



Cheshire County Badminton Association

Cheshire Chat – AGM Edition 2020

AGM 2020 Edition

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Notice is hereby given that the 62nd Annual General Meeting of the Cheshire County Badminton Association was scheduled to be held on Wednesday 10th June 2020 but due to the Coronavirus pandemic the meeting could not formally take place.

Doreen Francey
Secretary

AGENDA

- 1. President's Welcome**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 12th June 2019**
- 4. Matters Arising**
- 5. To receive and adopt the Secretary's Report for the 2019/2020 season**
- 6. To receive and adopt the Accounts for the year ended 30th April 2020 and to agree the affiliation fee for 2020/2021**
- 7. To receive and adopt the Match Secretary's Report for the 2019/2020 season**
- 8. To receive and adopt the Tournament Secretary Report for the 2019/2020 season**
- 9. To receive and adopt the Masters' Secretary's Report for the 2019/2020 season**

10. Affiliation Fees

CCBA County Fees to remain unchanged at £4.25 per adult member and £1.30 per junior member.

Badminton England Fees to be advised by BE in due course.

11. To confirm appointment of Cheshire Delegates on Badminton England Council

Representative
Alternate

Roger Ewing
Brenda Andrew

12. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner

Jill Jackson

13. Election of Officers and Members of Council

The following have been proposed and seconded:

Chairman	Karl Bergh
Secretary	Doreen Francey
Treasurer	Karl Bergh
Registration Secretary	Vacancy
Match Secretary	Vacancy
Tournament Co-ordinator	Alan Nottingham
Masters' Secretary	Derek Neary
Website Manager	Vacancy
Child Welfare Officer	Carl McGregor-Ogden
Chair of Selectors	Richard Morrissey

14. Election of President and Vice Presidents

The following have been proposed and seconded:

President	Mr Roger Ewing
Vice Presidents	Mrs B Andrew, J Berry, D Bennion, Mrs J Evans, C Garrett, Mrs J Houston, P Mascarenhas, D Potter, P Richardson, R Westmorland, D Spencer and Mrs B Hickson.

15. Presentation of Awards

Marjorie Bryce-Smith Trophy – Awarded to Emma Hilton

Arthur Evans Memorial Trophy – Awarded to Alan Nottingham

These awards are normally presented, in person, at the AGM but sadly due to the lockdown situation caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic, they will be formally presented at a later date.

Finally, we will assume that members will be happy to adopt items 5 to 14 above en-bloc but should anybody wish to register a vote AGAINST any item, then please submit this to the Secretary before the end of June 2020.

Stay Safe.

AGM Minutes – 12th June 2019

CESHIRE COUNTY BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 61st Annual General Meeting of Cheshire County Badminton Association held on Wednesday 12th June 2019 at The Hinderton Arms, Neston, South Wirral, Cheshire, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

1. President's Welcome

Mr Ewing welcomed everyone to the 61st Annual General Meeting. He mentioned that it took the Association back to 1958 when the Cheshire and Lancashire Badminton Associations split and went their separate ways. CCBA was now approaching 100 years of age and Council may wish to talk about this milestone at their next meeting.

Mr Ewing congratulated everyone involved in producing the reports.

Congratulations were also extended to the County 1st Team and coaches on gaining promotion back to the Premier Division.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Brenda Andrew, Sandra Birks, Jill Jackson, Andy Hill, Richard Morrissey, Peter Richardson, Brian Rigney, Kay Vickers and Leanne Brown (BE).

3. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 13th June 2018

The AGM minutes for 2018 had been circulated and it was proposed, seconded and agreed, that they be signed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. To receive and adopt the Secretary's Report for the 2018/2019 season

It was proposed by Mr Ewing, seconded by Mr Thomas and agreed, that the report be adopted.

6. To receive and adopt the Accounts for the year ended 30th April 2019 and to agree the affiliation fee for 2019/2020

The Treasurer had circulated copies of the Accounts and briefly summarised the content. Mr Bergh stated that he had been anticipating a large deficit for the current year in excess of £3,000 but the County had managed to turn that round due to a number of factors as stated in the report which he outlined. It was emphasised that the County did need to keep closely monitoring costs.

With the above point in mind, the Treasurer turned to the County fee and stated that the County had not increased the affiliation fee in the previous season, but he now wished to recommend an increase for Adults to £4.25 and for Juniors to £1.30. This was seconded by Brian Johnson and agreed.

Mr Bergh advised that the County was working with Badminton England in trying to acquire money for club development. He requested that leagues go back to their clubs to see if any would like financial support to develop their clubs. It was known that some clubs in Cheshire had already benefited from an injection of money from BE.

Subject to a minor amendment in the heading of the Accounts, it was proposed by Mr Ewing, seconded by Glynis Lomax and agreed, that the Accounts be adopted.

Mr Bergh said that if anyone had any questions following the meeting to please e-mail him and he would get back to them.

7. To receive and adopt the Match Secretary's Report for the 2018/2019 season

Due to the resignation of Mr Cardoso, the report had been assembled by Kay Vickers, with contributions from a number of people for which thanks were due.

It was proposed by Mr Ewing, seconded by Mr Johnson and agreed, that the report be adopted.

8. To receive and adopt the Tournament Secretary's Report for the 2018/2019 season

Entries to tournaments had been disappointing during the season but the feeling was that it was a national problem. The question was asked as to whether we had thought about organising a Copper Tournament. This apparently had been discussed but it was felt to be a decision for Mr Nottingham.

It was proposed by Mr Ewing, seconded by Mrs Annie Minihan and agreed, that the report be adopted.

9. To receive and adopt the Masters Secretary's Report for the 2018/2019 season

Mr Neary advised that procedural policies had been recommended to cover selection policy etc. BE had advised that CCBA should have formal documents and the County officials were now in the process of drawing up the policy and this would be put before Council at the next meeting. An explanation was given as to how players were currently identified and invited to squad sessions.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed, that the report be adopted.

10. County Affiliation Fees

It had been proposed by the Treasurer that the County affiliation fees should be increased to £4.25 for Adults and £1.30 for Juniors. These increases had been approved.

As regards Badminton England affiliation fees, clubs should have received this information from Badminton England, and it was also on the BE website.

