

HARLOW TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 8 PM THURSDAY 5TH JULY 2018 IN THE GREEN MAN HOTEL, MULBERRY GREEN, OLD HARLOW, ESSEX, CM17 0ET

Present

Eric Todd (President & Chairman); Brian Meerloo (Vice-President); Stuart Cecil (Vice-Chairman & Welfare); John Barnes (Secretary); Alan Morley (Treasurer); Neil Brierley (County Representative & Development); Hilary Malyon (Press Officer); Mary Nicholls (Coaching & Cup Matches); Dave Linnett, Raj Balasundaram, Reuben Okai & Fran Woolgar (Committee Members); Allnutts; BATTS Howler Monkeys, Lorises & Mandrills; Birchanger; Lavers Buzzards, Eagles, Falcons & Hawks; PSBC Corinthians & Romans; Termites; Wallabies; and Water Lane A, B, C & D.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Derek Arnold and Paul Gooday (Vice-Presidents); Ray Newell (League Match Results & Tournament Secretaries); Nigel Appleby (Water Lane); Rob Calderon (Wallabies); Chris D'Aguiar (BATTS Sakis); Helen D'Aguiar (BATTS Lemurs); and Jo Pallett (SMHT Cougars).

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

Acceptance was proposed by John Wilson, seconded by Dave Linnett, and was carried unanimously.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Table Tennis England did lift player subscriptions £2 senior and £1 junior. Invoice did come for Cup finals Water Lane hall hire. Division winners and runners-up were promoted. Only teams that could be were relegated. Interleague run by County was only juniors and left the prior year staying unfinished. Tournament Wednesdays were switched to Fridays. Men's Doubles was made Open to allow Ladies in. No coaching to those with learning difficulty was set up. Hilary Malyon was co-opted to look at the Press Officer function. No postponed matches needed a date imposed.

4. REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman – Stuart Cecil as Vice-Chairman opened with good evening, thanked all for coming, and stated his report doubles up for Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Chairman Eric Todd since last AGM had been unable to attend committee meetings due to ill health. So, as Vice-Chairman have had to temporarily fill in. When AGM gets to Election of Officers, role of Chairman needs to be filled. It has been a very busy year again and committee meetings have had many debates on League matters. League is lucky to have such a dedicated committee who should all be thanked for their hard work. The meeting clapped. It is now the opportunity to thank Eric for all his hard work as Chairman over many years. He leaves the League in a very strong position to move forward. Neil Brierley will now make a presentation to Eric -

Neil Brierley reported that Eric became Chairman in 1980 taking over role from Freda Stedman. He had been on committee since around 1970, will have attended around 200 committee meetings, and close on 50 AGMs. You can imagine how much time he has devoted to our sport over the years. Eric became President of League in 2006. Before taking on this he held the new Welfare Officer post from about 2005 to 2007. Eric was running and playing in a Vet Interleague team up to 2001. Before that he won many League Veteran Singles, Men's and Mixed Doubles, Over 60s and Tesco Handicap Singles titles. He is seen to have been very busy. Eric made a major contribution to table tennis in general. He started coaching at St Johns Arc in 1987. At first Stuart Gibbs helped him. Then he persuaded Dave Wright and me to get involved. That moved on to Burnt Mill School in 1992 and then Norman Booth Centre in 2006. So, for 31 years he has been involved in developing the sport. His involvement in the Harlow League spans around 52 of the 62 years that the Harlow League has been in existence. It is doubtful his like will be seen again. All hold him in great affection. The presentation was then made.

General Secretary - Reported clubs down 1 at 9, as Cobra left rather than play Premier. Teams, with 1 more at Lavers, stayed at 23. Committee met 6 times as per rule, lasting an hour to 100 minutes, attended by 7, 1 over a quorum, up to 10, and averaging 70%. Playing Laws are staying same. ITTF approved balls are 77 in poly and 15 celluloid. Nittaku Nexcel has orange. Table Tennis England player fees may rise £2 senior to £16, £1 junior to £8, associates free. TTE has tiny BeTT grants to set up short matches, adult coaching and for women. Its governance review sees a disconnect with leagues and proposes advisory groups rather than National Council. GDPR comes in with stricter data protection. Thanks go to Dave Linnett setting up fixtures, Ray Newell collating directory data, and to Dave Wright arranging handbook printing.

Treasurer - Supplied account statements showing £31 excess of expenditure over income and £8,858 on the balance sheet. To keep in bank really wants to be at a better interest rate, or else use some to fund things such as disabled sessions at BATTS. Acceptance of accounts was proposed by Hilary Malyon, seconded by John Wilson, and carried unanimously.

