

Minutes BDBA A.G.M Tuesday 3 June 2025

Meeting opened by the Chair Mike Percy at 7:30pm and all attendees welcomed by the Chair.

Present

Michael Banks
Ant Cross
Nicky Percy
Trevor Bell
Mike Percy
Fred Barnes
Karen Kenyon Squirrel
Steve Blackburn
Jamie Sedgwick
Carol Howarth
Andy Wiseman
Serena Hindle
Bernadette Tomlinson
Peter

Apologies

Carole Booth
Nikki Wilford

Minutes

Minutes of the 2024 meeting were read and approved.

Proposed – Michael Banks

Seconded – Serena Hindle

No matters arising.

Correspondence

No correspondence received.

Officer Reports

Treasurer – Michael Banks

A balance sheet was handed round and is attached (Attachment 1).

Michael explained the detail in the balance sheet and proposed that team and player registration fees remain unchanged - £15 per mixed team, £10 per levels team and £7 per person registration (decision has already been made by Council to reduce junior fees to £3 per person for those aged 17 and below on 1st September), as we have made a surplus of £350 and there is still a very healthy balance in our account.

Points to note:

- Presentation evening (May 2024) made a surplus of £72.
- Tournament made a loss of £100.

- Insurance costs reduced by £181.
- We do pay bank charges £62 per year. It was decided 2 years ago not to change provider due to the amount of administration and time and work involved.

Accounts were voted on and accepted.

Michael confirmed that Miller Roskell will continue to offer a level of sponsorship for the next season. He also stated that there were also opportunities for other sponsors, should anyone be interested.

Michael noted that we do not need to hold such funds and a discussion followed on ways to use the surplus funds to the benefit of the league and to attract new players. Various ideas were touched upon including tournaments with cash prizes, attracting out of town teams to join the league, funding the accreditation of coaches. It was decided that Council will add this item to the agenda for the next meeting to discuss and agree a strategy.

Michael mentioned that it can be confusing when preparing the accounts due to the end of the accounting year being 31 March e.g. figures quoted for the presentation evening are for the event in May 2024, not this season's event which took place in May 2025. Following a discussion it was decided that there were no barriers to changing the year end to 31 May (no restrictions in the Constitution), so a proposal was put forward by Nicky and seconded by Steve Blackburn that the year end be changed to 31 May. A vote was taken and all in favour. This will mean that next year's accounts will cover a 14-month period and thereafter, the accounts will be in line with the season dates.

Match Secretary – Ant Cross

Ant read the Match Secretary Report and a copy is attached (Attachment 2).

Chair – Mike Percy

Mike congratulated everyone on a successful year and felt that there has been an increase in the number of players in the leagues.

He noted that 3 clubs in particular have very well attended club nights – Stanley, Lightning and Kirkham.

Mike thanked Council for their engagement and work, especially Ant as Match Secretary, Nicky as League Secretary and Michael B as Treasurer. Also thanks to all club representatives who work hard to administer and run their clubs.

Mike introduced and welcomed our new President, Trevor Bell, who is taking over from Carole Booth for the next 3 years. Carole was thanked in her absence for her work as President over the past 3 years and for all her previous and ongoing commitment to her club and to Council. Specific thanks went to Carole for the support provided to Mike and Nicky in their roles. Nicky will meet with Carole on Thursday to present a token of our appreciation.

Mike thanked Nicky, Serena and Nikki for a successful end of season event.

As always, there are always spaces, especially for new and younger members, to balance out the experience of the older members!

Finally, Mike encouraged everyone to keep up the momentum going forward into the new season later in the year.

Proposals

No proposals received.

Election of Officers for 2025/2026

President

Trevor Bell – Year 1 of 3

Immediate Past President

Carole Booth – Year 1 of 3

Chair

Mike Percy

Vice Chair

Trevor Bell

League Secretary

Nicky Percy

Match Secretary

Ant Cross

Treasurer

Michael Banks

Press Secretary

Serena Hindle

Tournament Secretary

Nikki Wilford

Social Secretary

Serena Hindle

Council Members

Carol Howarth

Jamie Sedgwick

Jon Jackson

Steve Blackburn (Honorary Life Member)

Fred Barnes (Honorary Life Member)

Junior Coaching Secretary

Trevor Bell

Adult Coaching Secretary

Jamie Sedgwick (Volunteered post meeting)

Safeguarding Officer

Lee Meakin

All positions were proposed by Michael Banks and seconded by Trevor Bell. All in favour.

