

Dear Clubs

Welcome to the new Badminton season of 2017 & 2018.

Firstly I would like to comment on some sad news regarding two clubs, both of which will be missed: Headington BC has decided to fold this season. It has been a hard decision. However, with a lack of members they were unable to continue. Many of you will remember the club as "Redefield" who used to play at Blackbird Leys Leisure Centre and were a large club with some very strong teams *who often won division one in most of the leagues over the years.*

Breakaway Ladies BC will be having a break this year and hopefully will be back for next season. They play at Drayton village hall and have played in the League for over 30 years.

As always I am very grateful to those who made the effort to attend the AGM, contributing to how the League is run and influencing decisions that are taken.

The Badminton England Affiliation year runs from 1 September 2017 this season so please do not delay affiliating your members (both team and club players), even if this needs doing in more than one submission.

I would as always please ask all clubs to read the rules as they have changed quite a bit over the years. As a Committee we aim to review the rules for next season as they may need updating and clarifying. If there are any specific rules you would like reviewed please contact Janet Atkins with details (using Secretary@oxfordshirebadmintonleague.co.uk) and she will log the request.

The Committee believes there are too many conceded matches and hopes that in the coming season clubs will try much harder to reschedule matches in a timely manner, keeping the League Match Secretary informed of progress. By not playing a fixture, clubs ought to be aware of the indirect impact of their action on other clubs as it is not just the result between the two clubs that should have played that is affected. Although not desirable, please consider playing with a less than complete team rather than conceding.

We are seeking new blood on the Committee so please do ask if any of your club members wish to volunteer as we believe it is in the interest of the League to have as wide a representation of clubs on the Committee as possible

The Presentation and Social evening was held on Friday 5th May 2017 and was well attended. Thank you to everyone who supported the event, whether by attending, providing raffle prizes or helping on the night (running the bar, setting up and clearing away). Following suggestions from clubs at the AGM, the raffle proceeds have been donated to three local charities (Blue Skye Thinking, Help Thomas to Dance and The Balsam Family Project). Please do let me know what sort of function your club would support as I will look at other options for next year's end of season event.

I have attached a separate sheet with some suggestions to help everybody have a successful and enjoyable season.

Looking forward to seeing everybody over the season.

Many thanks
Judy Bendall
OBL Chairman