



Wycombe Badminton Centre, home of Badminton Wycombe - Chairman's report 2021.

What a year it has been with Covid disruption to our sport. Despite challenges and setbacks, we have managed to provide plenty of playing opportunity for almost all our members and guests this year. A massive thank you to our Manager Alistair Jones and all his team.

Helen Corps has retired and is looking forward to more family time, plus some travelling next year. We owe a big thank you to Helen for all her input over the years. Her dedication to the essential detail has meant we have been well managed on bookings, membership and keeping track of the myriad essentials for an effective well-run centre.

Derek Moule has joined us as Assistant Manager. Derek is well known as a player and club Chairman in the Aylesbury area. He brings ideas, planning, and is also helping with our IT; essential to the effective running of the centre.

The support team that welcomes you in the evening have been strong and stable ensuring that the covid restrictions were followed on entry to the centre and exit from the end by court 6. Fortunately, we can relax that rule in line with today's sports guidelines.

The management team have met to ensure we have a clear direction and support for Alistair in running the centre. Abby Kumar has moved to Derbyshire but been retained for his advice and guidance; especially his links to Badminton England and match-play officials.

Thanks To Alistair we have received several Covid Grants so remain financially sound. We are a not-for-profit sporting organisation, so I am pleased to say we were able to stay afloat during the last year.

The Coaches have been active with everything from Grass-Roots sessions up to the England Players sessions with several international successes at junior level. Well-deserved by them.

League play has cautiously re-started, Junior League is back up and running, and the social and pay-and-play is successful and starting to grow numbers again. The Bucks Masters have re-started under the watchful eye of Mike Clark; competitive players in all age groups are still being sought! In addition, Colin Beckley is running singles and doubles tournaments.

It is thanks to Alistair again for several initiatives for bringing in and coaching support for mental health and learning disability groups. We are delivering playing opportunities and helping develop a more inclusive membership through these groups.

From my point I have a new hip which is working well, and I am now a regular in the O50 groups on Tuesday and Thursday and look forward to increasing my competitive play!

Finally – as a Centre member this is your badminton centre. If you have ideas, wants, or issues let us know. If you want to take an active part in the centre, please get in touch. Badminton England and other centres hold Badminton Wycombe as an exemplar and we can only succeed through our vision, direction, planning and delivery. We are “Very Good” but can always do better; so we need your input and support. We are closed re-opening 4th January. Happy Christmas and (maybe lockdown) New Year! Here’s to an even better 2022.

Jeff Brydon
Chairman
Wycombe Badminton Centre Ltd.