season a valid ES number must exist in the BaD system. RB highlighted that the league rules on the BaD site need to be updated. **Action:** RB to publish an article on BaD site clarifying the rules around this. RB will also modify the league rules on the BaD site. SS to review the changes.

#### **Order Change Rule**

The team captains were asked to vote on the rule change via SurveyMonkey. The overwhelming view of those who participated voted to agree to the committee's recommendation that the order change rule be scrapped and tighten the Out of Order to 1.5 to 1. Thirty-one captains voted Yes and two voted No. Thirty-three out of Eighty captains responded to the survey.

The committee agreed to put its recommendation into force. This was proposed by Mark Regan and seconded by Richard Bickers. **Action:** RB to send a message to the county and modify the rules accordingly.

#### **ES Update**

RB been to CAN meeting and updated the committee on the new structure of CAN which was forming itself into a new association called the Association of County Associations (ACA). RB outlined the ES organisation structure and how they filter information through the National Forum and Regional Forums that will eventually reach the Counties. – RB had been discussing and the ACA role with Keir Worth. RB was attempting to get KW to treat the ACA as the consultancy arm to connect with best practice/expertise in the counties.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday, 2 Nov 2017 at Redland

#### **AOB**

SS asked if the county had any policy regarding child protection and welfare. Some discussion took place as to whether we were covered by what was in place at ES. **Action:** SS put question

together that RB can put to the ACA for this. RB will also speak to Jan Ellis. SS to ascertain if ES guidelines cover us.