



## Reports for Annual General Meeting 2013 - 2014

### Chairman's Report

I am pleased to tell you that this year has seen continued success for your Association.

At the same time, the season has also been greatly saddened by the resignation of Malcolm Fraser from both our Committee and from Chair of HBA. Malcolm's enormous contribution to the promotion of junior and senior badminton within Hertfordshire and nationally cannot be overstated. His departure reflects a widening gulf between the actions of our governing body and the interests of all County Badminton Associations.

We must also bid a grateful farewell to our splendid Honorary Treasurer, who has so carefully guarded the finances of HSBA throughout the last 7 years. I should additionally like to add my personal thanks to Ash Kejriwal for his invaluable support and friendship during some turbulent times for the Association.

Similar thanks and personal gratitude must also go to Sangeeta Dhall for her great skill and commitment in managing our younger squad since 2007.

We are indeed sad to be losing the services of each of these dedicated individuals and wish them the very best of good fortune.

The affairs of this organisation have again been highly dependent upon the hard work freely donated by Kevin Maughan who continues to occupy a number of invaluable roles and to whom I wish to tender my own thanks.

In terms of providing us with a vital additional source of revenue, we must thank Barbara Lewczynska (and for her role as our Child Welfare Officer) and Mike Newlove together with Simon English who again greatly contribute to running both our closed and open tournaments respectively.

I must again stress that, without this significant voluntary contribution by so many individuals, it would not be possible to maintain our squad costs at such a reasonable level

Keeping us all informed and entertained with a professional class of journalism, we are indebted to John Stobo. It is with John's vital help that we have been successful in securing a single booking at Herts Sports Village, allowing each of our 4 squads to play on the same evening from September.

It is an indisputable fact that this Association would not exist without the hard work and expertise provided by your Squad Managers and skilled coaches. In passing on your profound gratitude, let us hope they wish to continue nurturing and developing our young aspiring players for many years to come.

I would also like to thank Dave Bartlett for taking up his previous vital role on your Committee and making available his own great depth of knowledge and experience.

As always, we gratefully acknowledge the work of junior clubs, schools and private coaches which helps to provide essential support for HSBA.

Your Committee remains mindful of the need to maintain the goodwill of all parents by ensuring absolute fairness to the wider majority. We all recognise that this requires your ongoing support which is enormously appreciated.

**Ken Winchester**  
**Chairman**



### **Treasurer's Report**

We managed to break even for the year (minor surplus of £29 – 2013: £1,195).

HSBA aims to minimise fees that have to be charged. The fee is set to try and end the year with neither a surplus nor a deficit. We have broadly succeeded this year and in previous years, however it can be very difficult to always get this right. Our biggest expense is the cost of hiring courts. This, we have already been informed, will be rising again this year.

The coaches (and tournament organisers) are the people who put in the greatest amount of time and effort into HSBA – without them there could be no HSBA. Their commitment extends not only to their, not inconsiderable, time (which they give freely on and off the court) but also to direct, out of pocket expenses (such as travel costs). We have never been in a position to reimburse them fully for these expenses. Any fee rise will be kept to a minimum whilst trying to maintain a break even position.

The committee is always looking for additional grants and sources of income that will enable us to provide better levels of training and contributions towards our costs.

Thanks to the hard work of everyone involved in HSBA (in particular the squad managers) we will continue to be an excellent badminton training body for Hertfordshire children.

The accounts this year were, once again, audited by Mr. Doug Stokoe. I would like to thank him for performing this task efficiently and, as with most people involved in HSBA, for no financial gain.

After six years as Hon Treasurer, the time has come for me to step down due to my work commitments. I would like to thank my colleagues (past and present) within HSBA for their support and professionalism and would like to take this opportunity to wish HSBA massive success in the future.