Affiliation was from August to the end of October. It was stated that Compete Licences were now going to be obtained direct by each member from BE and had to be in place by the end of October.

11. To confirm appointment of Cheshire Delegates on Badminton England Council

The appointments of Mr Roger Ewing as Representative and Mrs Brenda Andrew as Alternate were confirmed.

12. Appointment of Independent Examiner

It was proposed that Mrs Jill Jackson be asked to act as the County's Independent Examiner and Mr Bergh undertook to contact her. It was suggested that Mrs Jackson should receive some recognition for the work she did on behalf of the County.

13. Election of Officers and Council Members

The following individuals had been nominated by Council and were willing to stand. However, there was a vacancy for Match Secretary and Mr Bergh said that he would be very pleased if anyone present could recommend someone to fill that vacancy. In the meantime, it was proposed, seconded and agreed that the officers listed be re-elected en bloc.

Chairman	Mr Karl Bergh
Secretary	Mrs Doreen Francey
Treasurer	Mr Karl Bergh
Registration Secretary	Mrs Annie Minihan
Tournament Co-ordinator	Mr Alan Nottingham
Masters Secretary	Mr Derek Neary
Match Secretary	Vacancy
Website Manager	Mrs Kay Vickers
Child Welfare Officer	Mr Paul McManus
Chair of Selectors	Mr Richard Morrissey

14. Election of President and Vice Presidents

Mr Bergh proposed that Mr Ewing should continue as our President and this was agreed by the meeting.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed, that the Vice-Presidents should be re-elected en bloc as follows:- Mrs B Andrew, J Berry, D Bennion, Mrs J Evans, C Garrett, Mrs J Houston, P Mascarenhas, D Potter, P Richardson, R Westmorland, D Spencer, G Williams and Mrs B Hickson

15. Presentation of Awards

Arthur Evans Memorial Trophy - Awarded to Mr Paul Hawgood

Marjorie Bryce Smith Trophy - Awarded to Mrs Jan Bergh

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2019/20 SEASON

Well, at the time of our last CCBA meeting who would have thought that the world would have changed so dramatically! It is a very difficult time for everyone and no more so for those of us involved with the game of badminton. Sadly, league, county and international teams have not been able to complete the season. It is just devastating. Let us hope that very soon the guidance will be that we can all get back to playing our great game!

Badminton England have been keeping counties up-to-date and the Chairman and myself have been invited to participate in a couple of Zoom meetings which have been very interesting.

Sadly, we lost one of our Vice-Presidents, George Williams, earlier in the season. George lived and breathed 'badminton' and he will be greatly missed by the badminton fraternity.

Some good news though, our President, Roger Ewing, is making good progress following falling and breaking his hip as he was leaving the Tranmere Rovers game against Watford. We extend to Roger our best wishes for his continuing recovery.

I have to report that Annie Minihan has decided to resign as Registrations Secretary after many years in the role. Annie has done a brilliant job and she will be a hard act to follow. On behalf of the County I would like to thank Annie for all the work she has done on behalf of the County and wish her well for the future.

CCBA has also lost the services of Kay Vickers. Kay has undertaken various roles for the County over many years with great enthusiasm and the County's sincere thanks are extended to her. We also wish Kay well for the future.

Our Chairman and Treasurer, Karl, has been constantly working on behalf of the County and, again on your behalf, I would like to thank Karl for his dedication to CCBA.

You will note that we have a number of vacancies on Council which need to be filled and volunteers are needed urgently to take on these roles. Please contact Karl if you are interested in any of the vacant positions.

Trusting that the world will soon return to some sort of normality and badminton will be able to return and we can all meet again in person rather than via a screen!

In the meantime, "Keep safe!"

Doreen Francey
Secretary
CCBA

TREASURERS REPORT FOR SEASON 2019/20

First of all, we have seen an extraordinary and premature end to the season brought about by the national lockdown required in order to protect the Country against the Coronavirus pandemic.

I have never known a playing season not be completed before and this has, ironically not had a negative effect on our finances as a result of all outstanding competitions and events being cancelled or postponed with effect from the middle of March 2020.

Following Governmental advice BE took the decision to suspend and postpone the final County Weekend scheduled for March 28th & 29th which affected our three senior teams. They then cancelled any remaining masters matches which meant that the season ended abruptly without the various competitions being concluded along with all end of season play-offs and finals. Yorkshire BA followed suit and cancelled the 17-21 Inter County Competition that they now host each year, and locally we were left with no choice but to cancel our own domestic junior U15 & U19 Inter- League competitions that should have taken place at the end of April.

This has had the contributory effect of reducing our anticipated expenditure for the season, but we are carrying forward a provision for the cost of the final county weekend as BE are hoping that it may be played in September 2020. This hasn't been confirmed at this point and will very much depend on how effective the battle against the pandemic will be and if social distancing regulations can be relaxed enough to allow it to take place.

We have a number of positive points and areas of good news that have combined to turn around what was a budgeted deficit of £985.00 into a surplus of £1,603.00 and I will summarise these for you.

Income

The Membership and affiliation fees have produced a higher income than expected. I have to confess to be perplexed by this, as it is nearly £700.00 more than received during the same period last year. BE have started collecting affiliation fees and compete licence payments direct from compete members this year, rather than via their club, so this may have been more successful, but that is something of a guess I'm afraid.

Tournament income, as always, a major contributor to our finances, has provided a similar overall surplus to last year and pleasingly is £236.00 more than budgeted for, even after we have allocated the cost of umpires to each tournament rather than as a general expenditure item. Again, predicting entry levels is still particularly difficult but we do know that next year we will be without any contribution from junior tournaments following the sad collapse of our junior county and the lack of support nationally for junior tournaments.

Bank interest was as expected.

Shuttle sales through the County Shuttle Scheme has again proven very successful with more clubs taking advantage of the good prices that we have negotiated with Yehlex. As you will know, we sadly lost a good friend and loyal supporter in George Williams due to ill health in January this year. George kept shuttle stocks and served the clubs from the Chester area and I am delighted to say that his wife Helen has kindly offered to continue this for us, so we are hugely grateful to Helen.

