

Leinster Branch Annual General Meeting
in
Baldoyle Badminton Centre
on
21st April 2024

Present: **David Murphy** (President, in the chair)
Roy Cobbe (Chairman)
Grainne Kinnerk (Honorary Treasurer)
Joe Wright, Liza O'Rourke, Martin O'Hanlon, Steven Corrigan. Simon Keane Catherine Smyth,
Enda Daly, Mick Smith (Executive Committee)

Betty Luttrell (Acting General Secretary)

Badminton Ireland

Michael Watt
Enda Lynch

Honorary Members:

David Hogan, Muriel Moles, Gay Dinan, Joe Byrne, Brian Kelly, Joe Byrne,

Trustees:

Brian Herman

Club Representatives:

Old School, KADCA BC, KADCA Juv BC, Carlow LTC, PSLC BC, Raheny BC, Pembroke, Terenure College, Kilmessan, Kildalkey BC, Athy BC, Danum BC, The Park, Bough BC, Mountrath BC, Portarlinton BC Phoenix Juv BC, Fingal Cell, Rathfarnham Parish, Ace Badminton Academy, Baldoyle & District BC.

Sub Committee members:

Jean Kelly, Kevin Delaney.

The President opened the AGM by welcoming all Members, Club Secretaries and visitors. He then read the apologies from:

Mary Dinan
Loftus Warren
Mark Peard
Breda Connolly
Aoife Lennon
Judy Bryant

Olivia Cooney
Tommy McGrath
Cyril Finney
Har Allison
Lynn McCrave
Avril Dungan

Before the formal meeting commenced, the President asked for a Minutes silence to remember those who passed since the 2023 meeting and in memory of all past members of Leinster Branch, in particular, Joe Abbot, who represented Leinster and also represented Ireland in the Nations cup. David Grimes, who was

Branch president in the 80s and Paddy Kelly, the great coach, both were honorary members and passed away during the year.

(a) Minutes of previous AGM

The President then proceeded with the meeting, first on the agenda was the Minutes of the 2023 General meeting. He did not intend to read through as they had been available for reviewing on the website. He asked if there were any comments or issues and there were none. He then asked for a proposer and seconder. Brian Kelly proposed, and Muriel Moles seconded.

(b) President's Report

The President said he was pleased to carry out the role of President for Leinster Branch. Highlights of the year are included in his report which can be viewed on the Branch website. Key highlights he recalled were:

Notts: the back-to-back success of the YAC's team, winners at Notts, in both in 2022 and 2023.

Celtic Challenge U14 winners in Edinburgh

Leinster's success at the InterPro's.

World Masters Gold by Sian Williams and Pam Peard.

He then acknowledged the work and progress being made by the following:

Steven Corrigan with the Counties, the committees who are driving Schools Badminton. He then thanked the volunteers who are involved with committees and the umpires, referees and coaches. He noted the work of Philip McKeown on the technology upgrades for streaming matches in both halls.

He paid tribute to the retiring Treasurer-Grainne Kinnerk-for her contribution and incredible hard work for the Branch during her term.

He thanked BI for their support during the year and was glad to note that both Micheal and Enda were in attendance. He asked if they wanted to say a few words., Michael W responded that he was delighted to be asked to the meeting and said if there was anything Leinster needed, their support is available to all.

(c) Consideration of the Presidents Report:

The President's report was taken as read and accepted by the meeting.

It was proposed by Jean Kelly and seconded by Mary Byrne

(d) The Chairpersons Report

The chairperson read through his report. In his report he commented that his first year back as chairperson was a very busy one. Key points from the report were:

He spoke about the impressive achievements of our juveniles at home and abroad with pride of place going to the U18 team and their fabulous achievement of winning Notts for the 2nd year in a row. He then commented on the hard-working members of the Youth Activities committee who work non-stop, arranging squads for the teams and running the juvenile competitions.

He spoke about the performance of the Leinster Senior Interpro's who won 2 of out 3 All Irelands and complimented Sian and Pam who won another World title during the year.

Our Senior team continues to represent Leinster in the ICC it was hard going as many of the seniors were unavailable and we had to rely on our juveniles, who played extremely well, however it is a senior competition, and we may need to consider the merit of taking part next season.

He noted that the Leinster and Dublin Secondary Schools competition continues to grow which is a credit to the hard-working committees who give their time to promote Badminton in the Schools.

BPL/DDLC

He said that it was great for Badminton to see that, at all levels, there is an increasing number of people playing Badminton with a similar increase in players competing in events. He thanked the Committees who made this happen and then thanked the players who took part in the competitions and represented Leinster during the year.

Finally, he thanked to the hardworking Executive committee and all volunteers around the province, who do so much to keep the game growing in their areas.

(e) Consideration of the Chairpersons Report:

The Chairperson's report was taken as read and accepted by the meeting.

It was proposed by Enda Daly and seconded by Brian Herman.

In response to comments made about the idea of pulling the Senior Team from ICC competition., there was some discussion.

Jean Kelly (YACs) said players are gone from YACs at 17 and a Player pathway is needed, without it there is nothing for them to aspire to. Players at Snr level from 17-35 years and they have to have something and that should be the mission of the Exec. She asked if the Executive would consider developing something for those 17-year-olds. Ian Frost supported this proposal and said a strong pathway is needed and will enable strong teams and good numbers. He stated that it would be very negative to pull ICC, as players fought to get into the ICC and played at the highest level, playing that that level helps players progress and bring themselves forward. Ian Frost also said he would like to see those ICC players play exhibition games in Leinster.

