

MINUTES of the One Hundred and Twentieth (120th) Annual General Meeting of the Badminton Association of England Limited.



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| Date: | Saturday 24 June 2023 |
| Time: | 2.00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An optional Strategy Consultation session ran from 11:00am – 12:00pm ▪ The AGM began at 2:00pm. |
| Venue: | National Badminton Centre, Milton Keynes, MK8 9LA |
| Voting Delegates: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Organisations (one Voting Delegate for each County Badminton Association, Badminton Line Judges Association of England and Badminton Umpires Association of England) ▪ The President ▪ Vice Presidents ▪ Elected Members |
| Non-Voting Delegates: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Organisations (one Non-Voting Delegate for each County Badminton Association, Badminton Line Judges Association of England and Badminton Umpires Association of England) ▪ Honorary Vice Presidents ▪ Board of Directors ▪ Senior Management Team ▪ Other invited individuals |
| Accompanying Papers: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minutes from General Meeting held on 27 April 2023, Paper No: AGM/2023/01 ▪ Annual Report 2022/23, Paper No: AGM/2022/02 ▪ Audited Financial Statements, Paper No: AGM/2022/03 ▪ Notification of Resolutions, Paper No: AGM/2022/04 ▪ Form of Proxy: Every Voting Member has the right to appoint a proxy (s. 324 Companies Act 2006 (the "2006 Act")). |

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| 1. | Quorum, Welcome and in memorium | |
| 1.1 | <p>To ascertain a Quorum.</p> <p><i>Pursuant to Article 42.2, the quorum for General Meetings is 15 Voting Members present in person or by proxy, subject Article 45.6.</i></p> <p>The meeting was declared quorate with 23 delegates, 99 votes in the room and 5 proxy votes.</p> | |
| 1.2 | <p>Welcome from the Chair</p> <p>The Chair welcomed all delegates to the meeting. A physical meeting is an opportunity to see friends and colleagues from the badminton world, and the Chair shared his appreciation to those who have travelled a long way.</p> <p>The Chair introduced BE staff and Non-Executive Board Directors and thanked the staff for their assistance with voting and counting.</p> | |
| 1.3 | <p>To observe one minute’s silence for those who have passed away during the last year:</p> <p><i>Val Burch</i></p> <p><i>David Burgess</i></p> <p><i>Barbara Carpenter</i></p> <p><i>Graeme Finch</i></p> <p><i>John James</i></p> <p><i>Larry Lamb</i></p> <p><i>John Liddiard</i></p> <p><i>Hazel Marks</i></p> <p><i>Geoffrey Charles Snowdon</i></p> <p><i>Rodney Southwell</i></p> <p><i>Ian Spear</i></p> | |
| 2 | Minutes | |
| 2.1 | To confirm the minutes of the General Meeting that took place on 27 April 2023 | Paper No. AGM/2023/01 |
| | <p>The minutes were approved with 99 votes in favour, no votes against and no abstentions.</p> <p>Question: Transgender review - has the decision of British Cycling helped to clarify the situation?</p> <p>Answer: NR confirmed that we are close to a draft policy. We have had a small group looking at the policy, with a view to identifying the right balance between fairness and inclusion. We have spoken to many sports, and we will come out and consult with the community in mid to late July. It is intended that the policy will be in place by 1st September. Different sports have adopted different stances. We want to do what is right for badminton whilst learning lessons from other sports.</p> | |

