

# BEDFORD & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

(Affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association and the Bedfordshire Table Tennis Association)

## Annual General Meeting of the Bedford & District Table Tennis League

Elstow TTC, Playing Fields Pavilion, Elstow

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 8.00pm

### 1. Apologies for absence

The President, Russell Beard, Dave Thomas and Tim Bliss had sent their apologies.

### 2. Approval of previous minutes

The previous minutes were proposed as a true record by John Simms (Elstow) and seconded by Dennis Rogers (Southill). The minutes were agreed unanimously and then signed.

### 3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

### 4. Reports of officers

#### Chairman

David Beddall opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending and the Management Committee for completing another successful season.

#### Treasurer

Richard Lake presented the League accounts and Development accounts.

#### Main Account

##### **Payment and Receipts Account**

##### ***Income***

Increased registration fees as additional teams compared to previous season.

Annual tournament income also up, with hall hire down so increased surplus on this event.

Charity tournament income significantly up from £363.50 to £609. This is due to late money being banked from April 2017 tournament so effectively money from 3 tournaments banked in this financial year, but also that income from 2 held this year increased. We made a donation of £373.00 to Cancer Research this year in memory of Sandy Cordon. This year the donation will be split 50/50 between Sue Ryder at St Johns, Moggerhanger and Bedford Hospital Charity (latter will be at the request of the Copperwheat family who sponsor one of the tournaments).

##### ***Expenditure***

Trophies there has again been a considerable drop in the money spent on trophies this year where the amount has more than halved. Thanks must go to Ian Baldock who has made a sterling job of seeking the best deals.

Handbook further reduction in the cost of handbooks achieved this year.

##### ***Summary***

Surplus of £876.52 this compared to £186.50. I think this reflects the growing success of the league and the ability to keep costs under control.

##### **Development Account**

Looking at the Payment and Receipts Account receipts from coaching are slightly down from 2016-17 at £2,724.50. Payments for hire of Lincroft school for coaching were increased by nearly 50% in December 2016 and this has made a huge difference to our ability to operate the coaching. You can see that we ran a deficit of £4,767.50 for the year wiping out all the reserves. The league receive an income from Revolution who sub-let Lincroft. This was £3,310 this year – you will see nil for 2016-17 but this is more to do with when money is banked. Action is being taken regarding this deficit, more to follow in this AGM.

# BEDFORD & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

(Affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association and the Bedfordshire Table Tennis Association)

## Bank Account levels

Current	£2,222.52
Deposit	£4,895.07
Development	£79.70

The accounts were proposed to be accepted and unanimously agreed.

## Youth & Development Secretary

John Alsop reported on behalf of the resigning Secretary.

“The number of attendees this season for junior coaching has been disappointing. Monday evenings have continually declined and Tuesday evenings had not been as many as we had hoped. The plans for a junior division and President’s league also hadn’t developed as had been hoped. A lunchtime girl’s only session had been started at Lincroft and 50-63 girls were now attending so hopefully some will progress through into the afterschool sessions and ultimately club level. As mentioned earlier in the Treasurer’s report the increased cost at Lincroft has financially impacted us harshly and we should have responded quicker to the situation. As a partial solution to this and to ease the Treasurer’s work it has been decided that next season Revolution TTC will take over the running and operating costs of the junior coaching and the number of evenings will be halved.”

## Welfare Secretary

Barbara Wright reported that there had been no incidents this season.

## Fixtures Secretary

John Alsop read out Dave Thomas’s report.

“It has been a good season, with League membership figures significantly higher than in recent years and more matches played. Despite these increases, we have only had 2 matches cancelled due to player unavailability and 2 cases where teams played ineligible players. There were 2 instances where, due to exceptional circumstances, matches had to be rearranged outside the permitted timescales. Clubs in general have conformed to Rules 42b and 42c by registering players in order of expected playing standard. The odd exception to this has been with new players and I would urge clubs to look at the standard of all players when organising their team structures for next year. I would like to thank all clubs and teams for their participation in the League this season. I would also like to thank the Divisional Administrators for their hard work in putting results onto the website and resolving issues as they have arisen. There are still occasions where score cards are not filled in correctly but these instances have decreased with the introduction of the revised scorecard. The standard still needs to be maintained, or even improved, so I would ask teams to make sure that all their players are reminded of the correct procedures for next year. Applications for 2018-19 are now in, and 45 teams have been registered. The divisional structure is currently being reviewed. It is likely that the number of divisions will be reduced to 5 or even 4. This will be determined in the next week or two.”

## General Secretary

John Alsop reported.

