ISSUE 105

EAGLES
BADMINTON CLUB

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NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2026

~Winter Edition~



Head Coach's Corner

by Amanda Austin
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A special welcome to all of our new members and your families. Really good to have you join us and hope you enjoy your time and sessions with us.

If you have any comments about any club business, then please get in touch with either amandaaustin@btinternet.com or eaglesbctreasurer@gmail.com.
Feedback is always important to us!

What an incredible few months since our last newsletter. Firstly, our 20th birthday party and prize presentation which was a great success all round. Feedback was great and everyone that came along seemed to enjoy themselves. There were lots of games that people tried and we had pizza on the evening. Forza were kind enough to donate lots of prizes on the evening so a big thank you from me to Forza and also to all the coaches that helped on the evening. Without you it wouldn't have been possible. I can't believe that the club is 20 years old, so I think we celebrated in style. Last summer we had nearly 20 children moving up from primary to secondary sessions and we had a waiting list covering all categories of over 100 and we just had no spaces to put new year 7s or to reduce our waiting lists so we took the brave decision to start some new classes, which means we now run sessions 6 days a week. The majority of the new sessions are now full and the only spaces we have are at the 8:30 to 9:30am primary session on a Saturday and the Friday 8:30 to 10:30pm beginners' adult session and the 12:30 to 2pm mixed ability adult session on a Saturday so if you fancy starting badminton or know of anyone who may be interested, please put them in touch. I know these spaces will fill up quickly, so I urge a prompt response. It is coming up to our two-week closure and a good chance to reflect on the year and to think that we are in our 20th year and have over 300 members is just remarkable and we are very proud of the journey we have travelled. I would like to thank all the coaches, volunteers and officials for their help over the year. I always like to hear from members with any feedback comments, tournament results or just a life update so always feel free to send me a message. I always like good news but then again, any feedback at all is helpful and we do try and take on board comments that people make. I do hope that when our break gets here that everyone enjoys the festivities and also a chance to recharge and hope that everyone is looking forward to what ever 2027 brings our way.

Welcome Back Ian!



A lovely and warm welcome back to Ian Pearson who has recently rejoined us after a few years away from club coaching. Ian is a level 3 coach and an ex-England international player. He was ranked in the top 20 in the world for doubles. He has over 30 years' experience from beginners to international standard. He specialises in technical skills that have a tactical and positional awareness focus. We are incredibly lucky to have him join our coaching ranks once again and look forward to the huge difference his coaching will make. Ian partners up in tournaments with one of our other coaches James Anderson and together they have won the open doubles title at the prestigious All England competition in both 2025 and 2026! They are also national badminton champions at Over 50 to name but a few. The club can only benefit from having such a wealth of experience in their coaching team.

Important information regarding future sessions

Hall swap

As the majority of you know when the school has exams we move to the old sports hall. We will be moving between the 13th of November and the 30th of November inclusive. **Session times do not change we just switch halls.** I know the old hall isn't as nice as our usual hall, but it does mean that we are able to carry on throughout this period.

December/ January break

The club plays all year round other than two weeks at Christmas when there will be no sessions. **So, to confirm out last session before the festive break will be the 19th of December and we will return on the 4th of January.** We had quite low numbers during half term week so assume people could have gone away but a couple said they didn't know the sessions were on so to confirm we run all year other than two weeks at Christmas and on Bank holidays but we do run throughout all of the other school holidays, including summer.

Bad weather

In the case of snow or any weather alerts please check our website or that of the schools. We will always try and send a text message out to let you know if a session isn't going ahead but if you don't hear from us then and school and website don't say closed then we will be running as normal.

Breaks in Payment/ Memberships Holidays

To clarify the club's position on planned absences and extended holidays: unfortunately, refunds or payment suspensions cannot be offered if members are away for any period of time. This is due to the need to cover fixed costs such as court hire and coaching fees, which remain the same regardless or weekly attendance. We get asked on a regular basis if people can suspend payments for so many different reasons and we have to give the same answer to everyone otherwise, we are setting a dangerous precedent, and the club won't be viable.

Club fees are calculated by averaging playing weeks across the year. This includes allowances for bank holidays, occasional cancellations due to bad weather or school events, and a two-week break all of which are factored into the pricing structure. As a result, no further adjustments can be made. If a member chooses to leave the club, their name will be added back to the waiting list should they wish to rejoin in the future. The club aims to keep costs as reasonable and consistent as possible for everyone. In cases of long-term injury, support may be offered at the club's discretion during the recovery period.
Thank you for your understanding.

A plea from us!

The majority of our sessions are now full again even after starting all the new sessions in September and we have waiting lists for most of the classes. If you decide that you and or your child is going to be leaving, please let us know rather than just cancelling your payment and not saying anything. If we know in advance, we can offer the space to people on our waiting lists who are desperate to play. Also, if you have missed a few for any reason and still want to hold your place again please just send a quick email so that we know what is happening.

Exciting News from some of our coaches!

Chairman Rob

Rob and his now fiancée Hannah have recently got engaged!! So, from the club we send a huge message of congratulations to them both from all of us. We wish you the best in the future.

James Anderson



Recently, our coach James Anderson retained his mixed tier 4 title in the Kent Open with his daughter Sienna. A massive achievement for pair, we are so proud of them and we congratulate them both! Another achievment to add to his collection.

