

## **Blackmore Vale Table Tennis League**

### **2022 Annual General Meeting**

Venue : Child Okeford Village Hall  
Date : Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022  
Attendees : Keith Anthony (KA), Tony Hibben (TH), Barrie Waterman (BM),  
Bridget Vallance (BV) Mike Williams (MW), Nick Smith (NS),  
Chris Watkins (CW), Benji Maxwell (BM), Dave Chalk (DC), Jim Scard (JS),  
Tom Scard (TS), Simon Crichton (SC), Stuart Angell (SA),  
Russell Haddon (RH), Martin Jones (MJ), Sue Boddington (SB),  
Kay Proctor (KP).

KA welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting.

1. Apologies

Received from Simon Cutler, Dave Beare, Peter Jones.

2. Minutes of 2021 AGM

BW advised that the Team Handicap final was not played as agreed by Stalbridge A and Compton E captains, so the trophy was shared. The report was reviewed and agreed by attendees.

3. Matters Arising

DTTA Affiliation. TH advised this matter was resolved and further details would follow.

4. Chairman's Report

KA felt the season had gone well after the long break. Players seemed to have enjoyed matches again and he was looking forward to next season

5. Secretary Report

Following last years AGM, the need for our league to affiliate with Dorset TT Association was examined. It was revealed that if we discontinued, players would not have personal insurance cover via Table Tennis England membership, when playing matches. Consequently, fees were paid, but it was made clear that leagues expected something in return from the DTTA for their contributions.

Subsequently, I attended several DTTA online Zoom meetings during the season. These proved to be very effective and convenient, avoiding the need for travel. Our Stalbridge junior team was of great interest to DTTA, and they subsequently paid for a professional coach to run a Saturday morning session in January at Stalbridge for the juniors. This was attended by juniors from Broad Chalk to bolster numbers. Andy Miller from Weymouth also identified events that could provide more experience playing with other county juniors.

Grant applications to TTE and Sport England were submitted to provide improved equipment for the junior club. Sadly, these have both been unsuccessful, but the club has since been able to borrow a robot from the Yeovil league. We need to keep the provision of equipment on our agenda to help player/club development.

A proposal to run an “Inter League Cup” competition, with two teams from each local league, was welcomed by the DTTA members. Even better, they opted to hold this at Stalbridge, given the rising junior club numbers. This event would also enable improved engagement within the county leagues. However, despite my requests to Team Captains, and Keith cajoling some players, our league could not confirm sufficient numbers in time so the event was cancelled. For me, this was very disappointing, as I had put together the proposed format for this event.

The county association seem keen to develop engagement with local leagues going forward. For this to work, we shall need more people from our league to be ready to partake. As an example, Bridget Vallance represented our league when playing for the county Vets team. I am sure other players would be eligible if they wanted.

It is good to have completed a full season after the pandemic. But, for many years now we have been concerned about diminishing player numbers. Stalbridge juniors playing a 2nd season, a new team at Child Okeford are highlights, but we need more people to do more, and not rely on the few who oversee the league. Player recruitment of all ages must still be a priority to sustain our numbers.

#### 6. Treasurer Report

KA advised that a statement was not available as yet. This will be supplied in due course.

#### 7. Match & Press (& Registration) Secretary Report

##### Match

BW advised that apart from a number of postponements the league was finally completed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April.

##### Division 1

##### Winners

Stalbridge A	461 points		
R/U	Compton SAS A	457 points.	
Top Averages	Alan Henwood	played 15	100%
	Benji Maxwell	played 53	92.45%
	Chris Watkins	played 53	90.57%

##### Division 2

##### Winners

R/U	CV Nightjars	391 points	
Top Averages	Child Okeford D	389 points.	
	Brett Sanders	played 35	94.29%
	John Hutton	played 33	93.94%
	Jessica Fitzpatrick	played 33	93.33%

The Team Handicap was won by Stalbridge Juniors beating Compton E 5-4.