Cup Match Secretary - Reported started as 22 teams, but were three walkovers, one in later round. Allnutts won Norton final 5-2 over BATTs Sakis, and Termites won Consolation final 5-2 over Water Lane D. Thanks go to Dave Linnett for fine handicaps, to John Barnes checking and putting draws and results on web, and to Water Lane hosting finals.

Results Secretary - Reported the Premier was won by BATTs Sakis, 136 points, over Water Lane A, 134 points. The First was won by BATTs Lorises, 146 points, over Lavers Buzzards, 136 points. The Second was won by Termites, 153 points, over BATTs Howler Monkeys, 143 points. BATTs Lorises go up to Premier, with Wallabies maybe down. If Buzzards wish promotion, Water Lane B may be down. Termites go up to First, with Birchanger maybe down. If Howler Monkeys wish promotion, Water Lane C may be down. Two matches are still outstanding but don't affect vital positions. Well done and congratulations to winners and runners-up. Meeting decided to continue with trophies for winners but medals for runners-up. Meeting raised thanks to Ray for his work.

Representative to County - Reported only junior interleague ran, and that Ilford League has ceased.

Press Officer – Reported seeking input from members of League. Possibilities were to use the 365 website more to put news on from clubs, teams and players. These could be under the News itself or custom pages on self-contained topics. Cup matches could also be reported. WhatsApp could be set up for team captains to allow ready communications between them.

Development Officer – Reported junior development at BATTs, particularly of Ralph Pattison. Mary Nicholls coaches at Lavers, and others at Water Lane and Baptist churches in Bishops Stortford. Eric Todd, Dave Wright, Sharon Head and John Wilson help BATTs to run.

Tournament Secretary – Report, in singles, the Men's was won by Matt Taylor over Kuan Lim, the Ladies by Sima Amin over Helen D'Aguiar. In doubles the Men's was won by Derek Balding and Shaun Gardner over Chris D'Aguiar and Matt, the Mixed by Helen and Chris over Sima and Matt, the Ladies too few to play. In other singles, the Restricted was won by Ben Sivathanu over Bob Last, the Hope by Garry Hudson over Max King, the Veterans by Reuben Okai over Simon Jarvis, the Over 60s by Alan Lamprell over Graham Playle, and the Bill Rosendale handicap by Ben over Alan Billing. Both Fridays were not well attended and better to return to Wednesdays. Thanks go to all who took part, and to Fran for a great job helping.

Coaching Officer - Reported that in addition to at BATTs, coaching continues at Lavers and North Weald. At clubs where teams include juniors, the individual matches of those should be front ended. Water Lane have junior sessions Fridays and maybe some non-league matches could be set up between such clubs with juniors. Its pleasing to see adult coaching becoming more popular. A list of qualified coaches at clubs should be compiled. Some of League reserves should be used to fund the qualification of coaches.

5. ALTERATIONS TO FEES & RULES

As player dues are to Table Tennis England and not to the League the Committee proposed firstly to delete from League Rule 5 both "and a registration fee per player where applicable" and "the fee for a player will be reduced for a junior", but secondly into League Rule 20 after "Only players" to insert "paid up to Table Tennis England and ...". Alan Morley proposed, and Mary Nicholls seconded, that they be taken as one. They were passed with just one against.

6. ELECTION OF LEAGUE OFFICERS

Tony Gomes, Derek Arnold, Alf Bailey, Brian Meerloo, Geoff Long & Paul Gooday (Vice-Presidents); Stuart Cecil (lifted to Chairman; & Welfare); Fran Woolgar (lifted to Vice-Chair); John Barnes (General Secretary); Alan Morley (Treasurer); Ray Newell (Results & Tournament); Neil Brierley (Development & County); Mary Nicholls (Coaching & Cup Matches); Hilary Malyon (Press); Raj Balasundaram, Dave Linnett & Reuben Okai (Committee Members); proposed by Alan Hare en bloc in absence of any other nominations, and elected unanimously.

7. PRESENTATIONS OF TROPHIES

Eric Todd and Brian Meerloo gave Division, Cup and Tournament trophies to winners and runners-up.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mary Nicholls pointed out wording by BATTs in its advert of its singles league seemed to undermine the League. Stuart Cecil would contact Ray Newell to set date for League entries. There being no other business the AGM closed at 10.10 pm.

Signed as a true record _____ Date _____