

Welcome to the new 2013-2014 season, and to the first club newsletter, being distributed to all members as of the end of last season (2012-2013), bar those already known to be not re-joining.

AGM – 19:00 Monday 16th Sep 2013

This will occupy as little as possible of the normal Monday club night, so bring your kit and your cheque book! Memberships forms will be available on the night. Arrival to permit a prompt (and quorate) start at 19:00 will be in everybody's interests. All members, both adult and junior, are welcome to attend, though voting rights exist with adult members only. The agenda should be circulated imminently.

Club Website

We are proud to launch the club website, thanks to the diligent efforts of Shawn and Kwan. You can find it at:

<http://www.chiltonbadminton.org.uk>

and committee email addresses now exist, such as secretary@chiltonbadminton.org.uk as the main point of enquiry for the club.

While it's intended to provide a brief run-through of the website structure during the AGM, here's a brief non-exhaustive list of its online features:

- a) Club calendar, indicating club night dates and importantly those club nights when we don't have access to the school hall, league and friendly match dates, league squad practice nights, tournament dates and other must-not-miss dates like the AGM.
- b) Club night helper – have you ever made your way to club night only to find insufficient players to make for a viable club night? Well, now you can avoid such wasted journeys by consulting the website and checking that enough members are intending to attend. Naturally, this requires your co-operation to indicate your own intention to attend. All will become clear during the AGM.
- c) Fixtures lists - for league matches, friendly matches, club tournaments, updated promptly with bad-weather cancellations and re-arrangements. It will act as an availability notifier which members can fill in themselves to indicate their availability for matches, and can change at any time, and also acts as the selection rota so members know which matches they're selected to play in.
- d) News, views, useful links to other badminton websites and contact information.

Club Nights

These are now in full swing on Monday and Thursdays at the standard time of 19:00, with very encouraging attendances so far. Shuttle fees and visitors fees and arrangements are being retained as per last season until ratified at the forthcoming AGM.

League Matches

Well, we didn't get relegated after last season's endeavours, but only thanks to the fact that the division below us no longer exists! We find ourselves in division 4 (of 4) in the 3 Disciplines League of the Oxfordshire Badminton League. I'll shortly be trawling all members to identify who's keen to play league badminton this season, and a rota will be set up to ensure that all such members get a share of the available games (5 home, 5 away). The league fixtures meeting was held last Wednesday and the fixtures list is now available on the club website.

Those wishing to monitor the league tables may do so at:

<http://www.odbl.org.uk/Tables.aspx?League=2>

Squad Practices

As usual in the run-up to a new league season, a number of squad practices will be held, on home match nights (Wednesdays) for the rest of September, prior to the start of the new league season.

This permits a certain amount of all-out practice away from the more social atmosphere of club nights. These sessions commence Wednesday 11th Sep and will run with the same timing as club nights. All those wishing to take part in the league squad are welcome to attend, and the sessions will be charged as per club nights.

Non-League Friendly Matches

Friendly fixtures against our traditional foes at Blewbury have already been arranged for the usual timeslots in the lead-up to Christmas (away) and Easter (home), ensuring appropriate festive occasions in time-honoured fashion. Anyone who's played in these before will know what I mean. Those who haven't, what are you waiting for? We hope to resurrect the away friendly against Evenlode club, to accompany the home fixture which did take place last season, though whether we're able to replicate the double-header of two seasons ago is doubtful given the shortage of free complete-hall evenings in the Evenlode calendar.

Juniors

I'm currently circulating all last year's juniors and their parents to discuss the forthcoming season's junior plans. The Thursday pre-club-night junior sessions will not commence until after the AGM, but those juniors who were invited to attend the adult club nights during last season should continue to do so.

Court Notices

Shawn and Kwan would like to thank everyone for the generous gift and good wishes for their wedding. Photos of the day have been uploaded online and can be viewed by following this link: bit.ly/1bpStiE

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the AGM on Monday 16th ...

Regards

Richard Lawrence
Chairman / Captain
Chilton School PTA Badminton Club