## Mid Sussex District Badminton Association

## Junior League Secretary Report for 2016 / 2017

I approached this year with more enthusiasm than last year, with the aim for this year, of at least getting the Year 9 League up and running. The first step was positive with all clubs agreeing to attend a Fixtures Meeting.

The Fixtures Meeting was held over two nights & at two different locations. The first was held on 7th Oct with Felbridge Juniors & Lewes attending and the second was held on 12th Oct with Burgess Hill, Fast Step & Lewes attending.

Due to a change to the Sussex county junior squads set up i.e. No Saturday Training Squad, I proposed a rule change.

* Proposal to change to Rule 3(g) - NS Proposed the following Rule 3(g) A Team may play One County player of the teams age group, plus in addition, no more than one players playing in Badminton England Tournaments. An additional county team player can be included if that player is from a lower age group.

Please note that this rule was not adopted and the original set of rules from the 2015 remain in place.

At the first meeting after a review of the rules, Felbridge stated that at this present time, they look like that they will not be entering a team this year, as the current set of players are not quite ready to play competitive matches. One positive point to come out of this meeting was instead of playing Home & Away fixtures, which has been difficult at times during the winter to get players to the opposition’s location, that it could be more productive if the “league” was held on one day with all the clubs playing each other in a Quad Match.

At the second meeting, after a review of the rules and the proposed change to Rule 3 (g) were discussed. Burgess Hill said that if this rule is implemented they would have to withdraw from the Year 9 League for the coming season, as they do not have the players available to participate. In order that the clubs still play each other in some kind of format, the proposal of the Quad or Tri-Club Match was then put forward. It was agreed that this would be easier to organise at a weekend, i.e. Sat or Sun, if a Quad Match is favoured then another club could be invited to participate at this event, but would not be able to take part in the League.

The meeting closed with all 3 clubs agreeing to take part in a Tri-club Match, but agreed to drop the current set of MSDBA Junior League Rules. Venues and playing formats were discussed, but at this time of writing this report, even this event has not taken place. In short, there were no junior matches played under MSDBA this year.

At the start of next season, I will make contact with each of the clubs to see if they will enter into the junior league or other type of match play (subject to the acceptance of the MSDBA Committee) and hopefully we can re-instate, in one way or another, junior competitive matches.

Nick Saunders

MSDBA Junior League Secretary.