Accounts follow: [the accounts have been audited – a signed copy of the accounts is available upon request]

**Ash Kejriwal**  
**Honorary Treasurer**

### **Tournament Secretary's Report**

#### **HSBA Closed Tournaments**

HSBA hosted 23 events over six Sunday's this season, the most successful in terms of entries was the U13 and U10 event on November 10th 2013 with 102 entrants. The least successful was the U15 event on February 2nd 2014 when there was an unfortunate clash with an U15 Bronze event in Essex. Next season a closer inspection of the BE calendar should avoid this.

The Giant mixed handicapped tournament was poorly attended so we are returning to the old format next year of age group mixed tournaments.

The Primary Schools Tournament was once again a resounding success with 15 Herts Primary Schools fielding 35 teams and over 105 participants. I must once again extend my thanks to the coaches, teachers and helpers who worked so hard on that day.

A date for you future diaries

BE have designated one weekend next season as a Junior County restricted weekend (20/21st September), and as a result we will be running the U15 singles doubles and mixed, and the U11 singles on Saturday 20th September at Stevenage leisure centre.

#### **HSBA Open (BE sanctioned) Tournaments**

This season proved to be yet another very successful year for our Open tournaments and saw the addition of an U15 Bronze which took place in September 2013. Mike Newlove and Simon English did an absolutely sterling job organising these events, a lot of hard work in their spare time, ensured that these events were run extremely efficiently. The U15 Bronze in September attracted 105 participants with multiple entries, the U13 Bronze and the U17 Bronze in early December attracted 113 and 76 respectively. We are adding another Open Tournament to the programme next season (U17 silver).



They are

- Saturday 29th November 2014 – U17 Bronze – Stevenage LC
- Saturday 24th January 2015 – U15 Bronze – Stevenage LC
- Saturday 31st January 2015 – U13 Bronze – Stevenage LC
- Saturday March 21st 2015 – U17 Silver – Gosling Sports Park

**Barbara Lewczynska**  
**Tournament Secretary**

### **Child Welfare Officer Report**

All of our coaches and volunteers have been checked through the DBS (old CRB) scheme

**Barbara Lewczynska**  
**Child Welfare Officer**

### **Development Squad Report**

The development squad 2013-2014 started with a small number of players following the trials in June 2013.

Soon enough by December I had a full squad of 13 boys and 4 girls thanks to the HSBA tournaments, which, incidentally were fairly well attended.

We had 2 away and 3 home matches this season. Unfortunately many of the other counties do not seem to have younger players and some of the reserved dates for the courts had to be cancelled.

The squad member's age ranged from 8yrs to 12 and I have had some very talented players who have been encouraged to attend extra training sessions and to enter the junior tournaments.

I started coaching the U11 squad in 2008 and have thoroughly enjoyed my time with all the players have tried to introduce fitness and fun into the sessions and I do hope that the players that are going to be moving on to the other squads will carry on the enthusiasm that they displayed in my sessions. I have unfortunately decided to step down as the coach and manager due to personal reasons and am very pleased to say that Kelly Matthews who is very well known in the Herts Badminton circuit has agreed to take over.

I wish all the current and the past squad players all the very best and would like to thank the wonderful volunteers/coaches, committee members and the very supporting parents that I have worked with over the past few years.

Herts Badminton would not survive without all the hard work and timeless effort that they have all put into this sport.

Thanks

**Sangeeta Dhall**  
**Development Squad Manager**

### **U13 Squad Report**

Trials in June gave us 30 accepted players, 2 of whom choose not to take up the offer and we had 1 drop out in January.

With virtually a new team, the challenge of Shires league was well met; we narrowly beat Beds 11-9, beat Suffolk 19-1, lost to Surrey 5-15, beat Cambs 15-5, lost to Essex 1-19 & beat Middx 18-2, to finish in 12th place, bringing a playoff v Warwickshire, who despite some close rubbers won 14-6.

The experience gained by 3 team members who should remain in the squad next year will lead to good results next season.

