

Minutes of the Bury St. Edmunds Table Tennis Club Annual General Meeting (AGM) held at King Edwards School on Thursday 12th May 2016 at 6.30pm.

18 Club Members attended (7 Juniors and 11 Adults). This included existing Committee Members.

The Chairman opened the meeting and explained the format of the AGM.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from David Unwin, Alan Brafield, Andrew, Debbie & Lewis Howell, Rory & Kathy McEniry-Brash, Matthew Jones and Martin O'Leary.

2. Minutes of the 2015 AGM

The Secretary had previously circulated the Minutes and the meeting agreed them as a true record.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman said his report was again similar to previous years. He stated that the Club still offered weekly Junior and Senior sessions, entered teams in the Bury St. Edmunds & District Table Tennis League and various junior leagues and events. The Club also held its own Junior and Adult tournaments as well as an "Open" Hard bat tournament.

There were some new initiatives to report from the season:

- The Club Committee has agreed a new logo and this is shown on the AGM Agenda and will be used in all future correspondence and on our Club shirts.
- Refreshments had been served at both the Junior finals evening and this AGM. The Club had also been made refreshments available to the SCBJTTL events. This is the first time since the Club has been located at King Edwards School that refreshments have been arranged. This helps bring Club Members and parents together and improves the Club atmosphere.
- The current Club shirts are now only available in certain sizes as this is an "end of line" range. The Club is in the process of arranging for a new style shirt to be produced. The Chairman thought that, whilst players like new kit, perhaps parents would not be so happy. The Club

is looking at a bespoke shirt this time so there will be no “end of line” issues.

Turning to recruitment of new Members, the Chairman said that there had been increases in both junior and adult members the Club still needed more members to remain financially viable. Membership is key to the Club and enables future development. Additional League teams would help improve the financial position.

The Club pays £18.50 per hour for the King Edwards School Lower Hall and this will probably increase for 2016/17 season. In comparison with other Clubs in the area this is a high cost. The Club therefore needs enough Members and Casual players to cover this and other costs. However, the school is good to the Club allowing use of the kitchen facilities and other events to be held in the School e.g. SCBJTTL and League events. The Club does receive a limited income from these events.

In terms of competitive successes, the Club has not “set the world alight” but has had a steady year. All the juniors were contributing and showing overall improvement.

The Chairman reiterated that new members were a key component for invigorating the Club going forward. The Committee are not getting any younger and we need new juniors coming through and then keeping them playing as adults. Whilst the Club finances are reasonably secure a loss had been made in this financial year as the Treasurer would report.

The Chairman hoped that the meeting thought the Club Committee were doing what was required to maintain and develop the Club.

Finally, the Chairman thanked the Club Committee for all their work during the season and particularly the Secretary. Terry Thompson had taken on the role as Treasurer and this would be his first annual financial statement report. Special thanks were given to Mick Palmer for his coaching sessions and Jacqui Davis for arranging and serving refreshments and holding a very successful raffle at the Junior finals evening.

4. Treasurer’s Report and presentation of Accounts to 31st March 2016

A copy of the Clubs’ financial statements was handed to Members present.

The Treasurer explained that, whilst the accounts showed a loss of £2,142.06 for the financial year, this was not a true picture because a termly payment

for the hire of the hall for the Spring Term 2015 of £1,975.75 was not paid until the after April 2015 therefore falling in this year's (2015/16) accounts. Overall the Club's income had increased by £800 this financial year. The Club has also purchased a new table and equipment at a cost of £835.00. There was also some income due/paid after the end of the financial year amounting to £1084.00. There was an outstanding debt of £888.50 for the second half of the spring term ending before end of March 2016. The donations made from refreshments and a raffle organised by Jacqui Davis were a welcome addition to Club funds.

Taking all of the above into account the Treasurer felt that, with the probability of new adult and junior members and the possibility of additional League teams, the Club was in a reasonable financial position and would not need to increase fees for next season. The Club Committee would, however, keep this under review.

The Treasurer said that the Accounts would be sent to the Club's new Auditor, Martin O'Leary, for Auditing.

The Chairman said the financial was acceptable but not rock solid. Again Membership numbers were the key to this.

5. Membership Secretary's Report

The membership secretary reported membership levels and attendance and Coach Attendance as follows:

Adult Members	15
Junior Members	14
Average Attendance Adults	9.25
Average Attendance Juniors	9.35

The Membership Secretary also reported that a number of new players coming to sessions at the end of the season had indicated they wanted to join the Club and play in our League teams.

