

1929 – 1930

***The
Ottawa District Badminton Association
The Inaugural Year***

The great depression was just beginning.

The 1929-30 badminton season saw the beginning of organized badminton as it exists today. The process begins whereby the national association would be composed of provincial bodies while the provincial bodies were actively constructing district associations responsible for geographic areas. At this point clubs could still join the provincial associations.

THE DISTRICT The O.D.B.A. came into existence **on January 22, 1930**. At that time there were three clubs in Ottawa which were affiliated with the O.B.A., numerous military clubs and a very strong Church League. The Church League continued to function as a separate entity, however, they were allowed to join the District as a single member. This permitted them to maintain a contact with the governing body, while maintaining the independence which they desired. It also permitted their members to compete in District competitions.

The initial District membership fees were as follows. For clubs with less than 50 members \$5.00; for clubs with membership between 51 and 100 the fee was \$7.50; there was an additional fee of \$2.50 for each additional 100 members.

The clubs which attended the first O.D.B.A. general meeting were the Badminton Club of Ottawa (BCO), the Rideau Badminton Club, the Garrison B.C., 38th Highlanders B.C., Engineers B.C., Princess Louise Dragoon Guard B.C. (P.L.D.G.), the YMCA, the YWCA, the Glebe Community Association and representatives of the Church League. The P.L.D.G. played out of their own facility while the Garrison and other military clubs appear to have played out of the Old Cartier Drill Hall. The BCO played out of their own facilities

approximately on the south west corner of Slater and Elgin Streets. The Rideau B.C. started the year on courts in Balmoral Hall, on the second floor of the Capital Theatre at Bank and Queen Sts.

The first District Championships were initiated with the donation of major trophies as follows:

Men's Singles

- **The Orme Trophy**

Women's Singles

- **The Charles Ogilvie Trophy**

Men's Doubles

- **The Franklin Ahearn Trophy**

Women's Doubles

- **The H.S. Southam Trophy**

Mixed Doubles

- **The J.B. McRae Trophy**

The championships were held at the BCO. From April 8 - 12/30. The events were classified as "Open" with approximately 140 players entered. The entry fee was .50 cents per event and birds were provided. Results are covered elsewhere.

The High School of Commerce was opened on Bell St. While insignificant at this time, Commerce would be the anchor for the resurrection of the district in the 50's.

THE PROVINCIAL SCENE

Outside of the Provincial and National Championships, competitive play seems to center around challenge cups vied for by teams representing the various clubs. Ottawa's contribution to this scene was the Journal Cup, donated by the Ottawa Journal newspaper, for team challenge competition amongst clubs from Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto areas. Other events included the Kingston Cup for Mixed Doubles play and the Hodgson Cup for in club competition in Women's Singles and Doubles.

The Ontario Championships were held in Kingston this year with Ottawa contributing finalists in 4 out of 5 main events. Unfortunately the only gold brought home was in the Men's Singles Consolation round which was won by Jack Cameron of BCO. Details not available.

The OBA AGM was held in conjunction with the championships. Representatives from Ottawa included W.M. Stewart (BCO.) and Major W. Arthur (Garrison) with the Rideau club represented by proxy. There were no OBA executives elected from the Ottawa District.

THE NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL SCENE

The CBA AGM was held in conjunction with the 9th Canadian Championships hosted by the Badminton Club of Ottawa March 6 to 8, 1930. W.M. Stewart of BCO was elected CBA Vice-president for the 30-31 season.

Highlights from the championships included the fact that the trophy for Women's Singles competition is the Ottawa Challenge Cup. Also of note was, Norma Hall of Ottawa, a

finalist in the Women's Singles competition, at just 14 years of age. The finals were viewed by 850 spectators. It was also the first time the Grant System for match play was used. The system, invented by George Grant, a well known Ottawa sportsman, involves the scheduling of all matches and courts based on time. It was later adopted as the standard form of conducting competitions in most major sports.

Championship Results:

Registrations: MS- 49; LS- 51; MD- 36pr; LD- 48pr; XD- 78pr.

