**Kendal and District Table Tennis League**

**Minutes of AGM – 7.30 pm 2 Sept 2020 by Zoom on line video conference**

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| ***Present –*** Mick Taylor (Sec), Tony March (Chairman), Norman Philbey, Phil Swift, Bryan Rhodes, Denis Hooley, Chris Knowles, John Fitzgerald, Martin Wakelin, Mike Sunderland, Peter Leahy, Peter Rushton, Kevin Hunter, Sam Housego, Jeff Pimblett***Apologies* –** Bob Gale, Matt O’Flynn1. ***Minutes of previous AGM***
* Taken as read, and accepted as a true record.
1. ***Matters arising***
* None.
1. ***Chairman’s and Treasurer’s Report (Tony)***
* Tony presented the accounts for 2019-20, see attached.
* Underlying fees received were similar to last year, plus we had other income from KO Cup sponsorship and from the sale of a TT table. However expenditure was well down, due mainly to the consequences of Covid 19, ie cancelled Tournament and Divisional Shield, reduced trophy costs and reduced Junior Development costs. There was the additional cost of the 365 website fees. Overall, we ran an unexpected surplus of £399.
* We are in a strong financial position, with net assets of £3262.
* TT365 is free this coming season, so we can reduce fees by the £3.50 per senior (£2 per junior) charged last season for that. Any further reduction would depend on what events are planned, but care is needed as fees are likely to be down. TT is not expensive at present and Tony recommended that fee reduction be limited to the £3.50 (£2) mentioned above.
* Tony reported that on-line banking for the League was now up and running and recommended that all payments to the League should therefore be made by bank transfer next season rather than by cheque. This would be much more efficient and also safer from a Covid point of view. Peter Leahy suggested that the League might wish to satisfy itself that arrangements for payments by the League were safe and secure.
* Reporting as Chairman, Tony said the main issue now is how to get clubs up and running with adequate Covid 19 precautions, and then how to operate the League safely in the new circumstances, possibly with reduced numbers.

 1. ***Secretary’s and Welfare Officer’s Report (Mick)***
* Unplayed KO Cup Final from 2019/20, Dalton CC v Grayrigg A: we are hoping to play this end of September/ beginning of October 2020 at Natland Village Hall. The two teams are liaising with MT to fix a date.
* Date for start of League fixtures? We are assuming at present a start in early November, with Registration Forms sent out early October. Please could clubs let Mick know if they think otherwise. (See item 11 below).
* Clubs need to put in place rules for Covid safety. The League will seek reassurance that such rules are in place and actioned. Visiting teams will need to be informed of the rules in advance of a match and agree to abide by them.
* Welfare: Mick reminded clubs that if they have juniors or vulnerable adults, then they are strongly advised to have a suitably trained Welfare Officer appointed. Mick is the League Welfare Officer and can help on Welfare matters. Please get in touch if you have any safeguarding concerns at your club. Mick will contact clubs once a year to update his records and offer advice on training etc.
* Mike Sunderland strongly urged ALL clubs to appoint a Welfare Officer. Even if you have no juniors, it is not possible to say in advance whether you have vulnerable adults or not.
1. ***Match and Membership Secretary’s Report (Martin)***
* Several matches could not be played at the end of last season, due to Covid 19 lockdown and as agreed Martin has made estimates of the results for these unplayed matches. These are now entered on the website.
* Mike Sunderland proposed a new Division 3 for the coming season to encourage more participation. He suggested a few people get together and agree a Div 3 offer to clubs, stating format, start date (say after Christmas), number of players per team etc. In this way, demand could be assessed. Several present supported this idea, including MT, PL, PS, MW, NP, BR, DH, JF.
1. ***Junior Development Coordinator’s Report (Mike Sunderland)***
* The TT Festival at Kirkby Stephen in December with Eden Valley Sports Partnership was a great success with around 65 junior school children attending from seven Eden schools.
* The TT Kidz format and grant (a TTE initiative) has supported KSGS junior club, KS Primary School club, sessions at Castle Park School Kendal (see below), TT Festival as above, and Asby Primary School workshops. MS, MW and Nick Smith (Whitehaven Youth Project) benefitted from training as TTKidz Activators, paid for by the grant.
* Both the Cumbria Schools and the Northern Region Schools Team Tournament were hosted at KS with Juniors from KS, Windermere, Milnthorpe and KS junior schools. KS now has the under 10, under 16 county champions and the under 13 team champions.
* A successful junior event was held at Burton in early Jan 2020 with approx 20 kids present. The format was coaching in the morning, followed by a tournament in the afternoon
* A junior event run by MS at Kirkby Stephen GS was a great success, with 25 kids from Whitehaven, Burton, Milnthorpe, KSGS, KSPS and Bishop Auckland. It was run like the Burton event, with coaching in the morning and a tournament in the afternoon. There was good feedback from kids and parents.
* Junior Success: KS junior Jake Haygarth, top of KDTTL Div 1 playing for KS, has won a scholarship to Grantham TT Academy, a residential school where he will complete his exams and train with the Junior England squads. So Cumbria can support junior player development and nurture success.
* MS reported on the Castle Park School initiative. This was successfully run by Phil Swift, helped by Mike and others from the League, with up to 15 kids participating. However this has lead nowhere as no teacher is available to continue the table tennis and no continuation event in Kendal has materialised.
* Mileage costs have been paid by participating schools to the coaches, a TTKidz grant and self funding junior tournaments have saved a lot of the League budget for junior development.
* On the concerned side, the League only has 3 clubs developing junior players

