

UP FOR DISCUSSION

Here is the latest update in the N.B.B.L Committee saga!!

Committee Meeting 1st April 2014

Attendees (committee): Sue Thomson, Tony Britten, Jason Dunkley, Gary Tipping, Jim Thomson, Simon Coleman, Keith Thomson, Lorin Clough, Iestyn Pocock, Michelle Higginson, Alan Taylor

Apologies: Ian Jellis, Stephen Coleman, Damian Coates

Attendees (guest): Shaun Thomson

Meeting opened at 20:33.



Chairperson's opening statement:

Tony again thanked all present for attending the meeting. He added that it is ever more important that attendances remain high given that the busy period is about to commence with the Jim Wilson Memorial and Grand Finals Day fast approaching.

Actions from last meeting

There were no outstanding actions from the last meeting.

County Reports

Inter Area Main competition

County Captain Damian Coates was not present but it was noted that the Inter Area 'A' team match is in the process of being arranged.

Northants 'B' managed to repeat the 3-2 winning result of the home leg when they travelled to Oxford for the return. This fantastic 6-4 victory against a highly rated team is a remarkable achievement and the first victory for this team in over a decade. Credit for this achievement is due to Captain Jason Dunkley and all of his team.

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:

The recent Race Night made £263 which is slightly up on previous years. Many thanks to all who attended this important fund raising event. This money helps pay for trophies and Presentation Night and will help

reduce the ticket prices for all. Heartfelt thanks was offered to Michelle from all of the committee for her hard work in managing this event.

It was agreed that this event should be planned again for February 2015.

Four tee times have now been booked for the **2014 Golf Day** on Friday 18th July.

Presentation & Celebration Evening – the committee agreed that ticket prices would be set at £5 per person in order to try to maximise attendance. This is a reduction of 33% on previous prices. The committee were reminded to take every opportunity to remind all players to bring Raffle prizes for the weekend. The raffle helps ensure that the Finals and Presentation weekend is affordable.

Secretary:

The secretary offered an update on the procurement of trophies. Our new trophy provider has agreed a significant discount as well as the provision and sponsorship of a new trophy for the Blind Pairs competition. This shall now be known as the Fen Regis Blind Pairs Trophy.

Lorin stated that preparations for The Northants Masters are on track and that participation looks like it will be as high as was hoped.

The 2014 Summer League fixtures have been compiled and issued to team captains. They are also available on the website. As a reminder, the Summer League will commence on Monday 16th June.

Nominations and discussions took place regarding the recipient of the Committee Award. After several rounds of voting the recipient was selected. This will be announced at Presentation Night. Nominations were received for: Jason Dunkley, Stephen Coleman, Iestyn Pocock, Lorin Clough, Johnny George, Mark Dickerson. All were worthy recipients and many congratulations to all nominees.

Treasurer:

Balance in the bank stands at a healthy £2225.98. The committee were reminded, however, that this paints a false impression slightly as several large payments are due for trophies, catering at the Presentation Evening and table hire from the AEBBA.

Almost every team has now paid their subscriptions with the current status as follows:

Cock A – Paid in Full

Cock C – Paid in Full

Storm – Paid in Full

Rushden Cons – Paid in Full

The Fox – Paid in Full

C&A Saints – Paid in Full

Headlands – Paid in Full

Exiles – Paid in Full

C&A Cobblers – £8 outstanding. Iestyn will chase the outstanding amount and ensure this is paid swiftly.

It was noted that subscription deadlines will apply in future and will be enforced with greater rigour as it becomes difficult to manage finances when payments are not made in a timely manner. All agreed with this approach.

Competition Secretary:

The draw for the Quarterfinals of the Individuals Knockout was completed. Full details will be published on the website.

The Northants Fun Day (Fundraiser) 21st June 2014 – This important event will consist of two teams of 12 Northants players competing against a Bar Billiards All-Stars team. This team consists of some of the very best Bar Billiards players in the country and will be captained by the current England Captain, Curt Driver.

Players will compete in games of Bar Billiards, Skittles and Bowling.

The matches will be hosted by The Cock Hotel and further details will follow.

It was agreed that a proportion of the money raised at this event will be donated to the Northants Bar Billiards '9 Counties Challenge' in aid of Cancer Research UK.

Preparations for the '**9 Counties Challenge**' are going well and the Northants team has been selected from those that volunteered their time. The team is: Simon Coleman, Stephen Coleman, Jason Neal, Stevie Anscombe, Damian Coates, Andy Chambers, Iestyn Pocock, Ben Foster and Lorin Clough.

Performances of the month – there have been some fantastic performances of late and the following were nominated for POTM:

Inter Area 'B' team for their victory versus Oxford 'B'

Mary Leeming for her fantastic score of more than 8.5k when playing Tony Britten recently.

Iestyn Pocock was nominated as **Wally of the month** for turning up at The Fox instead of Rushden Cons for the last game of the season.

Any Other Business

Wellingborough League – a response to Iestyn's invitation was received which is encouraging.

Congratulations to the Headlands team – for their victory in the Nene Cup as well as The Fox for the Premiership victory.

Crown & Anchor – a meeting has been arranged with the new landlord to discuss the future of the table and teams in the pub. The table is currently owned by the brewery and so it is vital that dialogue is positive and leads to this venue continuing in its hosting of the teams.

Meeting closed at 22:11

The next meeting will be held at The Cock on Tuesday 29th April at 20:30 sharp!

