



The Park Badminton Club

Newsletter - January 2008

Website: <http://www.parkbadminton.co.uk>

Dear Member

Welcome to the first of our new Park Badminton Club newsletters. We aim to produce 4 or 5 of these at regular intervals each year.

We hope you have enjoyed a brilliant Christmas break. Now that we are into the New Year the Park Badminton Club committee would like to up-date you with the latest developments for the second half of our season.

Club news

The changes that the club have made since gaining Clubmark have ensured that we are running an equitable and fair club and one to be proud of. This is reflected in our increased membership and numbers participating on club nights. The standard of competition is rising to the benefit of all.

Performance Centre

Badminton England has announced a new Club System which will enlarge the pool of badminton players available for the 2012 Olympics. The Park Badminton Club has applied to become a Performance Centre, which has all sorts of benefits to the members of our club. Our application forms will be reviewed after 11th January and a successful bid will mean that our club will access £30,000 worth of coaching to increase standards and help increase membership. This may mean an increased workload for our club coaches, although we are lucky enough to have attracted Farid Jafari and Jonathan Ponsford, two young players who are happy to contribute. It is hoped that they will run a second Junior Club night on a Tuesday. More details will be shared once we know if we have been successful.

Tournaments

Our Junior Tournaments, run by John at Easter and Christmas, have been extremely popular and the committee feels it would be a great way to end the season for our Senior Club as well. It has been suggested that we have a 'Club Tournament' offering singles and doubles during a club night. Further details to follow.

Juniors

The junior club goes from strength to strength with a couple of our juniors now entering and doing well in National tournaments playing against the best of their age group in the country. We currently have 6 county players, 4 boys and 2 girls, and several others that are in the county development squads.

We'd like to thank our coaches for their commitment and dedication.

Guest Coach

On Monday the 31st March we have invited an external coach to take the Junior coaching session. We hope all of you will be able to attend.

Friendly Match

Good luck to the juniors who are playing a friendly match against two other teams on Sunday 3rd Feb. It's at St. Helens School, Abingdon at 1.30 if anyone wants to go along and support them.

County Match Report

Here is a short piece written by one of our club coaches, who also helps out with the U11 County Squad. This was part of a report after a Quad Match with strong Counties...some of these players are our club players!!

"The day went well with the children gaining valuable match experience.

The first match was against the very strong, unbeaten all day, home Sussex team which we lost 15-1, with Ella + Emma picking up the only win.

The next match against Essex was the one that got away in we had a lot of 21-20 or 21-19 s , we ended up losing 11-5 with Alex winning the only singles + one doubles with his brother Daniel. Joe+ Ben won both of the doubles and Ella + Emma winning a doubles. The last of the day was against Kent went the same way 11-5, Ella winning the only singles, Alex and Daniel winning a doubles match. The girls were now playing as a team with Ella and Emma winning both their doubles and the best part of the day was the smile on Alice's face after her and Kezia won their first match of the day .

All day the team encouraged each other in all their games and it was a pleasure to be there"

John.

Senior Club

Please sign the register on arrival on club nights and use the peg system to determine who goes on the courts. This system ensures a fair and equitable turnover of games. The club operates a rota system for the 'Welcome Table' and it would be appreciated if every club member could take a turn to be responsible for this for one club session per season. Please put your name down on the list and read the 'role description' sheet, which is kept on the table at the entrance to the courts. As a new member turning up for the first time, this friendly face hovering by the table is very welcoming and eases the way.

Forthcoming Events

Ladies Coaching/Mens Tournament

We have arranged for a coach to provide ladies doubles coaching during club night on Monday 31st March, so we hope all our ladies will attend and take advantage of this. We are planning more coaching sessions for the future.

Whilst the ladies are being coached we are planning to use the other two courts for a Mens doubles tournament. The details and format of this are still to be finalised.

Coaching Weekend

September 2008 seems far away but for 10 of us who have paid the deposit for a Club Weekend at Milton Keynes, the training has already started! There are still 8 places left, so established or new members are very welcome to join us. The cost is £150 with £50 to be paid up front (now) for a 2 night stay, all meals and 8 hours of coaching at Badminton England's National Badminton Centre in Milton Keynes. Coaching will be provided by national coaches, and the pace will be to suit us all!!

For more information, speak to Nicki.

