



Harborough LC Junior Badminton Club



Affiliated to Badminton England for the 2019/20 season as CL000029

Ray Phipkin - Head Coaches Report (31 December 2020)

For year 2020, there have been three main club Wednesday night sessions as 4:00pm to 5:00pm; 5:00pm to 6:00pm and 6:00pm to 7:00pm. These have all been subject to the £13.00 monthly payments, the same conditions and opportunities. The club committee did agree from season 2018/19 that a third child would now be FREE. A waiting list has operated throughout the year especially for the 5:00pm to 6:00pm & 6:00pm to 7:00pm sessions and as of 31st December 2020, we still have one new player wanting to join the 4:00pm to 5:00pm session; two new players wanting to join the 5:00pm to 6:00pm session. In addition, two current players have already asked to move up to the 5:00pm to 6:00pm session.

- The 6 weeks 4-5pm session 08/01/20 - 12/02/20 had attendance between 21-25 players.
- The 6 weeks 5-6pm session 08/01/20 - 12/02/20 had attendance between 19-24 players.
- The 6 weeks 6-7pm session 08/01/20 - 12/02/20 had attendance between 19-23 players.
- The 6 weeks 4-5pm session 26/02/20 - 01/04/20 had attendance between 17-24 players.
 - Due to Coronavirus -Covid 19 the 3 weeks 18/03/20 to 01/04/20 were cancelled.
- The 6 weeks 5-6pm session 26/02/20 - 01/04/20 had attendance between 16-19 players.
 - Due to Coronavirus -Covid 19 the 3 weeks 18/03/20 to 01/04/20 were cancelled.
- The 6 weeks 6-7pm session 26/02/20 - 01/04/20 had attendance between 14-23 players.
 - Due to Coronavirus -Covid 19 the 3 weeks 18/03/20 to 01/04/20 were cancelled.
- The 5 weeks 4-5pm session 22/04/20 - 20/05/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 5 weeks 5-6pm session 22/04/20 - 20/05/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 5 weeks 6-7pm session 22/04/20 - 20/05/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 6 weeks 4-5pm session 08/06/20 - 08/07/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 6 weeks 5-6pm session 08/06/20 - 08/07/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 6 weeks 6-7pm session 08/06/20 - 08/07/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- **The 3 weeks 4-5pm session 05/08/20 - 19/08/20 decided this session would not be held.**
- The 3 weeks 5-6pm session 05/08/20 - 19/08/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 3 weeks 6-7pm session 05/08/20 - 19/08/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 8 weeks 4-5pm session 26/08/20 - 14/10/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 8 weeks 5-6pm session 26/08/20 - 14/10/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 8 weeks 6-7pm session 26/08/20 - 14/10/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 8 weeks 4-5pm session 28/10/20 - 16/12/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 8 weeks 5-6pm session 28/10/20 - 16/12/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- The 8 weeks 6-7pm session 28/10/20 - 16/12/20 Cancelled due to Coronavirus -Covid 19.
- At 31/12/20 potentially at the 4-5pm session 6 girls & 17 boys, at the 5-6pm session 9 girls & 16 boys and at 6-7pm session 5 girls & 16 boys.

Due to the Coronavirus - Covid19 none of the three sessions from 4-5pm; 5-6pm & 6-7pm have been held for season 2020/21 in respect of Autumn Terms 1 & 2. This means that no players have had their membership renewed with Badminton England in "GoMembership". When the sessions are able to be re-summed then plays attending will then have their respective membership renewed.

All club members as part of initially joining the club have a "FREE" club hoodie & a "FREE" club shirt which the shirt is required to be worn at the club weekly sessions. Both these items can be exchange throughout the season if required for a larger size. When players leave dependant on condition of garment they may be requested this be washed and returned.

Appreciate to buy either short or skort has been reduced from £12.00 to £10.00. I hope that the new price will encourage more sales in 2021, but having a FREE club shirt could be a start of a way forward to own a full strip?

In respect of external tournaments, events and league

Members are always encouraged to take a pro-active approach in continuing entering the Non-County Tournaments. How due again the Coronavirus – Covid19 nor events/ tournaments have taken place.

- The Head Coach on behalf of the club did participate in the "Just" project and offered badminton sessions on a Wednesday from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. The "Just" project is aimed to engage previous inactive females aged 14years +. The participants can just turn up and join in, no need to book. They can attend any of the sports and could change this from week to week or just stay with the same sport.

In respect of internal club tournament events

These had to be halted on 11th March 2020 due to Coronavirus – Covid19 with many games in different events outstanding.

- At the 4:00 – 5:00pm sessions, a total of 68 games out of 83 games were played; 5:00 - 6:00pm sessions a total of 42 games out of 80 games were played. At the 6:00 – 7:00pm sessions a total 59 games out of 77 were played. The results are as follows:-

U10's Boys Singles (This was a group of four players & one game left to play)

- This would then be able to establish the group winner & runner up.

U12's Boys Singles (This had four groups & five games to play)

- Then would be a quarter final, semi- final & final.

