**BDTTL EXECUTIVE MEETING Wednesday 4th April 2018**

**REPORT ON JUNIOR COACHING**

1 Following the success of the first 10 two-hour sessions of Junior Coaching at Ralph Allen School (RAS), the Executive Committee (EC) approved a further 10 sessions from January to March at a net cost of £470 (£650 coaching fees plus £420 facilities hire, less £600 from parents). Eddie Roofe continued to provide the coaching. The EC also approved the financing of 2 new tables for RAS at a cost of £699, to be offset by credits against the hire charge of the Hall. The tables were delivered in February and so far £630 has been offset in hire charges against the loan, leaving £69 outstanding.

2 Eleven of the 12 juniors on the first 10 sessions signed up for the second course. The vacancy was filled quickly. For the 20 sessions receipts amounted to £1,195; costs were hire £840 plus coaching £1300; total £2140 giving net cost to the League £945.

3 So was it value for money? Feedback I have had so far indicates that the juniors enjoyed the course; 11 of the original 12 attended the second training sessions (one junior had too much going on). Parents/grandparents have also commented on how much their play has improved. I know the two from Bathampton Club have made significant progress. Eddie has been pleased with their attention and perseverance and is providing a separate report

4 There is an unseen bonus. Eddie has encouraged juniors to enter tournaments and represent their County: five entered the recent Ryan Hoe Trophy event for Years 7, 8, 9 and 3 have represented Avon in the inter-county junior events. There may be other tournaments I don’t know about.

5 What about next season? I have consulted parents about this while it is fresh in their minds. I have asked them whether next Autumn they would pay the full cost of the two-hour sessions for coaching, currently £9; the subsidized cost was £5. I await their responses. Another option, seemingly popular with some of the juniors, is a Junior League, played perhaps with two in a team i.e. 2 singles each and a doubles. This might take an hour, combined with an hour’s coaching, 2hours in total.

6 Everyone seems to agree that we should continue with some form of coaching to bring on these juniors. There is a lot of talent around but only one or two (Tommy Franklin-Adams and Greg Rowland) are perhaps ready for the adult League; Olly Newton and Evan Holding play in Div 1 and 2 respectively. Proposals for the juniors for the 2018 - 19 season will be submitted at the next meeting.

Ray Bennett

Coaching and Development Committee

28 March 2018