

## STEVENAGE BADMINTON LEAGUE 2013 AGM

**[ACCEPTED AT 2014 AGM]**

[www.stevenagebadmintonleague.co.uk](http://www.stevenagebadmintonleague.co.uk)

Held at The Orange Tree, Norton Road, Baldock SG7 5AW  
on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at 8.00pm.

*Attendance: 16 (15 voting) including two committee members. (Apologies/Non attendees: Chris Bullock and Ken Abbott, Saracens, Vauxhall and Whitwell.)*

*Papers available; attendance sheet, agenda, 2012 extract minutes, 2012 draft minutes, PROVISIONAL balance sheet, and Ladies Section, Mens Section, league tables etc.*

1. Apologies, As above.
2. Opening address and 2012 AGM minutes Jan Macfarlane thanked all those present for attending and their work as organisers/fixture secretaries during the season. A feature this season had been 'Stevenage Leisure'/Council had passed over the running of Shephall Leisure Centre to Barnwell School. This had proved to work well and the SBL have good relations with Barnwell School personnel so intend to continue using the venue for tournaments etc. The only change was that the cup finals had to be played at a different venue [SEE BELOW]. As usual the 2012 AGM draft minutes had been available on the SBL website since last year. **The 2012 AGM minutes were accepted.**
3. Treasurer's Report. Ian reported on the distributed information which this year did not include the Presentation as it was yet to take place [SEE BELOW]. There was currently a very small loss and with the Presentation hopefully making a profit, an 'end of season' surplus should result. This should be a good result compared to last year when the Presentation made a loss; also the SBL has a number of spare trophies 'in hand' for use in the coming 2013/14 season. Ian is considering obtaining quotes for a reduced insurance liability limit (currently £2m) in order to secure appropriate cover at a suitable premium with regard to SBL expenses. **The balance sheet was accepted. No changes to 2012/13 subscriptions for 2013/14.**
4. Fixtures and 5. Results Jan reported on the distributed information (3 divisions of 22 teams compared to 4 divisions, of 23 teams in 2011/12. There had been a backlog of fixtures causing difficulties at the end of the playing season but only **one conceded match** which did not affect end of season league top/bottom division/league positions so the 'average system' was not required.  
Full divisional honours as shown on the website;-  
Winners D1: Masters, Runners Up: Cam Gears A; Winners D2: Vauxhall B, Runners Up: Icarus Winners D3: Academy, Runners Up: Knebworth A.
6. Ladies Section Chris Bullock had provided a report which Jan read at the meeting. Seven squads playing six matches each with at least 55 ladies playing during the season. Faye's Birds won the league by 2 points (one rubber) from Anne's Lassies as runners-up. There was no end of season tournament this year. With Chris having suffered 2 injuries during last season and unlikely to be ready to play at the start of next season, Heather Robbins has kindly agreed to assist Chris and Ladies Section organisation for 2013/14. Full results and 2013/14 entry forms (teams with up to 7 ladies) will be on the website. **The forms should be completed and returned with ladies' nominations to be with Chris by 1<sup>st</sup> September.** The rules will be on the website and the **monthly match fees will remain as £ 4 but the squad entry fee is increasing to £20 for 2013/14.** **All ladies must be registered through their SBL (mixed team) captain BEFORE the first matches due on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013. [POST MEETING NOTE: Date changed to Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September.]**