U14's Boys Singles (This had four groups & one game to play)

- Then would be a quarter final, semi- final & final.

U16's Boys Singles (This had four groups & two games to play)

- Then would be a quarter final, semi- final & final.

U18's Boys Singles (This was a group of six players & two games left to play)

- This would then be able to establish the group winner & runner up.

U10's Girls Singles (Group & 13-15 against opponent)

- Runner Up: Neha Balakumar Winner: **Phoebe Wyllly-Bagnall**

U12's Girls Singles (This was a group of five players & one game left to play)

- This would then be able to establish the group runner up.
- Runner Up: Winner: **Jasmine Armstrong.**

U14's Girls Singles (Group & 7-15 against opponent)

- Runner Up: Bethany Stuart-Jones Winner: **Amy Taylor.**

U16's Girls Singles (This had four groups)

- Now would be a quarter final, semi- final & final.

U18's Girls Singles (This had two groups)

- Now would be a semi- final & final.

U10's Boys Doubles (This was a group of two pairs & one game left to play)

- This would then be able to establish the group winner & runner up

U12's Boys Doubles (This was two groups & four games left to play)

- Then would be a semi- final & final.

U14's Boys Doubles (This was two groups & three games left to play)

- Then would be a semi- final & final.

U16's Boys Doubles (This had two groups)

- Now would be a semi- final & final.

U18's Boys Doubles (Group 3 – 15 against opponents)

- Runners Up: Oscar Lopez-Biggin & George Eveleigh.
- **Winners: Ben Highcock & Joshua Ireland.**

U12's Girls Doubles (Group 7 – 15 against opponents)

- Runners Up: Mia Fannon & Neha Balakumar
- **Winners: Gemma Pyle & Jasmine Armstrong**

U14's Girls Doubles (This group has now amended the two pairings so only one game to play)

- This would then be able to establish the group winner & runner up.

U16's Girls Doubles (This was two groups & three games left to play)

- Then would be a semi- final & final.

U18's Girls Doubles (This group has now amended the three pairings so only two games to play)

- This would then be able to establish the group winner & runner up.

"Harborough LC Junior Badminton Club" trophy to the "Outstanding Club Member"

- This award is based on the Club Coaches assessment of players' contribution to the club rather than playing ability. This trophy presented annually. **2020: Ellis McKeown.**

Trophy to the "Most Improved Session Member"

- This is based on the Club Coaches assessment of players' improved playing ability for the respective session they attend.
- **Winner 2020 session 4-5pm: Austin Wigley.**
- **Winner 2020 session 5-6pm: Chloe Woodward.**
- **Winner 2020 session 6-7pm: Ben Highcock.**

The Club Tournament Presentations & Meal due to be held on 29/04/2020 had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus covid-19. There were still 70 games to be played over the different events & hopefully these can be completed when we are able to re-commence the clubs three weekly sessions & coronavirus covid-19 regulations allow. This may now mean semi-finals & finals are played at different weekly sessions rather on one night. A new date in 2021 hopefully can be arranged for the 2020 Club Tournament Presentations & Meal.

Looking ahead it is doubtfully if the club is able to hold their tournament events in 2021 due to the coronavirus covid-19.

Christmas Party 2020

- This had to be cancelled due to coronavirus covid-19.

Shuttles

- In year 2020 a sum of £184.90 was paid out in respect of 10 dozen Babolat No 2 Goose Feather Shuttles at £18.49 per dozen used over the 4-5pm; 5-6pm and 6-7pm sessions.
- With sessions being cancelled we had not had to purchase at least a further 29 dozen as it is estimated that each week for the three sessions we would use one dozen per week over the 39. However in future as players improve in all sessions then they should be allowed new shuttles rather than keep using damaged ones so assume we will then use 50 dozen.

Badminton England – “The Racket Pack” award scheme.

- Children in school years 3-8 will have the opportunity to take part in “The Racket Pack” award scheme.
- “Tink” award for between 7-9 years old; “Flo” award for between 9-11 years old and “Wise” award for between 11 – 13 years.
- At present at the 4-5pm session then 4 would be on the “Tink” award & 4 would be on the “Flo” award & 9 would be the “Wise” award.
- At present at the 5-6pm session then 1 would be on the “Tink” award & 1 would be on the “Flo” award & 6 would be the “Wise” award.

Consider over year 2021, the club’s strategy should be to work to ensure we are still able to have a full membership at each session. Also encourage older players to attend the 7-8pm sessions which is run for adults.

Club Coaches & Volunteers

John Fannon a Badminton England UKCC Level 1 coach and is really proactive at the 5-6pm & 6-7pm sessions.

Steve Chapman has now completed and achieved his Badminton England UKCC Level 1 coaching award and again attends as many 5-6pm & 6-7pm sessions as he can. Also attends most 7-8pm sessions.

To ensure the Junior Club players are receiving update coaching information as head coach I have during 2020 attending the following:-

- Badminton England – Covid-19 Awareness Training – elearning.
- 1st 4 Sport – Mental Health Awareness for Sport and Physical Activity - eLearning.