“This season the committee met twice which was the same frequency as last season and although we would like to meet more often most of the issues were dealt with by email or phone by the various sub-committees. Unfortunately, the start of the season was not as smooth as I would have liked as the website was not fully operational for the league commencement and the handbooks were not available either although they were available to download. The website unavailability was caused by the timing of my holiday and the lack of an adequate connection back to my hosting company from the hotel. This will not happen this year and we have also decided to adopt TableTennis365 this coming season as the League website as it brings us into line with other leagues throughout the country. It also means that other committee members will be able to support the website when I am unavailable. This will require a little more set up time than usual for the start of the season but has some additional benefits when it is operational. Some of you are aware that in addition to the Bedford League I have additional table tennis commitments as Chairman at Revolution Table Tennis Club, as coach at Westfield Table Tennis Club in Wellingborough, as Match Secretary at Bedfordshire County Table Tennis Association and for the last eight years I have been an administrator for the National County Championships for Table Tennis England principally recording match results for the cadet and junior competitions and publishing these alongside the senior, veteran and Over 60 results on the national website. As Revolution has grown from four to now nine teams, many involving juniors, I have had to come to the realisation that something had to give. Therefore, I have relinquished the national role which will free up a lot of time both before and during the season. In addition, for reasons I will mention later we will not be running the junior coaching or the Revolution club during August. I, therefore, feel we will be in a good position to commence the start of next season with a fresh new website and handbooks. I thank the committee and players for their patience this season and my thanks also go to Doug Folds and Kempston Hammers for providing their premises at no charge for our committee meetings. I hope in line with the current theme from last night you all achieve your goals for next season with no penalties involved.”

# BEDFORD & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

(Affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association and the Bedfordshire Table Tennis Association)

## Tournament

John Alsop reported.

"There were 32 entrants this year which was down from last year. Divisions 3-6 were all won by juniors which I think is a first and demonstrates the League is in a strong position for the future. The main competitions were won by Elstow's Liz May who won the Ladies competition with Yvonne Freer runner-up where Elstow provided all of the ladies and Richard Elliott beat Steve Silk in an entertaining, 12-10 in the fifth, final."

## Charity Competitions

The charity competitions were a major success this year with an excellent turnout for both competitions and some great matches. The first tournament was won by Joe Peckham with Colin Luscombe taking the Plate competition beating John Simms in the final and the continually improving Peckham also won the second tournament with Jaroslav Chrzanowski winning the Plate.

## Press

John Alsop reported.

"Due to other commitments I didn't feature weekly articles in the Times & Citizen this season but we did manage to promote an England Player Table Tennis Exhibition at Lincroft in the Times & Citizen which resulted in 100+ attendees. The lack of articles doesn't seem to have held back on the continued growth of table tennis in the area."

## Trophy Secretary

Ian Baldock reported.

"When I undertook this position I expected the challenge to be organising the correct individual mementos on time and engraving the perpetual trophies, but whilst I experienced financial challenges surrounding keeping these at cost effective levels, I hadn't expected the amount of detective work required to find where the perpetual trophies were actually collecting dust and the fact that the person who took the trophy away from a presentation wasn't necessarily in possession of it anymore, or, as in three cases, the perpetual had never actually been presented! That said, the lesson learnt for the coming season will be to try to get them back earlier than I did this year. Those who were lucky enough to win a trophy this year will have seen that I have reverted to the "traditional" styles with League Logo centres and standard colour schemes per event. I also managed to reinstate miniature plates for the finalists of the Smith Cup Plate competition. I would welcome any feedback from winners about if they liked them or would prefer to see something else, subject to cost of course. Almost all the perpetual trophies are now up to date, the exceptions being the Tournament silverware, two of which are still with a Birmingham silversmith for repair. Apologies to winners of the Tournament events because their engraving was delayed while a complete package was negotiated and then accidentally overlooked by the engraver who was awaiting the supply of replacement shields and the return of the damaged trophies. I am reliably informed that I should have everything (including repairs) back by next Friday. Unfortunately perpetual trophies are more difficult to engrave and consequently more expensive to do due to their curved surface but whilst Timpsons charge £18 per line I managed to find a local locksmith who is doing the job for £6 each, but it is still a hefty bill when you need more than 20 lines. In closing, I must thank the Hon. Secretary for his assistance and guidance, particularly for pointing me in the direction of a very competitive supplier and for challenging the cost of engraving, thereby, keeping me on my toes and obtaining the best deals possible."

## 5. Bedfordshire Table Tennis Association

John Alsop reported.

