**Minutes of the Chalfonts & District Table Tennis League**

**Held Monday 21st November 2016 at Coppermine, Mill Lane, Chalfont St Giles HP8 4NX**

**Present** Stefan Konig (Acting Chair), Hazel Williamson,Richard Cottle, Peter Leckie Jnr, David Morgan.

1. **Apologies**

* Apologies received from Bob Baines, Nigel Naylor-Smith, Chris Lee, Derek Hughes, Steve Brown.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

* The October minutes were confirmed as an accurate record and duly approved.

1. **Matters Arising – Review of Outstanding Actions**

**Oct A1 - Complete TTE annual return –** NNShad confirmed by email that that this had been done online, with no further follow-up required. NNS nominated himself as the mandatory Welfare Officer for the league that is now apparently a requirement for TTE.

**Oct A2 - Report to be produced focussing on initial weeks of play for submission to press – target date 28/10/16 –** target date not achieved, butRC produced a hard copy report for onward transmission to the local press that provides a round-up of the opening weeks of the season. The aim will be to produce this monthly, going forward. HW will forward a soft copy to local press contacts.

**Oct A3 - Treasurer to send out invoices for advertising revenue. Treasurer to liaise with Championship Secretary to obtain income and expenditure details relating to September ‘Fun Tournament’** – SK confirmed this had been done. £90 had been paid for hall hire compared to income of £60. Overall a £30 deficit was considered a good outcome for the tournament.

**Oct A4 - Website to be updated (if possible) to detail Inter League Secretary** – HW confirmed this had been done.

**Oct A5 - Establish if Harefield venue can be secured in line with League budget for March 2017 Championships –** RC advised that Harefield had quoted a cost of £460, which is too expensive, available budget for hall hire being in the region of £350. A 10% discount has been offered at this stage. RC advised that if he could not negotiate a price of £350 then he would find a sponsor to cover off the difference. It was confirmed that the Hillingdon venue would be cheaper, but toilet and catering facilities were not considered to be satisfactory. However, in time for the 2018 championships Hillingdon should have access to new school facilities at the Girls’ Grammar, so hopefully this will provide an alternative next season. SK suggested that entry fees will need to be revisited, and ideally the League should look to make a profit on catering. RC advised that additional revenue should be generated from the Junior League tournament that will be run on the day through entry fees, e.g. £2 each from potential 20/30 children.

**Oct A6** - **Fairbank Cup sub-committee to be formed and draw to be prepare ahead of next meeting** – see below.

**Oct A7 - September approved minutes to be loaded onto Website –** HW confirmed this had been done.

1. **Fairbank Cup Draw**

* DM arranged the first and second round draw for the Fairbanks Cup. This was as follows;-

Round 1

1. Denham Village C vs Chalfont D
2. Denham Village A vs Rickmansworth A
3. Chalfont B vs Chalfont C
4. Denham Village G vs Hillingdon A

* The remaining 12 teams received a bye to Round 2.

Round 2

1. Winner Match 1 to play winner Match 2
2. Winner Match 3 to play winner Match 4
3. Denham Village J vs Hillingdon B
4. St Joseph’s vs Denham Village F
5. Denham Village D vs Stoke Poges
6. Hillingdon C vs Ickenham URC
7. Denham Village B vs Rickmansworth B
8. Denham Village E vs Chalfont A

* Date of the first round is week commencing 9/1/2017. Handicaps now need to be worked out. DM will contact James Johnson who will form part of the sub-committee. DM is unsure if Derek Hughes will be able to assist given personal commitments. SK asked how quickly the handicaps could be set. DM advised that players should ideally have played 3 matches prior to Christmas to qualify for a handicap but exceptions could be made with a viable case and it is rare for a player not to be assigned a handicap. It was agreed that teams will be notified immediately following the setting of the handicaps and the information will be made available on the website. Team captains will be emailed in addition for dissemination to team members. Target date for this to be concluded is mid-December.

1. **League Status**

* HW confirmed the league remained in good shape, with 20 teams comprising 109 players (90 seniors / 19 juniors). SK queried if all players had been registered – HW confirmed this to be the case, with no new players having been registered recently. There were currently 6 postponements. There had been no reported complaints or disagreements, which is excellent news. RC stated that the divisions looked very close this year. HW advised that Chalfont B are struggling to get a team out on occasion as they also play in Wycombe League and only have 4 registered players. HW will speak to the team captain to try and reach a resolution.

