

WILTSHIRE COUNTY BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

JUNIORS

Parental Information 2024-2025

Spond – we utilise the secure Spond app as a database for our activities, parents will be invited to join and then to upload their child(ren)'s details.

Please note the child's date of birth should be entered (we have had parents inputting their dates of birth) as we have to determine the child's age group for fixtures selection.

Please be aware no information about any junior will be shared with any third party without the express permission of the parent or guardian of the child.

Safeguarding – please be aware all coaches and volunteers associated with the County Juniors have current DBS certification, any issues that might come to light concerning safeguarding or welfare should be directed either to the County Juniors Coordinator (Geoff Mascall) and/or the County Welfare Officer (Chris Eagleton), contact details for both are on the Wiltshire County Badminton Association website.

Drivers must be aware no child or vulnerable adult should be alone with an adult in a vehicle who is not a family member or their carer, parents must give permission for their child(ren) to be given a lift to any event (coaching, fixtures or tournaments).

Please be aware that unless we have information to the contrary your child may be photographed during coaching sessions, fixtures or tournaments, these photographs may be used for social media, marketing or other purposes.

At the end of a coaching session children should be collected from the venue by their parent(s) or other authorised adult, parents are welcome to view coaching sessions from outside the relevant sports hall.

Coaching Groups – we currently organise the juniors into three coaching groups, Group 1 being for older and proficient players, Group 2 for intermediate and improving players, Group 3 for beginners and developing players, each group having specific three hour coaching slots as indicated on the Spond calendar.

Promotion through the Groups is assessed by the Lead Coach and based on the players development, enthusiasm for badminton and application.

Volunteering– we are happy to support any parent or junior who may wish to become a volunteer coach, commencing with Level 1 (Foundation), and support the county coaches.

As with any organisation volunteers are always welcome, there are many facets that need help including arranging fixtures, organising player transport, managing teams, budgetary control, venue liaison, marketing, funding acquisition, internal communications, uniform and equipment, social media and publicity.

Parents are welcome to discuss any part of their child(ren)s development or other badminton associated aspect with the Head Coach (Steve Hulbert) and/or Juniors Coordinator (Geoff Mascall).

Please report any health or other issues associated with your child(ren) to the Head Coach.

Age Groups – The age groups for fixtures (in this case the Shire's League) are below :

Age Group	Birth Year
U12/13	2013 or later
U14/15	2011 or later
U16/17	2009 or later
U18/19	2007 or later

On occasion this does throw up a few oddities however it is the same for all competitors.

Players – please ensure your child(ren) are registered with Badminton England, this is generally sorted by their respective badminton club, if they are selected for a particular fixture they will need a 'Compete' license again sorted by the club, this enables their match scores to be uploaded to the Badminton England ranking system.

Players should arrive with a nutritious snack and drinking water and unmatched enthusiasm for some hard work.

Team selection is based on attendance, competence and enthusiasm.

Cost & Fees – coaching fees are usually collected by monthly Standing Order for £25.00 per child made payable to :

WILTSHIRE COUNTY BADMINTON ASSN – No2

Sort Code: 30-97-41

Account Number : 04043459

Payments should be set up to run from the first month a child attends with May 2025 being the last one.

We do have the facility to take payment by Credit or Debit card however there is a charge to County Juniors for using cards, Standing Orders are much preferred if possible.

We are keen to recruit as many competent children as possible to County badminton and are always happy to discuss any budgetary issues with coaching fees.

The Journey – the junior setup is designed to take the players from Group 3 through Group 2 and Group 1 finally leaving the Juniors and becoming part of the County Senior squad commencing with the Wiltshire Thirds and finally ending the Wiltshire Veterans.

Errata – Wiltshire Juniors do run Badminton England sanctioned tournaments noted on Spond, all County players are encouraged to have a go, the results are not as important as the experience of 'having a go', entry is through Badminton England together with payment.

Wiltshire County Badminton Association (WCBA)also run two 'Restricted' tournaments for juniors, they are noted on Spond, again experience outranks results so all juniors, County or not, are encouraged to have a go. Entry is through Simon French whose details are on the WCBA website.

Geoff Mascall

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