

Annual General Meeting 2022

Date: Thursday 21st July 2022

Time: 19.30 for 19.45 start

Venue: Dunchurch Social Club

Attendees (13):

Manju Shankar, John Wardropper, Mark Hope, Kwai Lai, Lucy Moore, Simon Piercy, Steve Turner, Darren Hawes, Phil Pelton, Ryan Smith, Phil Hutchinson, Simon Outhwaite, Tracey Hope.

Agenda:

1. Welcome/Intro

Steve welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for their attendance at the first face to face AGM since the pandemic.

The following apologies were given:

Tim Gordon, Mark Lawton, Ajit Barot.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed by:	Simon Outhwaite
Seconded by:	Mark Hope
Votes for:	10
Votes against:	0
Abstentions:	0
Didn't vote:	3 (late attendees)

3. Matters Arising

Outstanding action from the previous meeting is for Steve to put together a 'job spec' for each committee position. Constitution doesn't include this so it will need an update. A constitution update will be done and presented at the next AGM for approval.

4. Chair's Report - **Mark Hope**

Mark made a brief report thanking everyone for their support for the 22 years that he has been running the association and league. He also thanked both Darren and Steve for stepping in to take some of the load.

5. Treasurer's Report - [Simon Outhwaite](#)

Included below is the accounts covering the COVID pandemic 2019-2021 and season 2021-22:

Rugby & District Badminton Association
Income & Expenditure 30th April 2022

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>
<u>Income</u>		
League & Affiliation Fees	0.00	0.00
Britannic Tournament	0.00	0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Britannic Tournament Courts	0.00	0.00
Britannic Tournament Prizes	0.00	0.00
Britannic Tournament Shuttles	0.00	0.00
Britannic Tournament Trophies	0.00	0.00
Trophies	0.00	0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Surplus Income/Expenditure	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
 <u>Association Funds</u>		
Balance B/F	659.73	659.73
Surplus/Deficit	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Balance C/F	<u>659.73</u>	<u>659.73</u>

Rugby & District Badminton Association
Income & Expenditure 30th April 20212019-2020**Income**

League & Affiliation Fees	0.00	
Britannic Tournament	788.00	
	<hr/>	788.00

Expenditure

Britannic Tournament Courts	408.00	
Britannic Tournament Prizes	145.21	
Britannic Tournament Shuttles	76.94	
Britannic Tournament Trophies	92.44	
Trophies (2018-2019)	0.00	
	<hr/>	722.59
Surplus Income/Expenditure		<u>65.41</u>

Association Funds

Balance B/F	594.32	
Surplus/Deficit	<u>65.41</u>	
Balance C/F		<u>659.73</u>

6. Fixtures Secretary's Report - Darren Hawes

Season has been good with a few rearrangements which was to be expected in our first season back playing league badminton. There were also one or two instances where players ran out of games as they were stretched over multiple teams to ensure the match was played, also where Division 1 players played in Division 3 to get a team out.

Trinity won both Division 1 and Division 2 with Hinckley Clover winning Division 3.

The only issue discussed was around players that would normally play in Division 1, playing down to assist a team in Division 3, with some players playing multiple times in all three divisions.

The rules in the constitution refer to players not playing more than two teams down.

The matter was discussed and resulted in a refresh of the verbal agreement that the matter will be left to the discretion and sportsmanship of the match sec/team captain for this season. Ensuring that Division 1 players do not get used for Division 3 matches, except in extreme circumstances with consultation from the RDBA Fixtures Sec.

Should we have any occurrences this season then the matter will be reviewed and addressed with a formal rule change at the next AGM.

7. Juniors Report - John Wardropper

“To my knowledge, there are only three junior clubs in Rugby this season. Rugby Youth BS, QDJC and Francis Badminton Academy. Clifton Junior BC stopped during the pandemic and Rosanna has started up again in Kineton instead. Junior coaching continues in Daventry and Nuneaton. I'm not aware of any coaching sessions in Hinckley and Lutterworth.

Rugby Youth BS have run 4 sessions on Saturdays for the whole of the 2021/22 season. Neil Porter has joined the team and passed his level 2 coaching certificate, so we plan to run 4 sessions again in 2022/23. Demand is strong, there are 90 on the register and 30 on the waiting list. Some players have been invited to join Crescent BC over the summer to get experience of a senior club. It is to be hoped that some will then feel confident to join league clubs.

Only 2 players are in senior clubs, out of 25 players over the age of 14. Many have other hobbies/sports, as well as exam pressures, but we should push to encourage more to play.

Juniors are catered for at one 'No Strings' session on Tuesday, with stronger players invited to the Friday club. The Friday club is the obvious feed into the senior league.”

The Francis Badminton Academy has grown to three sessions on a Tuesday so 40-50 players, but majority under 14.”

Phil Pelton added that the QDJC no-strings session is now starting later instead of the 5.30 start.