With the lack of team challenge this season the U12, were able to represent Herts well in the regional age group matches, all playing well & finishing a creditable 2nd & 8th. (two teams)

We also played a friendly v Suffolk at Birchwood, lots of games played & a good win for Herts.



The final season tournament for teams of 2, boys & girls, held at the University of East London, congratulations must be given to Molly Goode & Abbie Smith who won the event, again all who entered showed their determination against some tough opposition. Well played.

My thanks to Graham Clarke, who has stood in when needed at matches & has been an invaluable support throughout the season, Andy Gall & Ben Vranjkovic for their coaching assistance and especially to Jo Goode for her enthusiasm that impacts all the players, as one parent commented, I have seen so much improvement in so many players, Thank you.

Finally thank you to all the parents for their support, without which the squad would not be what it is, I look forward to the coming trials & season with interest.

**Mike Newlove**  
**U13 Squad Manager**

### **U15 Squad Report**

At the trials on 30th of June 2013 nearly 50 people turned up out of that we selected 28 in the squad. The beginning of the season there were few drop out and were left with 25 in the squad. After the half way through the season we had few top players from U13's came and trained with us. A few of our top players were given an opportunity to train with U17's squad with David Brown.

We also kept short summer training for those who were going to stay with U15 and to those who were moving up from U13's after Easter.

#### **Shires League:**

This was a big league group with 36 teams.

Throughout the season we had matches against Bedfordshire won 19-1. Essex we won 11-9, Cambridgeshire won 16-4, Surrey 1 we lost 8-12, Surrey 2 we won 13-7, and finally Middlesex we lost 11-9. The last we had with Middlesex finished 12th on the league table which we made into play off, the match was an away match against Surrey 1 which we lost 5-15. Overall came 12th in the league table. I would like to thank all the participants those who played in the league from the squad.

#### **Eastern Region U14:**

This tournament hosted by Essex. John Stobo took two teams out from the squad which

Took place on 15th December 2013 at Luton. We had matches against four other counties. Herts 1 team took the gold and Herts 2 team took the bronze award.

#### **Friendly Matches:**

This season we had arranged four friendlies, the first we played Buckinghamshire and lost 12 – 8 with good close matches, Second match was against Norfolk won 12 – 8, Third match was against Lincolnshire won 14 – 6. The last was a quadrangular event where we came 3rd which took place at Sussex as a host. This was matches arranged mostly giving our C and B team squad players chance to compete and learn.

#### **Eastern Region Single sex:**

This tournament took place in Docklands campus on April 26th 2014 only for those who were graded G, H and I and ungraded for Girls and Boys own their own group. We entered two Boys teams and two Girls teams.

Boys A team took the Gold, and Boys B team took 3rd place. The Girls A team came 6th and Girls B team came 4th.

#### **Most Improved Player for the Year 2013/14:**

Zach Daniels. He received a shield with his name engraved on it for a year to keep. Zach has worked very hard and performed very well in the shire league and tournaments.

#### **Sponsorship:**

Thanks to Ashway again for their support for the shirts and the shuttles for the season.



### **Coaches:**

Mid way through the season we had taken on ex England player Suzanne Rayappan, the squad welcomed her and she has been instrumental towards the squad, John Stobo has been equally good and motivated the players to perform at their best and taught them well. John and I managed the Shires matches, Friendlies and the squad nights. John has also produced lovely newsletter throughout the season.

### **Parent Rep:**

I would like to thank two of our Parent Reps Sue Clarke and Sue Meehan for their role to manage the squad, Good spread for food in our shires home and friendly matches. They also organised Christmas bowling for the U15 squad together with other squads and parents reps.

I would also thanks all the parents who supported their children to chauffer them to and fro from the Squad practice, shires matches, friendliest or tournaments and supporting Hertfordshire Badminton.

To all the players and squad members they have worked very hard to learn and achieve good results for the tournaments. I hope that they have all got something out of our Badminton training. I would like to Thank Mike Newlove for his constant support for U15.