National Club Competition

The draw for the first round of the Badminton England Club Cup competition has been announced. Jonathan Ponsford has kindly agreed to be Captain of this 'team' and our first round draw is against a club in Gloucester in March. There are only 2 clubs in Oxfordshire who entered, ourselves and North Abingdon. We need everyone to raise their game!! To this end, the Committee have agreed that it may be beneficial to run a couple of 'coaching sessions', inviting an outside coach to spend an evening with the whole club.

Team Reports

Mens A

Mens' A is going swimmingly. We've played only a few matches so far and have convincingly won all except one. This was a narrow loss away to Evenlode A (5-4) who caught us off guard at the beginning of the season. I'm sure we'll exact revenge in the next few weeks!

Mens B

So far we have played 5 matches and won 3 and lost 2 of them. If we kept our best team together for the rest of the season we could be challenging for one of the top two places.

Ladies

A difficult season, adjusting to only 2 pairs and new scoring without key players. Only played 3 games, won 1, lost 2.

Mixed A

We have played 4 games lost 5-4, 6-3 & 5-4 and won on match 5-4. It has proved a difficult season having lost some key players, but thankfully club members have stepped in to fill the gaps.

Mixed B

So far we have played 7 matches and won 4 and lost 3 of them. Most of the matches have been close with only one or two games the difference between the teams.

5D Team

Just about are mid table with lots of games to play.

3D Team

We have played 4 matches and lost 3 and won 1 (narrowly beating St Clements!)

Remaining League Matches

Wed	09/01/2008	Ladies	Didcot Power A	A	Willowbrook Sports C (?)	8:00	CANCELLED
Fri	11/01/2008	Mixed A	Gosford Hill A	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Fri	18/01/2008	Mens B	Leys A	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Tue	22/01/2008	5D	Abingdon B	A	European School	7:00	
Tue	22/01/2008	3D	Wantage	A	Faringdon Sports Centre	8:00	
Wed	23/01/2008	Mens B	Didcot Power B	A	Willowbrook Sports C (?)	8:00	CANCELLED
Thu	24/01/2008	Ladies	Oxford Uni	A	Iffley Road Sports C	8.00	
Fri	25/01/2008	Mens A	Evenlode B	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Fri	25/01/2008	3D	Didcot Power B	H	Headington Girls School	8:00	
Wed	30/01/2008	Mixed A	Windrush A	A	Henry Box School	7:00	
Fri	01/02/2008	Mixed A	Headington A	H	Headington Girls School	8:00	
Fri	01/02/2008	Mixed B	Leys B	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Wed	06/02/2008	Mixed B	Didcot Power	A	Willowbrook Sports C (?)	8:00	CANCELLED
Thu	07/02/2008	Mens A	Oxford Uni	A	Iffley Road Sports C	8.00	
Fri	08/02/2008	Mens B	St Clements	H	Headington Girls School	8.00	
Fri	08/02/2008	Ladies	Gosford Hill B	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Mon	11/02/2008	Mens A	Windrush	H	Park Sports Centre	8.00	
Tue	12/02/2008	Ladies	Evenlode	A	St Helens School	7:30	
Fri	15/02/2008	Mixed A	North Abingdon	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Fri	15/02/2008	Mens B	Headington B	A	Headington Girls School	8:00	
Mon	18/02/2008	Mixed A	Headington A	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Thu	21/02/2008	Mixed B	Gosford Hill B	A	Oxford High School	7:00	
Fri	22/02/2008	5D	-	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Mon	25/02/2008	Mens A	Windrush B	A	Windrush Leisure Centre	8:00	
Mon	25/02/2008	Ladies	Windrush B	A	Windrush Leisure Centre	8:00	
Fri	29/02/2008	Mens A	Evenlode A	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Fri	29/02/2008	3D	Icknield	H	Headington Girls School	8:00	
Mon	03/03/2008	3D	Park	H	St Clements	8.00	
Tue	04/03/2008	5D	Evenlode	A	St Helens School	7:30	
Fri	07/03/2008	Mixed A	Windrush A	H	Headington Girls School	8:00	
Fri	07/03/2008	Mens B	North Abingdon B	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Tue	11/03/2008	Mixed A	Evenlode A	A	St Helens School	7:30	
Fri	14/03/2008	Mixed B	Evenlode B	H	Park Sports Centre	8:00	
Mon	17/03/2008	Ladies	Windrush	H	Park Sports Centre	8.00	
Wed	20/03/2008	3D	Abingdon A	A	St Helens School	7.30	

Finally

Whilst the committee strives to keep all the necessary paperwork up to date, and run the club as best they can, it should be remembered that The Park is a club FOR ALL and EVERYONE needs to pull together to maintain a good club atmosphere.