

## **NEWSLETTER**

Please circulate to your club members

The Leeds and District Badminton Association "End of Season Bash", incorporating the Presentation Evening, will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> June in the Taverners Suite at the Yorkshire Cricket Club. Please encourage your players to support this function. Why not take the opportunity to use the occasion for your club's end of season social event. Trophy winners especially are expected to send at least one representative. There is a trophy for every division's winning team plus, of course, each of the cup competitions. Additionally trophies are awarded to the individuals with the best record in their respective divisions.

The Leeds and District Badminton AGM is on Thursday 9th June. Please note the change of venue to Farsley Celtic. May I remind clubs that at least one representative from each club must attend the AGM and a fine will be levied against any club that is not represented. Any rule changes must be submitted by the end of April but any matters can be raised with me or any of the committee members at any time. Ideas for improvement are always welcome.

One club has already raised the issue of a Combination league which, if there is any support for, could be discussed at the AGM. This format combines mixed and level doubles and may appeal to teams who cannot raise either 6 men or 6 ladies. There are a few options such as the number of players in the team, the male / female split and the arrangement of mixed and level doubles. Another club has suggested the idea of having teams of four ladies to encourage more clubs to enter a ladies' team. I would be grateful for any observations on these ideas and if clubs might be interested in entering a team or two in these formats. The issue of the strengths of the mixed teams may need some thought and debate. If there is sufficient interest some proposals could be made to be put to the AGM.

**Vacancies.** There has been a vacancy for a Secretary and a Handicap Secretary since the end of the 2013/14 season. Neither position is particularly onerous or time-consuming. Support will be provided by the rest of the committee. The committee have, up-to-now, absorbed the extra responsibilities although the rules (Rule 2) require a club chosen by ballot to provide an officer for a year. We have taken the view that volunteers are much preferred but, like any association, there must be a regular rotation of officials representing different clubs. Anyone remotely interested would be welcome to attend one of the irregular committee meetings if only to see what goes on.

David Pike Chairman February 2016