7. Mens Section Jan reported on the fourth season of these Saturday afternoon matches which were matches consisting of a singles and a doubles. There were 8 teams in a single division with 2 matches per afternoon. The winners were Spartans (12 points) who just beat runners-up Purwell (11 points). Full results on the website. As usual the format for next season will depend on entries. Jan confirmed that for 2013/14 it was likely that there would be 3 players per team. Jan advised that she would be in contact with all teams in due course to discuss possible format/s for next season.
8. Plate, SBL CUP & TALOR CUP.  
Jan advised the meeting of Ken Abbott's report. There were **16 teams** (down 3 from 19 the previous season) entered in the SBL Cup with first round defeated teams entering the Plate competition. The draw was done as usual by non-SBL Committee members. Finals results confirmed:- Plate, Lingwood beat Vauxhall B 5-1; SBL Cup Masters beat Cam Gears A on games, 7-6 (rubbers 3-3). Because Masters had asked to be entered into the SBL Cup this year the Taylor Trophy match was not played for this season. (Masters, who held The Taylor Cup, had not played in the SBL Cup for a number of years up until this year, had played the winners of the SBL Cup in the Taylor Trophy match.)
9. Tournaments. Jan reported on a seventh successful Junior Tournament and that the **Denise Peat Prize** was awarded to **Austin Arnold** for his overall effort and sportsmanship.  
The Mens doubles tournament had a small number of entries in the week before it was scheduled to take place and with deteriorating weather forecast it was felt best to cancel which with snow on the day appeared to be the correct decision. A successful Mixed doubles tournament was held in March.
10. Inter-league match – Marshall Trophy. Jan reminded the meeting of the history where Stevenage and Letchworth divisional winners used to play against each other but once the leagues began having different numbers of teams/divisions it was changed to trying to involve players from all the clubs. Each year was difficult with committee members taking much time and effort to complete the two teams. In 2011/12 it proved impossible to secure sufficient players so the match was postponed. But both league committees agreed to make the match more of an 'event' being open to all (**league registered players**) who wished to play and the event took place on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September**. There was a £2 entry fee and 27 players entered with the leagues sharing court costs etc. The meeting appreciated the difficulties in continuing to encourage players with lack of enthusiastic response and no-one voiced a desire for it to continue at this time, so this event may not take place in the coming season – the Letchworth League AGM is yet to take place and discussions may continue there.
11. Presentation Evening. Bob Green, Chairman, Letchworth League had proposed an evening of FUN GAMES and as per the SBL website it will be .....  
*at the **St Johns Community Centre, Hitchin, [SG4 9JP](#), on Saturday 29th June 2013, from 7:30-11pm.***  
*The idea is that clubs **come along as teams**, just like playing a match, preferably 6 in a team. The hall will provide a **bar** for you to purchase drinks during the evening and feel free to **bring along some snacks**. Entry fee will be **£5 per person** and as usual, there will be a raffle.*
12. 2013/14 Committee. Ian indicated that the Committee agreed to continue and it was **agreed that Ian, Jan, Chris Bullock and Ken Abbott would remain the SBL Committee**. Words of appreciation came from Matt Glew and others for the work done by the Committee.
13. 2013/14 divisions. It is hoped that 2012/13 teams will continue for next season and Jan reported that there had been interest from new teams. **The 'usual 2 up, 2 down' (and**

**number of teams in each division) cannot be decided until the number of teams entering the SBL was known.**

14. Any Other Business

(i) Rules 9(g) – registration of players; Jan had been asked by a number of clubs to enforce this rule at all times and not allow names of players to be added retrospectively as has happened in the past when ‘non-registration’ has been due to oversight rather than intention to gain advantage.

Jan stressed the importance of this rule for SBL insurance purposes and also for Online Scoring. All players playing in an SBL match must be registered before playing and match results cannot be completed on line if all players are not registered. Jan said that for 2013/14 matches she must be contacted by email, text or telephone (leaving a voicemail) BEFORE a match has been played so that she has a record of the player/s being nominated. She will do her best to update the SBL website as soon as possible to allow Online Scoring to be completed without undue delay. Jan said that if a team captain is unsure if a player has been registered then leave a message anyway. If an unregistered player wins a game then that game will be deemed to have been lost and thus changed to a win for their opponent/s. Also Jan recommended that the names of ALL SBL eligible players in a club are advised to Jan so they can be SBL registered to that particular club.

13 (and 14) – score sheets; as Online Scoring is the primary source of results score sheets are not required to be routinely sent to Jan as in the past. So rule/s to change to;

**Score sheets need to have all sections complete at the end of the match and signed by both captains. The Home team is then responsible for putting the Score Sheet result details on the website within one week (at the latest) of the match having been played. All paper score sheets must be kept by both Home and Away captains until the close of the season in case of dispute or computer problems. Proposed by Simon Carter and Seconded by David Rowe – the meeting AGREED.**

Jan referred to delays of results being put on the SBL website. After a week of being played, matches appear as outstanding if the result is not on the website. The meeting discussed various options including away teams having the ability to put results on the website. Although it was appreciated that it was more work for Jan as results secretary it was AGREED that as soon as the result of a match was ‘outstanding’ Jan would contact the Home team in the first instance and then follow up with either team to get the result on the website as soon as possible.

The meeting was reminded of 20 (a) – that each match must be confirmed.

It was AGREED to change to The Home team is responsible for confirming each match with the Away team ten days in advance AND MUST ALSO E-MAIL THE SBL FIXTURES SECRETARY (either directly or via the website) to notify that the match has been confirmed. When matches have to be postponed a new date has to be arranged (and the Fixtures Secretary informed) within three weeks of the original date.

22. The meeting was reminded of the 4 matches to be played before Christmas rule and it was confirmed that these can be either home or away matches.

14. Close. There being no further business, **PRE-SEASON ENTRY FORMS (PROVIDING FOR DISCOUNTS FOR 2012/13 TEAMS WHO WERE AGM ATTENDEES AND ‘SECOND/ADDITIONAL TEAMS’) WERE DISTRIBUTED TO THOSE PRESENT (FOR RETURN WITH FEES BY MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2013. Ladies Section forms were also available**

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

*ISM July 2013*