



Bristol and District Squash

AGM Minutes 2012

Mon 14th May 2012

David Lloyd (Westbury-O-T)

Agenda

May 7th
Issue
sent to
Pat for
Comments

1. Chairman's Welcome and Report – Martin Cornelius.

Martin welcomed and thanked everyone attending. He asked all present to ensure that only one person from each club voted and for the record anyone speaking to give their name and club. He also thanked David Lloyd Westbury for the use of their facilities for the AGM.

2. Apologies for absence – Sarah and Alan Brown – David Lloyd

3. Approval of AGM Minutes 2011 – proposed Ruth Drysdale, seconded Richard Bickers

4. Matters Arising. – There was a fairly long discussion regarding the cost of play off courts

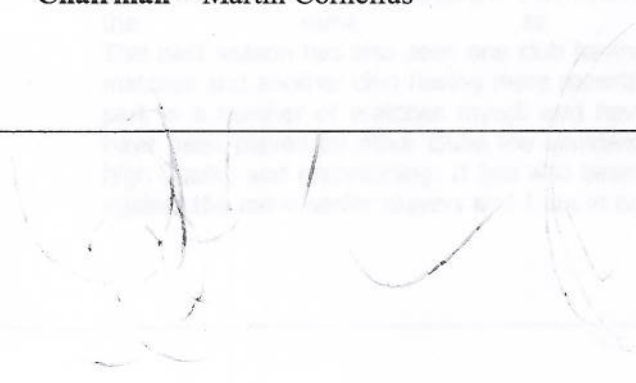
5. Treasurers Report – Rob Livingstone – report attached

A separate income and expenditure report was handed out. RL reported collecting of League fees now much improved. Acceptance proposed – Liz de Clerk, seconded Pat Sherwood

6. Election of Officers

All existing officers were happy to continue with the exception of the Secretary Paul Tanner. A request was made for nominations for all posts, none were received and the committee were re-elected. No nomination for Secretary but it was suggested Liz de Clerk might be interested, subsequent to the meeting it was noted Pat Sherwood has become Secretary.

Chairman – Martin Cornelius



successful. By having so many juniors playing at the level they are I am confident that they will be a huge credit to the own individual club, to the BAD Squash League, to Bristol and to our county.

The Autumn and Spring season saw a higher number of rule infringements that I would have liked to see taking place with one of those being as a result of players moving positions by more places than they should and more recently, players playing in a position with a ranking level of more than double to the player below them. Due to the high number of rule infringements you will have seen the introduction of penalties being automatically generated to some of the rules currently in place as soon as match scores are entered. Hopefully the number of rule infringements will be less when the next Autumn and Spring seasons are played and to aid this the current set of rules of the website will be updated shortly after this AGM and I will be asking all captains when this has been done to take some time out to study them and be more acquainted with them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all clubs in helping with bringing their club fees up to date following the 2011 AGM. Members of each and every club will know roughly when the next season Winter season will be starting. With this in mind can the members of each club please have a discussion or discussions about how many teams they will be entering so that when I send out my invitation for teams to play I can receive a swift reply back to avoid any unnecessary delay with issuing the new tables and fixtures. At this point, I would like to say that I hope I am serving you well as your League Secretary. Should you have any concerns please let me know. I would also like to say a big thank you to Paul Tanner who is stepping down as our Secretary and finally a big thank you to all the team and club captains for their past co-operation with matters affecting my role as League Secretary.

Ladies League Report – Ruth Drysdale –

Summer 2011 League Avon girls won their 2nd Summer League with BLTSC hot on their heels.

Winter League

First half before Christmas had 2 divisions with 15 teams.

David Lloyd won 1st Div and Thornbury won 2nd Div.

As two new teams joined from Thornbury and Kingsdown, after Christmas there were 3 divisions with 6 teams in 1st and 2nd Divs and 5 teams in 3rd Div.

BLTSC A won 1st Div, BLTSC B won 2nd Div and BLTSC C won 3rd Div.

BLTSC A then beat David Lloyd 4-1 in the 1st Div play off and

BLTSC B beat Thornbury 4-1 in the 2nd Div play off

Summer 2011 8 teams have entered, some ladies have joined the Summer mixed league

Winter 2012 league, it depends how many teams enter as to whether we have 2 or 3 divisions but it would be really great if we could have 3 divisions, as the leagues are

not so long and you play more similar standard teams. In order to get more Ladies teams playing we really think more creatively about how to achieve this, as there are currently very few female juniors playing in the leagues

Doubles League Report

Jeremy reported there had been a mix up last year, Thornbury were stated as winners but David Lloyd were the actual winners and it was suggested that when prizes had been sorted they would be presented with prizes. Noted that rule infringements in the Doubles League attract automatic penalties.