##### Press

The sports editor of the new Blackmore Vale magazine is giving us a better coverage, the league tables have now been published every 2 weeks, so they are running behind.

The team Handicap final was published on the 15<sup>th</sup> April with photo, and article Ping Pong 4U by Tony and myself was published on the 29<sup>th</sup> April with no photo (no space available). The wording was somewhat changed but overall it had the desired effect. (I have received no response from this as yet). The final league table was published on 14<sup>th</sup> May with photo of the Division 1 champions.

The Gillingham news have shown interest in covering table tennis again, they have published Ping Pong 4U written word for word as sent, I have also sent our final league tables. Committee members and captains have received an email from me explaining the online access.

#### Club Payments (Winners and Runners Up)

Stalbridge	£110
Compton	£70
Child Okeford	£45
Chalk Valley	£30
East Stour	£30

#### Registration

BW requested that next season all registration forms are returned fully completed, and payment will be made directly to the Treasurer as noted on the form, and before the said date on the form. New players DOB required.

Postponements will be at BW approval, and abide with the handbook. If agreed the replay will be within 28 days, I will then advise the date to be played by. If not by that date the team at fault will concede the game and 30 points will go to the opposing team.

#### 8. Tournament Secretary Report

CW advised that tournaments were held on 3 Sundays during the season. Tended to be the same small selection of players entering in proportion to the overall number, but that said all went well overall. SB mentioned that one of the days conflicted with Mothers Day. CW acknowledged and would look at alternatives.

#### 9. Election of Officers

The following were duly proposed/confirmed by attendees.

Chairman	Keith Anthony
Vice Chairman	Simon Cutler
Secretary	Tony Hibben
Treasurer	Simon Crichton
M&P Secretary	Barrie Waterman
Tournament Sec.	Chris Watkins
Registration Sec.	Barrie Waterman
Executive Members	Stuart Angell
	Jim Scard
	Tom Scard
	Russell Haddon
	Nigel Bastable

CW advised that he had taken over role of Website Administrator. It would make sense if he took on the Registration role, to save issues with paper passed between roles. BW asked was keen to retain registration role so would look at videos to see

what was needed to register players/teams.

10. League Fees.

KA proposed that player/team fees should remain unchanged, without a financial statement there was adequate funds and an increase would not be warranted. This was seconded by BM.

11. Proposed Rule/Handbook Changes

14. Playing Regulations.

a) 1.1 Membership and Regulations (CW)

**REMOVE** – the figures for team/player charges and state they will be set at the AGM.

AGREED.

b) 1.2 Membership and Regulations (CW)

**ADD** - The Committee reserve the right to re-order the teams as nominated by the club if it is clear that the nominated order is not in descending order of strength.

AGREED.

1.3 Membership and Regulations (CW)

**REMOVE** – No more than 6 players may be registered for any one team during the seasons. (Also affects 1.5)

AGREED.

1.3 Membership and Regulations. (CW)

**REMOVE** – the ability of Div 1 players to play down for a lower team in the club.

Note - Flexibility required for Div 2 players to play up/down.

AGREED.

1.3 Membership and Regulations. (CW)

**AMEND** – increase the number of times an individual can play up to 6 occasions.

AGREED.

1.8 Playing Regulations (BW & CW)

**ADD** - if a team has only one registered team player and one reserve, the reserve can play in the doubles and the score will count.

AGREED.

2. Promotion & Relegation (BW)

**REMOVE** "and subject to the willingness of that team or teams."

AGREED.

3.9 Match Organisation (CW)

**ADD** – a match may only be postponed to a later date with the prior consent of the Match Secretary.

AGREED.

**ADD** – If a postponement is agreed then the team requesting the postponement will be automatically deducted 9 points, unless the postponement is due to circumstances beyond their control such as bad weather, loss of venue or Government intervention. Lack of availability of players will not normally constitute "circumstances beyond their control".