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| 3 | Annual Report | | |
| 3.1 | <p>To receive from the Board of Directors, the Annual Report on the activities of the Association since the previous Annual General Meeting</p> <p>Paper No. AGM/2022/02 was received.</p> | | |
| 3.2 | <p>To receive a presentation from Sue Storey, Chief Executive</p> <p>SS welcomed delegates to the meeting and gave thanks to the Senior Leadership Team. SS is very grateful for the support the team has provided her.</p> <p>SS has been getting to know the fantastic army of volunteers and is happy to visit the community to see anyone who would like her to visit.</p> <p>SS was so proud of the results at the Commonwealth games and winning three silver medals. SS commended the master's medal haul, consisting of approximately 190 medals.</p> <p>The YONEX All England was a fantastic event and SS was excited about how we can inspire the nation. SS commended Chris Miller, tournament director of YAE for his work on the 2023 event.</p> <p>The Para team are doing incredibly well, and we have real high hopes for those in the Paralympics next year.</p> <p>The Chair asked Derek Bachelor, Vice-President, to say a few words about the President. Derek reported the President has been very unwell and continues to be. The meeting wished to record its best wishes to the President.</p> <p>Question: I am pleased we held our first junior national disability championships. How will we develop disability badminton around the counties?</p> <p>Answer: SS said it is great we can put on these tournaments. We are coming up with plans and pushing Sport England to invest and support us in the future.</p> <p>ACTION: NR to follow up the Natspec Games with Nottinghamshire. This has been shared with the regional manager.</p> | | |
| 4 | Audited Financial Statements | | |
| 4.1 | <p>To receive from the Board the Association's audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 (as per Article 38.2.1)</p> <p>Received: Paper No:AGM/2022/03</p> <p>Rose Butterworth, Finance Director, presented the financial performance for last year. Derek Batchelor, Vice-President, raised a number of minor inaccuracies in the final accounts, which should be corrected before the accounts are filed.</p> <p>ACTION: RB to follow up outside of meeting.</p> | | |
| 5 | Resolutions | | |
| 5.1 | <p>To re-elect Mike Robinson to the position of Elected Director of the Association for a final three-year term of office as per Articles 20 and 25.</p> | <p>Paper No: AGM/2022/04</p> | <p>N/A - to be declared elected unopposed in accordance with Article 25.4.</p> |
| <p>MR left the room, and PE chaired this part of the meeting.</p> <p>This will be the final 3 year term for MR, as Chair he gets a fourth term. PE felt that MR had dealt this past 3 year period with commitment and tenacity.</p> | | | |

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| | <p>DECISION: Mike Robinson was declared elected unopposed.</p> <p>Eric Brown, Vice-President, asked the meeting to say thank you to the directors and Mike in particular. There was a vote of thanks to the Chairman.</p> | | |
| 5.2 | To re-elect Peter Emptage to the position of Elected Director of the Association for a second three-year term of office as per Articles 20 and 25. | Paper No: AGM/2022/04 | N/A - to be declared elected unopposed in accordance with Article 25.4. |
| | <p>PE left the room and MR resumed as Chair.</p> <p>This will be PE's second three year term. PE is invested and passionate about badminton. We get back a whole range of feedback as a fan, as a Masters' player and now as a director on the Badminton Europe Board. He has huge enthusiasm for doing the right thing for the sport.</p> <p>DECISION: Peter Emptage was declared elected unopposed.</p> | | |
| 5.3 | To elect up to two Vice Presidents for a three-year term of office as per Article 30. | Paper No: AGM/2022/04 | The two candidates with the highest number of votes |
| | <p>It was noted the nomination for Phil Jones had been proposed and seconded by the same county. Having reviewed the Articles, the Chair requested a separate member from the meeting to second Phil Jones, in order that his nomination can stand.</p> <p>APPROVED: Roger Cook seconded this nomination.</p> <p>The two candidates with the highest number of votes and who are, therefore, each elected as a Vice President for a three year term of office are:</p> <p>Derek Batchelor</p> <p>Jim Mann</p> | | |
| 5.4 | To confirm that Haysmacintyre be re- appointed as auditors of the Association, to hold office from the conclusion of this meeting until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting, at a remuneration to be fixed by the Board of Directors as per Article 38.2.2 | Paper No: AGM/2022/04 | By simple majority of votescast. |
| | <p>APPROVED: Haysmacintyre were approved with 99 votes in favour, no votes against and no abstentions.</p> | | |
| 6 | Any other business | | |
| | <p>The Chair was delighted to announce Berkshire as the winner of the Shield for the county with the greatest increase in membership during the 2022-2023 season. .</p> <p>The Chair asked for an update about the National Schools competition. NR reported a number of counties have continued to run schools competitions and we are grateful to anyone who has kept their event going. There will be a National Schools competition organised for academic year 2023/24. Information has gone out already and a number of schools have entered. Counties suggested they had not received this information and it was agreed that it should be circulated again. NR is grateful for any support the counties can give at any stages of the competition.</p> <p>ACTION: NR to check communications have gone out to all counties and will investigate sending the information out to counties.</p> | | |

