

# Reading Badminton Association

Minutes of the 71<sup>st</sup> Committee and Fixtures Meeting held at All Saints Hall, Downshire Square, Reading, on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2009.

The meeting opened at 19:52 hours. There were 18 Clubs represented at the meeting.

1. There were apologies for absence from Reading & Country, Wallingford & Chiltern. There were, however, none received from Mavnell, Whiteknights or Vixens.
2. The Minutes of the last Fixtures Meeting had been circulated. Proposed as a true record by Silvana Hindry (British Rail Badminton), seconded by Brian Canderton (Maidenhead).
3. There were a couple of small matters arising from the Minutes: Typos in Mabel Hahner's & Alan Porton's names.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Mr Simon Christy

A hardcopy of the report was presented and Simon summarized the accounts:

- League Account: Lost Evening Post sponsorship; Gained some sponsorship from Keal & Associates; Pay Mark Laybourne for match reports instead of Gill Smith
- Miscellaneous: 2 premium bond prizes of £75; Still owe Berkshire BA fees though
- The RBA Cup was in balance again this year
- There was a loss on the disco of £152 as the sale of tickets was down
- Overall just covered cost ending up £37 in balance
- Raising fees next season will help provide some money since losing Evening Post sponsorship, but might have to look at the cost of medals or shields as well

5. **League Secretary's Report:** Mr Mark Laybourne

- Still looking for a sponsor having lost the Evening Post
- Printer Quasgraphic helped with the cost of match cards
- Nominations for teams before the 1<sup>st</sup> match, but preferably at same time as RBA Cup on the 18<sup>th</sup> September
- Website incorporating new scoring system hopefully up and running for October where it will be set-up the same as the Bracknell league
- Hopefully will still have ½ a page write-up in the [Wednesday] Evening Post sporting section from October – will forward details when known
- As mentioned previously, keep an eye on the website & paper just on case cards are 'lost'. Use email to confirm, if required and fill them in carefully!

6. **Tournament Secretary's report:** *position vacant*

- Silvana Hindry mentioned that there is likely to be a sealed tournament in November (date TBC once county/vets fixed their dates)

7. **Future of Presentation Disco**

A reasonably long discussion on lots of aspects of the Presentation Disco. In no particular order, the following was raised:

- Date changed didn't help: Saturday v Friday. Should always be the Friday though: "...the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in June..."
- Straw poll – mostly supportive. Some leagues do not have anything but we need to make it attractive enough

- There is a certain lack of commitment from many clubs – it only entails 1 night. Note that only 23 tickets were officially sold 2 weeks before.
- 4 clubs continue to show support: Ufton, BRB, Carlile & Chiltern. They always send, but some other clubs also well represented
- Need to use it as a social event for the club but some clubs not social
- Alternative suggestions: Dinner dance; Theme night; Barn dance; etc
- Move the location to somewhere more central for public transport? Cost implications, so we need to start looking & suggesting early
- Impose rules e.g. if you win a trophy, you must send x people? All clubs did not think that runners-up trophies were necessary, though – thus a possible cost-saving. Medal v trophy brief discussion, but the latter always perceived as better
- Too old for a 'disco'? Was the music OK? Perhaps provide a playlist in advance?

Therefore as an action-step, Craig will compile and send out a questionnaire to get the general consensus of the clubs (please forward any Social Secretaries to Craig or wait for the prompt).

### **8. Any Other Business**

- Discussion about sending in match fixtures up front and publish fixtures at start of season? Deemed too much effort for Mark, but new website should help
- Using an electronic format for match-cards should be investigated to help Mark
- Scorebooks: £2 each for anyone who needs them

Meeting Closed at 20:40 hours.

Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_

Date