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Headteacher of Ladbrooke JMI School

September 2007

HSBA COUNTY TRIALS

All trials are held at the Herts Sports Village, Hatfield. Please register at least 15 minutes before the start time.

U17 Trials (players born in 1991/1992)

Sunday, September 16th Time: 2.00 pm
Contact: Tony Clarke (01992 586727) or Pat Walker (01992 422073)
(e-mail: pat.walker@auchy.com)

U15 Trials (players born in 1993/1994)

Sunday, September 16th Time: 11.00 am
Contact: Hitesh Shah (0208 907 7790)
(e-mail: horizon@hitesh20.freemove.co.uk)

U13 Trials (players born in 1995/1996)

Wednesday, September 19th Time: 6.00 pm
Contact: Duncan/Marion Conway (01707 652061)
(e-mail: duncanconway@sky.com)

U11 and Development Group Trials (players born in 1997 or later)

Wednesday, September 5th, 12th and 19th Time 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm
Players will be observed over 3 weeks before a final decision is made for the U11 Squad and the Development Group. If you miss the first week (5th) but are interested, please come to the trials on the 2nd and 3rd weeks.
Contact: Sangeeta Dhall (01462 684804)
(e-mail: sangeeta.d@ntlworld.com)

Bracknell Badminton Bonanza

Paul Widdicombe

The Bracknell Badminton Bonanza took place on Saturday 30th June 2007 with the majority of entrants coming from the Southern Counties.

Hertfordshire's only competitor was Claire Widdicombe who played in the girls under 15 singles, and doubles with Clarissa Geokdjian from Surrey after regular partner Heather Myers pulled out the night before with a pulled calf muscle. (Heather has not had much luck this season - we wish her a speedy recovery).

Claire finished third in her singles group, losing to eventual winner Jessica Ledermann from Berkshire.

In the girls doubles Claire, with stand in partner Clarissa Geokdjian, took runners-up spot and silver medal behind Surrey twins Kirsty and Justine Walker.

A Badminton Bonanza is a recent addition to the badminton calendar and generally gives an out of season opportunity to continue competitively during the summer months.

Look out for these tournaments at www.badmintonengland.co.uk under the Events page.

A Big THANK YOU!!

Hazel Levins

As many of you will know, I am unable to continue to manage the U11 and Development Training Squad because of other commitments. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Liz Hatt and Geoff Daniels who organised an evening out so that I couldn't just quietly slip away! Everyone who came to the meal made me feel very special and I was overwhelmed at the generosity and appreciation shown by so many of the parents, past and present, and by members of the coaching team at HSBA.

Many thanks to all of you who were able to come along on the evening and who helped to make it such a special time. A big thanks also, to all who contributed to the vouchers. I am sorry not to be able to reply in person to each one of you, but the card simply read, 'The U11 Squad'. I will have great pleasure in spending them on something that will serve as a reminder of my memorable time with the players in the Development Training and U11 Squad and everyone involved with HSBA.

I hope that you all have a good summer break, and I will see many of you in September when I hope to help Sangeeta set up the new squad and help with the coaching when time permits me to do so.

I wish Sangeeta every success. I know she has enjoyed running the sessions since Easter and is looking forward to taking over in September.

Many Thanks.

Swifts Presentation Evening

Swifts Presentation Evening was held on the last Friday in June. It was well attended by numerous parents and players. Duncan Conway reported that the club was thriving in all four sessions, although there was the usual shortage of girls. The club played in the Junior Leagues and had a reasonable amount of success, coming runners-up in the U18 medley and U12 boys and girls leagues and winning the U15 boys league.

Swifts Certificates (based on the BISI programme) were presented to players from the first two sessions, as well as certificates for commitment and improvement.

Each session has a singles ladder - bronze, silver and gold medals were presented, with a trophy for the winners who were: Session 1 - Samuel Newlove; Session 2 - Christopher Hamilton; Session 3 - Jonathan Radmall; Session 4 - Steven George.

During the summer term, sessions 2, 3 and 4 ran a doubles challenge - the main rule being that players do not play more than twice with the same partner in one evening. The winners were: Session 2 - Christopher Hamilton and Shayna Godin; Session 3 - Joseph Tam and Oliver Simpson; Session 4 - Steven George and Chris Dennell.

This was followed by gold, silver, bronze and trophies for each year group winners, who were: Year 3 - James Cummings; Year 4 - Rosie Conway and Samuel Newlove; Year 5 - Isabel Hatt and Yash Kejriwal; Year 6 - Rachel Hibberd and Justin Chan; Year 7 - Jessie Northen and Mitch Chapman; Year 8 - Juliet Radmall and Steven George; Year 9 - Jo En Choi and Alex Lee; Year 10 - Lauren Austin and Jonathan Radmall; Year 11 - Eleanor Golland and James Gan; Year 12 - Fred Wonnacott. The Club Champions were: Junior Girls - Amy George (runner-up - Isabel Hatt).

Junior Boys - Yash Kejriwal (runner-up - Corran Goodson, Senior Girls - Jo En Choi (runner-up - Eleanor Golland), Senior Boys - Ben Goodson (runner-up - Steven George).

Marion and Duncan thanked everyone for coming and the evening finished with the taking of a club photograph.

