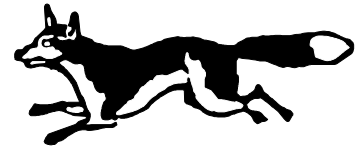


LEICESTERSHIRE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER/BULLETIN ISSUE No:3

Date: May 2009



Hello Everyone

Before the badminton season finally comes to a close, and we all hang up our rackets for the summer, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers for their continual hard work in the running of the clubs, without our dedicated work force of badminton volunteers, where would we be. Thanks also to the LSBA, junior clubs and the Coaches for their continual hard work in helping to produce our future club and county players for Leicestershire.

Congratulations to the Junior ICT squad that finished a very creditable 15th place out of 40 counties and well done to the over 55 vet's team finishing 3rd in the National Finals.

Next year will be a very interesting one with lots of changes and new challenges, within the development role. From September 2009 the Leicestershire Badminton role will no longer exist, badminton development in the East Midlands will be delivered by a team of three regional officers and one regional manager. The work will be achieved by developing Performance Centres and Community Badminton Networks across the

region. The junior and senior county Associations have been informed on the changes. More information on this is expected in June 09 when all BDOs are invited to a meeting at Milton Keynes. On that note I will end and I hope you all enjoy reading this report. Have a great summer!

BADMINTON ENGLAND'S EXCITING INITIATIVE

COMMUNITY BADMINTON NETWORKS

A community badminton network consists of structures based on local authority areas. They will provide a way of linking up all of the badminton activity that takes place in the area. This will:

- Allow new players to access sport easily.
- Offer existing players to find the right badminton experience
- Increase the opportunities for talented players to progress.
- Strengthen the club structure
- Attract greater resources and funding into sport.

There will to be 2 community badminton networks in Leicestershire over the next 2 years, Charnwood and Blaby/ Harborough areas, a third will be introduced in year 3. A working group will be set up in each area to plan and evaluate the projects, the group will consist of representatives from Clubs, Schools, Coaches and Local Authorities.

If all parties can work and plan together I am sure it will create stronger links between schools and clubs and will attract more members.

YOUTH GAMES SUNDAY 28TH JUNE SEE OUR YOUNG PLAYERS IN ACTION!! YRS 9 & 10 EVENT

Leicestershire and Rutland County sports partnership are once again hosting this great event at Loughborough University on June 28th. Badminton has been represented in the games since the year 2000, it has always been a great experience for our young players giving them the chance to represent their area at such a prestigious event.

If you would like to support the teams on the day, the badminton event is played at Loughborough LC, starting at 9-30am to 3pm.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS Support this Event

As you probably know Leicestershire are hosting the Special Olympics 2009. Babington College is the venue for the Badminton event so why not come and support the athletes on July 25th to 31st.

GREAT NEWS £60,000 pounds comes to LEICESTERSHIRE

Performance Centres for junior players

As reported in my newsletter last season Leicestershire were to apply for two performance centres. I am happy to report that the application was successful and Leicestershire has been awarded £60,000 to set up the centres.

The application (Development Plan) is written to achieve the following vision:

Two performance centres serving Leicestershire and surrounding areas, where local clubs serve the club pathways and where talented players are able to progress and receive the appropriate level of coaching within ability based settings on the performance pathways, supported by two committed teams of coaches with the intention of helping BADMINTON England achieve its target of 2000 top-level players by 2016.

Centre No 1 will be hosted at the badminton centre Loughborough University and the second at Brockington College, Enderby. Steve Higgins will be the head coach. He will have a coaching staff to help deliver the coaching at both centres. A performance centre management group has been formed of various partners to ensure that the grant is spent in conjunction with the application.

More information on the centres will be available in Aug/Sept. The centres will be start in Sept/Oct 09.

Inclusive YOUTH GAMES

We are pleased to be asked to include Badminton into the inclusive youth games this year. The players will compete in a team event at Loughborough University on Tuesday 30th June.

Enderby Juniors

Enderby have a membership of approx 15 junior players attending on a Sunday evening, thanks to Debbie, Dave, Rod and other club members the players are developing nicely some are now members of the Adult club and are representing Enderby in the Leagues. Well done to Enderby. There are still vacancies for more junior members so if anyone is looking for a club please contact Dave or Debbie.

GOOD WORK DONE BY: LEICESTERSHIRE BADMINTON COACHES ASSOCIATION

Not many counties have a Coaches Association, WHY I really don't know, since the Leicestershire Coaches Association was set up we have had a much more co-ordinated approach to coaching in the county, good communications have been achieved and more coaching sessions have been successful. As a constituted association we have the ability to apply for grants to develop our sport. Since the association was set up we have been successful in gaining grants to help subsidise courses, running annual seminars and update sessions in Leicestershire, funding coaches to attend national seminars at Milton Keynes, helped pay for coaching in schools and purchased equipment.