Question: Are there some changes in terms of coaching memberships?

Answer: NR confirmed yes. We are looking to start communicating membership changes in July. It's not just about the membership product and investment in the sport, it's the sport as a whole. DBS and safeguarding registration benefits will be communicated.

Question: It is not clear how governance arrangements operate, particularly the operation of and recruitment to formal sub-committees. There is also no definition around clarity of roles and how governance arrangements link with county chairs and what is expected of the counties.

Answer: MR agreed clarity and visibility have not been kept up to date in the published Governance policy – the scale of change over last two years is the reason but he agreed this is also an excuse. Each committee does have a different responsibility - some provide assurance to the board; others are there to be experts for management to draw on. There have been open recruitment processes for these committees. SS added that she felt surprised how many boards and committees there were and agreed that the structure needs refreshing and linking into the new strategy.

Question: What is the timeline for the strategy? When are we likely to see something. Going forward, how high level will it be? Some members are concerned whether it will be a ready to use strategy.

Answer: SS reported that the Senior Leadership team had worked with the Board about the overall direction of travel. Further detailed work was then undertaken by small task and finish groups. There is now a consultation starting, taking the pillars on to the next stage, with the strategy due to be launched in September. All points raised will be considered, as it is intended to be a strategy for badminton in England, the sport as a collective and what we do together to improve the sport. NR added that there will be a more detailed implementation plan.

Question: Facilities are mentioned in the annual report mainly surrounded the NBC. There is no mention of what is happening outside the NBC. With a new facilities manager, will they look at the provision of facilities around the counties?

Answer: SS confirmed that facilities (places) is likely to be a key pillar of the strategy. The aim is to open more existing facilities for community use and to consider how to develop more dedicated badminton facilities across the country. There is a new Facilities Manager in post to support this work. DCMS have confirmed the new Government Sports strategy will also have provision of facilities as a key objective.

Question: Our county wants the strategy to do a few things really well and we need some commercial expert and funding.

Answer: JLC reported we have historically been focused on the YAE but we need to expand our outlook. We are looking at where brands could invest in a meaningful and purpose led way. YAE is significant but it needs to be a broader year round opportunity based on what makes our sport different. We have a powerful EDI narrative. We are at the final stages of evolving the commercial strategy for the sport. Any partner or brand needs to know what role they have and how they can help us achieve that.

Question: I have had difficulty using my BE log on for the website Direct Badminton. Do we use our Badminton England log on details?

ACTION: JLC to review.

Nottinghamshire have negotiated their own deals for members with Babolat and recommended that Badminton England should help other counties and clubs across the country to do the same.

Question: With regards to facilities, we have been brave in our ambitions so far. Sport and leisure is not mandatory in schools. We need to be lobbying government to ensure sport and leisure facilities are provided.

Answer: SS agreed and will push DCMS via the Chief Executives' Forum.

Question: What are we doing to develop an environmental strategy? The government says organisations have to have an environmental sustainability strategy. Are plastic and feather shuttles compostable?

Answer: SS explained we have been working with a consultant who did an environmental assessment of the YAE. They will also assess the NBC and we will develop our environmental strategy from there. Players are

flying around the world, but where we can, we will try to improve sustainability. The approach is every little thing we do will help.