Steve raised the question about what coaches are available in the Rugby area. Steve has been trying to run a coaching session aimed at older juniors and beginner/up and coming adults for some time to bridge the gap into league clubs, but he doesn't have the time to commit to it. Should support come from some local coaches to help run it, it would make this option more viable.

Steve and John to try and contact all local coaches to discuss options as it seems to be needed. It would be good to have an RDBA coach's forum.

8. Club Update

a) Avon B.C. - [Manju Shankar](#)

Playing at Ryton Sports Connexion, 12 regular players. Looking to continue with a single team this coming season.

b) Crescent B.C. - [John Wardropper](#)

Playing at Lawrence Sherriff School Sports Centre (Griffin Centre), 25 regular players. Leans more to the veteran league players although do have some juniors from RYBS attend. No plan to enter any teams to the league.

c) Harris B.C. - [Mark Hope](#)

Playing at Harris School Sport Centre on Tuesday nights on one court. A second court is booked if matches are played. Planning to enter one team. Second team will likely be dropped.

Have lost a few players to league play after being beaten heavily by players who are too strong for Division 3. This will hopefully be addressed for the coming season (see Fixtures Secretary Report above).

d) Hinckley Clover B.C. - [Kwai Lai/Lucy Moore](#)

Playing at Hinckley sports centre but are looking at options as block booking is becoming more of a problem. As they are only booking 1 or two courts for club night and matches, if the centre gets a whole hall booking, they get cancelled.

Have lost a player to university next season, but plan to enter a team.

e) Hunters B.C. - [Simon Piercy/Steve Turner](#)

Playing at Harris School Sports Centre. 24-25 regular players on a PAYP model. Looking to reintroduce a small membership fee for regular players and retain the £5 per session PAYP fee. Guest fees go up to £6.

Plan to enter 2 teams. However, should demand be there before the season we may enter a 3rd team.

f) Lutterworth B.C. - [Darren Hawes](#)

Lutterworth are switching back to Monday nights. 16 members of the club currently. Plan to enter 3 teams.

g) QDJC B.C. - [Phil Pelton](#)

Playing at QDJC. Have lost several players to university so this may mean a 2nd team isn't possible. Plan to enter 1 team. The team planned to enter is the team in Division 3.



h) St Philips B.C. - **Ryan Smith**

Playing at Rugby School Collingwood Centre. 17 members. Planning to enter 2 teams. Third team is likely to be dropped.

Unfortunately, the third team got heavily beaten in Division 2 this season. Steve clarified that the request to be positioned in Division 3 came after the divisions had been set so it couldn't be done without serious disruption to the league structure.

Rugby School have raised court fees significantly meaning the membership fees would be raised by over £100 for the year (from circa £190 to circa £300).

Looking at moving to Houlton School as the facility is ideal for Badminton at a reasonable price. The Houlton community have an informal Badminton group that could lend itself to increasing the St Philips membership base.

Update: St Philips are moving to Houlton School Sports Centre. Effective date and further details are to be confirmed.

i) Trinity B.C. - **Phil Hutchinson**

Back playing at Hinckley Leisure Centre now. 28 regular players. Adding an extra team in Leicester league so may only be able to field 2 teams in Rugby league instead of 3. This will be confirmed ASAP.

9. Nominate and vote in the committee

Mark has offered his resignation as Chair after 22 years of service to the RDBA.

Tim Gordon (Avon) volunteered to take on the role of Chair by email prior to the meeting. No other volunteers came forward at the meeting for nomination.

Agreement was made that the proposal, second and votes would be for the group instead of individual posts.

Therefore, nominations were as follows:

Officers:

Chair - Tim Gordon

Treasurer - Simon Outhwaite

Secretary - Steve Turner

Fixtures Secretary - Darren Hawes

Committee Members:

John Wardropper - RDBA Juniors Representative and Webmaster

Mark Hope - Britannic Tournament (Honorary)

Proposed by:	Mark Hope
Seconded by:	Phil Hutchinson
Votes for:	13
Votes against:	0
Abstentions:	0

In Tim's absence, agreement was made that should Tim, on reflection, not accept the role, then the vote would be overturned by the committee, and other options would be looked at. Retrospectively Tim has accepted the role of Chair.

10. Date of Fixture Meeting

It was agreed to hold a face-to-face Fixtures Meeting following the Coventry League fixtures deadline. We have provisionally gone with Wednesday 14th September.

Coventry League divisions come out on the 1st September and normally are required to be arranged within 2 weeks so the 14th September should work.

It was pointed out by Mark that Dunchurch Social club will want a deposit for the room booking for future meetings.

11. AOB

a) Communication

Steve made the point that some clubs are better and quicker at responding than others to email communication. He asked if there any improvements the RDBA could make to how we communicate with clubs.

Meeting agreed that a WhatsApp group would be created for RDBA broadcasts. Email would remain the primary means of communication with the WhatsApp group being used to highlight that an email had come out and urgency of response.

Club reps were asked to provide Steve with contact numbers of those who need to be included on the RDBA WhatsApp group which will be built up over the coming weeks.

