



February 2023 Newsletter

Club Update

Well, what a busy couple of months!! Happy New Year to you all, albeit slightly late!!

Firstly, since we have come back from our Christmas break, the standard of badminton has really improved, with much longer rallies and more thoughtful gameplay - the coaching provided by Pete is definitely paying off!!

December saw our first social night out in a long time, with bowling at Lincoln Bowl, organised by Liam. I think it's fair to say we had a good time but the standard of bowling probably isn't as good as our standard of badminton 😊 Many thanks to all those who attended. Liam is currently busy planning the next one, provisionally for April, watch this space!!



Club Shirts are proving to be very popular and its great to see so many members in Club Shirts at the sessions - they add a great feel to the Club and are practical to use for badminton sessions!! There is no obligation to

purchase one and they do offer great value as the shirts are heavily subsidised by the Club. A link to pay is on our website, should you wish to purchase. For more information please speak to James Middlemass.

We held our Awards Ceremony just before Christmas, wonderfully hosted by Gary. Well done to James H who won 'Best Male Player', Laura who won 'Best Female Player', Stuart who won 'Most Improved Player' and Simon and Gary who jointly won 'Best Attendance'. 🏆

We have had many new faces join the Club over the last couple of months - thank you to those existing members who have made everyone feel welcome and shown them what Priory Badminton is all about!! For those new members, don't be afraid to introduce yourselves to everyone. Please look at the documents on the website and make sure you are keeping yourselves and others safe.

Moving forward.....

We are well on with our planning for our second night. We are aiming to have a second session available from Wednesday 29th March - this is very exciting news for the Club, and clear signs that the Club is in good health and growing well. More details will follow, but the sessions will be open to over 18s and will have limited spaces for 16 to 18 year olds, who can only attend with a responsible adult who is a member of the Club. Changes are being made to the website to reflect these changes and there will be new documents for everyone who attends a Wednesday session to read. More information will be communicated closer to the time via Facebook/ Whatsapp or at the Monday session.

Ben has been liaising with Cherry Dowson of the Lincolnshire Badminton Association, with a view to our Club joining the Newark And District Badminton League from September 2023. We are gearing the Club up to join the league and would like to hear from all players who are interested, particularly female players, as numbers are lower and we need as many ladies as we can to be able to enter the 'Mixed' and 'Ladies' leagues. Please speak to Ben, James or Gary for more information.

Matt Jelly has very kindly sponsored our club, via his business Jelplumb Plumbing and Heating. We would like to extend our gratitude to Matt for his sponsorship.

We are not stopping here....

Funding - Liam has been looking at different funding streams for the Club, to see if there are any grants/ funding provided to Clubs that benefit the local community. There are schemes by the Coop and Tesco that he is looking into with an application going into Coop for £700, which could be put towards Wednesday night costs. Liam has also just completed an application on behalf of the Club to Sport England for an amount in the region of £700. If successful this money will be used to support coaching and joining the NADBL. Any money raised may also go towards the cost of coaching. Please speak to Liam if you want more information or have fundraising ideas.

Health and Safety

- Players helping clear away at the end of the night is **GREATLY APPRECIATED** - we all want to get home!! A couple of asks - if your court runs past or very close to the end of the session, please **DO** help clear away at the end (I think most do anyway 😊). Secondly, if you are moving posts around the Hall,

please **DO NOT MOVE POSTS BEHIND AN ACTIVE COURT** - a player moving at speed colliding with these posts could cause serious injury

- Please be aware of stepping on or near courts where there are games in progress - keep to single file behind courts as close to the wall as possible.
- Be mindful of your positioning when at the net - keep your racket up so you are able to return a shuttle, this will in turn protect your face and eyes
- Please ensure you are wearing clothing appropriate to play badminton in, paying particular attention to footwear - if in doubt, please speak to a Committee Member
- Can players please handle badminton equipment carefully, to avoid damage and equipment becoming unsafe to use. This includes nets and in particular shuttlecocks. Many thanks

Dates for your Diaries.....

29th March - First Wednesday Session

31st March - Next Committee Meeting

Other notices.....

- Insurance - the only insurance in place is the Club's insurance which covers the Club, not individuals. If you are interested in insurance, please take a look at the Badminton England website, where details of their insurance for players can be found.
- Does anyone have a particular skill set around IT? If so, we would like to hear from you, for help around keeping our website and payment systems maintained

© Priory Badminton Club

The Priory Witham Academy, De Wint Ave, Lincoln LN6 7DT