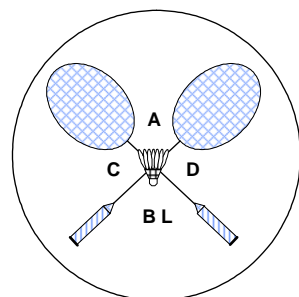


# Aldershot & Camberley District Badminton League Newsletter (2004/2005) No. 1



## Congratulations

To Gail Emms and Nathan Robertson, for their inspiring play at the Athens Olympics. It was a well-deserved Silver medal that could so nearly have been a gold.



## Welcome to the New Season

The League committee would like to wish you an enjoyable and successful 2004/2005 season.

Following a wet and stormy Annual General Meeting held on 7 July 2004 at Oak Farm School (the storms were only on the outside, fortunately), the following members were elected or re-elected.

Chairman: John Williams

General Secretary: Darren Sharp

Treasurer: Henjia Goldsmith

Internal Match Secretary: Nicky Mitchell

Tournament Secretary: Carol Ashcroft

Ass. Tournament Secretary: Diane Fawn

Junior Coordinator: Peter Yeabsley

Ex Officio: Vicky Wenman

Ex Officio: Joyce Hood

All Committee members are contactable via email. Simply email 'firstname'@acdbl.co.uk, for example: Darren@acdbl.co.uk. Alternatively telephone numbers can be found in the handbook.

## Handbook

The league handbook has been emailed to all secretaries with working email, anyone wanting their own copy should let me know. This copy will be placed on the ACDBL website without any contact details (legal reasons). Address [www.acdbl.co.uk](http://www.acdbl.co.uk).

## New Clubs – Old Clubs

We have one new club this season, a warm welcome is extended to **Westbrook**. We wish you luck and hope that you enjoy both the league matches and the tournaments.

As I am sure you are all aware by now, Camberley Badminton Club has unfortunately folded. I would hope by now that all those members wishing to continue their league presence have settled into their new clubs.

## Affiliation Fees

As always, Henjia Goldsmith is eagerly looking forward to receiving the League affiliation fees, and requests have been

sent out to secretaries. The fees have been maintained at £15 per club although the team fee has increased from £10 to £12 per team entered into the league. Please make your cheques payable to ACDBL and pay them promptly.

## Nominations and Registrations

Please could all club secretaries send their team player nominations to Nicky Mitchell, Internal Match Secretary, before the matches begin. Don't forget that you also need to register your club players with the League before the commencement of matches. Remember you cannot turn out players for matches if they are not registered!

**Note: Just because an email has been sent does not mean it has been received!** Nicky is just a phone call away and can accept the registration of a player, as long as she has at least 48 hours notice before a match. If Nicky is not available, then any Committee member can be notified.

## Matches

As agreed at the AGM, all the match cards have been updated to indicate that they must be **received** within 14 days of the completion of the match. This is also stated in the handbook, so everyone knows, now.

If a match is re-arranged, there will be a form available on the web-site to fill in and send to Nicky. Both clubs need to send this in.

## Tournaments

We are being adventurous this year with our tournaments, and we are travelling around. We have been invited to host tournaments at the

Bourne club, in Farnham, as well as our regular haunt, at Lightwater. Other venues have been suggested, and if this format works out, *we* could be coming to *you!*

Following on from the BAofE Tournament questionnaire, we have decided to send out one of our own. We like tournaments, and think they are great fun and a good way to mingle with other clubs in a more sociable way than tends to happen with league matches. We have noticed that the tournament turnout is falling, though, so we would like to know how to encourage *you* to come along.

## Meet the Committee

This season there have been some changes to the people running your league, so I asked them to write a few words introducing themselves, (and me). We all play in the league, so we shouldn't be complete strangers.

I'll start with myself this month. Hopefully I'll get more from the other committee members as the season progresses. Maybe photos too?

### Secretary

Darren Sharp – Aloes

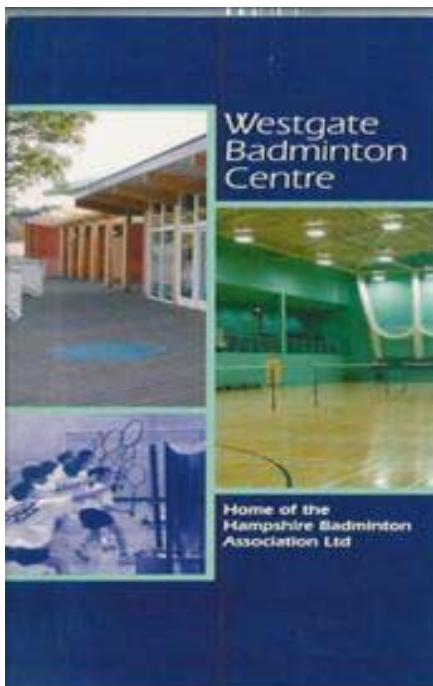
Well actually, this season I'm changing my club, so it should read 'formerly of Aloes, but from this season, part of SHB'. There is enough SHB presence on the committee, however, so we'll leave it at that.

I've been playing league matches for Aloes for three seasons now, and about eight years previously had represented Chaucer Valley for one season. My daughter started playing at Swifts last summer, and so I help with the coaching there on Saturdays. My wife is secretary of Eagles Badminton club,

so I have links with a number of clubs in the league.

## How to Fill a Bank Holiday Weekend...

Last Sunday I took advantage of a days coaching at the Westgate centre, run by Paul Whetnall. The day was aimed at club level players and ran from 10 am through to 4pm, with an hour for lunch.



There were 11 of us turned up, most of whom were local. As far as I could make out we were all of a fairly similar standard. Paul had a Junior County player, Kathy, to help him as he ran through the aims of the course.

We spent the morning in exercises to improve our use of the racquet and controlling the shuttle, whilst the afternoon was focussed on tactics and moving about the court.

Twenty minutes of the afternoon was allocated for each of us to get a few tips on a particular shot of our choice. I'm not going to give away what I felt I needed to work on, but the practice alone is sufficient to improve it a little.

Paul is a friendly coach, and puts his points forward clearly and in an entertaining manner. At £20 each for the day we felt it was a useful precursor that helped us to prepare for the season to come.

## Junior Players

At the AGM Peter Yeabsley pointed out that a number of graduates from his junior clubs are having trouble finding senior clubs to join. As a whole, our league, and the clubs in it, are shrinking, so we can't afford to lose these juniors.

Among the suggestions put forward were offering them lifts to the club venues, and discounted memberships for students. I'm sure most clubs have this sort of provision in place already. Lets make these youngsters welcome, and encourage them to mix in.

## And Finally...

A plea was put forward at the AGM for more people to put themselves forward to gain coaching qualifications. We've spoken to the Hampshire coaching secretary, and they maybe willing to cover some of the cost of a coaching course in order to increase the pool of coaches available.

I also know that Junior clubs are desperate for more people to get involved. For example, Swifts may offer to pay for coaching courses if parents are prepared to commit to help at their club sessions.

The BAofE has been re-organising its coaching courses, and re-grading them. They've done this over the summer, and now we are just waiting for the course dates. I'll pass them on when I receive them.