A huge congratulations to Jemma who attends our Monday adult sessions, well did do until a few weeks ago because she has given birth to her beautiful daughter Harriet on the 21st of November. The 21st of November was also Jemma's birthday so an amazing present for her! Congratulations to Jemma and Kane and we are looking forward to meeting our newest Eagles Member Harriet.

NEW Forza Club Tops- Order Now for only £15!

We have been incredibly fortunate to have had the support of Forza for nearly 20 years- right from the club's early days. Over that time, they have provided us with club shirts, shuttles, exclusive Forza evenings and generous member discounts.

If you're ever looking to purchase badminton clothing or equipment, feel free to get in touch- Forza and Ransome Sporting Goods consistently offer us the best possible prices.

To order a club top- or to enquire about prices for any other Forza items- please email: amandaaustin@btinternet.com

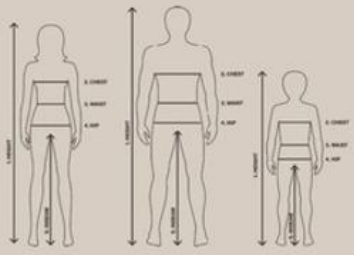
We have been extremely lucky to have received some funding from Jack Petchey which has enabled us to subsidise the club tops down to £15. These tops usually retail for much more so if you are interested, or had your eye on a club top, now is you chance! This will be last opportunity to purchase club tops so if any new members or existing members that haven't already would like a top then please get in touch! We only have limited funding so it will be on a first come first served basis so please get in touch as quick as possible!



Feedback on the shirts have have been great with the biggest bonus being "how easy they are to wash and that you just hang it up to dry and they look as good now as they did when first purchased". Please note: Forza shirts tend to run small, so please check sizing with the chart below before ordering to ensure you get a top that fits correctly.

MEASUREMENT GUIDE

How to choose the right size?
If your body measurements for chest and waist do not correspond with the same size, then choose the size which is closest to your chest measurement. If your are in between to sizes, then choose the smallest size for a tight fit or the bigger size for a loose fit.



ANTI PILLING

Our garments are made in fabrics either constructed to avoid anti-pilling or fabrics that are given an anti-pilling treatment. Even after washing several times, the surface will still look good.

WOMEN

SIZE	2XS	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL
CHEST	78	82	86	90	94	100	106
WAIST	62	66	70	74	77	80	83
HIP	87	91	95	99	103	109	116
INSEAM LENGHT	77	78	79	80	81	82	83

MEN

SIZE	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL
CHEST	92	96	100	104	110	116	122
WAIST	78	83	88	93	98	103	108
HIP	93	97	101	106	111	117	123
INSEAM LENGHT	80	81	82	83	84	85	86

JUNIOR

SIZE	6	8	10	12	14
CHEST	116	128	140	152	164
WAIST	64	68	72	76	80
HIP	66	70	74	78	82
INSEAM LENGHT	55	60	65	71	77

GIVEAWAY WINNER WITH @badmintonmarketing KEELEY GORDON

Recent Giveaway

We recently ran a giveaway in conjunction with Badminton Marketing on social media where club members were able to interact with a post for a chance to win a Forza Badminton Kit Bag. Thank you to everyone who took part in this giveaway and we are excited to announce that the winner of the Kit Bag was **Keeley Gordon,** so congratulations to them and I hope they enjoyed their prize! This was an exciting event that doesn't happen often to make sure to keep an eye on our social media pages for updates and events so you don't miss out.



Jack Petchey Awards

Here at the club we want to say a huge congratulations to Toma Murauskaite (September), Frankie Lang (October) and Jasper Gordon (November) for winning our latest batch of Jack Petchey awards. Nominations come from players and coaches so please if you think someone at your session deserves an award for any reason then please let know amandaaustin@btinternet.com. We also need ideas on what to spend our prize money on so please if you have any thoughts on what we can use the money for please let us know. We cannot use this money for regular things like hall hire, coaching fees, shuttles or rackets so anything that goes above and beyond this is usually ok. Any ideas please let me know.

Halloween special!



This year Halloween happened to fall on a Saturday, so for the primary badminton session the coaches Rob, James and Hayden decided to dress up in costumes, surprising the session. Coach Hayden said, "it was a fantastic opportunity for us coaches to bond with our Primary members and make our sessions as fun as possible!" Its moments like this which make the club really special.

Thank you

Please can I just say a huge thank you to Matt, this time of year with all the Badminton England affiliation, membership and then this year over 100 new members has been crazy, and he has worked as always tirelessly behind the scenes. This club wouldn't be what it is without him.

Thank you to all my coaches Adam, Arvin, Ian, James A, James J, Harrison, Hayden, Lawrence, Nicole, Reece and of course Chairman Rob. Thank you also to Ava for pulling together this newsletter and saving me hours as technology really isn't my strong point. Also, a big thank you to all our players and their families for help make Eagles the club that it is. At our birthday party there were lots of comments about the family feel Eagles had and I do believe that once an Eagles always an Eagle!!

Jack Petchey Foundation
Inspire • Motivate • Achieve
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BADMINTON ENGLAND
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FZ FORZA®
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