and there is little evidence of drive from the league clubs to develop junior sections.There are no young coaches or commercial coaches in the area to drive junior initiatives and less club adults are volunteering to help with juniors. There has been a huge decline in clubs’ junior participants.* As the Junior Development Officer, MS is losing confidence that we the League Clubs can turn around this decline and develop junior participation.
* MS will continue in the role for one more season only, unless a significant change occurs in 2021.
1. ***ESTTA Report (Mike Sunderland)***
* Matt was not present but is still involved with schools ESTTA. Mike reported that numbers were generally low at present. Finances are on a sound footing.

 1. ***Lancs and Cheshire Veterans League (Denis Hooley)***
* John Wood was not present but had organised the Vets League fixtures very well. Denis reported that we had two teams in the League, but fixtures could not be completed because of Covid 19. Information on fixtures, venues, results etc was difficult to obtain, due to shortcomings in the TT Leagues website.
1. ***Tournament and Trophy Report (Phil Swift)***
* The Tournament had to be cancelled because of Covid 19 lockdown.
* Numbers have been declining over recent years for the Tournament and also for the Divisional Shield. Serious consideration needs to be given to the future format of these events, to reverse this trend.
* Phil has produced a Certificate design, which has been approved by the Management Team. This will be used instead of trophies for adults, at a cost of roughly £2 per certificate, making a considerable saving. A decision has not been made yet about what awards to give winning juniors.
1. ***Website Report (Chris Knowles)***
* The 365 website is now free and is the best option at present. It was agreed that we continue to use this for the present.
1. ***Progress on opening clubs***
* Natland: Club nights started on 1 September, with strict Covid safety rules. Slow take-up by club members so far. Could start League matches early November, possibly earlier. May need extra match nights as probably could run two matches on one night but not three.
* Burton: Not yet started, but Hall now open and first club meeting is next week. There is an appetite to start asap and Burton could start League matches in October. Likely to have same number of teams as last year.
* Crook: The Crook VH is likely to open mid September and the club practice sessions will start then. Crook could be ready for League matches mid October/early November.
* Dallam: Covid safety protocols are in place and club members have been practicing for a couple of weeks now. They are virtually ready to go now.
* Grayrigg: The venue is not available until October at the earliest, so prefer an early November start. Likely to be down to one team.
* Ibis: The IBIS club house is now open and the team can start any time.
* Kirkby Stephen: Venue available from beginning of October. However KS will not have a team in the League this year, due to loss of players. Mike is keen to combine with Grayrigg to enter another 2nd Div team.
* Dalton: Not present, Mick to chase.
1. ***Election of Officers***
* Tony is stepping down as Chairman (11 years in post), Press Officer (four years in post) and Divisional Shield Organiser (three years in post).
* Peter Leahy has agreed to stand as Chairman and was elected unanimously.
* Bryan Rhodes was nominated as Press Officer and agreed to consider this.

 Other officers were re-elected unopposed as below: * President: Bob Gale. Vice Presidents: Charles Usher and Jeff Pimblett.
* Treasurer: Tony March (one more year only)
* General Secretary: Mick Taylor
* Match and Membership Secretary: Martin Wakelin
* Junior Development Coordinator: Mike Sunderland.
* Press Officer: See above
* Tournament Officer : Team effort, lead by Phil Swift
* Divisional Shield Organiser: Vacant
* Webmaster: Chris Knowles
* Trophy Officer: John Wood
1. ***Vote of Thanks to Tony***
* Those present thanked Tony for his great work over the years, which is very much appreciated.
1. ***Dates for Next season***
* Mick will issue a provisional calendar asap.

 The meeting ended at 21.30. ***Attachment:*** 2019-20 Accounts***Distribution***All League Members, by email. | ***Action******TM******SH,Keith Malinson******MT******All clubs******All clubs******MT******Man. Team*** ***All clubs******Man. Team******Man. Team******Mick T******BR******MT*** |