The season for the year 2013-2014 went very quickly. I thoroughly enjoyed teaching and mentoring the squad nights, and like to thank John Stobo for his valuable time and effort to support HSBA. I would also like to thank our chairman Ken Winchester and the committee for supporting HSBA U15 squad.

Next season we will be moving to Hatfield Sports Village on Wednesdays from 7.30pm to 9.30pm, all the squads will be together on one night. Our trials will take place on Sunday 29th June for the for coming season

### ***Hitesh Shah***

***U15 Coach and Squad Team Manager***

### **U17 Squad Report**

This season has been difficult at times to field a competitive team, especially with the girls due to lack of numbers, injuries and full commitment to badminton.

We need to do as much as possible to encourage more girls into the squads.

On the positive side the teams taken to RIO and ICT showed real competitive team spirit to play to the best of their ability and with the ICT Team being young talent, this looks promising for the following years.

A big thank you to:-

- David Westwood
- Alan Overy
- Anna Collis
- Greg Burton
- Peter Willetts

For all their help, support and Coaching throughout the season

### ***David Brown***

***U17 Squad Manager***

### **HBA Representative's Report**

Attached as the minutes of the HBA AGM

### ***David Bartlett***

***HBA Representative***



**Income & Expenditure Account for the year to 31st May, 2014**

2012-13		2013-14		2012-13		2013-14	
Expenditure				Income			
<b>Matches and Coaching</b>				<b>Matches and Coaching</b>			
1,882	U11 Squad Courts	1,980.00		3,331	U11 Squad Fees	3,784.00	
2,880	U13 Squad Courts	3,043.20		4,455	U13 Squad Fees	6,020.00	
2,088	U15 Squad Courts	2,088.00		5,090	U15 Squad Fees	4,350.00	
2,150	U17 Squad Courts	2,080.00		4,648	U17 Squad Fees	3,848.00	
0	U11 Training Cost	72.00					
1,200	U13 Training Cost	1,472.00					
0	U15 Training Cost	528.00					
1,350	U17 Training Cost	1,600.00					
1,575	Summer Courts	1,560.00		2,666	Summer Fees	1,920.00	
0	Habs Training Expenses	0.00		0	Habs Training Fees	0.00	
628	Trials Courts	271.40					
2,695	Shuttles - Training & Matches	4,083.84					
1,857	Match Courts	1,461.03		1,025	Match Fees	695.00	
175	Coaches Registration Fees	70.00					
18,479	Matches and Coaching Subtotal	20,309.47		21,215	Matches and Coaching Subtotal	20,617.00	
<b>Tournaments &amp; Leagues</b>				<b>Tournaments &amp; Leagues</b>			
1,890	Courts	2,110.00		3,799	Entry Fees	2,823.00	
391	Trophies & Medals	738.25		0	Entry Fees - Primary	557.00	
481	Shuttles	81.60		0	Affiliations (Clubs & Schools)	0.00	
0	Eastern Region Tournament	0.00		0	Junior League Entries	0.00	
312	Shires League	68.00		55	Raffles	72.00	
340	Other Tournaments	90.00					
1,660	RIO (York) Fees & Expenses	1,304.10		1,080	RIO York	1,140.00	
2,376	ICT (Notts) Fees & Expenses	3,041.00		1,100	ICT Notts	1,350.00	
7,450	Tournaments and Leagues Subtotal	7,432.95		6,034	Tournaments and Leagues Subtotal	5,942.00	
<b>Open Tournaments</b>				<b>Open Tournaments</b>			
293	BE Costs Incl Medals U17	495.60		3,144	U15 Bronze Entry Fees	2,112.30	
166	BE Costs Incl Medals U13	192.00		0	U17 Bronze Entry Fees	1,642.83	
1,500	Courts	1,800.00		1,901	U13 Bronze Entry Fees	2,603.20	
1,130	Shuttles	768.50		0	N/A	0.00	
55	Printing	0.00		226	Raffle	0.00	
33	Sundry Expenses	23.65					
3,175	Open tournaments Subtotal	3,279.75		5,270	Open tournaments Subtotal	6,358.33	
<b>Sundries</b>				<b>Sundries</b>			
74	Affiliation BE	224.00					
0	Website Cost	0.00		8	Interest	8.18	
75	Postage & Telephone	111.98					
352	Stat. & Printing (Incl. Newsletter)	343.19		1,103	T-Shirts	736.00	
1,113	T-Shirts	796.80		0	Sale Donated Shirts	0.00	
413	Bursary Payments	247.50		20	Donation	0.00	
320	Misc. Expenses	277.60					
1,119	Travel Expenses	847.60		115	Misc. Receipts	238.51	
0	Child protection Cost	0.00					
0	3 Plus Tournaments Payment	0.00		1,246	Sundries Subtotal	982.69	
3,466	Sundries Subtotal	2,848.67					
32,570	<b>TOTAL Expenditure</b>	<b>33,870.84</b>		33,765	<b>TOTAL Income</b>	<b>33,900.02</b>	
1,195	<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure</b>	<b>29.18</b>		0	<b>Excess of Expenditure over Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
28,079		<b>33,900.02</b>		28,079		<b>33,900.02</b>	



