



HORSHAM ARUN BADMINTON CLUB

JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER



@horshamarunbadminton



<https://www.habc-badminton.com>



Written by
David Jolliffe

Hello and welcome to your summer newsletter. Big things in this one, as we roundup this season and look ahead to our 70th year. As with life, things change, and the big one below is with a slight reshuffle of our daytime sessions to ensure all members get good games at the level and time that suits them best. As always, please get in touch if there is something that you want to share. Otherwise, stay safe and see you all over the summer.

DAYTIME SESSION STRUCTURE CHANGE

From 1st July, as agreed at the AGM, we will be changing the titles, timings, and format of some of our daytime sessions. We will also be opening up all of these sessions to all of our members by removing any age requirements. We hope that this change will give our members more flexibility over when they play, and relieve the pressure on some of our busiest sessions.

Daytime Social will not use the peg board, to allow players to be flexible about how much they play and who they play with, recognising the varying ability levels of our members.

Daytime Competitive will be targeting those wanting a fast-paced session with strong players and games.

Daytime Combined will complement these sessions with, typically, one court for each group - although some mixing will be required depending on numbers and individual's ability levels.

The committee would like to stress that these changes are not being made to allow people to play at more sessions in a week. We ask that all members are considerate of others when choosing when to play and understand that some players are less flexible than others.

DAY	SESSION	TIME	COURTS	DESCRIPTION
Monday	Social	09:30-11:30	4: 09:30-11:30 5: 09:30-11:30 6: 09:30-10:30	Relaxed session with slower-paced games
Tuesday	Competitive	09:30-12:00	4, 5, & 6: Whole Session	Stronger session for those wanting more intense games
Wednesday	Combined	10:00-11:30	4 & 5: Whole Session	Mixed session with courts for both social and competitive play
Thursday	Combined	09:30-12:00	4: 09:30-12:00 5: 09:30-12:00 6: 11:00-12:00	Mixed session with courts for both social and competitive play
Friday	Combined	09:30-11:00	2 & 3: Whole Session	Mixed session with courts for both social and competitive play

HABC TURNS 70!

Preparations are ramping up for **HABC's 70th Birthday Party on Sunday 6th September**. We hope that you all have this date in your diaries!

In advance of the event, if you have any **general club pictures, team pictures, social pictures, videos, or memorabilia** then please pass them over to a committee member or send them to the club's email address so that we can compile them into some nice content in the build up to the event.

WELCOMES AND CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to give a very warm welcome to the members who have joined us since the start of the season!

To respect our member's privacy this section of the newsletter has been redacted for our website's copy.

If you are a current member then you will have received an unredacted copy to the email address we have on record.

COUNTY SEASON

A large number of our members have represented Sussex, and other counties, across the season for both Senior and Masters Teams.

Highlights include:

Issy Noakes helping the Sussex Senior 2's to a 2nd place finish in Div 2 SE

Andriy Meleshykhin, Craig Preston, Ian Wootton, Helen Milne, and Karen Thomas all helping the Sussex Master's Over 45s to a South league title!

John Molyneux helping Surrey Over 65s to a South league title!

Meanwhile the Masters County Challenge took place in January. Sadly, no titles for Sussex but there was a whopping 15 or so Horsham members in attendance across the various locations. If you ever want to get involved with Masters County Badminton then please speak to Mike Stoneman.



MEMBER ONLY DEAL FOR THE BADMINTON ZONE

Take your badminton to the next level with The Badminton Zone, an online coaching platform created by former international players and experienced coaches Dean George and David King.

Members gain access to expert technical and tactical videos, training plans, drills, and off-court conditioning content designed to help players of all standards improve their game.

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FILMING

As the club prepares for its 70th Birthday, and works alongside our partner The Badminton Zone to produce marketing content for social media and our websites, there may be some filming taking place at our sessions.

If you do not wish to feature in any short clips, then please let your session rep know and we will ensure that you are not identifiable in any published content.