1. **Publicity**

* Addressed via report already provided – see Action Point **Oct A2** above.

1. **Championships – Competition Discussion**

* The League Championships will take place Sunday 5/3/17. SK confirmed that James Johnson has kindly offered his assistance in helping to organise once again. Chris Lee will progress this as Championship Secretary – SK proposed that the sub-committee needs to be formed and a meeting held prior to Christmas, to comprise CL, SK, HW and James Johnson. However, with the championships being held earlier in the season there is less time to make the necessary arrangements this year. The hall cost still needs to be confirmed, although the venue is reserved. It was acknowledged that the planned junior tournament had not gone well last year and clearly a repetition must be avoided. Senior and Junior competitions will progress in tandem and it was confirmed that there are enough tables to facilitate this. 8 tables should be available and there is enough space to enable these to be sited without being unduly cramped. 5 tables were used last year. The hall is booked between 9am and 4.30pm and debate ensued about possible start times. A potential start time of 9am was suggested, necessitating entry to the hall at c8am, with a target finish time of 4pm. However, it was acknowledged that the number of entrants would drive the number of competitions and likely start time. It was also queried if a ‘finals night’ would be a better alternative, as inevitably there are relatively few spectators at the end of the day which tends to devalue the event to some extent, whereas a separate, specific finals night might address this. The sub-committee will need to consider accordingly.

1. **Officers’ Reports**

**Chairman;** - nothing to report.

**General Secretary; –** NNS advised via email that an invitation had been received from Table Tennis England for a Club Volunteer Conference taking place on 10/12/16, although the venue is Durham. NNS proposed this simply be noted – no intention to attend. Cash receipts for the Social Tournament had been located. NNS also provided an update on Bob Baines’ illness. After due consideration it was agreed that Committee would send cards to both Bob and Steve Brown affording best wishes – it was agreed that any players could sign the cards, i.e. not just restricted to Committee members. RC also advised he would do something similar from Denham Village club.

NNS also confirmed that all outstanding players’ fees had been sent to the Treasurer.

**Treasurer;** - SK confirmed Bucks County Association fees had been paid. SK also confirmed that with all team receipts now in, this represented a far better outcome than previous season. All invoices to Handbook advertisers had been sent out.

**Match Secretary;** - nothing further to report.

**Inter League Secretary;** - nothing to report.

**Development Officer;** - RC advised that a Junior League tournament would be held Saturday 26/11 comprising clubs from Harefield, Chalfont St Peter School, Hillingdon and Denham Village. This would run between 1pm and 5pm and would comprise two divisions – all helpers welcome. John Underwood would also be in attendance. RC is also looking to put in place adult coaching sessions on Friday evenings, ideally one per month in 2017. Additionally, all the Denham Village junior attendees are looking in good shape, with a waiting list for juniors to join the club.

**County Representative;** - DH had previously advised via email that County had circulated correspondence seeking information on accessibility to Table Tennis as a sport and seeking feedback on league structures etc. It was proposed that no formal response be sent as this did not seem warranted and any interested parties would already be aware of them. A National Council meeting was held on 5/11/16 but DH was unable to attend. HW will post any relevant information on the website.

**Publicity Officer;** - covered above.

**Fairbanks Cup Officer; –** dealt with under Point 4.

**Championship Secretary; -** no formal report, but dealt with under Point 7.

1. **Any Other Business**

* Nothing arising.

1. **Date / Venue of Next Meeting**

* Confirmed as Monday 9/1/17 and Monday 13/2/17, both at Coppermine.

Meeting closed 8.30pm.

**Summary of Actions**

**Ref** **Description** **Action Owner**

**Nov A1** Fairbanks Cup Sub Committee to be set up and handicaps to be **DM**

set – target date mid-December. Team captains to be advised

via email of team member handicaps.

**Nov A2** Set upChampionshipsSub Committee and aim to meet before **SK**

Christmas to discuss initial set up.

**Nov A3** Finalise hall hire cost and establish maximum flexibility re **RC**

entry and exit times and also investigate possibility of setting

up venue on Saturday evening. Quantify number and quality of

available tables.

**Nov A4** Best Wishes / Get Well Soon cards to be purchased **SK**