**Balance Sheet as at 31st May, 2014**

0	Petty Cash	0.00		16,973	Funds at 1/6/2013	18,168.12	
6,489	Current Account	6,510.37		0	Deduct excess Expenditure over Income	0.00	
11,679	Deposit Account	11,686.93		1,195	Add excess Income over Expenditure	29.18	
0	Current Account	0.00					
18,168	<b>Total</b>	<b>18,197.30</b>		18,168	<b>Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>18,197.30</b>	



The above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account have been prepared from and are in accordance with the books and records of the Hertfordshire Schools Badminton Association for the year ending 31st May, 2014.

Hon Treasurer: Mr. Ash Kejrival  
Dated:

Auditor: Mr. Doug Stokoe  
Dated:

**HERTFORDSHIRE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION (HBA)  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
2nd JUNE 2014**

Minutes of the meeting held at Birchwood Leisure Centre, Hatfield, commencing at 7.50pm with 27 members attending.

Acting Chairman, Paul Kempster (PK) introduced himself, and welcomed all present.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Jeff Armstrong; Gill Bartlett; Natalie Barton; Margaret Cooper; Angela Glew; Gareth Jackson; Byron and Lesley Perry; Geoff Thomas and Colin Walker.

**2. Minutes of AGM held on 4th June 2013**

These were approved and there were no matters arising.

**3. Presentation of the Executive Committee Reports**

**Acting Chairman and Badminton England (BE) Representative.**

PK reported that many clubs continued to struggle with declining membership, particularly with women and girls. Rhiannon Smith (RS) BE Regional Partnerships Manager for London and the East would be giving a presentation later at the meeting, outlining new opportunities for clubs, and what can be done to help arrest declining membership. BE planned to increase their fees to members, if given approval, at their AGM later in the month. This was considered necessary because their funding from other sources was being reduced. The BE Business Plan 2013-15 was available on their website. Planning had already been approved for the National Badminton Arena in Milton Keynes, but progress on the disposal of the existing centre was delayed due to wildlife issues. The National Badminton League (NBL) would be launched in October with six new franchise teams and a short dynamic match format. Fixtures will be played monthly and televised live by Sky Sports with broadcasts around the world via digital streaming.

BE had been conducting a review of the Inter County Competition (ICC) and proposed to change the structure for the 2015/16 season. The main points were that there would be just one top division with 12 teams and regionalised competition into leagues of 8 teams with these matches played across 4 weekends. The objectives were to reduce clashes with the NBL and International competition, reduce travel time and commitments for players, and enhance the attractiveness for players involved.