Post meeting Jamie emailed and volunteered to fill the position of Adult Coaching Secretary and it has been assumed that there would be no objections to this.

Serena has agreed to take on the role of Press Officer and made a request to teams/captains to provide any commentary on the match when the match sheet is submitted to help in the compiling of the reports. Nicky will find details of the Gazette Sports Editor and forward to Serena.

Honorary Life Membership

As mentioned in his report, this season marks Ant's 50th in the BDBA. An Honorary Life Membership was awarded to him to recognise his longstanding membership of the BDBA and massive contributions to the association in the many roles he has undertaken over the years. Mike made a speech outlining Ant's contribution and achievements. He was presented with a certificate and some beer. Ant made a short speech thanking everyone for the recognition.

AGM business concluded.

Any Other Business

The following items were discussed after the conclusion of the AGM.

- Colin Kinnear, one of our longstanding and best players over the years, has decided to retire from the sport.
- It has been decided that additional awards will be made at the Presentation Evening. Council will decide the awards and criteria and will distribute this information to clubs by the end of the year, so that they can start to consider any nominations they may have.
- Ant mentioned that he has removed a few odd adverts from our Facebook page (e.g. advertising wallpaper by a person unknown to the association). It was also decided that we do not need to ask for donations to the association for other adverts placed on the page (e.g. local coaches advertising their sessions)
- A full committee meeting will be held in August to discuss the new season and some of the items raised.

Meeting closed at 8:45p.m.

Attachment 1

BDBA Accounts Year Ending March 2025

**BDBA
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025
ACCOUNTS**

<u>Income</u>	<u>YE 31 MARCH 2025</u>	<u>YE 31 MARCH 2024</u>
Registration fees	1,449.00	1,365.00
Club subscriptions	310.00	310.00
Presentation evening	1,330.00	660.00
Shuttle sales	-	-
Tournament	320.00	280.00
Cup	-	-
Sponsorship	150.00	150.00
	<u>3,559.00</u>	<u>2,765.00</u>

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>YE 31 MARCH 2025</u>	<u>YE 31 MARCH 2024</u>
Insurance	855.34	1,036.00
Trophies	349.00	335.10
Bank charges	62.00	64.00
Presentation night	1,258.00	628.98
Cup costs	149.85	169.80
Tournament	420.00	280.00
Website	66.00	54.00
Sundry	48.50	20.00
	<u>3,208.69</u>	<u>2,587.88</u>

Surplus/deficit for the year	<u><u>350.31</u></u>	<u><u>177.12</u></u>
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Balance sheet

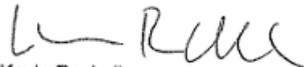
Cash in hand and at bank	6,822.70	6,557.39
Debtors/prepayments	255.00	350.00
Creditors/accruals	- 5.00	- 185.00
Net assets	<u>7,072.70</u>	<u>6,722.39</u>

Capital account

Balance b/fwd	6,722.39	6,545.27
Surplus/deficit	350.31	177.12
	<u>7,072.70</u>	<u>6,722.39</u>


Michael Banks
Treasurer

03/06/25.


Kevin Roskell
Independent reviewer

03/06/2025

Attachment 2

Match Secretary's Report 2024/2025 Season

Hello everyone, welcome to yet another annual general meeting.

After our discussions last year, it was good to see that there was only one instance of a good player from another league playing the odd match however, the player was not of County standard, but it was disappointing that the team concerned did not play a B team player instead. All other players who live outside the area and play in other leagues did manage to represent their teams regularly. Hopefully, we have seen the last of exceptional players brought in to make sure of a win.

In all the leagues, Mixed Division 1, Mixed Division 2 and the Levels League there were no teams with zero points.

