**Kendal and District Table Tennis League**

**Minutes of Management Team Meeting – 19.30, 10 March 2022, by Zoom**

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| ***Present –*** Peter Leahy (PL) (Chair), Mick Taylor (MT) (Sec), Jeff Pimblett (JP), Bryan Rhodes (BR), Phil Swift (PS), Mike Sunderland (MS)1. ***Apologies***  Bob Gale (BG), Fran Currie (FC), Chris Knowles (CK), Norman Philbey (NP), Martin Wakelin (MW)
2. ***Minutes of previous Management Team meeting (25 Nov 2021) and matters arising***
* The minutes have been distributed and were taken as read.
* Safeguarding: MT has now sent out details of courses.
* PS hasn’t yet designed the logo but will try to do that soon.
* PL has not yet dealt with the Active Cumbria actions.
* Website design: The Brighton TT Club website was good but far too expensive. PL’s daughter is designing a website for NOTTC and if successful may be able to design one for the League.
* The Divisional Shield competitions were successfully held at Burton and Natland.
* No progress on Div 3.
* The League is now registered as a TTE Premier Club (£65 charge). As a result, TTE have issued us with a TT Kidz equipment bag (bats, nets, balls, promotion materials etc) and any club can run a TT Kidz course. MS said the nets are poor and recommends Decathlon nets. However TTE were very supportive when he mentioned this problem and replaced the nets.
* Burton are awaiting payment from TTE or the League for their TT Kidz program.
* PL is a Licensed Coach now.

 1. ***KO Cup Final***
* The KO Cup Final will take place on 21 April 2022 at Natland Village Hall. PS will bring certificates to present on the night. MT will bring milk and use the Natland supplies of tea and coffee. PL will come on the night to help organise.

 1. ***Annual Tournament, 24 April 2022***
* NP has reported by email (see Appendix). In his report he expressed support for a competition for younger non league players (say singles and doubles), incorporated into the Annual Tournament.
* This was supported by those present and it was decided to run as part of the Annual Tournament a junior non league tournament starting about 2.30 pm, with singles categories U11, U13 and U16 (age on the day of the event). Entry to be free, subsidised by the League.
* MT to extend the Dallam booking to 6.00 pm if possible, to cater for this extra.
* MT and PS to liaise to get entry forms sent out and then organise the event.
1. ***Junior Events Upate***
* See NP’s email report (Appendix).
* MS reported that he is running very successful lunchtime sessions at Appleby GS and Kirkby Stephen GS, with 40 kids attending each. Jake Haygarth, who is only 15, is coaching at these sessions and very much enjoying it. He would like to train properly as a coach when he is 16.
* The next stage for these kids is to get them to join an after school club.
* MS organised a junior coaching/tournament event in Feb at KS, with KS, Appleby, Whiteheven and Windermere (private) schools participating.
* MW and PL are running TT Kidz at Natland with 6 kids. PL had approached several local schools, but with only limited success.
* A junior coaching/tournament event is planned for Fri 8 April 2022, 10.00 to 16.00, at Burton. MS cannot attend so NP and MW will hopefully be able to run it. More help needed.
* MW has recently run TT Kidz sessions at Burton with 5 or 6 kids and is coaching similar numbers every week, helped by Fran Currie.
* MS will run the KS Table Tennis Festival again this year, Thursday 19 May 2022. Help needed please.
* Junior organisers in Barrow and Whitehaven are keen on further cooperation with us, with perhaps joint Zoom meetings. MS will pursue.
* MS said a successful Club or League should continue through the summer. PL said that the Natland coaching would continue if demand is there and ditto the TT Kidz. Natland Summer League may run. Crook club sessions run through the summer.
* It was strongly felt that we should try and run a junior league next year, perhaps at a single central venue, or rotating round different venues. Kendal Leisure Centre would be ideal in many ways, but they only have 4 tables at present.
1. ***Recreational Players’ Competition***
* Apart from a friendly in late Feb 2022 between KS and Natland, there has been no progress.
1. ***League Registration Fees***
* Lancaster TT League charge registration fees solely on a per team rate. PL wondered if that would be worth a try here in Kendal, to encourage greater participation and easy recruitment of extra players during the season. The team fee would need to increase to reflect the loss of revenue from player registration fees. One possible disadvantage is that it would be more easy to introduce “ringers” to influence the outcome of important matches. It was decided to postpone a decision until we can consult MW on his experience of this system in Lancaster.
1. ***Future Meetings, Zoom or Face to Face***
* No clear view emerged, so review before each meeting.
1. ***AOB***
* PS asked if there were any Cumbria wide competitions. None known and it needs someone willing to organise. Any volunteers?

The meeting closed at 21.30 ***Distribution*** All League members (by email).**Appendix A*****Email report from NP, 8 March 2022***Hi Mick,There has been little competitive junior table tennis over the season other than what Mike has managed to organise at the February half term and another imminent day at Burton in April. That said, there are obviously encouraging signs from Appleby which should bear fruit in the KIrkby Stephen area.Milnthorpe Primary have been playing twice weekly since last April, but it was impossible to find any opposition until entering the Cumbria Schools competitions organised by Matt O 'Flynn. At the regional round on 15 Jan with 5 teams from Cumbria and the North-East, Milnthorpe boys came second and qualified for the next round at Grantham, where they lost one and drew one.Meanwhile at the individual event for Cumbria, Milnthorpe PS had both the winner and runner-up in the boys event (Sam Cook and Elliott Riley) and a 9 year old winner in the girls' (Ronja Williamson). Both go to Wolverhampton for the national finals on 2nd April.With regard to the KDTTL junior tournament this has lapsed in recent years but it used to be a popular event when played at Burton. There were events for under 15, under 12 and under 10 singles, a doubles and the Jugend von  Kendal handicap trophy. It was much easier to run a handicap competition when there was a junior league of up to 3 divisions playing at QKS.I feel some sort of competition should be offered to younger players (perhaps just singles and doubles).I would see this most conveniently being incorporated into the adult event at Dallam school. If it were to be played in the afternoon from about 2.30 onwards and timed to last till 5.00 there should be 4 to 6 tables available as my recollections are that the senior events were running down by mid afternoon and lots of tables were unused.Having it then avoids the need to look and pay for another venue and trying to find a suitable date.I do feel we should try to revive a KDTTL league for juniors next season, maybe fortnightly or even monthly. A central venue would be ideal but not essential as home and away worked In the past.Best Wishes for the meeting.Norman | ***Action******PS******PL******PL******PS, MT,******PL******MT******MT, PS******MW, NP******MS******All*** |