The combined effect of these very welcome increases in income has seen our total income rise from a budget of £6,340.00 to a pleasing £7,569.00. This increase of £1,229.00 goes a long way towards our overall surplus of £1,603.00.

Expenditure

Generally, expenditure has seen a significant reduction, mainly due to the effects of the lockdown that resulted in the premature cessation of the season and the cancellation of a number of matches and events. Meeting expenses are down after we cancelled the April meeting.

Less money was distributed on Coaching & Development this year, but we do make available a £300.00 sum each year and consequently we have £786.00 carried forward into a fund for future expenditure.

As mentioned above, the donation to the Umpires Association has now been allocated as a cost against each tournament rather than appear here as a general sum. It is worth noting that the BUAofE have now introduced a charging structure rather than seeking contributions and this has led to a rise in cost to £375.00. This is an increase of £125.00 over and above the £250.00 that we paid out last year.

The cost of the Senior County Squad was less than budgeted for. When budgeting we never actually know where our teams will play their matches and estimating costs can be a little difficult. This year the budget of £3,500.00 was perhaps a little generous.

The overall cost of the masters group is only slightly down on the budget, despite the cancellations. We have seen an increase in the cost of home matches following an increase in court hire costs, catering costs and the use of a more expensive grade of shuttle and this has been absorbed and not been reflected in the players match fees.

As mentioned above, the cancellation of the 17-21 competition and junior inter-league events has saved £600.00 against the budget.

Summary

The overall result is an anticipated surplus to be carried forward of £1,603.00.

We would normally set a budget for the coming season but this is going to be more difficult than ever to predict without any real certainty, so we have decided not to make a wild guess and until we know what the 'new normal' is going to look like we have decided not to set a budget for the season ahead.

Copies of the detailed accounts are available should anybody want to see them. Please make contact with me directly and I will be happy to provide these for you.

Recommendation

Given the uncertain finances of our clubs and the county members as we eventually emerge this pandemic, I believe it is appropriate to recommend that we don't increase our fees next season and that they remain at £4.25 for an Adult Play Member and £1.30 for a Junior Play Member.

Karl Bergh

MATCH SECRETARY REPORT FOR SEASON 2019/20

As we all now know, the Covid -19 pandemic and the resultant lockdown, led to a suspension of the Senior ICC competition with the final weekend finale scheduled for 28th & 29th March 2020 being cancelled. Badminton England are looking at options to play the final weekend fixtures once we are back and playing again but at the time of writing this report, this still remains uncertain, with no definite dates planned.

So, the following reports relate to the first two County weekends played in November 2019 and January 2020.

Final Standings of Premier A 19/20 – Cheshire 1st Team

Premiership ★

General Draw Matches Statistics Player statistics










Standings of Premiership

		Points	Played	Won	Draws	Lost	Rubbers	Games	Points
1	Middlesex	52	6	6	0	0	52 - 14	112 - 45	3067 - 2575
2	Avon	40	6	5	0	1	40 - 26	90 - 66	2933 - 2691
3	Buckinghamshire	39	6	4	0	2	39 - 27	88 - 68	2940 - 2901
4	Hampshire	38	6	3	0	3	38 - 28	85 - 68	2856 - 2657
5	Surrey	37	6	5	0	1	37 - 29	85 - 66	2947 - 2742
6	Sussex	29	6	2	0	4	29 - 37	69 - 87	2775 - 2885
7	Leicestershire	27	6	1	0	5	27 - 39	65 - 89	2634 - 2894
8	Cheshire	25	6	3	0	3	25 - 41	58 - 87	2392 - 2705
9	Hertfordshire	25	6	1	0	5	25 - 41	63 - 90	2684 - 2830
10	Leinster	18	6	0	0	6	18 - 48	53 - 102	2655 - 3003

The teams marked in gray will promote or relegate

Team: Cheshire (Cheshire) ★

[General](#)[Events](#)[Matches](#)[Standings](#)[Players](#)[Statistics](#)[Player statistics](#)Matches 

Time	Draw	Home - Away	Score	
Sat 09/11/2019 11:00	Premiership	Cheshire - Leicestershire	6-5	
Sat 09/11/2019 15:40	Premiership	Cheshire - Hertfordshire	6-5	
Sun 10/11/2019 10:35	Premiership	Cheshire - Hampshire	7-4	
Sat 25/01/2020 11:35	Premiership	Cheshire - Surrey	3-8	
Sat 25/01/2020 16:15	Premiership	Avon - Cheshire	8-3	
Sun 26/01/2020 10:00	Premiership	Cheshire - Middlesex	0-11	
Sat 28/03/2020 11:00	Premiership	Buckinghamshire - Cheshire		
Sat 28/03/2020 16:15	Premiership	Cheshire - Sussex		
Sun 29/03/2020 10:35	Premiership	Cheshire - Leinster		

Cheshire 1 Match Report – November 2019

This weekend saw the first ties of the 2019/2020 season, with Cheshire back in the topflight of national badminton once again. Saddled up and ready to play, our team was:

Rachel Vickers; Sammy Hutt; Angel Chow; and Sophie Taylor
Greg Mairs; Dan Font; Dom Ashton; Adam Dolman; Sid Palakkal; and Mike Roe

In unprecedented scenes for Cheshire we were in a position this weekend where we had three **willing** volunteers for men's singles. It was with absolutely zero reluctance that I passed on my singles baton to much better and enthusiastic players.

On to the first match against Leicestershire. Off to a flying start taking all three men's singles, before Leicester managed to claw a couple of rubbers back making it 3-2 heading into the doubles. Dan and Greg at top doubles made light work of their opponents, whilst myself and Dom at second weren't quite so quick out of the blocks and plodded to a two set victory: 5-2 Cheshire. Back to the ladies and a couple of tough matches saw two more points on the board for Leicestershire making it all to play for in the mixed. In a titanic battle at top, Greg and Sammy managed to pull off a nail-biting three set victory. Unfortunately, Rach and I couldn't quite string enough shots together to pull off the victory at second. Not a bad start to proceedings: 1 match down and 6 points on the board.