Total entries 424 including 106 from Toronto and 102 from Ottawa.

Event	Winner	Runner-Up	Score	Consolation
MS	Jack Purcell (Tor)	Noel Radford (Van)	15- 1,15- 5	W. Barnes (Ham)
LS	Mrs. J. Porteous (Mont)	Norma Hall (Ott)	12-14,11-5, 11-2	Mrs.H.Knowles(Mont)
MD	Col.G.Blackstock (Tor)	A.B. Massey (Tor)	11-15,15-5,	Phil Hurcomb (Ott)
	C.K. Andrews (Tor)	T. Sheard (Tor)	15-5	Hugh Robertson (Ott)
LD	Mrs. V. Woodman (Van)	Mrs. H.R. Wright (Ott)	15- 6,	Mrs. G.MacFarlane(Ott)
	Eileen George (Van)	Ruth Robertson (Ott)	15- 10	E. Odevaine (Ott)
XD	Eileen George (Van)	Mrs. V. Woodman (Van)	n/a	M.Barrow (Q. City)
	Jack Underhill (Van)	Noel Radford (Van)		E. Lafferty (Q. City)

DISTRICT DATA 1929 - 30

Inaugural District Executive:

President - John B. McRae

Vice-President - Col. E.W. Sansom

Hon. Secretary - William N. Keenan

Hon. Treasurer - Maj. Guy MacFarlane

Hon. President - H.S. Southam

Executive Committee:

Mrs. H.F. Wright (BCO)

J.M. Wardle (Rideau)

A.J. Gibbard (P.L.D.G.)

E.D. Hendry (Glebe Community B.C.)

Frank Potts (Church League)

Inaugural Member Clubs:

Badminton Club of Ottawa

Rideau B.C.

Garrison B.C.

38th Highlanders B.C.

Engineers B.C.

Princess Louise Dragoon Guards B.C.

YMCA

YWCA

Glebe Community Association

Number of Clubs - 9

Number of Members - 1200

Other Clubs Mentioned: Interior BC, Renfrew Militia BC, Carleton Place BC, Perth BC, and the Westminister BC in Smiths Falls

Inaugural O.D.B.A. Championship:

Event	Winner	Runner Up	Score
MS	Bev Mitchell (BCO)	W.M. Stewart (BCO)	15- 11, 15- 10
LS	Ruth Robertson (BCO)	Mrs. H.F. Wright (BCO)	11- 8, 11- 6
MD	W.M. Stewart	Hugh Robertson (Rideau)	15- 12, 18- 14
	Jack Cameron (BCO)	Phil Hurcomb (Rideau)	
LD	Mrs. H.F. Wright (BCO)	Marg Robertson (Rideau)	15- 10, 15- 8
	Ruth Robertson	Norma Hall (BCO)	
XD	Ruth Robertson	Norma Hall	15- 1, 18-17
	Bev Mitchell	Jack Cameron (BCO)	
Cons	M. Williamson (BCO)		
XD	George Goodwin Jr. (BCO)		

DISTRICT LEAGUE:

District League: There was no District League at this point.

Church League:

Champion:	1st - Dominion	.756 %	6th- St. George's	.544 %
	2nd - Unitarian	.711 %	7th - MacKay	.533 %
	3rd - St. James	.689 %	8th - St. Andrew's	.322 %
	4th - St. John's	.678 %	9th - First Baptist	.111 %
	5th - Knox	.589 %	10th- First United	.067 %

Church League Doubles Tournament:

Event	Winner	Runner Up	Score
MD	Paul Blais (St.J.) Earl Hendry (St.J.)	Wilfred Cory (MacKay) Ernest Driscoll (MacKay)	15- 10, 18-15
LD	Mrs. C.C. Parker (MacKay) Joan Bolus (MacKay)	Doris Yarrow (St.J.) Mamie Fitzsimmons (St.J.)	15- 9, 15- 9
XD	Mrs. Gordon Byshe (St.J.) John Claughton (St.J.)	Mrs. V. Herbert (Dom.) Ed C. Forrest (Dom.)	9- 15, 15- 9, 15- 11