**Kendal and District Table Tennis League**

**Minutes of AGM – 7.30 pm 2 May 2019 at Ibis Social Club, Kendal.**

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| ***Present –*** Mick Taylor (Sec), Tony March (Chairman), Norman Philbey, John Wood, Mike Taylor, Phil Swift, Bryan Rhodes, Dennis Hooley, Keith Mallinson, Chris Knowles, John Fitzgerald, John Hardwick***Apologies* –** Jeff Pimblett, Bob Gale, Andrew Hudson, Peter Leahy, Mike Sunderland, Martin Wakelin1. ***Minutes of previous AGM***
* Taken as read, accepted as a true record and signed.
1. ***Matters arising***
* None.
1. ***Chairman’s and Treasurer’s Report (Tony)***
* Tony presented the Accounts for 2018-19 (see attached). Due to declining League membership, both income and expenditure are down. There was an overall deficit of £124.74 over the year (roughly in line with budget) and the Net Assets are now £2811.51. Mike Sunderland (Junior Development Coordinator) has worked hard on developing junior participation and spent £265 of his budget of £395.
* Tony also presented the Draft Budget for 2019-20 (see attached) with a projected deficit of £363..
* The accounts and budget were accepted.
* The cost and type of trophies and engraving were discussed. This is a considerable expense and some thought that many seniors were not interested in trophies. Perhaps engraved glasses, coasters or medallions would be better. John Wood and the Crook members present to research and make suggestions before next season’s purchases. This would be led by Phil Swift.
* Tony reported that the biggest issue currently facing the League is declining numbers and the roadblock to junior development is the disappointing lack of volunteers willing to train as a coach or run junior sessions. Mike S has worked tirelessly, but cannot do it alone. Tony is convinced that a series of junior sessions run at Kendal Leisure Centre (similar to those currently run by Tony for adults), followed by referrals to the clubs, would attract large numbers, but there is no-one willing to organise and run. MT to send out an SOS to all players, asking if anyone is willing to train as a junior coach.

 1. ***Secretary’s and Welfare Officer’s Report (Mick)***
* GDPR- We have now complied with this, helped by using the contact details and privacy preferences entered by individuals on the TTE website. Thanks to Chris K, Tony and Martin W who helped with this.
* Some players have still not set their privacy preferences on the TTE database, so their contact details cannot be accessed by other members. This is a particular problem if you are a team captain. MT will issue instructions on how to set preferences.
* There has been one safeguarding incident at the Kirkby Stephen Club. This was dealt with by Mike Sunderland and the TTE Safeguarding Officer, not without difficulty.
* TTE recommends that all clubs with juniors or vulnerable adults have a Welfare Officer, who should initially attend a one day Safeguarding workshop, followed every 3 years by an on line refresher course. In his role as League Welfare Officer, Mick will write to clubs and ask for names and training/DBS details for their Welfare Officer and any coaches. There could be serious repercussions if something happened and the right procedures, training and checks were not in place.
* If you have safeguarding concerns, report them to your Welfare Officer, or to Mick Taylor, who will seek help from TTE Safeguarding Officer. If you consider a child is in immediate danger, report to the police.

. 1. ***Match and Membership Secretary’s Report (Martin)***
* Martin was not present but submitted a written report.
* This year we had 88 members. All matches were played, but several were rearranged.
* Martin wrote that it would be a real loss if TT365 is dropped, but if it is dropped, hopefully the new TTE system will eventually catch up to where 365 is now.
1. ***Junior Development Coordinator’s Report***
* Mike Sunderland was not present, but is working extremely hard on junior development, going into schools, running events and coordinating with others.
* See Tony’s comments above.
1. ***ESSTA Report (Norman)***
* Some schools teams played in the two schools competitions in Cumbria. After these county level rounds, winners progress to the next regional competition, played at Kirkby Stephen, considered an excellent venue..
* Seven Cumbrian juniors went to the Butterfly Schools Individual Tournament in Wolverhampton. Jake Haygarth, now ranked 10 in England at U13 level, reached the semi final, an excellent achievement. Norman was with Nicholas Morrell, who is only 8 years old and also did very well.

 1. ***Lancs and Cheshire Veterans League (John Wood)***
* One team entered this year, finished 5th out of 7 in Div 2. Some excellent table tennis played. Hope for two teams next season.
* Chris K to send out a mail shot, inviting veterans to take part.
1. ***Tournament Report (Phil)***
* The tournament was a success, organised by Phil, Mike Taylor, John Wood, Mick Taylor, Norman, Carol Catnach and Jeff Pimblett. It is important to have one or two non players on the desk all day.
* Entries at 35 or 36 slightly down on last year.
* Email distribution of entry forms was a success.
* Louise Thompson had written to Mick and Tony to draw attention to an unfortunate incident during the tournament. In the handicap singles, she played Phil Riley, whose handicap was wrongly stated as -6 instead of the correct -8. Louise lost, but had Phil’s handicap been correct, the result may have been different. Phil S apologised, saying that the mistake was entirely his. He explained that when Louise requested that the match be replayed, he made the difficult decision that regrettably the result should stand as Phil R had started his next round match and Phil S felt under pressure to keep to schedule. The meeting sympathised with Louise and thought that each player has a responsibility to check his or her own handicap and ensure that this is used. In future, this to be stated before the start of the Tournament. However in the event of such incidents, it is right that the Tournament referee makes the final decision. Phil will write to Louise to apologise.
1. ***Election of Officers***

