***Lindfield Badminton Club***

Dear All,

Welcome to the 2018/19 season and below are the key details. There are some significant changes, so please familiarise yourself with the below:

**Venue:**  Dolphin Leisure Centre, Haywards Heath

3rd Sept - Courts 1, 2, & 3 and from 10th Sept – Courts 6, 7, & 8

**Club Nights:** Mondays from 8pm to 10pm

**Home Match**

**Nights:** Wednesdays from 8pm @Dolphin

**Dates**: First club night Monday 3rd Sept 2018

Last club night Monday 29th April 2019

Exceptions No club nights on 24th and 31st Dec 2018

Thank you to all members for engaging and responding so fully to our recent consultation of members regarding the way forward. The above changes reflect the consensus of the majority and was unanimously agreed by the Committee.

The committee has agreed the following fees for the 2018/19 season:

* *Full Adult Membership: £120*
* *Visitor fees: £5 per night*
* *Match fees: £5 per player per match*
* *Student fees – membership £60, match fees £2.50*

Where possible, please pay your subscriptions online as it will save us a trip to the bank. Please use the following details:

*Sort Code - 60-10-26*

*Account No – 10916342*

*Account Name – Lindfield Badminton Club.*

Please make absolutely certain that you put your name within the payee details otherwise we won’t know who the payment has come from.

Can I also make a plea for prompt payment of subs as we have to buy shuttles with which to start the season, and pay our Badminton England affiliation money at the start of the season? As always, the Committee would prefer the whole subscription amount to be paid in September but please speak to the Treasurer if there is any problem.

**Committee Changes**

As you may already know, Rob Webb has stood down from his role as Chairman and Treasurer. Rob has done an exemplary job as the club’s treasurer for the last 5 seasons, and Chairman for the last 3 – a huge thank you to Rob!

John Hopkins has been unanimously appointed as the new Club Chairman and David Highton will be our new Treasurer. Thanks to both for putting themselves forward for these key roles and I hope you will support them in their roles in the coming years. Like all small clubs, be they sports or social, the very fact that we operate at all is down to a few individuals giving up their time freely and willingly. So if you want to get involved in the running of the club, please do get in touch. For your reference, here is the full committee as it currently stands – I hope we can add a few more committee members this season…

**Chairman**: John Hopkins

**Secretary**: Gargi Mukherjee

**Treasurer**: David Highton

**Match Secretary**: Abhisek Mukherjee

**Committee Members**: In addition to the above, Kevin Chamberlain and David Waters

**Teams**

We hope to be entering the following teams this year in the Leagues. The numbers have been low in terms of female members – we do hope to get a few new female members joining this new season, to be able to enter a mixed team in the Mid Sussex league. Best of luck to all the teams – #weneedmoresilverware!

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| **League** | **Team** |
| Mid Sussex | Mixed 1st Team Division 1 |
| Mens Combination Division 1 |
| Mens Combination Division 2 |
| Brighton | Mens Div 1 |

I hope that current members will all be renewing your membership so that we have enough players to enable us to run these teams. Please let me know if you do not intend re-joining. The Committee are hoping to get off to an early start this year with the fixtures, consequently please make a big effort to come along to the first couple of club nights so that teams can be planned. **Captains will be decided and communicated in due course.** Please help them by keeping match dates free throughout the season and noting them in your diaries!

As we did last season, to help match partners play together more often, on club nights we will continue to run the **peg system for the first one and a half hours – till 9:30pm**. After that, those who want to practise with their match partners will take themselves off the peg board and use 1 (out of the 3) courts to practise for the rest of the night. Those who want to continue playing otherwise, keep using the peg board and the remaining two courts. For the above approach to work we must ensure that from 8 – 9:30pm we rigorously follow the peg board rules – **you pick from the next 7 pegs on the board**.

If you have friends who play badminton to a reasonable club standard please do bring them along to a club night, particularly if they are of match standard – visitors and new members are always welcome. We are especially looking to welcome more female members to strengthen mixed squads. Please will everyone be particularly welcoming to new people. Although we aim to be a competitive club, we also aim to be friendly and respectful.

Also, shuttles are available for individuals to buy from Rob - for less than the cost of small quantities bought elsewhere. This is cheaper than otherwise available for a small quantity, and the modest profit helps to offset the club’s costs.

I will be working with Badminton England to boost our membership and grow our club – keep a lookout for more news on this as the new season kicks off. Also, if you have any improvements ideas – please do share them with the committee.

Given the new GDPR regulation, we will increasingly look to communicate via our Facebook page, but where appropriate we will continue to communicate through email.

Lastly, I hope you are enjoying the remainder of the summer and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 3rd September.

Gargi

Club Secretary

**Contact**: 07825253797; [gargi18mukherjee@gmail.com](mailto:gargi18mukherjee@gmail.com) or; find us on Facebook