6. Coaching Report

Junior member numbers peaked at 15 this season we have had a very committed and enthusiastic group of around 12 players for most of the season. Two attend on a "casual" basis".

I'm never quite sure where to place this next bit, at the start or end of the report, as I don't want to take anything away from the effort our juniors make every week at the coaching sessions and in the various leagues and tournaments. I've opted for the start of the report this year so the coaches must say a big thank you to parents again this season for their great support of both their offspring and the Club. As we have said a number of times the junior section of the Club only works if we have good parental support. It has also been very beneficial to have Jacqui Davis, PJ's Mum, on the Committee even though I did seem to arrange Committee Meetings on their family's birthdays and other events.

The juniors have had another busy season as summarised here.

COACHING SESSIONS

The sessions have been varied and this season aimed mainly at improving consistency in shots, footwork and agility. Mick Palmer has delivered 15 sessions for us this year and his influence and coaching expertise is certainly paying dividends for our players, who are all improving albeit at different rates. The Club are most grateful to Mick for his considerable commitment at every session he delivers. As coaches Mick, Tim and I would like to see our juniors improve even more and show their dedication to the sport by entering as many Leagues and tournaments as possible. This is how they become better players. We can only coach them to play the game They need to put this into practice in competitive situations themselves. We acknowledge that some already do but we would like to see more do so as they achieve the level of ability they need to enter the various competitions.

CLUB TOURNAMENT

This was probably the most successful tournament we have had for many years and, for the third year running, we held finals evening and invited parents along. The finals were all closely contested and had great support from those juniors not playing in finals and many parents. Mick Palmer presented the winners and runners-up with their trophies and certificates.

A massive thanks go to Jacqui Davis for serving refreshments and running a raffle which helped boost Club funds. Also thanks to those who made cakes and donated raffle prizes.

Boys Singles

Winner – Sam Taylor

R/U – Lewis Howell

Girls Singles

Winner – Jessica Barrett

R/U – Jo-Jo Jessop

Consolation Singles

Winner – Matthew Jones

R/U – Alex Jones

14 & Under

Winner – Rory McEniry

R/U – PJ Davis

Over 15

Winner – Sam Taylor

R/U – Lewis Howell

Handicap

Winner – Sam Taylor

R/U – Ben Allum

Doubles

Winners – Sam Taylor/Ben Allum
Shepherd

R/U – Rory McEniry/Noah Sparkes-

It was also good to see juniors take part in the Adult tournament again. Sam and Rory also played in the Club's Hard Bat tournament last week and hopefully enjoyed the experience.

BSETTL

Rory, Matthew, Alex and PJ represented the Club's Commandoes team in the 2-Player division of the Bury League. The team came 4th out of 5 in the Standard League and 5th out of 5 in the Handicap League, exactly the same as last season. All players gave of their best with mixed success.

Saffrons Shield

PJ Davis and Rory McEniry did exceptionally well to reach the semi-finals of the League's Saffrons Shield tournament only losing out to the unplayable spin of Terry Thompson, from the Club's Crusaders team.

SCBJTTL

Two teams were entered for this League again and all the players seemed to enjoy the matches. This was the first experience of competitive play for some of the juniors and was a good first league experience. Bloodhounds included a player from Gazeley in their team so he could play in the League and they finished 4th out of 5 in a competitive Division 1. Bulldogs also finished 4th out

of 5 in Division 2. Those juniors taking part for the first time improved as the League progressed. Special mention must go to Jess for winning one match and her tenacity during all her games. Additionally, the Club entered a joint team with Gazeley TTC in Division 2 to ensure all players who wanted to play in this League could do so. Gazbury Gnats included Rory from BSETTC and they took the Division 2 title in convincing style winning all of their 8 matches.

NJL/NCL

Again the Club did not have enough interest or players to enter teams in the National Junior or National Cadet Leagues. However, Sam made a number of guest appearances in the NJL for Rougham TTC who were unable to field full teams for some matches.

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

There were no entries from Club juniors for this tournament

NORFOLK/SUFFOLK TRAINING SQUAD

Aad Kwakkelstein again offered the Club spaces in the Norfolk/Suffolk training squad at Stowmarket on a Tuesday evening. Sam attended but the criteria set by Aad in that he had to attend every week made it impossible for Sam with his other commitments. This offer is still open to the better junior players but requires considerable commitment and does clash with Commandoes home match evening.

ROUGHAM HALF-TERM CAMPS

The Club has taken up a good number of spaces at these camps kindly offered by Rougham TTC. A number of juniors have attended and enjoyed a good day of Table Tennis coached by Mick Palmer, Maurice Fearn, and myself.