Second tie of the weekend brought Hertfordshire to court, featuring two former Olympic medallists amidst their line-up. In most un-Cheshire like fashion we again came flying out the blocks to go 3-0 up from the men's singles. Unfortunately, despite gritty performances Sophie and Angel couldn't quite clinch their matches and again the score was 3-2 going into the doubles. Keeping in the same formation it was happy going for the men again picking up two rubbers. Sadly, the experience of the Herts women was too much

for our ladies and again we found ourselves just ahead 5-4 going into the mixed. In a gripping three setter, Greg and Rach managed to pip Gail Emms and Matt Widdicombe to clinch the victory for Cheshire. Sammy and I were present only in body on court, favouring the space outside the lines to that of inside the court... Never mind, that's what a team is for- and another strong performance meant that we were 2 for 2 for the weekend and went into Sunday with 12 points on the leader board.

Sunday, we faced off against Prem yo-yos Hampshire, who have bounced back alongside us into the fray this year. In a pattern I could quite frankly get very used to, the boys delivered taking all 5 men's disciplines, meaning a 100% record for the first weekend with nobody even dropping a game. It was a tougher ask in the ladies where the girls were up against some stiff competition, with Sammy Hutt gallantly stepping up to take on second singles (replacing Angel whose blister's blister had grown a blister- I saw it and it looked foul). However, we found ourselves in the same position as the first two games: up 5-4 going into the mixed. Rachel and Greg properly found their stride and dismissed their opponents at first mixed, whilst myself and Angel grabbed victory from the jaws of defeat to clinch the 7-4 win for Cheshire.

A pretty good weekend all round, a special mention to the boys I think for some dominant displays. We're back and (hopefully) here to stay!

Cheshire 1 Match Report – January 2020

The weekend of the 25/26th January saw the second round of matches in the 2019/2020 season. I am writing this post on the 17th May, which might indicate to you the length of time it has taken for me to be able to talk about the losses we suffered over those two days. The report you are about to read may contain scenes which will upset some Cheshire fans...

In the interests of protecting the victims of this story, I have chosen instead to report a highlights reel of each match. Consider it akin to watching Bambi but stopping it before the hunter shoots his mother (spoilers!), or like Game of Thrones before they ruined it with the last few episodes... For the masochists amongst you, you can see a full breakdown of scores and results on be.tournamentsoftware.com

It is worth saying for the record that this weekend was always going to be a tough one as we faced some of the strongest teams in prem and we were missing a few players due to injuries and international commitments which would have helped bolster our team of 8. Anyway, on with the show...

The unsuspecting victims:

Rachel Vickers; Sammy Hutt; Jojo Minihan; and Sophie Taylor
Rich Morrissey; Jack Taylor; Dom Ashton; and Mike Roe

The bad guys:

Surrey
Avon
Middlesex

Match 1: Cheshire vs Surrey

Score: Cheshire – 3; Surrey – more than 3.

Highlights:

- Dom putting a halt in Surrey's usual display of singles dominance by toppling Andrew Heinemann in a three set thriller: an emotional rollercoaster for all involved.
- Rich and Mike almost pulling off a surprise win at top men's doubles, but narrowly losing out in three tight sets.
- Dom and Jack again shaving years off my life in a revoltingly close win at second men's doubles (23-21 in the third).
- Sammy and Rach picking up a much needed win at top women's doubles in a great two set win.

Match 2: Cheshire vs Avon

Score: Cheshire -3; Avon – more than 3.

Highlights:

- Dom again demonstrating his singles prowess, pulling a fantastic win out of the bag at second singles.
- Jack just being nipped out at top singles in a three set thriller.
- Jack and Mike having a purple patch game and walking what should have been a tough game at top men's doubles.
- Dom and Sammy pulling out all the stops at second mixed to get another well needed point on the board.

Match 3: Cheshire vs Middlesex

Score: CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET

Due to some strange reason, I cannot recall the events of our match against Middlesex. Neither apparently can tournament software as the result has gone down as 11-0 against us which I'm sure can't be right...

In summary, who knows what it to follow in this crazy lockdown world? We are still in with a shot at staying up as we have held onto 8th place in the table, but for the time being, in the words of Chris Martin: nobody said it was easy, no one ever said it would be this hard...

Screen fades to black as the end bit of 'The Scientist' plays on loop

Oh, and if we do stay up, I probably owe Dom a watermelon and a vegan latte.

The weekend of the 25/26th January saw the second round of matches in the 2019/2020 season. I am writing this post on the 17th May, which might indicate to you the length of time it has taken for me to be able to talk about the losses we suffered over those two days. The report you are about to read may contain scenes which will upset some Cheshire fans...

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Mike Roe, Joint 1st Team Captain

Players Representing Cheshire 1st Team over the two weekends played were:

Rank	Player	Won	Played	Games	Points
1	Dominic Ashton	7	12	16 - 12	541 - 531
2	Daniel Font	6	6	12 - 0	252 - 134
3	Greg Mairs	6	6	12 - 2	285 - 205
4	Michael Roe	5	12	13 - 15	495 - 528
5	Sid Palakkal	3	3	6 - 0	127 - 78
6	Adam Dolman	3	3	6 - 0	126 - 93
7	Rachel Vickers	3	12	8 - 19	464 - 522
8	Sammy Hutt	3	12	6 - 19	361 - 510
9	Jack Taylor	2	6	5 - 9	242 - 277
10	Angel Chow	1	6	4 - 11	228 - 290
11	Richard Morrissey	0	6	2 - 12	221 - 287
12	Jo Minihan	0	6	0 - 12	134 - 256
13	Sophie Taylor	0	12	0 - 24	270 - 504

Final Standings of Division 2 North 19/20 – Cheshire 2nd Team

Division 2 - Division 2 - North ★

General Draw Matches Statistics Player statistics

Standings of Division 2 - Division 2 - North

	Points	Played	Won	Draws	Lost	Rubbers	Games	Points
1 Lothian	40	4	4	0	0	40 - 4	81 - 11	1893 - 1302
2 Yorkshire 4	27	4	3	0	1	27 - 17	60 - 38	1827 - 1729
3 Lancashire 2	27	4	3	0	1	27 - 17	56 - 46	1862 - 1817
4 Lancashire 3	26	4	3	0	1	26 - 18	62 - 42	1944 - 1868
5 Cheshire 2	25	4	2	0	2	25 - 19	59 - 43	1894 - 1740
6 Yorkshire 5	13	4	1	0	3	13 - 31	29 - 69	1598 - 1917
7 Durham	12	4	0	0	4	12 - 32	31 - 70	1724 - 1939
8 Cumbria	6	4	0	0	4	6 - 38	19 - 78	1521 - 1951

