

O. D. B. A. - 1941 - 1942

THE DISTRICT

The District would answer the bell for the next round, but it would appear that this would be the swan song for the golden age of badminton. With the loss of the Garrison, BCO and Rideau clubs by the spring of 1941, the full weight of carrying the District would fall upon the part time clubs. The loss of the dedicated courts had in fact put the condition of the sport back to a time prior to when the District even existed and while the doors were opened to former BCO and Rideau players, the District suffered greatly.

Commerce BC would operate Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. All Saints ran Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. It is known that St. Paul's Eastern also operated three days a week, however this club which had been part of the church league almost from the beginning, could not find enough players to field even one team for the start of the schedule. The Church League did manage a small league, but failed to get any interest in tournament play.

While the District managed to run a very abbreviated league with just three teams playing home and home matches, it was unable to operate even one senior tournament despite several efforts to produce at least a championship. With the loss of the quality courts, the enthusiasm had been drained from the competitive players. They did manage to conduct a junior championship under the sponsorship of Rev. D.H. Woodhouse of Arnprior. The event took place in Arnprior and

was composed entirely of Arnprior players, but it was at least a spark in a very dark year.

Through the year, more bad news would come. In October came news of the loss of George Goodwin Jr., one of the best male players ever produced in the District. He was reported as "missing in action as a result of air operations". Previous to this George had already been forced to bail out of a burning plane on a mission to Germany, but his luck ran out. George held several District and Provincial titles as well as CBA Men's and Mixed Doubles titles. George was best remembered though, for the 1939 Pro-Am competition in Toronto at which he won the Men's Singles event. In addition, Paul Snyder of Guelph, who along with his brother Jim, won the Men's Doubles match of the Pro-Am, was also killed in action with the RCAF.

In December of 1941, Fergie Loathian requested to be relieved as District President, but agreed to stay on until the AGM scheduled for February. It must have been heartbreaking for him to see the sad state of the sport that he had put so much effort into over the 15 years the District had operated. At the AGM a motion was put forward that the District not affiliate with the OBA due to the severely reduced services for the cost of affiliation. OBA had earlier rejected a nominal fee structure until the end of the war.

THE PROVINCIAL SCENE

The AGM and championship tournament took place at the Strathgowan Club in Toronto in March of 42'. It had originally been scheduled for the Frontier BC in Windsor but they were unable to fulfil their obligation. ODBA was represented by Rev. Woodhouse, Bill Roe and Earl Hanlon, while E.C. Forrest of Ottawa was the presiding president. A.L.A. Richardson of Toronto was elect President for the 42-43 season.

Two new trophies were donated for the Junior Championships. One, for Jr. Girl's Doubles was donated by a Mrs. Gammell of Arnprior and the other was donated for Jr. Boys Doubles in memory of the aforementioned Paul Snyder.

The championships were attended by only three players from Ottawa, all three being unable to break past the semi finals.

THE NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL SCENE

The Canadian Badminton Association did not function during this season. In a December article on the summary of the year in sports, it was noted that Badminton, tennis and golf were the only national sports to cancel their championships due to the war. While football held a national championship, it was more between the various district amateur champions, than the pro event we are familiar with.

DISTRICT DATA 1941 - 42

District Executive:

President - W.F. (Fergie) Loathian

Sec./Treasurer - Earl Hanlon

Vice-President - G.C. Metcalf

Executive Committee:

Rev. D.H. Woodhouse (Arn.) - Playing Comm. Chairman

W. G. Dewar

A.J. Gibbard

W.B. Dingle

W.J. Roe

R.A. Bell

Member Clubs:

Commerce BC

Renfrew Militia BC

Church League

All Saints BC

Arnprior BC

Number of Clubs - 5

Number of Members - _____

District Championship:

No senior championships were conducted during this season.

District Junior Championship:

Competition was held in Arnprior. All 53 entries were from Arnprior

Event	Winner	Runner Up	Score
MS	James Hart (Arn.)	Fraser Woodhouse (Arn.)	15- 10, 15- 4
LS	Shirley Styles (Arn.)	Isobel Wood (Arn.)	11- 4, 7- 11, 15- 4
MD	Fraser Woodhouse	Gordon Woodhouse (Arn.)	15- 10, 15- 10
	James Hart	Robert Carmichael (Arn.)	
LD	Shirley Styles	Catherine Pritchard (Arn.)	15- 7, 17- 16
	Isobel Wood	Helen Slaughter (Arn.)	
XD	Isobel Wood	Beth Thomson (Arn.)	15- 6, 17- 15
	James Hart	Marjorie Loucks (Arn.)	15- 3, 15- 9
XD	Edward Mainprize (Arn.)	John Campbell (Arn.)	
Cons			

District League:

An abbreviated league was held with only three teams competing. It was conducted as a double round robin, home and home series. The last week of the schedule had to be revised to accommodate the loss of the armouries facility to military needs.

First place - Commerce BC

Second place - All Saints BC

Third place - Renfrew/Arnprior BC (combined team)

Church League:

The Church League was conducted as a single level home and home series.

First place - Commerce BC

Second place - All Saints BC

Third place - YMCA BC

Fourth place - St. Barnabas BC