Mixed Division 1 was won by Poulton A for a second time. After a shaky early start with some very close matches when key players were missing, Poulton A ended the season with a 100% record and were clear winners. Hesketh-Fleetwood A were runners up.

This season, as last season the Mixed Division 1 was split into 2 mini leagues with the top 4 teams playing for the title and the bottom 4 teams fighting against relegation. This fight went right to the wire and newly promoted Kirkham Charter A avoided relegation, but Lightning B and Lids A found themselves heading back to Division 2.

In Mixed Division 2, the outstanding team was Poulton B who comfortably won the division with a mixture of youth and experience. The team only lost when key players were missing. Stanley A with the most consistent team in all the leagues were runners up and promoted back to the topflight.

The Levels League was the most unpredictable league with the most surprising results. Previous winners Lightning A and Hesketh-Fleetwood came second and third respectively but, the Levels league was won by Lids for the first time.

After discussions with various clubs, there is a possibility that there will be 2 divisions in the Levels League which will be a boast to the BDBA.

In the Cup competitions, Lightning A won the Gazette Cup dashing the hopes of a "double" from Poulton A who were runners up. Although Poulton fielded 2 B team players, I have to say they played exceptionally well and in fact did play in the winning semifinal team the week before.

Despite the loss of 2 players to their A team, Poulton B won the Bridgewood trophy comfortably showing what strength in depth they have and, benefitting from the improvement of their younger players. Kirkham Charter B on the other hand got through to the final by a small number of points and, despite a valiant effort in the final had to settle for runners up.

Congratulations to all the League and Cup winners and the respective runners up. Well played to all players and thank you to all the club match secretaries and team captains. This season we did have some difficulty with venues becoming unavailable and, at times not providing a lot of notice and becoming unavailable after some free evenings had already been and gone! However, with the help and understanding of all clubs the rearrangements were made.

Regarding myself, I have now completed 50 years of competing in the BDBA. I was part of the league when the popularity soared to 100 teams at its height, when clubs had more than one club night, when tournaments (of which there were several) had a reserve list, when there were 16 divisions a Premier League 1 – 4 followed by 3 feeder leagues: Chairmans, Presidents and Treasurers leagues. When players were fighting for a Town Team place to represent BDBA in the Lancashire Inter league.

There seemed to be quick decline and, each year we were losing teams and even clubs. For while the descent was halted and, after our withdrawing from Badminton England we gained 2 new clubs and some more teams but then unfortunately, Covid struck and like other sports badminton suffered.

This year though, it has been a joy to see an increasing number of junior players especially in Mixed Division 2 and the Levels leagues. Also, on playing at various venues, I am seeing an increase in numbers on a club night. In fact, groups of players have organised their own social group play at weekends and during the Summer at Thornton YMCA, Blackpool & Fylde College, Preesall and Stanley Park.

Our local Asian communities have also organised events. I was playing half court singles at Thornton YMCA whilst there was a tournament final on the next court. I ended up becoming an honorary member of the Bangladesh Badminton Society and asked to present trophies and medals. The tournament was between local Indian restaurants and take aways playing against each other and, the atmosphere was fantastic. The spectators surrounded the court whilst the final was played and chanted the name of their team after every point. After the final rally there was a pitch invasion, and winners hoisted onto shoulders.

The Filipino Community hosted a day of sporting events at Stanley Park recently on a Bank Holiday Saturday. At the last minute, I was asked to help as they decided to include badminton as one of the sports. Despite the short notice, there was actually a good turn out and the tournament was enjoyable if not a little chaotic at times with a volleyball tournament on the other side of the hall which was deafening! The Filipino Community have already asked me to help again next year but promise to give me more time and will involve me in the preparations for a 3-day event.

I think it is good that BDBA gets involved with any badminton event in this area and, if anyone knows of badminton events in the Blackpool & Fylde area, please let us know and we will help in any way we can.

So, with the increase in junior players, club attendance, the emergence of new social groups and various new badminton events, I am very hopeful for the future of badminton in this area and look forward to the 2025/ 2026 season which I believe will be our 80th season as the BDBA was founded in 1947.