The teams marked in gray will promote or relegate

Cheshire 2 Matches

Team: Cheshire 2 (Ch2) ★

General Events Matches Standings Players Statistics Player statistics

Matches 📅

Time	Draw	Round	Stage	No	Home - Away	Score	Location	Status
Sat 09/11/2019 11:00	Division 2 - Division 2 - North	5	17	Cheshire 2 - Durham	9-2	📅 Huddersfield University Sport Centre ✓		
Sat 09/11/2019 14:30	Division 2 - Division 2 - North	3	12	Cheshire 2 - Yorkshire 5	9-2	📅 Huddersfield University Sport Centre ✓		
Sat 25/01/2020 11:00	Division 2 - Division 2 - North	6	22	Cheshire 2 - Lancashire 3	5-6	📅 Markland Hill Racquets Club ✓		
Sat 25/01/2020 14:30	Division 2 - Division 2 - North	4	13	Cheshire 2 - Lancashire 2	2-9	📅 Markland Hill Racquets Club ✓		
Sat 28/03/2020 11:00	Division 2 - Division 2 - North	7	26	Cheshire 2 - Cumbria		📅 Huddersfield University Sport Centre		
Sat 28/03/2020 14:30	Division 2 - Division 2 - North	1	3	Cheshire 2 - Yorkshire 4		📅 Huddersfield University Sport Centre		
Sun 29/03/2020 11:00	Division 2 - Division 2 - North	2	5	Lothian - Cheshire 2		📅 Huddersfield University Sport Centre		

Cheshire 2 Match Report – November 2019

Cheshire 2 vs Durham

First up was men's singles: the two youngsters (and Nathan) were on. Cholan and Jack made light work of their singles winning in 2 easy sets. Nathan took a little longer and got his money's worth with a long three setter – taking it 21-15 in the third. 3-0 to Cheshire after the singles, almost unheard of!

Next was ladies singles; Alicia barely broke a sweat and took hers in 2 comfortable sets, winning 16 in both. Liv had a much harder time and couldn't win her battle, losing in 2. 4-1 after the all the singles.

Men's doubles next, with Cholan and Jack teaming up and the two oldies Rich and Nathan at 2nd. Again, Cholan and Jack showed good composure and overpowered their opponents, taking it 21-14 and 21-15.

Nathan very nearly got his third set in this too, but Rich and Nathan took the match in 2, 22-20 in the second. 6-1 now, so a nice win under the belt, but the rest still to play for!

The ladies doubles was next, with me and Helen (just) taking top. Had to come up with some good tactics to overcome the scrappiness of our opponents, scraping it 23-21 in the third. Alicia and Janine however barely broke a sweat and took theirs easily, with their opponents only just getting double figures in the second!

Onto the mixed with an 8-1 scoreboard. Helen and Rich struggled to keep control in top mixed, ending up losing out on the win in a three-end battle. Jack and I had an easier pair, and found our groove after the first, taking the second with a comfy 21-6 score.

A well fought and well played match ended Cheshire:9, Durham: 2. Great to get some points on the board!

Cheshire 2 vs Yorkshire 5-

Quick lunch before our second match started. The three lads all had 2 set victories in the men's singles with Cholan barely letting his opponent get started in the second end and winning 21-3! Again, this got us three quick points on the board! Alicia had more of a struggle in her singles, with her opponent fighting for every point! After a hard fight, she took the match 21-10 in the third.

Liv again had a hard fought battle, fighting until the very end and just losing out on with 26-24 in the second! Again, after the singles Cheshire were 4-1 up! 8/10 singles in one day is quite the achievement! Cholan and Jack had a cushy win, taking it comfortably in 2 rubbers. Rich and Nathan had a much harder game than vs Durham, with their opponents coming back from losing the first end and taking the second two sets 18-21 and 15-21, making a 5-2 scoreboard after men's doubles.

Ladies doubles was much more straightforward this time, both pairs staying the same and not having too much trouble, taking both in 2 sets each.

Now onto mixed, and Rich and Helen upped their game this time with an easy looking 21-17, 21-18 win.

Second mixed was stirred up slightly, with Janine and Cholan making their mixed debut for the day.

Couldn't have made it look much easier, letting their opponents just get into double figures in each.

Team Captain Richard Morrissey gave the following report of the last weekend of matches:

The second team went into the final county weekend of the season with an outside chance of promotion.

Some great performances resulted in a close 6-5 loss to league leaders Northumberland, with some close 3rd set losses. The second match versus Lancashire 3 saw some dominant displays from the whole team, resulting in a 10-1 win. This meant that on the Sunday it was still mathematically possible to achieve promotion, but with new league leaders Lanarkshire to play, it would be no mean feat. A 7-4 loss didn't display how closely the sides were matched.

The team as a whole were a credit to the county and the performances of the final weekend especially bode well for a promotion push next season.

Player of the weekend - Jack Taylor, who won 5 out of 6 matches playing at 1st singles and doubles.

Jo Minihan

Cheshire 2 Match Report – January 2020

A much changed Cheshire 2nds team arrived in Bolton for the second county weekend of the year, with an aim of continuing the strong start to the season the team had made back in November. The opponents for the weekend were Lancashire 3rds and Lancashire 2nds.

First up, Lancashire 3rds and the team made a positive start with Nathan and Owen picking up first and second mens singles, both in straight games. After a marathon match, Alicia came out just on the wrong side of top ladies singles, and it was a similar story for Kirtti and Mike in the remaining singles matches, leaving Cheshire 3-2 down going into the doubles.

Another strong start for Cheshire in the doubles with battling performances from Mike & Jon and Janine & Alicia resulting in 3 set wins against strong opposition in both top doubles matches. Unfortunately, Lancashire 3rds picked up the remaining level doubles matches, with Liv & Kirtti being pipped to the post in a tight 2 set match, and Kris & Nathan going down in straight games also. 5-4 Lancs going into the mixed.