(Swifts still has a few vacancies for the coming season - anyone interested please contact Marion or Duncan on 01707 652061.

Tournament Dates for 2007/2008

Please make a note of these dates and times - there are some changes to last year, particularly the mixed doubles.

Sunday 14th October

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| U13 (year 8 and under) boys and girls doubles | 9.30 am |
| U13 (year 8 and under) mixed doubles | 2.00 pm |
| U15 (year 10 and under) boys and girls 'B' singles | 9.30 am |

Sunday 4th November

| | |
|--|---------|
| U11 (year 6 and under) boys and girls doubles | 9.30 am |
| U18 (year 13 and under) boys and girls singles | 9.30 am |
| U18 (year 13 and under) boys and girls doubles | 2.00 pm |
| U18 (year 13 and under) mixed doubles | 5.00 pm |

Sunday 25th November

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|--|---------|
| U11 (year 6 and under) boys and girls singles | 9.30 am |
| U15 (year 10 and under) boys and girls doubles | 9.30 pm |
| U15 (year 10 and under) mixed doubles | 2.00 pm |

Sunday 20th January

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|--|---------|
| U10 (year 5 and under) boys and girls doubles | 9.30 am |
| U13 (year 8 and under) boys and girls 'B' singles | 9.30 am |
| U15 (year 10 and under) boys and girls 'A' singles | 2.00 pm |

Sunday 3rd February

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|---|---------|
| U10 (year 5 and under) boys and girls singles | 9.30 am |
| U13 (year 8 and under) boys and girls 'A' singles | 9.30 am |

Sunday 27th April

Primary Schools Team Tournament (details at a later date)

All the above tournaments are held at the Stevenage Leisure Centre.

Entries to: Mrs Roz Hodgkinson, Boonwood, 24 Turpins Close, Welwyn, Herts. AL6 0RA.

Tel: 01438 715231.

e-mail: hsba@srpltd.com

There are also open tournaments - far too numerous to list here - at U11, U13, U15 and U17 age groups. For information on these - dates and entry forms - please look at the Junior section of the Badminton England website: www.badmintonengland.co.uk

Awards for All Projects

Angela Blowers

In May HSBA were successful with their bid for Awards for All. We asked for £3,600 to organise coaching workshops for county, non-county players and coaches. The money will also be spent on a mentoring programme.

The first of these events, a workshop for county players, was held in July. We were very lucky to have England Mixed Doubles partners Natalie Munt (Herts) and Kristian Roebuck (Derby) spend the day with us at HSV.

Natalie, when her busy international schedule allows, represents Hertfordshire as a member of its first team. Her senior international career started in 2002 - she won the doubles at the Nationals that same year and also the doubles at the US Open. This season she was a finalist at the Swiss Open and won both the doubles and mixed at the Welsh Open

Kristian represents Derbyshire and England. He first represented England in 2004 at the Thomas Cup. In 2006 he won the event and has also won the doubles at the Scottish, Czech and Canadian Open Tournaments

The day at the HSV was very successful with Under 14s taking part in the morning session and the older players in the afternoon. All worked extremely hard and enjoyed the experience. Several coaches attended on the day. It was a chance for them to see our juniors in action and also meet with their fellow coaches. Natalie and Kristian spent their lunch break with the coaches passing on their expertise and answering questions.

A similar workshop for club (non-county) players will be held during October. All details will be sent to junior clubs during the next few weeks. Numbers will be restricted as usual so please get entries in early.

Coaches Workshop

This was held at Amwell School on Sunday 2nd September. We were very fortunate to have Nick Goode run the workshop for us. It was aimed at the Level 1 coaches, but all were welcome. It was a successful day, Nick sharing his coaching experiences with newer coaches. All felt the day to be beneficial and well worth attending.

HSBA Junior Leagues

Geoff Daniels has taken over from Pat Walker as organiser of the Junior Leagues. Letters have been sent out to Junior clubs with regard to the 2007/2008 season.

The structure of the league for the coming season will consist of U12, U15 and U18 boys and girls and U15 medley categories.

Boys and girls teams consist of 4 players with each member playing 2 singles and 2 doubles.

Medley teams consist of 2 boys and 2 girls. They each play one game of singles, one level doubles and 2 games of mixed doubles.

Games will be played to 21 using the new 'rally point' scoring system.

Age is taken as at midnight on 31st August/1st September 2007.

Schools may also enter teams into the leagues

In each division, matches are played at home and away against all other teams. If there are more than 5 entries in any division, that division may be split into smaller groups.

Your affiliation fee to HSBA includes one free league entry. Subsequent team entries are £2 each. Please note that clubs entering the league must be affiliated to Badminton England (this does not apply to schools) and the HSBA affiliation fee does not include affiliation to BE.

For further information please contact Geoff on 01992 444348 or e-mail: geoff@daniels1.wanadoo.co.uk

From the editor:

Thanks to Angela Blowers, Paul Widdicombe and Hazel Levins for their articles. Thanks in advance to all 'pupil postmen' for delivering letters to schools. As there will only be 4 newsletters this year instead of 6 (unless there is a need to produce an extra one) the closing date for the next newsletter is

Friday, 23rd November.

Megan Lumb, 16 Strafford Gate, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 1PN

Tel: 01707 653812

E-mail: megan@mischief16.demon.co.uk