Block bookings of Birchwood Leisure Centre on Sundays will continue for 2014/15 from September 1. Priority was given to Senior and Junior County matches and tournaments, but there was considerable court time available and anyone interested in making a booking should contact the Treasurer, Colin Walker (CW).

PK concluded his report by paying tribute to Malcolm Fraser (MF) who stood down as Chairman during the season after a long, dedicated and informed chairmanship which went back to the 1960s. It was impossible to overstate his positive impact on the Association over the years and contribution to the sport as a whole, and we were extremely grateful to him for all his efforts.

PK, on behalf of the committee, thanked all those who give up their valuable time to run badminton clubs and help make Hertfordshire Badminton so successful, and he declared that, working together, HBA can continue to develop and grow.

Concern at BE's proposal to increase fees was expressed at the meeting and PK undertook to express these concerns at the AGM on 28<sup>th</sup> June

**ACTION: PAUL KEMPSTER**

### **Membership Secretary**

CW had taken over this role and he was not able to attend the meeting. There were no specific issues raised.

### **Chairman of Selectors**

Paul Widdicombe (PW) reported that an auction of players was being held for the NBL, but that only one Herts player, Emily Westwood, was involved. He expressed his concern over the new NBL and the effect it would have on county matches. He said that it was hard to get players to play full weekends away. 2013/14 had been a tough season, as expected, but the end result, where all 3 teams held their positions, was most satisfactory. There had been some outstanding individual performance, and he congratulated, in particular Helena Lewczynska, Gail Emms, Matthew Widdicombe and Cayleigh Bambrick who all won county awards. Helena Lewczynska had won a special award for remaining undefeated with 14 great wins in all three disciplines. A full report on the county teams was available on the HBA website.

PW was stepping down as Chairman of Selectors after over 20 years in this role. He expressed his thanks to all those who had supported him over this period, especially past Chairman Malcolm Fraser, and also his close family.

PK congratulated PW on the achievements this past season which had been a real success and thanked him for all his commitment and dedication over a long period which was much appreciated. He said that it was important for the county that someone came forward to take on this role as soon as possible.

### **Veterans**

Jeff Armstrong had sent a written report stating that, as well as the Over 40s and Over 50s teams, the county had entered an Over 55s team in the Veterans League in the 2013/14 season. He had taken charge of this new team, Kevin Maughan the Over 50s and Ed Lintott (EL) the Over 40s. The Over 55s finished 2<sup>nd</sup> to the usual dominating Essex; the Over 50s also doing well to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> again below Essex, and the Over 40s finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in a very competitive section with Essex again winning the division. For the oncoming season Steve Willis had taken on the role of Herts Veterans co-ordinator which would be a great help to the team captains. EL reported that the Over 45s had won the Masters Tournament.

PK congratulated all those involved in the Vets on these good results.

Steve Willis said that he wanted to involve as many eligible club members in the Vets activities and he would be contacting clubs to give them more details.

### **HSBA**

Ken Winchester (KW) presented his report on behalf of the Schools Association. He was pleased to see from the Chairman of Selector's written report the photographs of so many players who had come through the Schools Association system.

He emphasised the huge sorrow he had felt at the departure of MF as Chairman. MF had been most helpful to him with his active support when HSBA was going through a very difficult period a few years back.

The past season had not been quite as successful but had still been a credible effort. Young squad players were coming through which should show results in the future. He was sad to see the departure of some of the key volunteers but very grateful to those who replaced them. All squads were now playing in the same venue (Herts Sports Village HSV) and that was making things easier.

He concluded his report by wishing PK good luck in his new role.

PK thanked him for all the work done at HSBA in developing and passing on good players to enhance the County squad.