Jon & Janine came out on top at top mixed, taking the first end in setting before winning the second a little more comfortably. 5-5 going into the final mixed. Unfortunately, after another 3 set battle Lancashire 3rds came out on top again, with Kris & Liv going down 21-18 in the final set. Final score 6-5 to Lancashire 3rds.

Next up, Lancashire 2nds and a match we knew would be a tough one having seen them dispatch Cumbria 9-2. First up the singles, and not the best start for Cheshire; Nathan picked up the first end at top singles before unfortunately having to withdraw in the second through injury. Owen battled at second singles but was unable to pick up the win. A similar story at third singles, as Mike pushed his opponent all the way in 2 tight games, but just missed out at the end. Onto the ladies singles, and a great performance from Kirtti pulled a game back from Cheshire, winning in straight games. Top ladies singles went to Lancashire, leaving the score at 4-1 going into the doubles.

Another marathon match in the Men's Doubles saw Jon & Mike go down 21-16 in the third end against an experienced pair. Owen & Kris had a similar experience, winning the first end but being unable to repeat the feat in the next two ends, with the Lancashire pair winning 21-15 in the third end. In the ladies doubles, Alicia & Janine list out to a strong pair, before Liv & Kirtti produced a great performance to pick up their doubles in 3 sets, pulling away in the third to win 21-10. After the level doubles, the score was 7-2 to Lancashire.

Both of the final matches of the day went the distance, but unfortunately Cheshire could not come out on top in either match, with Janine & Jon and Alicia & Kris losing out 21-18 and 21-15 respectively in the third ends. Final score 9-2 to Lancashire 2nds.

All in all a tough day at the office, but there were a lot of positives to take from the day; a number of debutants in the team picking up wins, and a great attitude shown by the team throughout, especially in the games where results did not go our way. We now look forward to the final weekend of the season, where Cheshire will face Cumbria, Yorkshire 4, and Lothian.

Nathan Walker

Players representing Cheshire 2nd Team this season were:

General	Events	Matches	Standings	Players	Sta
Rank	Player	Won	Played	Games	Points
1	Cholan Kayan	5	5	10 - 0	210 - 115
2	Jack Taylor	5	5	10 - 0	210 - 127
3	Janine Hickie	5	7	11 - 5	309 - 267
4	Alicia Adams	5	8	11 - 8	351 - 325
5	Nathan Walker	4	8	11 - 8	334 - 330
6	Jo Minihan	3	3	6 - 1	147 - 107
7	Helen Davies	3	4	7 - 3	198 - 179
8	Richard Morrissey	2	4	6 - 4	190 - 184
9	Jonathan Savory	2	4	6 - 5	211 - 206
10	Kirtti Sathyanathan	2	4	4 - 5	159 - 165
11	Owen Edwards	1	2	2 - 2	63 - 68
12	Michael Simmons	1	4	3 - 7	182 - 190
13	Olivia Frankland	1	6	4 - 11	269 - 295
14	Kristian Wood	0	4	3 - 8	183 - 214

Final Standings of Division 3 North 19/20 – Cheshire 3rd Team

Team: Cheshire 3 (Ch3) ★

General Events Matches **Standings** Players Statistics Player statistics

Standings

Division 3 - Division 3 - North

	Points	Played	Won	Draws	Lost	Rubbers	Games	Points
1 Lothian 2	39	4	4	0	0	39 - 5	79 - 17	1953 - 1432
2 Cheshire 3	32	4	4	0	0	32 - 12	72 - 30	2056 - 1698
3 Isle of Man	29	4	2	0	2	29 - 15	64 - 38	1971 - 1698
4 Nottinghamshire 3	25	4	3	0	1	25 - 19	59 - 47	1938 - 1971
5 Northumberland 2	20	4	2	0	2	20 - 24	44 - 59	1780 - 1959
6 Derbyshire 3	18	4	1	0	3	18 - 26	43 - 60	1843 - 1950
7 Lanarkshire 2	7	4	0	0	4	7 - 37	25 - 75	1636 - 2013
8 Cumbria 2	6	4	0	0	4	6 - 38	20 - 80	1557 - 2013

The teams marked in gray will promote or relegate

Team: Cheshire 3 (Ch3) ★

General Events **Matches** Standings Players Statistics Player statistics

Matches 📅

Time	Draw	Round	Stage	No	Home - Away	Score	Location	Status
Sat 09/11/2019 11:00	Division 3 - Division 3 - North	4	1	16	Cheshire 3 - Isle of Man	8-3	📅 Markland Hill Racquets Club	
Sat 09/11/2019 14:30	Division 3 - Division 3 - North	3	1	11	Derbyshire 3 - Cheshire 3	4-7	📅 Markland Hill Racquets Club	🔄
Sat 25/01/2020 11:00	Division 3 - Division 3 - North	2	1	6	Lanarkshire 2 - Cheshire 3	3-8	📅 Huddersfield University Sport Centre	✓🔄
Sat 25/01/2020 14:30	Division 3 - Division 3 - North	5	1	17	Northumberland 2 - Cheshire 3	2-9	📅 Huddersfield University Sport Centre	🔄
Sat 28/03/2020 11:00	Division 3 - Division 3 - North	1	1	1	Cheshire 3 - Cumbria 2		📅 Wright Robinson School	
Sat 28/03/2020 14:30	Division 3 - Division 3 - North	6	1	21	Cheshire 3 - Nottinghamshire 3		📅 Wright Robinson School	
Sun 29/03/2020 11:00	Division 3 - Division 3 - North	7	1	28	Lothian 2 - Cheshire 3		📅 Wright Robinson School	🔄

Cheshire 3 Match Report – November 2019

The third team hit the ground running in the first match of the first county weekend with some great performances resulting in a solid 8-3 win over a tricky Isle of Man team, despite the freezing Bolton sports hall. Their good form continued against the tougher opposition of Derbyshire 3. Another excellent all round team performance here resulted in a narrow 7-4 victory but we came away with 2 wins out of 2 for the day.

Overall the team had a great weekend and will look forward to the next set of fixtures to continue their 100% start to the season.

Player of the weekend - Jon Savory who won all of his matches playing at 1st doubles and 1st mixed against some tough opponents.