The next camp is on 1st June during half-term the Club is waiting for juniors to state if they want to attend. This needs to be done this evening.

GOING FORWARD

We have 6 more junior sessions, the last being on Thursday 30th June. Mick will be taking three of these sessions. Tim, Mick and I hope to see all this year's group back in September and, although it has been encouraging to welcome a number of new junior members this year we still need new members each season to continue with the progression of juniors through the Club. At least two of our older juniors only have next season before they move to the adult sessions at age 18.

You will note that from the various competitions and opportunities already reported that we don't work in isolation and there are various Clubs in Suffolk which offer opportunities to play TT. Whilst all juniors, at whichever Club, must show commitment to their "home" Club they can practice at other Clubs on a casual basis if they wish.

Now to our annual plea! Any parent who could help with the administration of the junior session e.g. keeping the notice board up to date, checking nets and tables for damage will be very welcome – come and chat to Tim and/or myself. Anyone interested in helping with the coaching will also be very welcome.

Please spread the word around friends, schools, businesses that new members will be welcomed. Tim or I or any of the Committee are more than happy to speak to anyone who is interested in joining.

Finally, we hope all the juniors have enjoyed the coaching and competitive play. Improvement can only happen if they take the opportunities offered and getting as much "table time" as possible.

7. Election of Officers.

The Secretary thanked the Chairman for his work with the Club over the season and Tim Jolly confirmed that he would stand again next season. The results of the elections are shown below.

The Chairman thanked the Secretary for the range of tasks that he undertook for the Club and also Terry Thompson for his work in his first year as Club Treasurer.

The Chairman also thanked David Unwin, the Team and Hall Administration Secretary, for helping make his and the Treasurer's jobs easier.

OFFICER	NOMINEE	PROPOSED BY	SECONDED BY	CARRIED Y/N
Chairman	Tim Jolly	Silvia Rodriguez-Ferrera Massons	Shelley Barrett	YES
Secretary	John Waters	Tim Jolly	Jacqui Davis	YES
Treasurer	Terry Thompson	Goran Gelevski	Sam Taylor	YES
Membership	Terry Thompson	Alex Jones	Jessica	YES

Secretary			Barrett	
Team Administrator	David Unwin	Goran Gelevski	Sam Taylor	YES
Child Protection Officer	John Waters	Appointed by the Club Committee		
Committee Members	Goran Gelevski Andrew Howell <i>Joint Members:</i> Jacqui/PJ Davis;	Tim Jolly	Mike Jones	YES

8. Presentation of Awards

The Chairman presented the Club Member of the year awards as below commenting that these awards were presented to those Club Members who the Committee felt had gone above and beyond that expected of them and also who showed exceptional commitment to the Club.

Club Members of the Year:

Junior – Sam Taylor

Senior – Alan Brafield

9. Any Other Business

- No amendments to the Club's rules had been put forward therefore no discussion about the Club's constitution was required at the AGM.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.30pm

These minutes were agreed as a true record of the 2016 AGM by the members at the 2017 AGM and duly signed by the Chairman.

Signed:

T. JOLLY (Chairman)

Date:

Notes of an Open Meeting which followed on from the Annual General Meeting on 12th May 2016.

- Shelley Barrett asked if the Club had thought about being involved in the ASDA charity tokens scheme. The Chairman said this had been mentioned in the past but no action taken. **Shelley said she would research this for the Club.**
- The Chairman said the Club were actively looking at other venues for the Club due to the cost of the hall hire at King Edwards. He was waiting for a response from Bury St. Edmunds Cricket Club/South Lees School. Jacqui Davis and Jana Kreckova thought Horringer Village Hall might be a possibility. **Jana said she would check out the facilities and cost.** The Secretary said he was rather wary of an “out of town” venue following the issues the Club at whilst based at Culford. The Secretary said that the Moreton Hall Community Centre had been considered in the recent past but they did not have the availability of nights the Club needed.
- There was a discussion about the need for more qualified Club coaches. The Secretary agreed that there was a great need but prospective coaches were put off by the amount of work required to achieve the coach licence, the need for regular attendance at various essential courses e.g. First Aid, Safeguarding and the cost.
- The Secretary showed the meeting various styles of a proposed new Club Shirt and asked them to say which one they preferred. These were bespoke styles at a cost of £23.00 for adult sizes and £20 for juniors. The Committee would agree the final style in time for next season.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the AGM and contributing to the discussion.