Officers were elected unopposed as follows:* President: Bob Gale. Vice Presidents: Charles Usher and Jeff Pimblett.
* Chairman: Tony March.
* Treasurer: Tony March
* General Secretary: Mick Taylor
* Match and Membership Secretary: Martin Wakelin
* Junior Development Coordinator: Mike Sunderland.
* Tournament Officer : Team effort, see 9 above, lead by Phil Swift
* Divisional Shield Officer: Tony March
* Webmaster: Chris Knowles
* Press Officer: Tony March.
* Trophy Officer: John Wood
1. ***Divisional Shield and KO Cup***
* Participation in the Divisional Shield and KO Cup competitions was declining and ways to reverse this were discussed. Dennis Hooley has offered to sponsor the KO Cup to the sum of £100 for next season and similarly Chris Knowles for the following season.
* The following motion was approved: *To try and increase participation in these competitions, all League teams shall automatically be entered in the Divisional Shield and KO Cup competitions. The fees currently charged separately for competition entry will be added to general League fees. In addition, the League gratefully accepts the offers made by Dennis Hooley (2019-20) and Chris Knowles (2020-21) to sponsor the KO Cup competition to the tune of £100 each, subject to certain conditions required by and to be agreed with the sponsors. This would make entry to the KO Cup free to clubs for those years.*
* It was also agreed to make the draws earlier, publicise the competitions better via the website and emails to players and play the KO Cup Prelim Round in December. The range of handicaps was considered about right and the sudden death rule at deuce should be retained.
* It was agreed by 7 votes to 2 to move the Annual Tournament and Finals Night to the end of the season (subject to venue availability) and present all League Trophies on Finals Night. This would mean bringing the KO Cup Final forward a few weeks and abandoning the presentation of trophies on that evening.
1. ***Table Tennis 365 Website***
* KDTTL find the 365 Website extremely useful. However, it is a privately owned and developed website and there has been a breakdown in relations between Table Tennis England (TTE) and 365, such that TTE are no longer prepared to fund 365. It will close at the end of July 2019 unless alternative funding can be found. 365 have proposed that Leagues fund 365 directly. They will be charged £7 per year for each senior league member, £4 for juniors. To be viable, 365 need a minimum number of 15,000 such contributing players, to be signed up before mid May 2019 and committed to 3 years payment.
* TTE have assured all Leagues that in partnership with another IT contractor (Rocca Creative) they will produce a suitable replacement league management package in time for the new season. The cost of this will be covered by our present TTE subs, which are held at £16 per person (£8 juniors) for the coming season.
* We essentially have three options, namely

Option 1 – Take out a 3 year contract with TT365 to provide the existing website services for the next 3 years. Pay TT365 a fee of £7 per head (seniors) and £4 (juniors), in addition to the existing fees being paid to Table Tennis England (TTE). Fund this fee increase by increasing League membership fees or reducing League reserves or a combination of the two. Option 2 – As above but vote at the TTE AGM for their fees to be reduced by £7 (seniors) and £4 (juniors) to cover the cost of subscribing to TT365. Accept the fact that if this vote is defeated, the additional cost will have to be funded by the League and /or the membership as in Option 1 above. Option 3 – Accept the assurances from TTE that their new system will be up and running and free of charge (included in existing fees) by the beginning of the 2019/20 season. The risk here is that the system will be significantly less good than the current system, at least for the first year, and that this will create significant extra work for League Administrators.* These options were discussed at length, with differing views held. Finally those present voted for their favoured option as follows: Option 1 - 3 votes; Option 2 – 6 votes; Option 3 – 2 votes. Option 3 was eliminated and the vote re-run. The result was Option 1 – 4 votes; Option 2 – 7 votes. Consequently Option 2 will be adopted, with Chris K informing 365 of the decision and Mick T casting KDTTL vote at TTE AGM in favour of reducing TTE sums by £7 per year per adult, £4.00 per junior.
1. ***Dates for Next season***
* Mick will issue a provisional calendar asap.

 The meeting ended at 10.15 pm ***Attachment:*** 2018-19 Accounts***Distribution***All League Members, by email. | ***Action******JW, PS, Mike T, JH******Mick T******Mick T******Mick T******CK******PS******Mick T******Mick T******CK******Mick T******Mick T*** |