

# EVENLODE B.C. Newsletter

Dear Member

Welcome to the first newsletter of the September 2017-18 Season. A warm welcome to new and returning members and on behalf of the committee we wish you a successful and enjoyable season.

## **Website**

The website has changed to: <http://www.evenlode-badminton.org.uk>

Fixtures, minutes and newsletters as well as other useful general information is regularly updated on the website.

## **Fixtures**

This seasons fixtures list can be found on the documents page of our Website as well on the Oxfordshire Badminton League website. We have around 145 fixtures to play.

## **Selection Process**

The Selection Committee will be meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September and a list of teams will be available later that week.

## **Captains' Meeting**

If you are selected as a team captain, there will be a meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September at St Helen's at the beginning of Club Night to hand out packs with go through some useful information.

## **Membership**

The cost of a years membership is £95 (£70 for juniors or those in full time education or training) with a £10 reduction for committee members and £5 reduction for team captains. Full amount to be paid by the end of October.

Match fees are £4 payable to your team captain for every home and away match.

## **Committee**

If you have any queries please speak to any member of the Committee  
Chair – Anna  
Secretary – Lilian  
Treasurer - Claire  
Match Secretary & Juniors – James  
Child Welfare Officer – Stella  
Mens Club Captain – Jordan  
Ladies Club Captain – Stella  
Social Secretary - Ellis  
Committee Members:  
Michael, Judy and Pierre.

## **Facebook**

Check out our Evenlode Badminton Club facebook page for up to date news, match reports etc.

## **Rounders**



This year's rounders' match against Abingdon Badminton Club took place on a sunny afternoon, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August at the Manor Prep School. Around 22 Evenlode and Abingdon members, family and friends attended what was to be a good win for Evenlode! (Admittedly, Abingdon had quite few of their good players missing due to a "stag weekend"). We went in to bat first, and having declared at 20 rounders in the first game (that's about 1km of running), Abingdon could not beat our score, and similarly in the second game, Evenlode prevailed. The BBQ at the "Feathers" in Shippon, a cold drink after the games was a very welcome end to a great afternoon in the

fresh air, and we look forward to next year's challenge.

### **University**

Evenlode would also like to wish those off to University good luck, Megan Ready and Elizabeth Van der Veen both off to Exeter University where Andrew Brockie is also a student. It looks like Exeter will have a strong team next season. Who can fill the spaces left by Megan and Elizabeth, well watch this space as the next juniors are moving into adult club. Also off to University is Peter Weir, at time of going to press we are not sure which University but we will miss Peter as he played for Evenlode's Men's B team which won the league title last season.

### **Juniors**

You will notice a number of new faces as we have moved a number of juniors into the adult club, please take time to have a chat with them and more importantly play them, do

not go easy on them as they are strong players. Some of our other juniors have been selected for the County training squad and we wish them well. We currently have spaces in both junior sessions. Please contact James for further details.

### **Singles Ladder**

This year Michael and Pierre will be organizing a singles ladder, so if you are interested in taking part please let them know.

### **Social Events**

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October we are planning or organize a social event, possibly bowling so keep the date free, more information to follow.

Also we will be having our usual Christmas Meal – date to follow.

### **Shuttles**

A tube of shuttles costs £15-90 so please use them sensibly. On club nights there will be a box to put old shuttles in, which James will then

take box home and select good 2nd's shuttles for knock up times and junior club. When club night is nearing the end please could people pick up the shuttles and put them in this box. Help save James' back by picking them up – he is over 50 now!

### **Harwell**

Spare a thought for Harwell, our neighbours over at Larkmead who have lost the use of their hall due to a fire.

## Player Profiles – 10 Questions

### Bethany Huddart



I was introduced to badminton at a young age as both my granddad and dad played regularly with my dad still playing for his local club today. Initially I was playing both tennis and badminton but ultimately badminton won out with the benefit of playing indoors in the winter! I have been playing badminton on and off for around 15 years. I ended up playing at Evenlode after moving to Didcot last year. I knew that Evenlode were the club for me due to the large number of teams and the best chance for some match play.

Best and worst venue played in.

*Best: Surrey Sports Park, home of my University team and Surrey Smashers  
Worst: Probably Royal Holloway in the middle of winter with no heating! I couldn't feel my fingers for the first half hour of the match*

Badminton highlight/achievement to date.

*Helping my University Team secure promotion in my final year*

Which discipline do you prefer?

*Ladies doubles*

What is the best and worst things about badminton?

*Best: Having the opportunity to play with so many different people  
Worst: Losing, I'm very competitive!*

What other hobbies do you have?

*I'm a keen foodie and baker, I have my own blog, Bramble Lane Bakes (check me out on Instagram @bramblelanebakes!) documenting my baking and cooking adventures*

Favourite food and drink.

*There are too many to pick from but if I had to choose...Roast duck or sticky toffee pudding and a Mojito*

Best film watched so far.

