FALCONS BC AGM MINUTES

23.05.2019

Attendees (13): Matt Cavanagh, Yasmina Cavanagh, Mike Goudie, Tia Hollyer, Robin Wells, Alex Lawrie, Richard Murphy, John Connor, Anne Burt, Paula Bridge, Jane Porter, Sam McKee, John Hahn.

Apologies (13): Paraic Burke, Aileen Koritsas, Sheridan Anderson, Alan Ward, Jude Urwin, Richard Pierce, Richard Cavanagh, Rosalie Reed, Adrian Healey, Norman Foulkes, Jake Levent, Richard Cawsey, Alan Parker.

Meeting began at 1940hrs.

1. **Chairman's Introduction (Matt)**
    - Matt welcomed and thanked everybody who attended and sent apologies for those who could not be present.
    - Matt reflected on how the merger of Greenwich Borough with Natwest has been a success and that we're now a thriving club with a bright future.

2. **Club Secretary's Report (Tia)**
    - Tia stated there are currently 56 members: with some registered as coaches memberships, some as compete and most as play memberships.
    - There was a question raised if we are to limit number of members – It was decided that would not be the case unless club nights became extremely over subscribed.

3. **Match Secretary's Report (Robin)**
    - Robin reported there were more than 20 rearranged matches and a high number of cancellations.
    - John C suggested we approach the leagues about having clubs that concede matches at short notice contribute to the costs of the courts. Matt agreed but the general consensus was it would be difficult to

police. Alex spoke of each team possibly paying a bond at the beginning of the season which would be payable back in May if no cancellations were made. Else the money would be distributed accordingly to those that were affected. Matt to try and attend the leagues AGMs to voice our concerns.

- Some suggestions for next season to make things easier:
    - Team selection to be done at least a week before the fixtures meeting.
    - Competing players need to be paid up members by 31st August.
    - Ladies 4 matches to be played at Falconwood but preferably not on a club night.
- League positions as of 23rd May below:
    - CD ONWK Div 1 – 6th of 6
    - CD ONWK Div 2 – 4th of 5
    - LD ONWK Div 2 – 1st of 5 (Promoted)
    - LD RAVS Div 1 – 2nd of 5
    - LD RAVS Div 2 – 5th of 6
    - MD RAVS Div 1 – 2nd of 5
    - MD ONWK Div 3 – 2nd of 6
    - MD RAVS Div 3 – 4th of 5
    - XD RAVS Div 1 – 2nd of 6
    - XD ONWK Div 2 – 4th of 6
    - XD RAVS Div 2 – 3rd of 6
    - XD ONWK Div 3 – 7th of 7

4. Treasurer's Report (Mike)

- Mike detailed the financial health of the club and we are in a very comfortable position for the foreseeable future.
- It was decided that we need to do a stock count of the shuttles from the captains.
- It was also agreed that Yonex shuttles were sturdier and more durable than the RSLs. Alex stated that they were also much easier to repair and reuse. In future, both club and match nights will have Yonex AS50s.
- It was also suggested that if any captains still wish to play with RSLs, then to let Mike know so he can order some tubes for future matches.

- Membership:
    - New BE membership year: 1st November 2019.
    - Fees for students/juniors: £3 for both matches and club nights but no annual membership. They must be BE registered though for insurance purposes and league participation.
    - Fees for adults/seniors: £5 for club night and £6 for matches. Annual membership with BE registration to remain the same i.e. £50.
    - If BE increases their fee after Falcon members have paid their subs, the club will absorb the additional cost within reason.
    - Compete BE memberships for tournament participation will no longer be available through their affiliated clubs. Members must instead purchase the upgrade independently from BE.

5. **Social Secretary's Report (Rosalie with assistance from Matt)**
    - In Rosalie's absence, Matt confirmed we had one social outing just after the New Year which was very enjoyable.
    - Matt confirmed that the next social is on Saturday 25th May at Namaste Swanley! of which 14 members shall be attending.

