

MERCANTILE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT - 1996

It gives me great pleasure to announce the General Membership of the Mercantile Badminton Association, on behalf of the General Committee, another successful year of Badminton events.

General Committee Meetings

As a matter of practice, the General Committee met once a month and the meetings were held generally on the 3rd Thursday of the month host by member firms in the General Committee. MBA had a difficult time during the year 1996 due to power cuts and ethnic disruptions and managed to hold 07 General Committee Meetings. It was also proposed at a General Committee Meeting held in October 1996 to have the Annual General Meeting on the 30th December 1996 at Sampath Bank Ltd, No.55, D.R. Wijewardena Mawatha, Colombo 10. Some of the General Committee Meetings were held at Bartleet & Co., John Keells and Sampath Bank Ltd and we thank them once again for their support and hospitality.

Attendance of General Committee Members on some meetings were poor due to the reasons beyond out control. It is important that representatives elected to the General Committee extended their much needed support and encouragement to the General Committee by their active participation in order to carry out the affairs of the Association successfully for the benefit of the General Membership and also to develop the game "Badminton".

Tournaments

All tournaments during the year 1996 were conducted at St. Thomas' College Indoor Stadium, Mt. Lavinia. Although this venue is little out of the way for participants and spectators to reach, the facilities available at St. Thomas' College Indoor Stadium, Mt. Lavinia is the best for a tournament to be conducted at present. We are happy to inform that St. Thomas' College has increased the number of courts to 7 in September 1996.

Novices Championship - 1996 was held from 27 - 31 March 1996 at St. Thomas' College Indoor Stadium. Large number of entries have been received for this tournament and the tournament drew the interest of many new enthusiasts as participants. Tournament was held with the support of few member firms who made contributions by way of advertising banners. Mainly due to prevailing security situation in the country our cost on this tournament had gone up to Rs.19,420.65 whereas our income was on Rs.10,700.00 showing a short fall of Rs.8,720.65.

Corrected to
5700/- as
per 11th audited
statement of Account.

{ 5700/- entry fees.*
5050/- ?

(13740/-)

Contd.....2

(19440/-)*
as per audited statement
↑ etc.

It is desirable that the Organizing Committee should obtain at least 10 banners from member firms @ Rs.2,500/- per banner in order to meet the expenses of such tournaments.

The Open Championship which was scheduled to conduct from 22nd August 1996 was postponed and finally could not be held due to the security situation & Power Cuts prevailed in the country at that time.

Inter-Firm Team Championship was held from 11th - 15th December, 1996 at St. Thomas' College, Mt. Lavinia. Large number of entries were received including national pool players and tournament drew many badminton enthusiasts as participants and spectators. This tournament is the most popular tournament conducted by Mercantile Badminton Association and matches from 5 divisions among Men's and 3 divisions among Women's were played. 34 member firms participated in this tournament. Overall Championship for the year 1996 was presented to Seylan Bank. Bartleet & Co. took away the Men's "A" division trophy. MushreqBank were the Champions in Women's "A" division. The efforts made by the Chairman, Tournament Committee, Rohan Dissanayake supported by Prabath Harshakumar, Tournament Secretary made this event a very successful one and I sincerely thank both of them for a well done job. Mr Ajith Wijesinghe who has been the back bone of this tournament needs special appreciation. The Organizing Committee chaired by Gamini Jayasuriya made a tremendous contribution in organizing the event. I sincerely thank all member firms who contributed by way of advertising their banners and everybody who supported in many ways to make this event a very successful one. I take this opportunity to convey my sincere apology for my inability to participate in this event due to my visit abroad on an important official business matter.

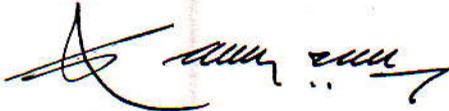
Financial Position

The Auditor's statement of accounts for the year 1995/96 is available for the membership. I am pleased to inform you that finances of the MBA is shown a remarkable improvement through prudent management of investments. It is pertinent to mention here that the growth of current assets is significant compared to assets in 1994/95, due to proper management of funds. Value of net assets of the current year recorded at Rs.459,161/55 compared to Rs. 351,364/75 last year. This includes the value of a term deposit of Rs. 249,473.82 and a Treasury Bill with a face value of Rs.150,000/-. Funds received through sponsorship and prompt collection of subscriptions at the time of obtaining entry fees at our Novices Tournament also made a significant improvement of funds. All deposits made by the MBA and income and expenditure statements of each tournament conducted by MBA are available with the

Treasurer for inspection. I would like to place on record the notable contribution made by Hony. Treasurer, Sarath Kumarasinghe, particularly in maintaining accounts, keeping financial records and prudent management of our investments. Further details of financial status of the MBA will be given in the Treasurer's Report.

In conclusion, I would like to thank personally, our Patron Deshamanya H.K. Dharmadasa and all Vice Patrons for the support given to me and to the General Committee, in many ways and many occasions. I would be failing my duties, if I do not thank and appreciate the roll played by Miss Thilaka Silva as Secretary despite of her tremendous work load at Sampath Bank. I would also thank all Office Bearers and the General Committee of the MBA for assistance given in conducting the tournaments and other events successfully. I wish to convey my sincere thank to Mr Eraj Wijesinghe, President and officials of the Sri Lanka Badminton Association, our member firms and sponsors who made contributions by advertising their banners, for their co-operation and support extended to Mercantile Badminton Association of its efforts to develop the game Badminton during the year 1995/96.

Please accept our best wishes for a *Bright New Year.*



Palitha Kannangara
PRESIDENT
MERCANTILE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

30.12.1996