



Piner Badminton 2005 Team Meeting Wednesday, 15 December 2004

Welcome to 2005 Piner Badminton.

This is a "senior" year for us, with our lineup being mostly seniors, many of whom are now fourth-year players. That means this is our year to excel! There's no reason why we can't be a league leader this year if we work hard. For newcomers, my basic philosophy is built around enjoyment of the sport and always striving for the best possible performance. Badminton is a demanding sport but we will be learning it from the basics on up so that you'll have the skills needed to compete well.

We need more players

While all of our seniors make for a strong team, they also are leaving many open spots for next year's team. Hence we need lots more players! Ideally we can get more athletes, so if you know of anyone on the fall and winter teams who would be interested, that would be great. Soccer and tennis players in particular tend to make great badminton players. Badminton takes several years to learn so players who are able to start this year may not make the starting lineup but will almost certainly be there next year. Freshmen are great for the team.

Equipment

By instituting last year a \$10 per year contribution for uniforms I have been able to get new shirts once again this year and plan to get new shorts next year. So we are in very good shape for now. The team has good quality rackets but it is almost always better to have your own racket if you can afford it. Sportsmart at this time has a decent selection of quality rackets. You'll want indoor court shoes of some sort. I have a supply that I buy and resell at cost. Alternately any volleyball, indoor soccer, or similar shoe is fine. Just not running shoes.

Clinic In January

I have the Piner gym all day January 25th (Tuesday) for a clinic that will be run every period in order to introduce students to competitive badminton.

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Clearance Forms and Physicals

In order to join the team there is a clearance package that needs to be filled out. Until this is done I can't even let you practice. The time-consuming part of this is the sports physical- you need to get a physical and have the forms filled out by your doctor. And there are lots of forms. Hence it is critical that you get the clearance package from the health office and fill it out as soon as possible. Ideally turn it in at our next meeting so that you'll be all set to start practice in February.

Next Team Meeting -- **Tuesday January 25th** -- Bring Completed Clearance forms

Let's meet again January 25th after school. Before then I'd like everyone to get the word out and attract as many players as possible. We especially need freshmen.

Practice Starts February 7 – first competition in early March

As usual we play from early February through April then have playoffs in May. There's about 1 month of practice and 2 months of competition, including 14 in-league matches and as many out-of-league matches as I can arrange.

Schedule will be posted online – www.worldbadminton.com/piner

I use email and the web for most everything. When our schedule is set it and all other team information will be posted on our team's web page. During the season please read email regularly since that is my primary communications channel.

Sunday Badminton

Sunday badminton will resume as soon as possible.