6. **Election of officers / nominations**
    - All committee members stepped down from their offices and everyone in attendance was asked if they wanted to volunteer or put forward any candidates to join the committee.
    - New committee members:
        - Chairman: Matt Cavanagh
        - Club Secretary: Tia Hollyer
        - Match Secretary: Robin Wells
        - Treasurer: Mike Goudie
        - Social Secretary: Sam McKee
        - Communications Secretary: Jude Urwin
        - Regular Members: John Hahn, Yasmina Cavanagh and Matt Cavanagh nominated Colin Stevenson

7. **Club joining/selection process/procedure prior to winter season**

- It was agreed that new annual membership fees continue to be collected from Monday 1st July.
- Members are welcome to renew their memberships during June but there will only be a two week grace period of paying 'member rates' at club night whilst out of membership. Guest fees will then be enforced from Wednesday 17th July.

8. Team selection policy

- Committee members shall choose the Selection Committee. Panel to hold no more than six members.
- Members to indicate on membership forms which disciplines they would like to play matches with a 1st, 2nd and 3rd preference.
- Members will be assigned to a maximum of two teams but can be called upon to fill in if necessary.

9. 'A' and 'B' nights in addition to club nights

- The proposal of 'A' and 'B' Nights, to provide graded levels of badminton for the 1st & 2nd team players and the 3rd & 4th team players, was passionately argued by both John H (For) and John C (Against).
- General opinion was any additional nights be open to all members and not a select few, even if two additional evenings were made available with Wednesdays.
- Therefore, Monday evenings will be used as an additional club night to Wednesdays during the summer months when no matches have been arranged.
- Proposal that players could be segregated into two separate groups after the first hour of play by discipline – Ladies, mens or mixed, or performance on the night, was an agreed compromise.
- Alex, Matt and one other to act as a committee to make the decision on the running of the evening based on attendance, ability and requests.
- Fees: £6 members, £3 students, £8 guests.
- First session to take place on Monday 24th June, subject to summer league matches.

10. Payment of match/club night fees

- Match fees to be paid online within ONE week of the fixture by the captain (or designated player who has online banking access). If not, Mike will chase and send a reminder by email.

11.Pegboard system

- Satisfactory system but instructions shall be circulated to the membership to ensure a better understanding of how it works.
- Matt will update the board to include a waiting area on one side and a winners/losers section on the other.

12.Teamwear

- Hoodies very popular with approximately ten members having purchased so far.
- Most members at the meeting were not in favour of having T-shirts for next season's teams.

13.Intraclub/summer league competition

- ONWK league to send out an email requesting which disciplines they should run over the summer.
- Matt to canvas the membership on who would like to participate in the summer leagues and which disciplines.
- Intraclub composite tournament proposal was rejected.

14.Constitution

- Committee to review the contents of the proposed constitution, to be based on Greenwich Borough's documentation, once Matt has made some necessary amendments i.e. changing all references to Greenwich Borough, dates, addresses, etc.
- Once approved, all members will receive a copy before renewing their Falcons membership.

15.Newsletters

- Matt to be responsible for the first edition of the quarterly updates.
- Contents to include:
    - Membership information
    - Team selection updates

- Key dates
- New members
- Social activities
- Worthy mentions

16.AOB

- John H wished to remind the membership that setting up and tidying away the equipment and used shuttles shouldn't be a job for the few but the many. Therefore, please be more conscious of providing assistance, especially on match nights when the captains are busy trying to organise the teams, drinks and opposition.

- Robin requested that all team captains should check that their match results have been properly recorded on the websites. If not, then either add them yourself or query with the league.

- Matt spoke about how successful the Sunday coaching had been with the mens and ladies 2nd teams. There appears to be an appetite for further coaching to take place but this depends on the numbers at our two club nights during the summer months. If attendances are low then we might ask Vance Young to return and take hold of one court to coach four to eight players during the evening i.e. four different members an hour at an additional cost to the club night fee.

Meeting closed at 2155hrs.