



Shuttlecock

December 2007

Manhattan Beach Badminton Club

Presidentially Speaking...

Can you believe that it's already holiday season? It seems like we were just BBQing by the pool only a few weeks ago. I would like to wish the entire membership a very happy and healthy holiday season.

This is always the time year when we get our families and friends together. We all seem to get into a festive spirit, even as we fight the crowds at the mall, try to get that special gift for our kids, or prepare that special holiday meal. Let us all take just a few minutes out from our day to day and think about those that have a bit less. We should think about all those who are away from their families and wish that wasn't the case.

Now is the time of year for holiday parties. In fact, MBBC and all the former club presidents will be hosting the annual Holiday Party. It is always a great party, filled with holiday cheer, lots of laughs, plenty to eat and drink, and a time to enjoy everyone's company. All the decorations will be up and we'll be looking for you.

Looking back at the last 6 months, the club has managed to recoup nearly all of the funds used to have our new courts finished last year. The club

is really getting back into good shape. Of course there are always things to do and plenty of projects we can take on. Why not plan to help out at one of our monthly workdays, or perhaps become the chairperson for one of the club's events.

Whatever it is, we appreciate everyone's help and participation. When we joined, we all promised to fulfill our club obligations, and I'm proud to say that the majority of the club takes that responsibility seriously. It does make a difference!

Something else we can all look forward to is having a few holiday meals and a great way to keep those extra pounds from creeping up is to play some badminton. The club boasts of having the best courts anywhere. There is always someone there to get you started if you've never played or if it's been awhile since you got out on the courts for some fast badminton action, Monday nights are the night to go. Its beginner's night and players of all levels are welcome.

Best Wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season and thanks to everyone for your participation and support.

President@MBBadmintonClub.com



Membership News

Stephani Armstrong

Membership Status:

Associate Members:	82
Intermediate Associate Members:	34
Regular Members:	250
Provisional Members:	0
Legacy Members:	1
Instructor Members:	6
Playing Members:	39
Honorary Members:	14
Junior Playing Members:	32

New Applications

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Co-Sponsor</u>
Pat & Jackie Maloney	Johnson	Naramore
Aref Hayati & Nahid Mahammadifar	Hindle	Landis
Jack & Nikki Reinholtz	Styskal	Armstrong
Brian & Elaine Kong	Calvert	Lum

Resignations

Rick & Cindy Baeuchler, Calvin & Margaret Davis
James Donlan & Susan Williams, Jay & Jan Jasaitis
Steve & Jill Schwab, Ben & Jeannine Lochtenberg

Although we had a number of resignations this month and last, we still have the full complement of regular members as all the provisional members were moved "up". I was on vacation and returned home sick so I'm a little behind in bringing in new provisional members, but by next month, we should be full. Happy Holidays.

VicePresident@MBBadmintonClub.com

516 18th St.
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
310.545.9052

Board of Directors

Bob Steinberg
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Stephani Armstrong
Vice President

Nancy Andreas
Treasurer

Annie McQuitty
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Adult Badminton

Patti Neumann
Junior Badminton

Tammy Lipps
Entertainment

Mike Revell
House Chair

Peter Steinbroner
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Wayne Bueltel
Past President

Neil Leventhal
Communications

Shuttlecock@MBBadmintonClub.com

Nancy Andreas

It was really nice to see all of you at the MBBC general meeting. I was especially happy that all of our Bylaw changes were approved. The MBBC board has been talking about these changes for many months, discussing the pros and cons of different ways to respond to correct existing problems, analyzing the existing rules to find the best way to implement the needed changes, and going through the proposed text of the rules word by word, to make sure they are clear, fair, and that the revised rules do the job.

I also appreciate the good ideas brought up at the meeting regarding potential changes to the billing. The board meets monthly and we will discuss incentives for early payment of dues and possible revision of the billing cycle from monthly to quarterly. I will let you know how these discussions go, but feel free to call or write if you want to know sooner.

Treasurer@MBBadmintonClub.com / 310.812.4331

Annie McQuitty

Happy Holidays!

It was great to meet so many of you at the Semi-Annual Meeting! Thank you to everyone who helped prepare the roster and worked at the meeting. We had a great team. The new 2007-2008 MBBC rosters were distributed at the meeting and for those who "proxied," you should receive yours in the mail shortly. If there are changes or corrections, please email

me at DEFestiva@aol.com and make sure to put MBBC in the remarks section of your email so my computer does not think you are SPAM!

We have a handwritten list of member email addresses, which needs to be put into computer format - if anyone would like to earn a workday credit building this list, let me know.

Secretary@MBBadmintonClub.com / 310.802.1414

It was good to see everyone at the November semi-annual meeting. I reported most of the Junior news there. Our program has been expanding and continues to be popular.

We have about 100 juniors participating, including thirty-five junior playing members who pay monthly dues just to come for our group training. Beginner nights are busy and active, but we always have room for more club member children. If you have kids between the ages of 6 and 21 who would like to learn how to play badminton bring them to the club any Monday or Wednesday night from 6 to 8pm and try out our group training. We have a great coach. The training is free— it's a wonderful benefit of your club membership. At the moment we have a lot of high school age players who are learning to play so they can make the Mira Costa High School Badminton Team this Spring. There's a lot of enthusiasm there.

