

PRE-AGM
MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Held at the Wheatsheaf, Upton
On Monday 1st June, 2015

MINUTES

Present:

Bryan Fitzpatrick (Chairman), Ivor Jones (Vice Chairman), Veronica Nicholas (General Secretary), Dave Terry (Fixtures Secretary), Steve Sung (365 Administrator), Tony Collard, (Division Secretary)

Apologies:

Dan Cooper (Treasurer) Lola Roberts (Div 3 Secretary)

1. Chairman – Opened the meeting.

2. Treasurer

a) Proposal to change the financial year to 1st May – 30th April.

- It is currently 16th May – 15th May and the only financial activity on that short period difference is the tournament.
- If the proposed change were implemented it would make Dan's job a lot easier with the system he uses.

The committee agreed unanimously with the proposal.

b) Fees next season

Veronica asked the committee to consider the possibility of increasing the registration fees as Danny's preliminary accounts show a reduction in the bank balance caused by a greater expenditure than income during the year.

Given this financial situation, she also pointed out that there were a number of unknown factors that should be considered such as:

- possible increase in Tournament costs next year
- possible increase in the cost of new balls
- possible increase in the cost of trophies and engraving
- likely increase in the cost of producing the handbook and score cards
- as always, at this time of year, it is not known just how much income the league will receive from registration fees and if it will be sufficient

The committee decided that it would be preferable to have a small increase now rather than perhaps find they have to have a larger one at a later date. It was agreed that the league registration fees for next season should be increased from £43 to £45.

3. General Secretary

a) Review of past year

i. Departing players

There are a number of players who will not be playing in our league next season, all for reasons of moving out of the area. They are: Teddy Pham, Hannah Winfield, Dave Galley, Stuart Hambley and James Deutsch. We were sad to hear of the untimely death recently of Tony's close friend Steve Williams.

ii. Electric Sports problems

After the problems the players experienced with their venue last season the committee is concerned that they may have a similar problem next season.

Veronica to telephone Bryan Kelly for update on the situation.

iii. Last year, prior to the AGM, Dave asked for help with some of the tasks he was currently doing and although there were people willing to assist, for some reason it didn't happen???

- Dave re-affirmed his wish for help in relieving him of some of the work he has been carrying out for so many years and for which the league has benefitted greatly.
- Prior to the meeting Veronica contacted a number of players asking if they would be prepared to take on some of the jobs. As a result Andy Eagles offered to take on the job of Fixtures Handbook Secretary and Aaron Beech offered to take on the role of Tournament Secretary.
- Bryan Fitzpatrick has agreed to take on the responsibilities of Handicap Cup Secretary
- Dave expressed his agreement with these offers.

Veronica to contact Andy and Aaron to confirm their offers

iv. EPOCH website

The website remains out of date and un-refreshed.

Ivor to arrange meeting between Steve and Simon Jones to ascertain:-

- Whether or not Simon would prefer to have someone take over the management of the website.
- If yes - Steve to gather an understanding of what this entails and report back to the committee.

b) AGM/Presentation evening

i. Election of officers – Are all present committee members willing to stand for the next season?

All the members present were prepared to continue.

Veronica to contact remaining committee members

ii. Veronica requested that committee members send her copies of the reports they intend to present at the AGM. This ensures an accurate report is included in the minutes.

c) New Plastic Balls

Veronica reminded committee of the notification she received last year from ETTA stating that wef 1st July 2015 “the use of the plastic ball will become mandatory for all Competitive Table Tennis in England”. This is also confirmed in the Table Tennis England website:

<http://tabletennisengland.co.uk/>

Notification dated 28 Jan 2015:

“Table Tennis England would like to remind clubs and leagues that, with effect from July 1 2015, plastic balls will be used in all Competitive Table Tennis (as defined in Regulations) in England.

This will follow the end of a transitional year in which organisers of Competitive Table Tennis have been able to choose either plastic or celluloid balls, as set out in our announcement of July 8, 2014.

We recommend that clubs and leagues purchase adequate stocks of plastic balls in good time for the coming season.

Notes:

- *The ITTF decided that the new plastic ball would be introduced in ITTF competitions from July 1, 2014, meaning National Associations were obliged to do likewise. Plastic balls have been used in ETTU competitions since September 1, 2014. They have also been used in Table Tennis England Grand Prix, National Championships and Masters events since September.*
- *Competitive Table Tennis is table tennis in which a player competes in a tournament, other than a closed tournament of his/her own club, or represents a club, a League, a County Association or Table Tennis England.”*

Veronica produced more detailed information regarding the new balls and much discussion took place as to whether or not all games in the league should be played with the new balls. There is also the question of which type/make of new balls the league should purchase and although there is a great deal of information on the above website it only serves to make the decision more difficult as no-one at the meeting had experienced playing with them. (except Veronica who has played with them at one club for the past three weeks but couldn't give a judgement on them owing to using a very different new bat)

Because of the importance of this matter it was decided to defer any decisions until we had gathered more information although it was generally thought that Premier and Division 1 would definitely use plastic whilst Division 2 and 3 would probably continue with celluloid.

4. Table Tennis 365 Manager

a) Images on website gallery

Steve asked if there were any protocols established regarding images being uploaded to 365 website. The answer was 'none'.

Discussion took place with regard to ensuring that permission is obtained from parents of children before any images of them are put onto the website.

Steve to find out more

5. Fixture Secretary

a) AGM/Presentation evening

i. Cups & Trophies

- Ivor and Bryan will be helping Dave on the night.
- Veronica reminded Dave to contact Groves in good time to arrange for setting up the cups and trophies as the opening times have changed

6. AOB

There was none.

7. Date and Time of Next Meeting: To be arranged after AGM

Veronica Nicholas 1.6.2015