SHUTTLES

We would like to thank members for their continued careful use of shuttles.

Members will be aware that we have been trialling various feather and hybrid shuttles across a number of our sessions. The committee has decided to stick with our current feather shuttle for the upcoming season.

This is due to there not being sufficient data to conclude that the cheaper shuttles are more durable than our current shuttle.

We will continue to monitor the market and see how leagues' opinions change over the next 12 months.

LOCAL LEAGUES SEASON ROUNDUP

I'm sure you all enjoyed Ben's match secretary report in the AGM pack. While I won't regurgitate every stat or figure (it would take up 6 pages again!) the key headlines are:

Surrey Mixed Div 3: CHAMPIONS
Surrey Men's Div 4: 4th (out of 7)
Mid Sussex Fusion Div 1: 5th (out of 6)
Mid Sussex Fusion Div 2: 3rd (out of 6)
West Weald Combi: UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS
West Weald Men's Div 1: 4th (out of 4) 🙄
Crawley Mixed: 2nd (out of 7)
Crawley Men's: 5th (out of 6)
Brighton Men's Div 2: 2nd (out of 4)
Worthing Over 60s Combi: 2nd (out of 6)



DOUBLES PRACTICE AT CLUB SESSIONS

Following a discussion at the AGM, we have agreed that members are allowed to put an elastic band around their pegs and practice their partnerships at our sessions. This should only be done in the weeks leading up to crucial matches or tournaments, or if a pair is receiving coaching and they have been asked to practice more together.

We also ask that this is only done for an hour at the start or end of a session, or at a quieter session.

You will find some elastic bands (once suitable ones have been sourced!) in the peg boxes.

VISITOR POLICY

Visitors are entitled to up to 3 visits at £10 per session before deciding to join.

If you wish to bring a visitor to one of our sessions, **please make sure you contact David Jolliffe to ensure there is capacity**, or ask them to contact the club via our website – Do not give out David's personal phone number!

Visiting friends and family are welcome over the summer period provided they still meet our minimum standard and pay £10 per session!

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CLUB FEEDBACK

The committee would appreciate any feedback you have, good or bad, on how the club is run, the sessions we have available for you, our coaching offerings, or any other topics you may wish to raise.

The below link is anonymous, so please don't hesitate to fill it in!

<https://forms.gle/p5o8NCCaJtX6VjTRA>

TOURNAMENT SUCCESSES

It has been great to see such a wider range of Horsham players competing in tournaments over the last quarter. Here are the key headlines!

Eastbourne 3 Series (19th April)

13 Horsham players (THIRTEEN) took a trip to the seaside to compete in the final leg of this year's 3 Series.

That is over 10% of the club's membership at one event!

There were a lot of cracking games played, with many players making their competitive tournament debuts and even some Horsham derbies! There were also traitors in the camp with some players wearing kit of their second clubs (#awks).

The event ended in traditional fashion with David Jolliffe defending both the men's and mixed overall series title and, alongside Brannon Lee Chong, winning the men's doubles event title after a brilliant final vs Bramblewood's Kendall Halliwell and Ollie Pattison.

Congratulations to all of our players who took part. And hopefully we will see even more players at all the 3 Series events next season.

Katie Shepherd
Beth Worthington
Tim Thorpe
Brannon Lee Chong
Ben Leigh
James Arrol-Barker
Vikki Kelly

Heather Stephens
Alex Osborne
David Jolliffe
Umar Zia
Jordan Hayward
Issy Noakes



All England Masters (10th – 12th April)

2 of our top Masters players competed on the international stage at the All England Masters in Hatfield.

Helen Milne, competing for Scotland, made it to the semi finals of the Women's Doubles O50s before losing to the number 1 seeds from Denmark in a tight contest 12-21 21-16 20-22.

Karen Thomas lost out in the Quarter final of the Mixed Doubles O60s to the 3/4 seeds 17-21 21-6 17-21.

And in the Women's Doubles O60s lost out in the semi finals to the number 2 seeds.