### **Development Co-ordinator**

Dave Bartlett (DB) presented his report for the past season, which was available on the HBA website. He said that there was a very good structure in place for the development of badminton within the county. There were four Community Badminton Networks (CBNs): East Herts; Herts West; North Herts and Welwyn Hatfield. Their activities, procedures and concerns were brought to the Badminton Herts Development Committee (BHDC) which met three times in the season. Further details of the separate activities of the CBNs could be found in his report. It was sad to report the decline in the number of coaches on the register; currently 61 with 15 'Not Public' listed on Vision as opposed to 98 in 1998. Difficulty was experienced in getting sufficient numbers to run a Level 1 coaching course, although a Level 2 had been held with a resulting one new L2 for Herts.

He then introduced Rhiannon Smith BE Partnership Manager for London and the East. Her presentation "New Opportunities for Clubs" is available on the HBA website. RS outlined the various initiatives set up by BE to encourage new players to take up the sport and hopefully to join clubs. These initiatives included Smash Up; No Strings, and Battle Leagues. She encouraged involvement in CBNs as an opportunity to have a say on how BE funding is spent as well as gaining contact with other clubs, coaches and volunteers.

In response to a question she said that there had been no analysis of the declining club membership, but it was hoped that the initiatives outlined would help to provide new players. In a further response she said there was no tracking of players when they went to university, but that one solution, actively being taken up, was to have badminton development officers in post in the universities to encourage continuing play. It was agreed that it was vital for club viability to keep core players interested. PK thanked RS for her presentation which showed that a big effort was being made to attract new players into badminton.

He also thanked DB for the considerable effort both he and Gill put into development and for his enthusiasm and knowledge.

### **Coaching Co-ordinator**

Brian Jackson (BJ) said that this had been one of his busiest years with more requests for coaching from private individuals and schools. The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme had encouraged extra interest in badminton. Despite there being less coaches registered, those that were proved to be very active and diligent. He had been very grateful for youngsters supplied for the L2 course. He planned to organise a trip for coaches to the Badminton Centre in MK. In response to a question BJ confirmed that he is usually successful in finding a coach once a request has been made.

PK thanked BJ for all his hard work over the season.

### **County League Secretary**

PK reported that all had gone smoothly with the county league this past year, and the final match was played early in May. The County League Fixtures Meeting would most likely be held on 3 September at Birchwood but this had still to be confirmed.

HBA President, Bob Welsh then presented the trophies to the winning clubs:

Mens	1 : Ware 1	Mixed 1	: Ware 1
	2 : Comets 2	2	: Masters
		3	: Masters

Ladies 1 : Ware 1

Ladies 2 : Masters

### **Tournament Secretary**

Ed Lintott (EL) reported on a successful Open Tournament held on 31<sup>st</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013. This was a Silver ranked tournament open to rank 11 downwards and attracted a good number of entries, in particular with 72 in the Mens Singles. All had gone smoothly and fitted into the time and courts available. There had been a new referee and the tournament made a small profit. The Open Tournament next season would be held on 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> August weekend with electronic entries this year. EL expressed gratitude to his helpers.

PK thanked him for organising this tournament which was always successful.

### **Area League Representatives**

**Hertford:** Simon Carter (SC) said that the area AGM had been held and had been well attended. Club officials had administered the leagues well which had saved him a lot of work. The Fixtures meeting would be held on Tuesday 2 September. He said that it would be helpful if E Herts CBN could liaise with HAL and work together and this was agreed with representatives of E Herts CBN present at the meeting.

Colin Jackson had resigned as Hertford Area Representative on the HBA committee and Pam Newman (PN) had agreed to take on this role again. PN wished to place on record her appreciation of the work done by Malcolm Fraser for badminton in the county over a long period of time, and, in particular, in assisting her with HAL a few years back when most of the other officials had resigned and the future for HAL looked very uncertain.

### **North Herts and Letchworth**

Bob Green (BG) reported that the season had gone smoothly and the only negative point was that the league was reducing.

