**Kendal and District Table Tennis League**

**Minutes of Pre Season Council Meeting – 8.00 pm Thurs 15 Sept 2022, Ibis Social Club**

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| ***Present –***  Peter Leahy (Chairman), Martin Wakelin, Phil Swift, Norman Philbey, Chris Knowles, Dennis Hooley, Keith Mallinson, Cameron Hunter  ***Apologies*** Mick Taylor, Tony March, Bryan Rhodes   1. ***Minutes of Previous Meeting 23 Sept 2021***    1. Agreed as a true record. 2. ***Matters Arising***   2.1 None   1. ***Chairman’s Report (Peter Leahy)***   3.1 Peter referred to the notes of the Management Committee meeting that took place on the 25th August which have been circulated.  Only Crook and Natland are entered on the Table Tennis England Club Directory of “where to play” accessible on the TTE website. Other League clubs are encouraged to add their details.  Peter gave an example of the need to co-ordinate the availability of junior coaching across our League/local clubs given children participate in so many after school activities. A parent had made contact for her 10 year old son to attend coaching sessions. Because of after school commitments he was unable to attend the sessions at Natland, Slyne or Burton but was able to attend the Monday session at Milnthorpe and got on well and wants to continue.  Junior coaching takes place as follows  Mondays - Milnthorpe 3.30pm-5pm, St Lukes 5pm- 6pm (WEF 3rd October also TT Kidz 4pm-5pm), Kirkby Stephen (time?)  Tuesdays - Natland 6pm- 7.30 pm (WEF 4th October TT Kidz 7-10 yr olds 5pm-6pm)  Wednesday - Milnthorpe 3.30pm-4.30pm  Thursday - Burton (5.15 – 6.15pm)  Friday - Milnthorpe Primary School session, 3.30 – 4.30 pm.  Chris agreed to put all the junior coaching sessions onto the League TT365 site   1. ***Secretary and Welfare Officer Report (Mick Taylor)***   4.1 In Mick’s absence no report was given   1. ***Treasurer’s Report (Tony March)***   5.1 Tony provided the following written report that was read to the meeting.  “We are budgeting for a deficit of £400 for the forthcoming season. This assumes that fee income will be the same as last season and includes £500 for junior development, net of the £250 Chris Knowles has kindly donated. No doubt Peter will talk about this. Given that we have over £3000 in the bank, this seems like a very appropriate investment in the future and I’m sure it will be successful as long as we follow through on pathways to keep interested juniors playing.           I have put in an application to the bank to remove Fran Currie from the bank mandate and re-instate myself as the primary contact.”   1. ***Match Secretary’s Report (Martin Wakelin)***   6.1 No specific report but refer Item 12   1. ***Junior Coordinator’s Report (Mike Sunderland)***   7.1 Mike was not present. Peter, Martin and Norman gave an update of the Junior Sub-Committee meeting that took place on the 8th September. The League plans to run local junior leagues on a North and South split basis with approximately 5 match nights per term. North will have KS and Appleby as venues with South using Burton, Milnthorpe, Natland and St Lukes(Slyne with Hest). During school holidays/half term breaks we will run combined North and South TT Days similar to those run in the past with coaching in the morning and a Tournament/ League play offs in the afternoon. The plan is to invite other Leagues to participate in the tournaments and Peter has advised Barrow League of our plans.  DH emphasised the importance of getting juniors playing in the senior League.   1. ***Veterans Officer’s Report (by Phil Swift as John Wood not present)***   8.1 Phil advised that he believes John has entered one team into the Lancs and Cheshire Vet’s League this year and agreed to follow up to see if there is still time to enter a second team. Phil advised that there is a problem getting info from the League. Keith advised he had attended a meeting of the LCVL (AGM) and was able to provide some up to date contact info. LCVL appeared to have a problem (or operator problem?) with their website. No one else knew that the L and C AGM had been convened.   1. ***ESTTA Report (Matt O’Flynn)***   9.1 In Matt’s absence Peter provided an update following discussions at the Junior Sub Committee. Matt had advised he has run out of funding and therefore the annual Kirkby Stephen based team tournament may not be able to take place. Mike Sunderland had flagged this to our League and we have agreed to assist in helping Matt and getting the ESTTA arrangements onto a viable financial footing. Peter had discussed with Paul Ackred of the Barrow League who share the view that it is important to continue ESTTA tournaments in Cumbria. The ESTTA tournaments give Cumbria Junior winners the opportunity to compete in national or regional events which is important for locally based elite players. Those tournaments have also provided a first experience of larger events for our non-elite level juniors which has provided those players and their parents with an awareness of the need to practice regularly (attend lots of coaching sessions) to be able to compete at this higher level.   1. ***Website Report (Chris Knowles)***   10.1 Nothing to report   1. ***Make Up of League for 2022-23***    1. There was uncertainty at the time of the meeting about possible withdrawal from the League of Ibis due to venue problems and lack of players wanting to play regularly and some speculation about where Ibis players may move to. Also the position of some of Dallam’s players (no League team entered this year) was unclear. Both Burton and Natland advised that they had places for players and that additional players may allow formation of another team in the League. In particular it was noted by Dennis that Burton had a spare home night slot. Peter agreed to follow up with Ibis and also Dallam players with a view to offering Burton or Natland places to try to find homes for the players and ideally facilitating the entry of additional team or teams into the League.    2. As it stood at the time of the meeting the League is as follows. It was agreed that given the reduction in size in Div 1 that teams should play each other 3 times. This would also apply to Div 2 as it did last season   **Div 1 (8 teams)**  Burton A, B, C  Natland A, B  Crook A, B  Dalton A  **Div 2 (7 teams)**  Burton D, E  Natland C, D  Crook C, D  Grayrigg   1. ***Dates for 2022-23 and Venue for Annual Tournament***   12.1 Mick has produced a draft calendar of dates which has been circulated with the minutes of the last management meeting. Phil Swift confirmed the date for the Crook Vets Tournament this season as being 19th February 2022.  At its last meeting the Management Committee favoured Dallam School as the venue for the Annual Tournament on Sunday 23rd April. Pre-Covid we had agreed to hold the tournament at Kirkby Stephen and Mike Sunderland had made a strong case for it being held there this season and so the issue would be put to the Pre-Season Council Meeting. It was discussed at length and was decided to follow the Management Committee view and run the event at Dallam. The key reason was travel distance and concern that a further reduction in the size of the League this year may result in even fewer players participating in the Annual Tournament if the event was further away.  It was acknowledged that if players become familiar with the KS sports hall as a venue it may assist. One objective will be to get senior players assisting at junior events held at KS to increase familiarity with the venue.   1. ***AOB***   13.1 None.    ***Distribution***  All League members by email, 12/11/22  365 Website. | ***Action***  ***CK***  ***PS***  ***PL*** |