Ollie Moore

Cheshire 3 Match Report – January 2020

The third team went into the penultimate county weekend of the season with high hopes of aiming at a promotion push. Some great performances resulted in a convincing 8-3 win over an experienced Lanarkshire 2 side, with all players managing to claim at least one victory. The second match versus Northumberland 2 saw some dominant displays from the whole team, resulting in a comfortable 9-2 win, which was more than what was expected beforehand.

The team as a whole were a credit to the county and the performances of this weekend bode well for a promotion push in March as it currently places us in second.

Player of the weekend - Steph Rowarth who won all of her matches playing at 1st singles and doubles against some tough opponents.

Ollie Moore

The third team have performed particularly well in the first two weekends and their high hopes of promotion were put on hold by the lockdown. We are still hoping that we eventually get to conclude the season as promotion is a real possibility and just reward for some excellent team and individual performances.

Players representing Cheshire 3rd Team this season were:

Rank	Player	Won	Played	Games	Points
1	Stephanie Rowarth	6	6	12 - 2	289 - 201
2	Alistair Hawgood	6	8	13 - 5	360 - 312
3	Jonathan Savory	4	4	8 - 1	187 - 156
4	Oliver Moore	4	7	10 - 7	338 - 314
5	Rachel Green	4	8	10 - 9	370 - 335
6	Matthew Riley	3	3	6 - 0	127 - 79
7	Matthew Vickers	3	4	7 - 2	191 - 142
8	Ben Woodward	3	4	7 - 2	183 - 135
9	Kay Vickers	3	4	7 - 3	207 - 166
10	Owen Edwards	3	4	7 - 3	195 - 164
11	Ruth Flatman	3	4	7 - 3	208 - 177
12	Theresa Amann	3	4	6 - 3	186 - 167
13	Katelyn Harrington	2	4	5 - 5	200 - 202
14	Andre Cardoso	1	2	3 - 2	90 - 82
15	Kirtti Sathyanathan	0	2	2 - 4	114 - 110

In summary, our 1st team face a significant challenge to remain in the topflight Premier A division, but it is hoped that we can rally the troops and do our County proud in what will be a tense season finale.

Solid performances by our 2nd team sees them firmly and comfortably placed in Division 2 North, whilst our 3rd team are looking forward to completing their promotion challenge which will lift them out of Division 3 North.

In the absence of an official report from a Match secretary, I have pieced together reports from various team players, so it is hoped that some of the tension and excitement still comes through from those who were directly involved.

Karl Bergh

TOURNAMENT SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR SEASON 2019/20

As usual the first senior event of the season was the County Championships held at Ellesmere Port Sports Village in September.

There was not a large entry but there were some very competitive matches, not least the Men's singles semi-final between Cholan Kayan and Sid Palakkal. Both these players are up and coming England representatives and this was an excellent match with Sid finally coming through to play another young England player, Jack Taylor, in the final. This was a replay of an earlier three set group match and the result was the same with Jack finding it a bit easier and winning in two sets.

At the other end of the age range two masters pairs faced each other in a Men's doubles group match and whilst it wasn't as pretty to watch it was keenly contested. It was a three set match and I was a bit worried that we would run out of shuttles before it was over! Canny Lai and Jason Slevin beat Andy Chatterton and Ian Cottrill but then conceded the semi-final through injury and/or exhaustion.

The ladies' events were both run in boxes because there were only four entries in each event and the mixed final was played between the two top seeded pairs.

Event	Winners	Runners Up
Mens Singles	Jack Taylor	Sid Palakkal
Mens Singles Plate	Danny Chen	Alistair Hawgood
Womens Singles	Sophie Taylor	Stephanie Rowarth
Mens Doubles	Dominic Ashton & Richard Morrissey	Cholan Kayan & Jack Taylor
Ladies Doubles	Sammy Hutt & Rachel Vickers	Olivia Frankland & Kirti Sathyanathan
Mixed Doubles	Dominic Ashton & Sammy Hutt	Richard Morrissey & Rachel Vickers

The Senior Bronze tournament was played at the beginning of December. There was a reasonable entry but whereas we usually play this at two venues we managed to play it through to completion at Ellesmere Port Sports Village.

There were few Cheshire players at this event with the most successful singles player being Owen Edwards who lost an exciting semi-final to Jonathon Ritter with his parents looking on nervously. Kirti Sathyanathan had the misfortune to come up against the number one seed Katie Griffiths in her singles group eventually losing a close match having won the first set. Katie also had a very tough three setter in the final.

Cheshire had success in the women's doubles which was pretty straight forward until the final which involved Georgia Hughes and Sammy Hutt of Cheshire in a close match against one of the many pairs of players from Lancashire. Georgia and Sammy won 21-19 in the third set.

The men's doubles and the mixed were dominated by Lancashire players. The men's doubles semi-finals and final were very competitive three set matches and were exciting and enjoyable to watch. The third set of the final was 22-20.

Janine Hickie (Cheshire) played with Mike Johnston in yet another three set final and they won reasonably comfortably in the end.

This is always a very enjoyable tournament to run but having it in one place did make it easier and hopefully we can do the same again this season Covid 19 notwithstanding.

Event	Winners	Runners Up
Mens Singles	Pak Yu Ng (Durham)	Jonathon Ritter (Hampshire)
Ladies Singles	Katie Griffiths (Worcestershire)	Annie Zhu (Yorkshire)
Mens Doubles	Phil Brinksmann (Lancashire)	Danny Hyde (Lancashire)
	& Syed Masood (Lancashire)	& Michael Johnston (Lancs)
Ladies Doubles	Georgia Hughes (Cheshire)	Annabel Hong (Lancashire)
	& Sammy Hutt (Cheshire)	& Pei Yee Leong (Lancashire)
Mixed Doubles	Janine Hickie (Cheshire)	Elizabeth Holt (Lancashire)
	& Michael Jonnston (Lancashire)	& Joe Steele (Lancashire)

The Senior Silver event was held on 18th and 19th January again at EPSV. There was a great improvement in the number of entries, and we went back to the two day format of playing semi-finals and finals on the Sunday.