*Dunkirk was amazing*

Car you own and the one would like to own.

*Ford Fiesta but an Audi TT is the dream*

Which club do you like playing against and why.  
*I haven't been playing in Oxfordshire long so I'm still trying to work that out. But I used to love playing Kingston at Varsity as there was so much excitement around the match and other students who didn't play badminton would come out and support us*

Best biscuits to eat at a Badminton match.

*Chocolate Bourbons*

### Ellis Marshall

Best and worst venue played in?

*I've played in numerous venues some absolute stunning ones like the National Badminton Centre. I mean who wouldn't like a purpose built venue just for Badminton! But for me the best Venue I've played in has to be my Grandparents garden. Sure, the surface was a bit grassy and the line markings were pretty much non existent, but it's where I first played badminton with my Dad using his Dad's old Racket. If it hadn't been for summers spent playing in that garden I might never have picked up a racket.*

*As for worst well lets say one of my county venues had courts made of stone, toilets from the 1950's and nets that I'm pretty sure were from the same era. Not to mention it had no heating, except 2 plug in heaters, and we played all through winter. I'm willing to say I did not play my best at that venue, though I blame the gloves, hat and scarf that I played in.*

### Badminton highlight/achievement to date?

*Hmm this was a challenge. I've only ever won a few doubles tournaments and honestly can't remember what they were or when they happened. I do however remember the first award I was given by my old club 'Personality of the Year'. I'm by no means one of the best players (I like to think I'm above average, but we have some pretty Awesome players in Evenlode) but I've always been able to get along with pretty much anyone and I like to think I'm approachable and at least a little amiable, but maybe that's just due to the kind of people at Evenlode?*

### Which discipline do you prefer?

*Definitely Men's Doubles. I need someone else to pick up the slack when I run out of steam on court! Plus, let's be honest, trying to psych yourself up in singles can be a challenge but being able to encourage each other during the game is great, and it makes winning (especially after you've been trailing in the match) even better*

**What is the best and worst things about badminton?**

*Best thing for me about badminton is working as a team. I've never been one for tournaments where you're just playing for yourself (maybe that's why I wasn't so good at them), but playing for your Club or your County have been some of the best moments in my badminton life. You can't beat comradery amongst team mates!*

*I can't really think of a "worst" thing, but, and this is a little petty, for anyone who has been through the ordeal of trying to buy a new racket that's as close to your old one (that they conveniently don't make anymore) as possible, then you may have run into the issue of new racket naming conventions, maybe its just me but I mean come on Nanospeed 9900 or Nanoray 900- there must be a simpler naming convention!*

**What other hobbies do you have?**

*Anyone who knows me probably knows I'm a bit of a Geek. I've built PC's since I was 16 and I've probably at least heard of most video games in existence. But on the other hand I'm a huge NFL (American Football) fan and support the Indianapolis Colts. Just don't ask me how I think we'll do this season. I also read a lot, anything from disaster novels to best sellers. And when I find time I'm a pretty decent cook too.*

**Favourite food and drink?**

*This is too hard to answer, at the moment I'd say a Korean dish called Jap Chae, but in all honesty I like pretty much all cuisines including; Thai, Indian, Italian, Chinese, Mexican, English, French etc etc. If its authentic then I'll probably like it.*

*Drink wise a cold glass of Sicilian Lemonade never goes a miss and for those hot summer days cold pint of cider is perfection!*

**Best film watched so far?**

*Gladiator, a proper underdog story with some epic script writing and delivery 'My name is Maximus Decimus Meridius, commander of the Armies of the North, General of the Felix Legions, loyal servant to the true emperor, Marcus Aurelius. Father to a....' just brilliant! Though Star Dust does come a close second, what can I say an underdog love story whats not to like!*

*And an honorable mention to Guardians of the Galaxy (vol 1 and 2) for the best soundtracks, if you haven't watched this film you need to.*

**Car you own and the one you would like to own?**

*Current car Skoda Fabia 1.2 TSI 2017. I'd love to own a Aston Martin Vantage AMR (who wouldn't), but a Tesla model 3 with all the added gadgets is probably (one day in the very distant future) more of a possibility.*

**Which club do you like playing against and why?**

*Last season my best games were against Pegasus, the lads on that team had great sportsmanship and were a good laugh off court. Also we pulled a fixture win out of the bag, against the odds!*

**Best biscuits to eat at a badminton match?**

*There's not usually enough time between matches but....Soft baked american style cookies, this goes for other sporting events, social events or any other event really*

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Evenlode Website: <http://www.evenlode-badminton.org.uk> (website administrator - Andrew W)  
Committee: Chair – Anna, Secretary – Lilian, Treasurer – Claire T, Match Secretary – James  
Ordinary members – Pierre, Michael, Stella, Judy, Jordan & Ellis  
Child Welfare Officer – Stella  
First Aiders – Lee, Judy, James, Anna, Stella, Hannah