PK thanked both SC and BG for their reports.

**SW Herts:** No report

### **4. Presentation of Accounts**

Colin Walker (CW) had sent in a written report, and his Annual Accounts for the year ending 30 April 2014 had been circulated. HBA was in a very healthy financial position with cumulative funds of £20,811. The increase in funds of just over £2,000 is partly due to a grant of £1,500 from the Middlesex Sports Foundation and a donation of £250 from Welwyn Hatfield Sports & Physical Alliance to run Herts Wheelchair badminton tournaments. The net cost to run the 2013 wheelchair tournament amounted to £778 leaving a balance of £972 for future tournaments. During the year the small balances on the Barbara Stevens Fund and the Young Officials Fund have been transferred into the Ray Learney Fund, which also benefitted from a donation of £208 from Lingwood Badminton Club.

The profit for the year amounted to £1,339, up from £725 in the previous year and the main reason for this increase was the lower newsletter expenses as only one was published during the year. The increase in costs associated with running the county teams of £641 compared to a year ago was mainly due to the cost of purchasing shirts for the premier players to comply with BE regulations

In 2013 HBA signed a 3 year agreement with Birchwood Leisure Centre for the exclusive use of its 4 courts every Sunday. HSBA also agreed to participate and jointly 24 Sundays were used. After adjustments the cost per court hour worked out at £5.50, considerably lower than at other local sports centres. If any club or coach is interested in booking courts at Birchwood next season they should contact CW.

A question was asked as to what was going to be done with such a large balance. A reduction in fees could be considered. PK said that this, and any other proposals,

would be considered in committee. Thanks were expressed by those present for the award of £10 to each club represented at the meeting.

Further disquiet was expressed about BE's proposal to increase their fees and there was a request for the Junior rebate instituted by HBA last year to continue. It was agreed at the meeting that this had been much appreciated.

The meeting voted unanimously to adopt the accounts and appreciation was expressed to CW for all his work over the year.

#### **5. Subscriptions for Season 2014-15**

The proposal to keep HBA fees unchanged was passed unanimously by the meeting. PK would raise the proposal to increase BE fees at the BE AGM on 28<sup>th</sup> June.

#### **6. Election of Vice Presidents**

The committee proposed that Malcolm Fraser be made a Vice Chairman and he had agreed to this proposal. This was passed unanimously by the meeting as well as the re-election of all the previous Vice Presidents

#### **7. Election of Chairman**

Hilary Anderson expressed the grateful thanks of the committee to PK for stepping in as Vice Chairman following MF's resignation last September. The committee proposal that PK be elected Chairman was passed unanimously.

#### **8. Election of Executive Committee and BE Representative(s)**

Steve Willis had been proposed and seconded to join the committee as Vets Co-ordinator. The Executive Committee, including Steve Willis, and Pam Newman in place of Colin Jackson, were elected unanimously to stand for a year. The BE Representatives, Paul Kempster as Council Representative and Gill Bartlett as alternate, were also elected unanimously for the year 2015/16.

PK repeated that there was an urgent need for someone to come forward to take on the role of Chairman of Selectors. The job description was outlined and would be made available on the HBA website.

#### **9. Election of Auditor**

Albert Nicholas was willing to stand and was again elected as auditor.

#### **10. Review of BE Agenda**

PK outlined the agenda of the BE AGM to be held at Milton Keynes on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June. All were welcome to attend. He would attend together with DB who was an Elected Member of the Council. He would circulate more information about proposed changes outlined in the agenda, if they were significant.

#### **11. Any Other Business**

The late cancellation of matches and the subsequent costs were raised. It was agreed that clubs should be reminded about correct procedures for re-arranging matches as agreed by individual leagues and this was generally done at the start of the season. Where possible Leagues should consider having published rules. Unavoidable late cancellations should be made in direct contact with the appropriate club official and not just by e-mail.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm with thanks to all those attending.