There was some success for Cheshire players. The outstanding match of this tournament was the Men's singles semi-final between Alex Marritt of Yorkshire, a previous winner, and Cholan Kayan one of the County's younger players. Cholan won 22-20 in the third set of what was a very exciting match and went on to beat Josh Young quite comfortably in the final.

In the Women's singles Angel Chow had a very close three set match with Anne Corbett, a seeded player, and yet again Kirtti Sathyanathan was drawn in a box with the number one seeded player and eventual winner. So much for home advantage! In the Men's doubles the Cheshire pairing of Dominic Ashton and Richard Morrissey also had the number one seeds in their box but after winning an exciting second set 29-27 they were eventually beaten. There were some very competitive games played and the Women's and Mixed Finals were very close matches.

Event	Winners	Runner Up
Mens Singles	Cholan Kayan (Cheshire)	Josh Young (Yorkshire)
Ladies Singles	Magda Lozniceriu (Avon)	Lowri Hart (Wales)
Mens Doubles	Alex Marritt (Yorkshire)	Andrew Wainwright (Warwickshire)
	& Nathan Rossiter (Yorkshire)	& Ben Wheatley (Derbyshire)
Ladies Doubles	Annabel Hong (Lancashire)	Terri Lee Holmes (Lancashire)
	& Sara Staskova (Lancashire)	& Laura Mercer (Leicestershire)
Mixed Doubles	Joshua Young (Yorkshire)	Dominic Ashton (Cheshire)
	& Laura Mercer (Leicestershire)	& Terri – Lee Holmes (Lancashire)

As we are in the clutches of Covid 19 we are waiting for information as to when venues will be reopening and when tournaments will be allowed to be played but the dates we have are as follows:-

Senior County Championships 26th September 2020. This may change if necessary, to enable us to complete this season's County matches.

BE Senior Bronze 5th December 2020. This date was sanctioned earlier in the year.

We are reliant on venues being open and having the dates available.

Tournament dates for 2020-21 are subject to further sanction from BE and they are working on a five week rolling basis so we may be able to apply for a date for the Senior Silver sometime in July. Our regular date would be 16th and 17th January 2021.

The level of entry for the tournaments was good, very good for the Silver, and, judging from feedback, players were happy with the way they were run. We let the players know we have a home to go to and won't keep them hanging around anymore than is necessary and this seems to be appreciated. Working with them and trying to keep courts in use leads to a more enjoyable event for everyone.

These events were run at Ellesmere Port Sports Village which has very good facilities and I would like to thank the management and staff for their help and for doing their best to accommodate us when matches run a little late!

I also want to thank Alan Nottingham for scheduling and refereeing these events and the umpires who come along to keep the peace. The husband also works hard and helps out wherever necessary-many thanks Karl-and thanks to Amy Tsang who is the coffee angel and many others who help on the day.

Jan Bergh

MASTERS SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR SEASON 2019/20

At the time of writing we are still under lock down, the sun is shining and badminton is a long way away. None of us have experienced a pandemic before and how we deal with it going forward is very unpredictable. The latest advice from the chairman of the National Masters Policy group is to proceed on the basis that Masters badminton will restart on 1st October 2020 and to put in place our normal fixture list. As we move through the summer things may become a little clearer and, if necessary, next season can be extended into April and May if matches need to be re arranged. Personally, I agree that this is the right thing to do though until we get some help from the scientists with a vaccine to shield us from the effects of this virus or a cure for Covid-19 then I am struggling to see us play, particularly in the older age groups.

As you know, the 2020 season finished abruptly with the last masters fixtures being played on the 15 March. Although we still had fixtures to complete, it would not have been possible for any of our teams to compete at the finals weekend had they not had to be cancelled. In truth the league tables do not read very well but the reality is that 6 of our 7 teams played in the very strong North region and as we know life is tough there. We still managed victories over Yorkshire or Lancashire at O45 and O55 ages as well as the O50's drawing with Yorkshire. For every match I either enter the online results if we are the home side or verify them if we are away and even when the match result is poor there are often creditable results amongst them. It is, therefore, very possible for us to improve on these positions even if we remain in the North region in most of our age groups.

At the end of January, we were asked by the competition organisers for feedback on how we felt the Championship and Challenge events could be improved. Two of the suggestions which came back from us have prompted quite a debate though unfortunately the Masters secretaries annual meeting in Milton Keynes could not take place. So, although the decisions have already been taken for this coming season, I don't think we have heard the last of them. The first issue came back from our O60s who had been placed in a division of 3 teams comprising of us, Lancashire and Yorkshire. The suggestion was instead of having a North region with 3 teams and a Midlands division of 7 teams then this inequality could be solved by having a different split (essentially an East/West split). In the exchange of emails and phone calls I have had on this then the opinions are divided with the biggest objection being travelling times. Whilst this is perfectly understandable, I have pointed out that we would have faced journeys over to Newcastle and Glasgow had we not arranged neutral venue matches. This proposal will not be taken up in the coming season but having spoken to the chair of the organising group (Roy Carder) he has assured me that the idea is not dead and that they are trying to resolve the issue of too few teams in a region.

We also made a second proposal which was to allow O38 players to play in the Challenge event. It is always difficult to get teams out for a whole weekend particularly at the younger age groups who have family responsibilities. This proposal was liked so much that it was adopted for next season in both the Championship and the Challenge competitions.

In the 2020 Challenge event Cheshire fielded 8 teams which included an O70 team. We had 3 teams at Wolverhampton, 3 teams at Worcester and a team at Milton Keynes and Eastleigh so thank you to everyone who supported this event including all the travelling support. This was a mammoth effort and I hoped you enjoyed it. A particular thank you to those players who came out of badminton retirement in order that we could field full teams. I am sure you weren't thanking me when you tried to get out of bed on the following Monday morning. We started the weekend with 3 teams in the Premier division and finished the weekend in the same position. This event is characterised by fine margins and it was by the very finest of margins that we didn't get one or two teams promoted for next year.

Finally, I would like to thank Pete, Bev, Ruth, Karl, Linda, Brian and Geoff who ran the teams this year and without their efforts we would not be playing masters matches. I know also that within each team they receive help with various tasks which is gratefully received. I would also like to thank Kay for all her work on the website and Karl for all the help with bookings and finances.

Best Wishes,

Derek Neary