

2017 RABC Annual General Meeting

April 25, 2017

7:01 pm Meeting was called to order. Quorum reached with 26 voting members present.

Adoption of minutes of previous AGM: Motion by Mike Yee to approve the minutes of the 2016 AGM, seconded by Wil Côté. Motion passed.

Socials Report - presented by Jackie Tsang:

The event previously known as Foamy Friday was held on a Thursday this year and renamed Thirsty Thursday. The turnout was good despite poor weather. The Club professionals came out and played fun games with members. It is hoped that the event can be repeated twice in the coming year, once in the fall and again in the winter. Jackie said that there could also be some social events held outside of the club as well.

Junior Program Report - presented by Jie Cai:

Jie Introduced himself as the outgoing Junior Coordinator.

Chairperson's Report - presented by Mike Yee:

This year saw some initiatives put forth in an effort to make play more inclusive in an effort to attract more members. This included a reduction in the number of tournaments held at the Club in order to preserve playing time for weekend members. Further initiatives will be introduced for prospective members, in both adult and junior categories.

New Business:

Election of Officers:

The following members accepted nomination to their positions:

- Treasurer: Jie Cai
- Morning Coordinator: Chris Trothen

The following agreed to retain their positions in the absence of any new candidates:

- Socials: Jackie Tsang

- Chairperson: Mike Yee
- Secretary: Mike Conway
- Program Coordinator: David Kurtz

The positions of Vice Chairperson, Junior Coordinator, Marketing Coordinator and Tournament Coordinator were not filled, and the Past Chairperson position remains vacant.

Morning Coordinator's Report - presented by Chris Trothen:

The number of players in the morning continues to increase. The play in the mornings on Monday, Wednesday and Friday is more competitive where Tuesdays and Thursdays are more recreational. Chris will work towards advertising to get more people interested in coming out.

Chris said that he hoped that Morning Members would once again be allowed to play in the Playmaker program once the summer camps start.

Old Business:

Membership Growth Initiatives:

Morning Membership numbers have doubled with the efforts that Chris has led. New member interest has been generated through Open Houses and guest access. The new segment of the Junior HP program was filled almost instantly when it was announced. Growth in the Full adult membership remains stagnant and this will be addressed in the coming year with the addition of new incentives such as the team league and adult coaching/ training programs.

Patrick asked if the morning program played with plastic or feather birds. Chris responded that play was generally with feather birds although there is a mix of feather and plastic play on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Document Review:

Wil had asked at the 2016 RABC AGM that the Club Bylaws be reviewed. Kelly (RA Recreation) said that Jane Proudfoot (retired RA Director of Recreation) was reviewing the bylaws of all the Clubs within the RA with the aim of modernizing them such that the Clubs fit into the overall framework of the RA. Kelly said that she anticipated that this would be done within the next half year or so and that once that happened that the RA would work with the various Club Executives to adapt the bylaws to fit the

needs of both the Clubs and the RA. The bylaws would then still be subject to RA Boards approval.

Wil asked if the Club Executive would have any input into the process. Kelly said that once the first or second iteration of the document was available then the RA would work with the Club Executive to review and edit the document.

Chris said that there was a copy of the Club's old bylaws posted on the website.

Playboard Rules:

Tony G had asked at the 2016 RABC AGM that the grammar of the playboard usage document be cleaned up. Mike C said that with Tony's help a new version of the playboard guidelines had been drafted with the rules remaining the same and the addition of a clause on shuttle etiquette. The rules would be reviewed at the next Executive meeting and posted thereafter.

New Business:

New Adult Training Program:

Previously, attendance for the Tuesday and Thursday Clinics was mediocre at best. In order to provide training opportunities for adult members, the Club will introduce a series of five week training programs of a more intensive nature focusing on both skills and conditioning.

Open Play for All Ages:

The Club will adjust the hours for what was previously known as Family Time in order to correct for the imposition of programs into time slots that had been Family Time. Open play time on Saturday after 7 pm and all day on Sundays will now be open to all ages.

Team League:

The Club will introduce a competitive in-house team league to run on Sunday evenings in two 10 week sessions. This will be a pay to play program with prizes awarded to winners at the end of each session.

Terry said that he opposed both the idea of all ages play and the Sunday team league as he felt that these would interfere with the 12 to 23

members who play on Sunday nights between 7 and 10 pm. Jackie said that the start time for the league could be moved forward in an effort to allow more free play time. Mike Y said that the league appeared to have enough interest already to be successful but would only go forward if the numbers were there to support it. The league has a cost associated with it in order to cover costs of prizes and shirts and to generate revenue for the Club.

Vickie suggested that the cost for the league should be included in Club membership like the Ladies Doubles Ladder and the Monday Night Doubles Ladder.

James suggested making the T-shirts an optional purchase for the teams.

7 day guest pass:

James raised concern that the 7 day pass was being used improperly by some individuals and it had affected the Playmaker program on several occasions. Mike Y said that that particular option had been removed from the RA system and that the current policy for prospective members was for them to contact Mike Bitten so that he could walk them through the Club's procedures and find an appropriate time to introduce them to the Club.

Morning Membership:

Wil said that he thought that the amount of playing time that morning members get for their fee is disproportionately low when compared to the full membership. Chris said that the Morning membership fee had been reduced but he hoped to have it reduced further. Wil suggested that the badminton committee write a letter to the RA to review membership. Kelly said that the RA would work with all clubs to find the right recipe to make the clubs and the RA successful. If revenue from one membership is reduced by cutting the fee then that revenue needs to be made up from other Club sources.

Chris suggested that the RA look into renting a booth at the Lifestyle show to promote its' programs to retired persons. Kelly said that the RA marketing department had reached out to 55plus.

Shuttles:

Chris said that he wanted to explore the possibility of the Club purchasing shuttles and selling them to members at a reduced cost. Vicki supported Chris on this notion. Kelly said that it was not against the RA

bylaws and explained that what the RA currently does is buy shuttles at a reduced rate with someone responsible for inventory and selling the shuttles there is a margin that goes to cover RA expenses that the Clubs are not currently covering. Kelly said that any equipment or supply purchases would have to be discussed further.

Chris said that he had approached the marketing department to ask them to reach out to suppliers and retailers in hopes of getting discounts on the for Club members on the purchase of equipment.

Court Expansion Proposal:

Wil asked for an update on the proposal to expand the court area to 8 courts. Mike Y said that the proposal still required some numbers and had not yet been formally presented but is in progress.

Power Saving Initiative:

Varghese asked if the Club had considered changing the court lighting to more energy efficient LED tubes. James recounted his experience that the change to LED tubes had cut the energy cost to 10% of the previous usage. Kelly said that the property department considers proposal of this nature. Kelly said that the RA works with commercial lighting companies tht advise the RA on government initiatives.

Information Sharing:

Chris aksed that anyone who had anything to share with the Club members forward that information to Mike or Himself so that it could be posted on the Club website or Facebook page.

Motion to adjourn by Wil Côté. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.