It was also noted that:

- RDBA Secretary would normally communicate primarily with Club Secretaries for general communications, with Match Secretaries as secondary contact.
- RDBA Fixtures Secretary would normally communicate directly with club Match Secretaries.

b) Britannic Tournament

The RDBA is planning to run a Britannic Tournament in the coming season. We will target 48 players instead of the previous 72.

It is proposed that this will be scheduled for November.

Considering St Philips' update regarding court costs for their current venue of Rugby School Collingwood Centre, it was pointed out that the usual venue of Rugby School Sports Centre for the tournament may not be possible or appropriate.

Update: Now booked for 27th November 10am - 6pm @ Rugby School Sports Centre.

c) Social Event

We wish to hold a social event in October. We would like to gauge interest and take any ideas for such an event.

The social event is to celebrate 70 years of the RDBA which was formed in 1951.

Club reps to gauge interest with the clubs. Phil mentioned Trinity have been suggesting a social night for some time and would be interested. Steve also asked for any ideas for a social evening.

Current ideas are paintballing, pub Olympics (has proven popular in the past), curry after the Britannic Tournament.

d) Presentation of Division Trophies

Steve presented Kwai with the Division 3 shield and Phil Hutchinson with the Division 1 cup and the Division 2 shield with congratulations. The trophies will need to come back to the RDBA to be engraved.

Trinity to also return the Britannic Assurance trophy at that time for any engraving and repair work.

e) Trophies Discussion

We have several trophies within the RDBA, three of which we have decided to present today:

- Men's League Trophy (left back)
- Men's Division Two Shield (middle)
- Men's Division Three shield (right)



The division trophies are "Men's division" trophies, we have now changed the format to an open league. The engraving no longer applies. Should we keep the Men's Division engraved trophies to present, or do something different?

If we continue to use these three trophies as they are, some work needs to be done to create engraving space on them. Are we happy with this?

The rest remain in storage:

Trophy Name	Picture	Remarks
Association Trophy		<p>Believed to have been commissioned and donated by league veterans George and Betty Chambers formerly of Crescent B.C.</p> <p>The trophy was played for in a season long mixed tournament where matches were drawn to be played at the club venues (like matches). The tournament was decided on a final's night.</p> <p>This could potentially be resurrected if clubs wanted it.</p>
Britannic Assurance Trophy	<p><i>Picture not available.</i></p>	<p>The Britannic Assurance Trophy was donated by Britannic Assurance to be played for at the Britannic Tournament on a yearly basis.</p> <p>Tournament continues to be played. Trophy is currently with the last winners, Trinity B.C.</p>
Rugby Advertiser Trophy		<p>Donated by Rugby Advertiser newspaper to award to the second team in the tournament between Rugby and Nuneaton Leagues.</p> <p>Each league would enter a first team and a second team each season to play each other.</p> <p>First team trophy has been lost, presumably with someone from Nuneaton league.</p> <p>This could be resurrected, maybe to play against other leagues in the area?</p>

Trophy Name	Picture	Remarks
<p>Mens Division One “Temporary” trophy (left front)</p>		<p>This trophy was bought decades ago when the Men’s Division trophy was temporarily lost.</p> <p>This trophy is no longer required so can be disposed of or repurposed.</p>
<p>Mixed Division One Trophy</p>		<p>Trophy will no longer be played for so is not required.</p> <p>How do we dispose of this?</p>
<p>Ladies Division One Trophy</p>		<p>Trophy will no longer be played for so is not required.</p> <p>How do we dispose of this?</p>
<p>Mens Doubles Trophy (left)</p> <p>Ladies Doubles Trophy (right)</p>		<p>Doubles tournament trophies, entered by individual pairs.</p> <p>Unless we decided to run a pairs tournament these trophies will no longer be played for so not required.</p> <p>If we did run a tournament, it would likely be open format same as league and Britannic.</p>

Steve to set up a meeting with GlassDsign to see what is possible with the trophies. But the consensus was that the trophies should now reflect the new open format as opposed to “Men’s”.



f) Non-league Clubs

Any information on non-league clubs in the area that are operating that we can invite into the fold?

We are an association of badminton clubs which involve league playing, and non-league playing clubs, as well as junior coaching. It would be great to have all their input.

Meeting agreed we should represent all clubs and coaching sessions in the area.

Rugby Ladies B.C. and Crescent B.C. are the only non-league clubs believed to be playing, although there is an informal group in Houlton but no club.

All clubs to be invited to next AGM and included on all RDBA communications.

g) Meeting Nights

It was pointed out that RDBA meetings are always held on a Thursday night, which involve Hunters players missing club playing nights to attend the meetings. It was agreed to share the days around, so club reps were equally affected by the meetings.

Fixtures meeting to be held on Wednesday 14th September.

The next two RDBA meetings following this (likely to be next season's AGM and fixtures meeting) will be held on a Monday and Tuesday evening.