

## Oxford & District Badminton League

### A little bit of history...

The league was founded in 1971. According to the minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August 1971 16 clubs had pledged to be involved – **Bicester**, Blackbird Leys, Didcot Power Station, Elms Court, Eynsham, Gladiator, **Gosford Hill**, Isis, Morris Motors, **Oxford City**, Pegasus, **Redefield School**, United Oxford Hospitals, University, Wesley Memorial and **Witney Leys**. Only four of these, marked in bold, still exist (although Oxford City has become simply Oxford and was resurrected a few seasons ago).

Between them they fielded 13 teams for the Mixed (two divisions) and 7 teams for the sole Men's division – no ladies division in those days! Clubs were allowed to enter if they were affiliated either to the Oxon & Bucks Badminton Association or the Berkshire Badminton Association, for the princely sum of £1.50 per club.

Interestingly, a Mixed match comprised 9 rubbers – but three ladies' doubles, three men's doubles and three mixed.

The first AGM was held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 1972, at the Gladiator Club on Iffley Road Oxford. Gladiator was the only club to field and A and a B team (Mixed) in the first season.

The first committee comprised

Chairman	Glynn Sutton (resigned in 1987)
Secretary	Anne Clarke (resigned in 1981)
Treasurer	Rod Chappell
Match Sec	Glynn Sutton
Committee	Ron Avery
	Jim Barton (became Match sec in 1973 and resigned in 1983)