Views of Jean Kelly and Ian Frost were supported by Brian Kelly.

On the ICC Team, RC asked those present if they had any idea why players were not making themselves available for the senior team.

BK said injuries is another reason or they can't afford to go, while others are getting paid to play in Europe.

LOR said the English Counties have similar issues to those in Leinster.

Some move to college so not easily available

JK said in the past, there was less competitions, now there are so many more.

LOR said competing in the ICC is strengthening the domestic game. JK said that in the case of Girls, at u17, the number of girls playing drops and both BI and Exe need to look at this with a view to improved retention of girls at that age.

Helen Heery asked where the girls are and have, they been asked to play. RC said they stated they didn't want to play.

RC thanked those who contributed to the discussion for their inputs. He stated Exec have no desire to pull the team but do want a stronger team going to compete. Although there are so many strong players, Branch struggled to field a team during the past season.

(f) Honorary Treasurers Report

Grainne Kinnerk addressed the meeting. She advised that the Accounts were only finalised last week and overall, it is a bad time in the financial year to produce same.

Highlights were:

Occupancy in the Centres was good, in Whitehall Road there is scope for more during the day and Baldoyle needs to be worked on.

Buildings are becoming costly and need money spent on them.

Accounts format is good and would recommend retaining same.

Next Year the focus will be on:
Development spend and Intercounty Events.

This concluded the Treasurers Report, and she asked if there were any questions.

PM asked about revaluation of property.
Treasurer responded this was caused by depreciation.

MB asked about the General and Central development fund and asked can money be set aside and have it when work needs to be done.
Treasurer replied that the Central Fund is one way of putting money aside.

In finalising the Report, Treasurer thanked the following:
The committee, Liza O'Rourke, Barry, Iris and Lavanya.

In terms of the future, the Treasurer proposed that:

Timing of the Audit could be looked at/Control of Shuttle costs is key to cost savings and Investment in a 2nd team to ICC.

(g)Consideration of Honorary Treasurer's Report:

The Report was taken as read and accepted by the meeting. The Report was proposed by Ian Frost and seconded by Michael Lambe.

David Murphy said that the role of the Treasurer is one of the toughest on the Committee and Grainne has done a terrific job and he was glad to have this opportunity to thank her. Following this there was a round of applause for Grainne. He then took the opportunity to thank Simon Keane (Exec member) for his work on the Sports Capital Grant Application for the Branch.

Before moving to the Election of Officers and Ordinary members, President acknowledged the work done of the committee in the previous year, they were very hard working and intent on achieving the best for Leinster Branch. In particular he acknowledged those whose terms were up and had to step down. To show his appreciation he presented Grainne Kinnerk and Liza O'Rourke with a bouquet of flowers.

(h)Election of President of the Executive Committee to serve for two years:

David Murphy was re-elected unopposed to serve two years.

(i)Election of Vice President: Tommy McGrath has accepted the role of Vice President of the Branch to service for a two-year term.

(j)Election of Honorary Treasurer to serve for two years.

Joe Wright was elected unopposed to serve for a two-year term.

(k) Election of four members of the Executive Committee to serve for two consecutive years.

Executive members may only serve a maximum of four consecutive years. However, they become eligible for election again twelve months after retiring.

President asked each of the four potential committee members to introduce themselves to the meeting and say a few words.

Paul Mooney: Member of Danum BC and a novice at Badminton by standards. Runs a small business and he will bring his business acumen to the role. He sees opportunities for the Branch and will help Leinster in whatever way they will need it,

Simon Keane: Is a member of PLS BC and his children play, and it is Badminton 24/7 in his house. He is on a number of committees for Leinster. Badminton is growing and everything is getting bigger and the more help we have the better.

Steven Corrigan is from Bough BC, chairperson of Carlow Committee and involved in SWLBL. Enjoyed time on committee last year and wants to do more.

Shanthini Chadra is passionate about Badminton, is training as a line judge, is part of a working Group with BI and a member of Yacs, loves volunteering for Badminton.

Aoife Lennon:

Apologies received from Aoife who was unable to attend the meeting, Aoife is known to many and as she previously served as a hard-working member of the Exec.

Joe Byrne commented that strong candidates and as there are more candidates than vacancies, could the 5 candidates be added to the committee?

Trustee Brian Herman replied that Rules state only 4 vacancies so only four can be elected. RC commented that the extra 1 could be co-opted onto the Exec at their first meeting.

The voting took place and results were:

Elected: Simon Keane, Steven Corrigan and Shanthini Chadra.

Joint 4 were Paul Mooney and Aoife Lennon. Brief discussion with Trustees and it was agreed that a vote between Paul Mooney and Aoife Lennon would take place. The vote took place and Aoife

Lennon got the majority and was deemed elected. It was agreed to follow up on the co-option of Paul Mooney at the next Executive meeting.

(l) Honorary Membership to Har Allison.

Apologies were received from Har, who was too ill to attend. President advised that the opportunity to honour Har would take place at the final night of the BPL-on May 29th. He reminded the meeting that an Exhibition match would take place at that same BPL, so it would be well worth attending.

(m) Presentation of Volunteer Pins

In recognition of their contribution to the development of Baldoyle BC, President awarded Volunteer Pins to Helen Heery and Christine Smith.

(n) AOB:

President asked if there were any matters to raise under AOB and he was advised there was none.

With no further business to discuss, David Murphy thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He wished a good 2024-2025 season to all and then brought the AGM 2024 to a close.
End.