REJECTED.

**AMEND** - Where a match is postponed, the rearranged match must be played within the time period specified by the Match Secretary, who must be advised of the revised date as

soon as possible. The home team must offer at least two alternative dates.

REJECTED.

This was discussed and an increase to the number of Catchup Weeks within the season was agreed. Furthermore, this would replace the play within 28 days, and a postponed match would now be played in the next catchup week.

AGREED.

#### 3.10 Match Organisation. (CW)

**AMEND** - In the event that the match cannot be rearranged within the time limit set by the Match Secretary, the Committee reserve the right to award the fixture 30-0 against the team that requested the postponement. The 9 point deduction will still stand in addition to this.

REJECTED.

#### 3.12 Match Organisation. (CW)

**AMEND** - If a home team needs to change their home venue or night from the one listed in the handbook then the opposing captain must be notified at least 48 hours before the earlier of the original or new fixture date, and the Match Secretary should also be informed.

REJECTED.

#### 15. Team Handicap (CW)

**ADD** - substitutes are not permitted in the handicap cup.

AGREED.

Notes Page

**ADD** – League website for reference. (BW)

AGREED.

#### xx. Fixtures

**New (3.13)** – All teams should play Home and Away excepting the youth team unless agreed on an individual basis. (SB)

AGREED.

Note – Agreed regulation changes will be applied in the next handbook by TH.  
CW will include extra catchup weeks in the fixture schedule.

#### 12. Life Members

BW proposed that Les Whittaker and Dave Turner be added to the list.

AGREED.

#### 13. Divisional League Cup Competition.

TH proposed to run the new cup competition next season. This was ready for the end of 2019 season, but postponed due to the pandemic. Teams in each division would be entered into a draw of knockout matches, each of 6 singles and 3 doubles. The winners of the final for Div 1 and Div 2 would be awarded trophies in honour of Malcolm Penney.

> This would be revisited at the Registration meeting.

#### 14. AOB

a) League Setup. SA advised that Stalbridge intend to enter 2 junior teams next season and whether it would be worth running 2 divisions first, then 3 divisions after Xmas.

> This would be revisited at the Registration meeting.

b) Junior Teams. SA queried whether other teams would have issue with 2 junior teams playing home matches only. Issue was exacerbated when TS announced that Broad Chalk also intend to enter a junior team.

> Options were discussed, but no solution found and this will be an issue for the Division 2 teams.

c) Robot Trainer. SC queried whether the league would contribute towards a robot that could be used by the juniors/other clubs.

> KA felt a donation could be made.

d) TT Balls. BW suggested that the league all the same brand of TT Balls.

> discussed and rejected.

e) Gus Dear. TH advised the meeting that sadly Gus had recently passed. Gus was instrumental at GYC in getting youngsters into the league, notably DeanH and KarlK.

f) TTE proposals

TH raised TTE proposals on behalf of SC. At AGM in mid July TTE propose to increase senior member to £20 and junior to £10. Then to increase by upto £2 annually for next 5 years. Currently requires members to approve, but TTE also want to have the final say (control), in accordance with Code of Sports Governance.

## 15. Next Meeting

Preparations for next season discussed, requested that season start earlier than last. KA explained that pandemic had affected plans.

A start date of early September (w/c 12<sup>th</sup>) was set, so the following actions need to take place :

1. **Registration Forms** need to be issued mid July and returned before 31<sup>st</sup> July.
2. **Setup meeting** can then be held on 1<sup>st</sup> August to decide structure etc.
3. **Fixtures** need to be confirmed by 15<sup>th</sup> August.
4. Updated **Handbook** to goto printers by 22<sup>nd</sup> August.
5. **Meeting** on 5<sup>th</sup> September to distribute handbooks etc.
6. Week 1 w/c 12<sup>th</sup> September.

There were no more matters for discussion, the meeting concluded with the presentation of awards for last season.