Long live the Association!!!! Information on how to become a member of the association will be sent out to coaches in September.

FIRST AID COURSE (ARE YOU UP TO DATE?)

Any coaches that would like to take a fist aid course (half a day course) please contact me ASAP as one is to be organised in Leicestershire as soon as I have 12 candidates.

COACHES SEMINAR

Leicestershire are hosting an East Midlands coach's seminar on JUNE 7TH at Babington College. The guest coach this year is Steve Butler. This year's theme is based on coaching singles "Practice to perform". All coaches and assistant coaches are welcome to join us, don't miss your chance to work with such an experienced player and coach. If you are interested in attending please contact me for more details.

COACHES COURSES (UK coaching certificate)

COST:

Level 1 course £195.00 (assistant coach) at least 16yrs old (10 hrs course)

Level 2 course £350.00 (Full coach) at least 18yrs old (25 hrs course)

Are you interested in taking a course but are put off by the costs? Well HELP is at hand, the Leicestershire coaches association will help subsidise the course for you.

Local Authorities also have small grant schemes that help with subsidies.

Contact me for more details

SCHOOLS LEAGUES

The schools leagues have gone from strength to strength, this year saw 41 schools and Colleges competing against each other throughout the season ending in a finals day at Babington College. Badminton in the schools is definitely on the increase more schools entered the leagues than ever before and more matches were completed than other years. It's good to see so many young players enjoying our sport; we just need to keep them playing especially the girls.

The results:

Under 14 boy's winners: Loughborough Grammar

Under 14 Girls winners: De Lisle

Under 16 boy's winners: Ashby

Under 16 Girls winners: Loughborough Grammar

Under 18 girls winners : Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth 1 College

Under 18 boy's winners : Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth 1 College



LEISURE CENTRE/COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAGUES

The Leisure Centre/Community College leagues are continuing to provide the gap between casual play to league play.

Even through there were only 6 teams entered this season I think this league is achieving its objectives in providing playing opportunities for all abilities. I will continue to promote and publicise it throughout the summer and hopefully it will run again next season.

Please help me and pass the word around!!

Results League winners this year were King Edward V11 CC.

2nd Hermitage

3rd Evington

4th Patrick

5th Roan

6th Tate

JUNIOR CLUBS

(just snippets of junior club life)

CENTRAL LEICESTER GRANT SUCCESS

Central Leicester has been successful in gaining a grant from Voluntary Action Leicester for the development of their junior section which they piloted last season at Gartree High school. Thanks to Greg and some very dedicated volunteers who are helping with the coaching the junior sessions are going well. I am sure that this club will benefit from the hard work that they are putting in. Well done!!

LOUGHBOROUGH LEYS JUNIOR CLUB

Loughborough Leys run two junior sections one at the University on a Monday night and one at Loughborough Leisure Centre on a Saturday morning, both are doing well, they now have 54 junior members receiving coaching once a week. Both sessions are organised by the club but are coached by external coaches which with the aid of subscriptions and grants we are able to pay.

LOUGHBOROUGH JUNIOR CLUB

Loughborough BC run their junior section on a Monday night, last year they were struggling for players but this year they are nearly at maximum numbers. Mark King coaches the sessions with the help of some very willing volunteers. They have some really nice young players at the club, this was proved by them winning the under 11 schools and club league this season.

MELTON OGS

Christine and Alison are doing a great job over in Melton with their junior club, they have also had an increase in membership this season.

As if running the juniors is not enough they both work really hard to make sure that Melton is represented at the youth games, by coaching and organising the team before and on the day. Thanks ladies !!!

... and Trevor of course.

WHITWICK JUNIORS CLUB

More members than ever before - 58 on the books.

The club plays every Saturday morning at the Hermitage LC, there has been a increase in membership this season especially from young players including lots of girls (under 11s) Whitwick entered two teams into the newly formed under 11yrs league this season, which all the children enjoyed playing in. The teams finished 2nd and 4th, brill for the first year. As the season comes to an end I am looking forward to running our annual trip to sunny Skegness, where we do not play badminton we just chill out!! Well the children do.



SETTING UP A JUNIOR CLUB / SECTION

If any clubs need help or advice on the setting up of a junior section please give me a call I am happy to help.

Some clubs do not have coaches as members, don't let that stop you, I can find you a coach, BUT we do need a few dedicated club members who would be willing to organise, advertise and administrate the session.

NEW THIS SEASON UNDER 11YRS LEAGUE

The LSBA set up an under 11yrs Club and School league this season, clubs and schools were invited to enter teams of two boys and two girls, they were very surprised when 12 teams entered, this meant two groups of six teams could be set up. The matches were played at Babington College on a Saturday evening organised and run by Terry Talbot and Graham Forryan. It was a great success, and will definitely run again next season.

