

BADMINTON.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING — OF THE — BADMINTON ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual General Meeting was held at Armfield's Hotel on Feb. 27. In the absence of the President, Mr. P. Buckley, through illness, the chair was taken by Mr. C. Agnew Turner. After passing the accounts and balance-sheet for 1906-7, which disclosed a very satisfactory position of affairs, an amendment of Rule 6, proposed by Mr. C. Dudfield Willis, was considered, and passed as follows:—

Rule 6.—After "President" add "Vice-Presidents not exceeding three in number." The following words were also added to the Rule:—"Except in the case of retiring members, nominations duly proposed and seconded by two members of an affiliated club shall be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary at least twenty-one days before the Annual General Meeting."

The meeting then proceeded to elect the Committee for 1907-8, but decided not to fill up more than one of the posts of Vice-President provided for by the amendment of Rule 6 until next year. After scrutiny of the voting papers, the result of the election was declared as follows:—President, Mr. P. Buckley; Vice-President, Mr. G. W. Vidal; Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Dudfield Willis; Members, Messrs. T. L. Adams, E. P. Harrison, C. P. R. James, S. M. Massey, A. D. Prebble, G. A. Thomas, C. Agnew Turner, Ralph Watling, and Norman Wood, with one additional member to be elected by the Irish Badminton Union.

The following resolution, proposed by Mr. G. W. Vidal, was next discussed, and carried:—

"That a Sub-Committee be appointed to rearrange or revise the wording of the Rules and Laws of the Game, as may appear desirable or necessary, without altering the principle or intention of any Rule or Law; and with instructions to submit a Report with a copy of the Rules and Laws embodying their proposals to the Hon. Secretary of the Association, not later than July 1, 1907. The Committee to have powers to adopt or modify the proposals of the Sub-Committee."

Messrs. J. H. Hart, P. W. Taylor, and G. W. Vidal having signified their consent to serve on the Sub-Committee for the revision of the wording of the Rules and Laws, they were accordingly appointed, and several proposals standing in the name of Mr. Huggett for explanatory additions to Laws 7, 14, 21 and 23 were referred to the said Sub-Committee for disposal.

At the instance of the Hon. Secretary, Rule 13 was amended by adding the words "the All England" after "winners of," in order to make it clear that none but winners, past and present, of the A.E. Championships are entitled to wear the colours referred to.

On the motion of Mr. G. W. Vidal it was unani-

mously agreed to delete Laws 21, 22 and 23, relating to the six or eight-handed game.

Mr. Willis's proposal to add a proviso to Law 20 to the effect that in Ladies' Singles matches the game shall consist of 11 aces was also discussed and carried.

Mr. Massey's proposal to declare it to be a fault "if a player wilfully obstructs his opponents" led to a long discussion. It was ultimately put to the vote and declared to be carried, and will be incorporated in the revised laws as Law 10 (h).

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to Messrs. Buckley and Vidal for the presentation of challenge trophies for the All England Ladies' Championship Doubles, to Mr. Prebble for his long and valuable services as hon. secretary of the Association tournament, and to Mr. C. A. Turner for his able conduct in the chair.

Open Tournaments.

ALL ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The final match in the Men's Doubles Championship, which was postponed owing to failing light on March 2, was played at Bunhill Row on the 6th ult. The expectations of a close match were not realised, as although the losers came within an ace of winning the first game, they were unable to score more than four aces in the second.

FINAL.—A. D. Prebble and N. Wood bt S. M. Massey and F. Chesterton (17/16, 15/4).

SOUTH OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The annual meeting at the Crystal Palace for the South of England Championships took place on the 6th, 7th and 8th ult., play being limited to the afternoons. Six good courts were, as usual, marked out in the spacious centre transept. For daylight play these courts leave little to be desired, but the artificial lighting is unsuitable for night work, and at 6 p.m. on the third day it became necessary to play off the three unfinished matches in the better lighted courts of the Crystal Palace Club. With the exception of Mrs. Dudley Larcombe all the holders of the Championships defended their titles, the Men's Doubles being again won by Marrett and Thomas, and the Mixed Doubles by Marrett and Miss Hogarth. In the Ladies' Doubles Miss Lucas was also again successful, with Miss Murray as her partner in place of Mrs. Larcombe. After their recent victory in the All England Championship and at Richmond, it was hardly expected that any of the pairs entered would prove dangerous rivals. Miss Hogarth and Miss Bateman, however, who met them in the final, pressed the winners closely in the second game; and Miss Cundall and Miss Gowenlock showed greatly improved form in their match in the first round against Miss Hogarth and Miss Bateman.

In the Mixed Doubles Championship, as throughout the tournament, Marrett was once more at the top of his form, and had little difficulty in again securing, with Miss Hogarth, the handsome bronze