9.Rule Change/New Rule Proposals 2012

1. Proposal A) Jeremy Burns ... **TRANSFER OF PLAYERS** ... a player wishing to transfer from one club to another club can do so during the mixed season in play having first sought the approval of the League Secretary. However, that player can not transfer back to the club he, or she had left, or transfer again to another club. **CARRIED**

2. Proposal B) Jeremy Burns ... **TEAM WITHDRAWAL** ... should a team need to withdraw, for whatever reason, during the Autumn season:-
1) will automatically relegated to the next lowest division;
2) will commence the Spring season with a 9 point penalty deduction for failing to honour their commitment to complete their Autumn fixtures;
3) will not qualify for the play-off should they win the division they have been relegated to. **2.2 WITHDRAWN AND 2.1 AND 2.3 CARRIED**

3. Proposal C) Jeremy Burns ... **AN ADDITION TO RULE 1** ... if a visiting team captain fails to notify the home team captain, prior to 24 hours before their match is due to be played, that they will not be turning up, and / or notify the home team captain that, for example, only two players will be eating. The home team captain can request the visiting team to make a payment to cover any costs incurred. **NOT CARRIED**

4. Proposal D) Jeremy Burns ... **TEAM NO-SHOWS** ... any team not playing either of the last two matches of the Autumn and Spring seasons can lead to an unfair advantage or dis-advantage to the other teams in their respective division. Therefore, all teams must play the last two matches of the Autumn and Spring seasons. Any team failing to honour this commitment will result in a 9 penalty point being levied at the start of the Spring season should the no-show occur in the Autumn. Alternatively, at the start of the next season should the no-show occur in the Spring season. **NOT CARRIED**

5. Proposal E) Jeremy Burns ... **AN ADDITION TO RULE 4** ... a visiting team must have at least two players at the match venue prior to the match start time. **NOT CARRIED**

6. Proposal F) Jeremy Burns... **Rule 10** states "any team without a full complement of 5 players will be deemed to be without the lowest ranked player(s). Even if only 3 players are available the match should be played"

Now I have been receiving a number of comments from players of clubs noticing that for example a team only puts out three players for a match but could have either drawn players down from a higher team or drawn up from a lower team in order to have a full compliment.

Therefore, should players be drawn up / down, or leave it up to the teams to decide not to raise a full compliment of players as per Rule 10? **NOT CARRIED**

7. Proposal Phil Kelly...Can the the league could look at the rule regarding **players only being allowed to move up or down one place**. This is too restrictive and this shows with the amount of points being deducted from many clubs throughout the winter season. I personally think we should revert back to the old rule which allowed players to move up or down two places.....in my opinion this worked better and was a rule that did not need changing. **NOT CARRIED**

8. Proposal Ruth Drysdale...I would like to take a vote on clarifying '**1 vote per team rather than 1 vote per club**', since there isnt a club per sec membership, rather club pay entrance fee per team. So is it fair that a club can pay for 1 team and have the same voting rights as a club that pays for 14 teams to enter BAD? Also do squaded teams have 2 votes, as they are treated as separate clubs? **NOT CARRIED**

9. Proposal Mark Regan..**Merger between BaD Squash and Avon SRA**. For many reasons based around the sustainability of squash in Bristol I would like to propose a merger between the BAD league and England squash/Avon Squash. I feel this will open opportunities for investment from ESR to which we currently do not have access and will be of benefit to Bristol Squash as a whole. **CARRIED SEE ITEM 9 BELOW**

Item 9. **MERGER BETWEEN BaD SQUASH AND AVON SRA** – A lengthy discussion took place, Nick Drysdale and Richard King gave a presentation and there followed a question and answer session.

One issue was the cost of membership, Nick advised the SRA had confirmed Clubs and Uni £55 per court (max £220), Schools with League £55 flat fee, plus player membership fees for every senior player of £6.50. Leisure Centres £150 flat fee per year. Schools no League free of charge.

It was stated that only a combined Avon SRA and BaD Squash membership would attract funding from the SRA, apparently some funding was already in the pipeline for BLTSC and Redwood, some members were concerned that only the big clubs would see any funds. A vote was taken and carried with 10 clubs for and one club against and several abstaining. Outcome - **carried**

10 AOB – Automatic penalties – Richard Bickers gave a presentation on how the automatic penalties apply, he emphasised the league needs to be fair and stated most penalty offences are obvious. The automatic penalties take away the time consuming manual penalty application for the League Secretary. There was still some concern on end of season ringers. There was short discussion on how genuine injury during play can skew rankings and Richard will look into this. Jeremy emphasised that clubs must play players in the order of merit and then thanked Richard for all his hard work.