

February 2006

Folks:

Here is an update as we go forward at the newest and BEST badminton 'fraternity' in the RTP area. If you are not having fun let Mike Koch or I know and we will do what we can to correct any problems. Our goal is 'to be the best and the most social club in the RTP area'.

1. Current membership stands at 38 adults and 12 under 18's. We will shortly circulate a poll to see if we want to stop at 40 or perhaps go to 45. To date numbers have not been a problem. With a new owner of the TCC business we might face a rent increase sometime in 2006. The going per hour rate for the gym is \$60 and thanks to Mike Koch's negotiating skills we are paying less than \$35. A few more members would give us a little financial cushion. We will send a poll out to get member comments.
2. We need reg. forms and insurance forms filled out by all. They will be at the desk every Sunday so if you haven't done so, fill them out now....PLEASE.
3. Thanks to Julien Dauverd and Ken Hayman for their work on the web site. www.badminton-rtp.com is the spot if you want to check it out.
4. Badminton Champs to NC. Most of you may know this but we recently received confirmation that Howard Bach and Tony Gunawan, the reigning IBF World Men's Doubles Champs will be coming to NC on April 20 for two and a half days. This will be a huge opportunity for us all to see the game played at its highest level, to expose loads of other kids and adults to this great sport, and to rub shoulders with these fellows. The other side of this is that it will be a huge amount of work and we will need volunteers in everything from transportation to court setup to fund raising. See me or Mike Koch or Calleen Herbert if you are interested in helping with this 'once in a lifetime' opportunity. So far we think we have three middle schools which are prepared to put The Champs in front of their total student population with their message of 'follow your dreams, set your goals and above all, get your education'. We probably have room for one more middle school in the Durham area if anyone wants to make overtures to any specific middle school.
5. Take the time to register as a member of our Yahoo group. Go to www.yahoo.com, do a search for the group 'badminton_rtp_nc' and follow the instructions to ask to join. This is the site we use to disseminate information to the group so be sure and take the time to join up.
6. Finally, we have ordered shuttles and this will be the last time until after the Bach/Gunawan visit in April so be sure to stock up. The shuttles cost us \$13 landed and we will sell them for \$15 to build our bank account a little and in case we have any promising juniors that need assistance with the membership fees. Make your check payable to Badminton RTP.

Again, feel free to talk to any of us if you have any comments or suggestions on how we might make this an even better club.