ASHBY

Chris Goadby is doing a grand job building up the Ashby junior club, at the start of the season the club had 2 players, they now have 14 players attending every week. Chris also works as a volunteer coach at the after school club which is creating good links between the schools and club. Good luck with the club next season.

Guthlaxton Juniors Doing Well

Mac and Lynn are working hard at Guthlaxton College promoting badminton and running a junior club, the club has seen an increase in young players this season, some of the older players are already joining the adult session held at the college. Another club improving on numbers thanks to the clubs volunteer coaches.

BABINGTON COLLEGE CLUB

At the start of the season Graham Forryan was worried that he would not have enough members this year, but as the year went on his sessions began to fill up, he ended up with 30 members.

Graham also entered a team of youngsters in the under 11years league.

NATIONAL SCHOOLS COMPETITION

5 Boys teams and 5 girls team at years 10 & 11 played at Babington College in the Centre Parcs national competition, Ashby School (boy's team) and Crownhills (girl's team) went through to represent Leicestershire in the regional rounds in Nottingham. It is hoped that more teams from Leicestershire will enter this competition next season.

SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE

South Leicester moved venue to Brockington College and were able to set up their junior club running an hour before their senior club, this is a perfect situation for a club, as the young players develop, it is much easier for them to stay and play in the senior club.

Martin Powell runs the junior club and has worked hard on developing and getting new players, this has been made possible by working with Brockington College. He now has 24 players attending on a regular basis. This shows that working and building good relationships with the school/college you play in can really benefit.

ROYAL AIRFORCE TOURNAMENT

The RAF continued to sponsor our annual tournament and coaching in the schools again this year, this came as a surprise as it was suggested the sponsorship would be coming to an end, so thanks again to the RAF for their support.

The tournament this season was run in a new format , teams of players were invited to represent their school, 5 teams of boys and 5 teams of girls enjoyed the event which was held at Babington College, the winning schools were : Lancaster (boys) and Moat (girls)

A special prize of a visit to RAF base at Cottesmore is arranged for the winning teams in June.



COMMUNITY BADMINTON COACH

This year has been the most successful year for our community coach working in the junior and senior schools. More schools are taking up the chance of the free coaching we have been able to offer to the schools. Clive has been into approximately 50 different schools throughout the season. Areas that have accessed the coaching are North West, Charnwood, Blaby, Harborough and Hinckley and Bosworth.

The funding for this position was only for a 3 year period and unfortunately the funding we rely on so much in sport has come to an end, therefore this position will not continue in the same format next year. I am looking into ways to access funds so that the good work that Clive has started can continue. THANKS for all your hard work Clive.

FILLING THE GAP 16 to 18yrs

Work is starting with Loughborough Tech College in September to set up a student badminton club, we are planning to offer coaching, and a dinner time session, internal ladders, and set up a club.

Funds are also available to work in the Schools and colleges in the area, 10 weeks of coaching will be offered ending in a tournament at the College.

CONGRATULATIONS 100 caps

Congratulations go to Amie Hoult, Andrew Clanchy and Mark King for their contribution to County Badminton, 100 appearances for the county is some achievement.

NO- STRINGS BADMINTON

BADMINTON England is in the process of formulating a new package called No-strings Badminton, this initiative will provide regular, inclusive weekly pay and play sessions which will provide an offering that will attract participants back into badminton. More details soon.

WHERE DO YOU GO TO PLAY YOUR BADMINTON WHEN LEAVING SCHOOL

On reading this report I think you will understand the work that is being achieved within the Schools and Colleges throughout Leicestershire and the opportunities that are being created for our young players. DON'T LET THIS WORK BE WASTED.

Where can these young players go when leaving school?

If you are a county junior player, you would possibly go straight into a senior club as your standard of play would be acceptable for club play, but what about all the other young players that have shown an interest in the sport at school, we must encourage and help these players to continue in the game. I feel we are all responsible in this task and could do our bit to help in the process otherwise these players could be lost forever. We need to work together to ensure the enthusiasm for the sport that has been achieved at school level continues as a young adult.

If you are interested in encouraging young players into your club and are willing to help me set up sessions to develop the players then PLEASE contact me.

Final Word ...

I could keep going and going in this newsletter knowing where to stop is difficult as there is a great amount of badminton being played in Leicestershire and lots going on.

Before I end I would just like to say THANKS to all the people that I have worked with this season, I certainly could not do this job without your support, I have met and worked with some very nice people and it has been another enjoyable year working for Leicestershire Badminton.

So that's it for another year folks, have a good break and see you next season.

Carole Spencer
Leicestershire Badminton Development Officer

BADMINTON England PREMIER CLUB STATUS

We still only have one adult and two junior clubs that have achieved Premier Club Status in Leicestershire. The only new application this season was from the Junior County Association who are waiting to see if it has been successful.

I am working with South Leicester and Ashby club at the moment.

If your club wants any information on how to become a Premier Club log onto BADMINTON England's web site or contact me I am happy to visit the club at any time.