The intent is that all club coaches will be on the Badminton England list of registered / Licensed Coaches which means they will need to have a current DBS certificate. In addition, they will be members of the Leicestershire Badminton Coaching Association.

Fiona Booth the mother of Lewis attends the 4-5pm session as a volunteer and has a HVO Badminton England membership. Penny Fannon is an adult volunteer at the 5-6pm session.

Club members have been attending other sessions free of charge to help as volunteers. At the end of March 2020 for the 4-5pm session then Caitlin Sullivan & Joshua Brambini-Meadows for the 5-6pm session then, Ben Highcock, Luke Ainsworth, Lucy Goodman, Emily Hayes, Molly Johnson & Ella Bills.

The club for 2021 will continue to encourage & pay for Junior Club members aged 16+ to attend these UK Coaching “Safeguarding & Protecting Children” courses.

With a Constitution, Code of Conducts & updated Welcome Leaflets the club are able to have renewal accreditation as a Badminton England Premier Club and Sport England Clubmark.

Club Web site & notice board

- Due to the continuing great efforts of John Fannon, the club now has a great web site <http://www.harboroughlcjuniors.org.uk/> via “Easyspace Starter Plus Yearly, Easyspace Domain”.
 - This site has details of the past clubs AGM minutes with coaches & treasurer reports, BACS Bank payment details for 2020/21 Club Kit order forms, details of weekly session programmes. External tournament event forms & photos of players winning trophies at American Tournament.

Badminton England provided a notice board to Harborough Leisure Centre, which the Leisure Centre fixed to the wall in the corridor in the entrance to the Sports Hall. This notice board is now being used solely by the club.

The club now has a glass display cabinet on the wall adjacent to the entry to the Sports Hall. This will contain the annual club trophies.

In addition, the web site of Leicestershire Rutland Sport is being used to advise all the club details and weekly sessions.

Pathway to Adult league

Steve and John when considered suitable invited some of the older players to participate in the Harborough Feathers club nights.

Automatic Shuttlecock Launcher

Ray Phipkin purchased this BKL equipment in 2016 with an update in 2017 for a total cost of £3,500.00 and players have had the benefit of its use again with the new routines for 2020. To date no charge has been made but it may mean in 2021 a charge is made for any replacement Shuttlecocks needed.

A quite simple GJ688 automatic shuttlecock launcher was purchased by the club in 2019 via Amazon at a cost of £105.99 plus a further £23.88 for batteries and a suitable 6-volt transformer. This equipment will only deliver the shuttlecock a single set distance to one position. As younger children are unable to hand feed accurately this equipment ensure an accurate feed to allow net shots, net lifts, service returns to be practised. Also as being battery operated (as well as mains electrical down to 6v) means children under adult supervision can operate the equipment.

New Badminton Nets & Weights

Due to the poor quality of the badminton nets provided by Harborough Leisure Centre the club purchased four nets at a total cost of £91.96 which will be used solely by the club at their own sessions. As the badminton posts are unstable and the top of the post leans in towards the court the club have purchased 8 x Gorilla Sports Vinyl Tri Grip Weight Plate 10KG at a total cost of £151.92. These will be place on the top of the existing badminton net post base weights to ensure the badminton nets maintain their correct height of 5'1" at the post and 5'0" in the centre.

New Babolat Club Rackets, Grips & Graps

Junior Players & parents are often enquiring as to what is the best & type of racket they should buy? For season 2019/20, the club purchasing some rackets for our Junior members to use for them to be able to try before purchasing suitable rackets at competitive prices. Irrespective of what manufacture is finally selected players can determine which type of racket head balance is preferred.

- The three Babolat rackets from the "Prime Range" we have select are price competitive with other manufactures and offer a really good "first" racket to own.
- The Essential and Lite versions (Head Light & Even Balance) Retail at £35.00 and the Blast (Head heavy) version Retails at £40.00.
- In lieu of Withers Sports, no doubt discounts off these retail prices are available from such suppliers as
 - "Direct Badminton" (£33.99; £27.40; £33.99) but involves additional carriage cost.
 - <https://www.directbadminton.co.uk/sport4/badminton/badminton-rackets/babolat-badminton-rackets/babolat-prime>
 - "Central Sports" (£34.00; £28.99; £42.49)but involves additional carriage cost.
 - <https://www.centralsports.co.uk/brands/babolat/f/t:2>

As required the club will continue to purchase Grips & Graps for badminton racket handles. Steve Chapman at any session has and will continue to apply Grips and or Graps to Junior Players racket handles all free of charge.

Would like to thank all club coaches, volunteers, and committee members, for all their help & support over the last 12 months even though we have only been able to have sessions up to 11th March 2020.

Finally a very, very big thank you to all parents & players as without their interest, dedication & commitment we would not have a junior badminton club to serve Market Harborough area.

It has been a pleasure to work with such a great group of players and people & continues to make the 45 mile round trip each week worthwhile.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R S.P.K.', enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

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