

UP FOR DISCUSSION

Here is the latest episode in the goings on at the N.B.B.L Committee meeting!!

Committee Meeting 4th March 2014

Attendees (committee): Tony Britten, Jason Dunkley, Gary Tipping, Jim Thomson, Simon Coleman, Ian Jellis, Stephen Coleman, Keith Thomson, Damian Coates, Lorin Clough

Apologies: Sue Thomson, Michelle Higginson, Alan Taylor, Iestyn Pocock

Meeting opened at 20:37.

Chairperson's opening statement:

Tony thanked all present for making the effort to attend once more. He noted that as a result of the high levels of attendance in each of the previous committee meetings we have been able to achieve a great deal, including: New venue for the Final's, Presentation & Jim Wilson weekend, New Fundraising event in June, Charitable event in August, The Northants Masters, increased sponsorship as well as, and probably most importantly, higher levels of enthusiasm and commitment throughout the league. Tony was eager that we do not get complacent and continually strive for more activities that will provide our league with resilience in the future.

Actions from last meeting

There were no outstanding actions from the last meeting.

County Reports

County Captain Damian Coates gave the following report regarding the recent Inter Area competitions:

The Inter Area 7s tournament took place in Didcot, Oxfordshire on Sunday 10th February and the selected team was: Damian Coates (Captain), Jason Neal, Andy Chambers, Jason Dunkley, Simon Coleman, Chas Peel and Stephen Coleman.

Despite being drawn in a very tough group with Eynsham, Reading and Oxford the team played three very close matches which each ended with a 4-3 scoreline. In the matches against Eynsham and Oxford they were 4-3 victories but it was a defeat to Reading which ultimately cost the team a place in the final as group winners.

Nevertheless, there were some good performances on the day and special note must be made of Simon's strong performance with three wins from three matches and an average of over 9k per game. Well done, Simon!



Thanks were paid from the committee and on behalf of the league to the team who made a big effort to represent our league.

Inter Area Main competition

Only one leg has been played so far so the update looks like this:

Northants 'A' will play Wallingford 'B' in April and May – match still to be arranged

Northants 'B' have played the home leg against Oxford 'B' and secured a valuable 3-2 advantage to take to Oxford later in March. It will still be a tough challenge but the team, led by Jason Dunkley, have given themselves a great chance. Good luck boys!

Northants 'C' will play Wallingford 'C' in April and May – match still to be arranged

C Team Shield matches are still to be arranged but will be against:

Wallingford C, Reading C and Reading D

Social Secretary:

There was no update on the night but it was suggested that the recent **Race Night** had raised a similar amount of funds for the league as in previous years.

It was agreed that an update would be added to the newsletter/website if available to cover:

Race Night
Progress on Presentation & Celebration Evening
Fundraising Fun Day
9 Counties Challenge in aid of Cancer Research

It was agreed that tee times for up to 16 players will be booked for the **2014 Golf Day** on Friday 18th July. Further details will be posted on the website soon!

Secretary:

The secretary offered congratulations on behalf of the entire league and committee to the Crown & Anchor Cobblers on their Division 2 title and winning promotion to Division 1.

Lorin gave a full breakdown of the revised trophy requirements and costs, which was approved by the committee.

Lorin stated that preparations for The Northants Masters were ongoing but were proceeding as per plan. He noted that levels of enthusiasm were high and this should make the competition a successful one. He thanked generous sponsors for their commitment to this competition and outlined the prize fund that (including trophies) far exceeds £1000 with £450 of that being distributed to Division Winners and Runners Up.

The 2014 Summer League will commence a little later than in previous years in order to accommodate The Northants Masters and week 1 is scheduled to be Monday 16th June. Registrations can now be made via the website so please get your teams in as soon as possible.

Treasurer:

There remains a considerable amount of subscription money still to be received, which is alarming given that the league season has now come to an end. This money is essential to ensure that trophies and competitions can be funded so please make sure your team has paid as soon as possible. The latest position is:

Cock A, Storm, Rushden, Saints, Headlands and Exiles have all paid in full – thank you.
Cock C – owe £40
The Fox – owe £15
Cobblers – owe £8

Competition Secretary:

The draw for the Premiership, Nene Cup and the Quarterfinals of the Pairs Knockout was completed. Full details can be found in the competition section below.

Performances of the month – there have been some fantastic performances of late, of course topped by the great title win for The Cobblers. Other highlights include:

Chris Brewer scored a Personal Best in a recent league match and continues, as do all of The Saints players, to push for ever-improved performances.

Jason Dunkley continues his fine form and won 7 consecutive league matches in his attempt to keep The Storm from relegation. Whilst ultimately his team did not retain their position, Jason should certainly be proud of his performances.

Away from the league at the recent Oxford Open, it was mixed fortunes for the Northants contingent. Whilst nobody managed to secure passage into the latter stages of the main competition, Damian, Stephen and Simon all did well in the plate with representation in the quarters, semis and final for Northants lads.

The league secretary was nominated as **Wally of the month** as he, when checking Alan Taylor's score with Saints captain Gary Tipping, was heard to say, "**Did Alan really get eleven thousand?**" This may constitute comedy now but I think it is merely a glimpse into the future!

Any Other Business

N.B.B.L vs. The Bar Billiards All-Stars - Fund Raising Fun Day – The Cock Hotel – 21st June 2014

The 'All-Stars' team is close to being confirmed and will be finalised by Simon in due course. There remains space for two more Northants players to take part in the day so please contact Simon quickly if you wish to play.

Cancer Research – 9 Counties Challenge 30th & 31st August

Simon Coleman and Jason Neal continue to work hard on this important charity event. The schedule is now confirmed as follows:

Day 1 – Oxford, Bucks, Berks, Hants, Sussex

Day 2 – Surrey, Kent, Cambs, Northants

Further details will be added to the website as soon as they are available with a link to the Justgiving website for donations.

Meeting closed at 22:03

If you have anything you wish to raise at the next committee meeting why not come along or let one of the members know. It is your league so we are eager to hear your thoughts!!

The next meeting will be held at Rushden Conservative Club on Tuesday 1st April at 20:30 sharp!