"This season at junior level we entered two county cadets teams involving three boys and two girls in each team and a junior team. Although I had high hopes of winning the cadet division after the first weekend we were hit by the lack of availability of our top three players and three of our girls, one of which is No. 8 in the England cadets whilst only thirteen. Thanks to those players who stepped in to fill the gap and to their supportive parents who had to travel once to Southampton and twice to Wiltshire this year. Our cadet first team ended up fifth and the second team in eighth position. Next season I have decided to only enter one cadet team. The junior team finished in sixth position. Similarly, our senior 1st team were leading the division after the first weekend but due to one of the player's wives giving birth during the second round of matches and then two injuries we played with a vastly depleted team and finished in seventh position. The veteran 1st and 2nd teams were in the same division this year and both were fighting to avoid relegation in an extremely competitive division. A win against the second team meant that the 1st team avoided demotion whilst the 2nd team will have to make the drop next season. Whilst the youngsters were all struggling with injuries and sickness the Over 60's team had their best season ever and finished in third position.

## 6. Election of officers

The President, Russell Beard, had offered to continue in the role. Alan Thompson (Kempston) proposed Russell Beard and Ian Baldock (Revolution) seconded the proposal. This was unanimously agreed.

John Simms (Elstow) proposed David Beddall as Chairman and this was seconded by Mo Duncan (Marston) and unanimously agreed.

# BEDFORD & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

(Affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association and the Bedfordshire Table Tennis Association)

John Alsop (Revolution) proposed Ian Baldock as Vice Chairman and this was seconded by Roger Honey (Stevington) and unanimously agreed.

It was proposed by Ian Baldock (Revolution) that all the officers who had agreed to stand again be voted en-bloc. This was seconded by Alan Thompson (Kempston) and unanimously agreed.

John Alsop was proposed by Ian Baldock as Coaching and Youth Secretary, seconded by Alan Thomson and agreed unanimously.

John Alsop was proposed by John Simms as Development Secretary, seconded by Alan Thomson and agreed unanimously.

John Alsop was proposed by Barbara Wright as Press Secretary, seconded by Chris Nicol and agreed unanimously.

Tim Thomas (Phoenix) volunteered to join the Management Committee. This was proposed to the meeting by Alan Walden, seconded by Ian Baldock (Revolution) and agreed unanimously.

## 2018/19 Season Officers:

President				R Beard
Vice Presidents	J Alsop	R Lake	B Mason	D Thomas
Chairman				D Beddall
Vice Chairman				I Baldock
Hon. General Secretary				J R Alsop
Hon. Treasurer				R Lake
Hon. Tournament Secretary				J R Alsop
Hon. Fixture Secretary				D Thomas
Hon. Assistant Fixture Secretary				R Lake
Hon. Coaching & Youth Secretary				J Alsop
Hon. Trophy Secretary				I Baldock
Hon. Development Secretary				J Alsop
Hon. Press Secretary				J Alsop
Hon. Welfare Secretary				B Wright
Other Management Committee	T Thomas	J Simms	D J Folds	M Harper

## 7. Appointment of Hon. Auditors

John Alsop (Revolution) proposed Alan Walden, seconded by Tim Thomas (Phoenix) and unanimously agreed.

## 8. Rule Propositions

Amendment to Rule 30 (Proposed by the Kempston Boys Brigade) that for Divisions 1 to 4 matches shall start by 7.30pm and for Divisions 5 and 6 matches shall start at 6.30pm except where mutually agreed by the two clubs. Proposed by A Thompson (Kempston BB), seconded by J Simms (Elstow). Defeated by 8 votes to 3.

## 9. Doug Ayres Merit Award

The General Secretary reported.

“When I first met this gentleman little did I think that he would become the cornerstone of table tennis development at grass roots level. His contribution to junior, senior and disability development at St Neots and at Lincroft Academy is hugely appreciated. Not only does he do this weekly without being asked but he also volunteers to help at League events such as the annual tournament to help prepare the venue. Constantly coming up with new initiatives he is always challenging himself and has progressed from a Level 1 coach to a Level 2 coach and is on the waiting list to advance his development to a Level 3 coach. The Management Committee would like to present this season’s Doug Ayres Merit Award to Phil Crossley.”

## 10. Presentation of Trophies to Divisional Winners & Runners Up

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>ONE</u>	<u>TWO</u>	<u>THREE</u>
Winner	Revolution A	Kempston BB A	Phoenix B
Runner Up	Elstow A	Marston	Revolution C

  

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>FOUR</u>	<u>FIVE</u>	<u>SIX</u>
Winner	Southill D	Revolution E	Revolution I
Runner Up	Revolution D	Bedford CTTC C	Southill F