Question: Are there any opportunities to develop facilities as a county chair? Clubs are suffering a shortage of those not renewing membership. We are suffering and need more help and support.

Answer: PE suggested when BEC/BWF have forums they share good practice and suggested that we should do the same, by creating top tips to keep clubs growing and sharing practical information.

Other comments from delegates:

It would be good for BE to go to members and provide some support in forming their own commercial strategy. Most don't have the resources to do it, or the expertise required.

Living Longer Better is a national campaign for people aged 50 and above. They have provided +£10k funding to No Strings sessions.

There are opportunities for new sports' facilities in new housing areas.

The Chair concluded that there had been significant change at Badminton England following the departure of the previous CEO and the concerning press headlines about our performance programme. A year on, Sue and Morten have joined us, and the Board's view is that we are now at a place with some real momentum, and we have a stable leadership team. The Chair thanked them on behalf of the Board.

We have been conscious of the feedback that we had lost the trust of the badminton community. We have specifically recognised the need to be out and be talking to the community and our strategy recognises that the community will need to drive the sport forward. The Board feels very positive about the future. We will focus on our priorities, putting young people first, digital, places and pathway and the Board has already put some money behind those areas, pending the strategy launch.

The Board is looking forward with a degree of optimism that is reflected in both the annual report and our discussions today. The Chair extended the Board's thanks to Sue and the rest of the Leadership team.

The meeting ended at 15.43.