The 2008 World Junior Championship in New Zealand just finished. We were very proud that two of our MBBC juniors made the U.S. U19 team and represented us there. Isabel Zhong and Beckie Neumann traveled to Auckland to face top junior players from all over the world. Many, many thanks go to all the generous club members who donated money and helped raise the funds to send them to compete in this. USAB usually funds the team, but this year they did not allocate fund for this so players had to pay their own way.

The Asian countries dominated as expected. China came in 1st, followed by Korea in 2nd, Singapore in 3rd, and Malaysia in 4th. Isabel & Beckie were part of a small, relatively young U.S. team, but they placed 16th among the 27 countries in the competition. It was a very good finish for the U.S. We actually finished ahead of Russia, Australia, the Philippines, Germany, and Chinese Taipei, among others.



The format for this competition was pretty bizarre. Your finish is largely based on how you do in pool play. The U.S. had a pretty lucky draw for the pool play and advanced with a default-win over Mongolia. Our team would have liked to have played Mongolia but we took the win and moved on to finish 16th overall. Both Beckie and Isabel stayed to play in the individual competitions that followed the team event. Beckie managed to place among the top 32 players of the 87 who entered Girls Singles. Isabel was unlucky to hit a very strong Taiwanese player in the first round. They played Girls Doubles together and lost a very close first round match to New Zealand. It was a wonderful experience for them and they are very grateful to have had the opportunity to go and compete at this level. It was a valuable learning experience.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Twenty of our juniors will be going to the USBDF tournament at OCBC on December 7th-9th. It will be a very big tournament. There are 175 entrants, including some from Peru, Mexico, and Canada. Some of our youngest players will be going to test their wings for the first time. Let's wish them all good luck!

Still in the works is a team tournament that will be held at the Orange County Badminton Club (OCBC) Jan 18th-20th. The plan is for teams of Under 19, Under 16, and Under 13 year old players from across the country to meet and compete in five events with one point for each win over another club. The teams with the most points will win a team trophy and their club will be awarded a monetary prize from the tournament sponsors. We'll choose players for the MBBC team during December and send them off to this competition in January. Should be fun!

Around the House

Mike Revell

It was great to finally meet many of you at the SemiAnnual meeting last month and to be able to put faces with names.

The spa was out of commission for about a week in November to have the loose/missing tiles replaced and the motor worked on. I also had a sensor replaced on the pool's solar heating system, which will help keep the heating gas bills down during the winter months.

Thank you to all the members who have shown up on the Saturday workdays for the past six months. With your help we can keep the Club's maintenance costs down.

We only have five Saturday workdays left in this club year, which are:

January 12, 2008

February 9, 2008

March 8, 2008

April 12, 2008

May 17, 2008

NOTE: These dates may change, so please keep an eye on the "Around the House" article in the *Shuttlecock* for updates.

HouseChairman@MBBadmintonClub.com / 310.546.4758

FOR SALE: Brand new KitchenAid Dishwasher

Black with stainless steel interior, \$650.

Please contact Stephani Armstrong at:

VicePresident@MBBadmintonClub.com

I am again happy to report that the Adult Badminton group is still humming along. We currently have 38 Playing Members, and have had no resignations this year. We have not “tried out” any players this month. Currently, there are three applications pending for Playing Membership.

We’re currently averaging 11 players a night, with a mix of Associate Members, Honorary Members, Intermediate Associate Members, Instructor Members, Playing Members, Regular Members, Visitors and Junior Members. There seems to be the “back to school/early holiday” dip in the amount of players on weekday evenings.

We had one of our Friday Night Tournaments on Oct. 19, hosted by Steve and Jill Schwab. It was a very successful and fun tournament. There were 18 players with lots of birds flying. In the end, the finalists were Chuck Linden, Chumming Wang, David Ogata, and Peter Steinbroner. Congratulations to all.

Our Friday Night Tournament on November 30, hosted by Stephani and Art Armstrong, will be our last Friday Night Tournament for the year. If you have not played in one yet, it really is a lot of fun! Players of all levels are welcomed. Details and results will be reported in a future edition.

The USC Badminton Club has used our facilities to hold inter-collegiate tournaments, and we have scheduled another for January 19. If you have time, they are very skilled and are a pleasure to watch.

Calendar

Thu. Dec. 6 Children's Holiday Party: 4:30-7pm

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Tue. Jan. 8 MBBC Board Meeting: 7pm

Sat. Jan. 12 Club Workday: 8am-12pm

Sat. Jan. 19 Inter-Collegiate Tournament

Tue. Feb. 5 MBBC Board Meeting: 7pm

Sat. Feb. 9 Club Workday: 8am-12pm

Tue. Mar. 4 MBBC Board Meeting: 7pm

Sat. Mar. 8 Club Workday: 8am-12pm

Fri. Mar. 14 Wine Tasting Party / White Elephant Sale

Sat. Mar. 15 Rummage Sale

Tue. Apr. 1 MBBC Board Meeting: 7pm

Sat. Apr. 12 Club Workday: 8am-12pm

Sat. Apr. 12 Murder Mystery Party

Tue. May 6 MBBC Board Meeting: 7pm

Sat. May 17 Club Workday: 8am-12pm

Sun. May 18 Semiannual Meeting: 3pm Social / 4pm Mtg

Tue. June 3 MBBC Board Meeting: 7pm