End of meeting

| Voting Attendees | No. of Votes | Votes in Hall (GM Delegate in attendance) | Name of First Delegate | Attendance of Voting Delegate | Name of Second Delegate * = NVD can take the vote | Attendance of Non-Voting Delegate |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| AVON | 7 | | Gene Joyner | | Ian Nicholls | 1 |
| BEDFORDSHIRE | 3 | 3 | Bruce Hallam | 1 | None | |
| BERKSHIRE | 5 | | Scott Ellis/Bob Reed | Scott Ellis Apologies | Vikie Primmer | |
| BUCKINGHAMSHIRE | 6 | 6 | Mark Lawrence | Apologies | Dave Constantine | 1 |
| CAMBRIDGESHIRE | 4 | | Daniel Bates | | Campbell Wilson | Apologies |
| CHESHIRE | 6 | | Brenda Andrew | Apologies | None | |
| CORNWALL | 3 | | Robert Bell | Apologies | Sue Biscoe | Apologies |
| CUMBRIA | 4 | | John Parkinson | | None | |
| DERBYSHIRE | 4 | | Nigel Cook | Apologies | Gary Brealey | Apologies |
| DEVON | 5 | | Jamie Robertson | | None | |
| DORSET | 4 | | Roy Carder | Apologies | Russell Clarke | |
| DURHAM | 4 | | Andrew Pollard | | Kim Robson | |
| ESSEX | 6 | 6 | Simon Gilhooly | 1 | None | |
| GLOUCESTERSHIRE | 4 | | Alistair Percy | Apologies | Andrew Woolway | |
| GUERNSEY | 3 | | Daryl Tapp | | None | |
| HAMPSHIRE | 6 | 6 | Margaret Houlton | 1 | Diana Troke | |
| HEREFORDSHIRE | 3 | | Tim Railton | Apologies | None | |
| HERTFORDSHIRE | 7 | 7 | Paul Kempster | 1 | Dave Bartlett | 1 |
| ISLE OF MAN | 0 | Cannot vote as Member of BWF | Roberta Cannell | Apologies | Sharon Nicholson | |
| ISLE OF WIGHT | 3 | | Michael West | Apologies | Anthony Isaacs | Apologies |
| JERSEY | 3 | | Mark Constable | | None | |
| KENT | 9 | 9 | Joanna Newson | 1 | Mike Stimson | Apologies |
| LANCASHIRE | 9 | | Brian Greenwood | Apologies | David Greer | |
| LEICESTERSHIRE | 5 | | Greg Howes | Apologies | Ian Bosworth/Carole Spencer | Apologies |
| LINCOLNSHIRE | 3 | 3 | Robin Jackson | 1 | Leslie Diggle | |
| MIDDLESEX | 7 | 7 | Sheila Collins | 1 | None | |
| NORFOLK | 4 | 4 | Simon Piff | Apologies | Robin Cooper | |
| NORTHAMPTONSHIRE | 4 | | Jermaine Lovelace | 1 | Tom Rockingham | |
| NORTHUMBERLAND | 4 | 4 | Steve Abbott | 1 | Dennis Gray | 1 |
| NOTTINGHAMSHIRE | 5 | 5 | Paul Adcock | 1 | None | |
| OXFORDSHIRE | 6 | 6 | Paul Casey | 1 | None | |
| SHROPSHIRE | 3 | 3 | Sue Warnock | 1 | Dave Robinson | |
| SOMERSET | 3 | | Catherine Sertin | Apologies | None | |
| STAFFORDSHIRE | 3 | | Benson Greatrex | Apologies | None | |
| SUFFOLK | 5 | 5 | Stephen Smith | 1 | Mike Tee | Apologies |
| SURREY | 8 | | Dennis Higgins | | Christine Thompson | Apologies |
| SUSSEX | 6 | 6 | Derek Webb | 1 | Mark Russ | |
| WARWICKSHIRE | 5 | | Julia Hammerton | Apologies | None | |
| WILTSHIRE | 6 | 6 | Diana Wilmott | Apologies | Geoff Hinder | Attending as VP |
| WORCESTERSHIRE | 4 | | Douglas Woodhouse | Apologies | | |
| YORKSHIRE | 8 | 8 | Roger Cook | 1 | Gordon Milne | Apologies |
| BUAofE | 2 | | Ian Collett | | Amanda Balaam | Apologies |
| BLJAofE | 2 | 2 | Kate Rowlatt | 1 | Suzanne Benton | |
| | | | | | | |
| President | 1 | | Diana Troke | Apologies | None | N/A |
| Vice President | 1 | | Malcolm Smith | Apologies | None | N/A |
| Vice President | 1 | 1 | Geoff Hinder | 1 | None | N/A |
| Vice President | 1 | 1 | Eric Brown | 1 | None | N/A |
| Vice President | 1 | | Nora Perry | | None | N/A |
| Vice President | 1 | 1 | Derek Batchelor | 1 | None | N/A |
| Vice President | 1 | | Paul Widdicombe | Apologies | None | N/A |
| | | | | | None | N/A |

| Role | Name of Attendee | Signature of Attendee |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| HLVP | Abby Kumar | Apologies |
| HLVP | Dennis Blazye | |
| HLVP | Ciro Ciniglio | |
| HLVP | Heather Nielsen | |
| HLVP | Frank Wilson | |
| HLVP | John Briggs | 1 |
| HLVP | Roger Ewing | Apologies |
| HLVP | Mike Gilks | |
| HLVP | William Andrew | |
| HLVP | Jim Mann | Apologies |
| | | |
| Board of Director | Mike Robinson | 1 |
| Board of Director/CEO | Sue Storey | 1 |
| Board of Director | Joyce Church | Apologies |
| Board of Director | Mark King | Apologies |
| Board of Director | Mike McSweeney | Apologies |
| Board of Director | Jackie Newcombe | Apologies |
| Board of Director | James Thomas | Apologies |
| Board of Director | Peter Emptage | 1 |
| | | |
| Commercial Director | Jenny Clark | 1 |
| Performance Director | Morten Frost | Apologies |
| Finance Director | Rose Butterworth | 1 |
| Senior Leadership Team, Operations Director | Nick Rimmer | 1 |