

# MINUTES OF THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT ALFORD SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB ON 20 MAY 2013, COMMENCING AT 7:20pm.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

A 1 minute silence was requested by the Chairman following the deaths of Clive Maule (Wigan) and past committee member, Ron Georgeson (Liverpool) and County Umpire and very recently Dave Newton, past Lancashire County player, during the season.

PRESENT: Committee members: S Clarke (Chairman), J Rushton, D Goulden, EA Pentland, G Rushton, T Purcell, J Bolton & M Ireland.

Local Leagues: Blackpool, Bolton, Bury, East Lancs, Lancaster & Morecambe, Liverpool, Manchester, Manchester Banks & Ins, Oldham, Preston, Southport, Warrington & Wigan.

APOLOGIES: G Aspinall MBE (President), who was unable to attend due to his wife illness, & A Garnett. Belated apologies received from D Wolstencroft (ill)

ABSENT: Local Leagues – Blackburn (belated apologies received) & Lytham St Annes.

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous AGM had been circulated in advanced of the meeting and they had also been available on the website. They were taken as read and an accurate account of the 2012 AGM.

Proposed by A Knowlson, seconded by G Rushton that they be signed as a true record.  
Carried unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising, which were not covered by the Agenda.

## PRESENTATIONS:

County badges were presented on the night to the following players: James Chappell & Callum Allman. County badges were also awarded to: Joel Webb, Clayton Beattie, Jordan Brookes, Kelly Southward, Emily Bolton & Amiral Hussain

Trophies were presented on the night to:

Cadet Premier winners: James Chappell & Team Captain Dave Graham

Junior 2A winners: James Chappell & Team Captain Dave Graham.

Vets 3A winners: Brian Clements, Graham Coupe & collected on behalf of Ken Jackson & Sylvia Graham.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: The report was read out on the night by the General Secretary, who, on behalf of the Executive Committee, thanked local leagues Liverpool and Blackpool for organising and running senior tournaments during the season, as well as Brian Jackson for the junior 1 & 2 Star tournaments and the return of the Blackpool Junior 4 Star that he had run during the season and Tony Meredith for his Junior tournaments in the North West and the Wigan League for running the Champions Challenge for the fourth year, involving 6 of the North West Town's League Champions from their Closed Championships.

The EC's appreciation to all the people that have organised and run events during the 2012/13 season, including the significant efforts that all the Junior Table Tennis clubs in the Lancashire region are doing in the coaching of some promising junior players and in particular to Dave Graham, for running the Lancashire County Championships Juniors & Cadet teams.

In concluding the report, the EC would like to express it's thanks to all the Local League and Premier Club officials for their efforts throughout the season. Without their inputs, table tennis in Lancashire would be much poorer.

There were no questions about the reports.

Proposed by D Graham, seconded by A Knowlson, that the reports be accepted.  
Carried unanimously.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Unfortunately copies of the I&E and Balance sheet were not available at the AGM due to the General Secretary believing that he had already sent them to Local League Secretaries with the notice of the AGM.

The Treasurer gave a brief explanation of the I&E account and reported that there was a small loss of £24 on the year. Income had remained more or less the same as the previous year at £6787.83, whilst expenditure had risen to £6811.96, an increase of approx. £550 from the previous year due to an increase in the County Teams expenditure.

The Balance sheet surplus fund had remained constant at approx. £8200.

As a result, the Committee is recommending that affiliation fee for next season remain at £3.00 per player.

Affiliation fees for 2013/14 season will remain at £3.00 per player based on number of players in a team plus one, i.e. £12.00 for a 3-person team & £15.00 for a 4-person team.

The accounts had been audited by Harry Ross.

Proposed by H Ross, seconded by D Graham that the report be accepted.  
Carried unanimously.

At the 2012 AGM, the Blackburn representative asked if a profit/loss over the period from 2005 could be made available. The General Secretary verbally went through the figures, with a profit being made in 7 years and a loss in 2 years, with an overall increase in the surplus fund of approx. £2800.

COUNTY MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT: This was circulated on the night and read out by Mrs J Rushton.

#### County Trials

The Cadet & Junior trials were held in September 2012 at Our Lady's RC High School in Higher Blackley, Manchester and were well attended. A few nominees failed to attend and were fined accordingly. I would like to thank Dave Goulden for organising and running the trials.

#### County Championships

There were 7 teams entered into the County Championships for season 2012/2013.

One Cadet, Two Junior, One Senior, Two Veterans and One Over 60's team.

Lancashire had a successful season with the Cadets, Junior 1<sup>st</sup> team and Seniors coming top of their respective divisions and the Veterans 2<sup>nd</sup> team, who came runners up.

#### CADETS

The Cadets, who had been promoted to the Premier Division, played over one weekend at Wellingborough in January and was captained by Dave Graham. As the matches were played over a weekend, Mrs Farnworth acted as chaperone. The team was supported by all the parents, who also provided transport. The team won six of their matches and drew one, resulting in them finishing top of the final table. Most of the team were presented with their awards at that weekend.

#### JUNIORS

The two Junior teams played in Division 2A at Draycott in November and Halton in March. The 1<sup>st</sup> team won all 6 matches, finished top and will gain promotion. Most players have already received their awards. The 2<sup>nd</sup> team came third in the division, winning 3, drawing 1 and losing 2. Both teams were captained by Dave Graham.

#### SENIORS

The Senior team in Division 2A, captained by Stan Clarke, was scheduled to play over two weekends with the first weekend at Cramlington, Northumberland, in December. Despite playing with a weakened team, the Seniors (which included some Junior players) played five matches, winning 4 and drawing 1. As some teams failed to play the first weekend, the County Championships Committee made a decision that the second weekend should not take place and the results of the Cramlington weekend should stand as the final table. Lancashire finished top of the table and will be promoted next season.

## VETERANS

The Veterans 1<sup>st</sup> team played in the Premier Division over two weekends at Cippenham in October and Draycott in February. Due to injuries, we did not have our strongest team on either weekend and out of the seven matches played, they won 2, drew 1 and lost 4 to come 6<sup>th</sup> in the final league table. Keith Williams was captain on both weekends.

The Veterans 2<sup>nd</sup> team was in Division 3A and at the start of the season, it was agreed that each county would play one single match with the remaining matches being played over a weekend at Halifax in April. With higher ranked players having played in the first team, Ken Jackson was signed for the Veterans 2<sup>nd</sup> team and played both sets of matches. The single match was played at home at the Daten Club in Culcheth, Warrington, against Yorkshire 5, which Lancashire won 6-4. Following the matches at Halifax, the team won a further 3 matches, lost 1 and finished runners up in the Division. The team was captained by Graham Coupe on both occasions.

## OVER 60's

The Over 60's team, captained by Ron Bennett, played in the Premier Division over two weekends in October and March at Milton Keynes. Of the 6 matches played, Lancashire won 1, drew 1 and lost 4, finishing next to bottom in the league, which may result in relegation next season.

Ron Bennett has decided to stand down as captain and I would like to thank him for his efforts since the team was first entered in the County Championships.

Congratulations go to the Cadet, Junior 1<sup>st</sup> and Senior teams for coming top of their divisions and to the Veterans 2<sup>nd</sup> team runners up position. I would also like to congratulate the players who are being awarded their County Badges.

Thanks should also be given to all those who captained the teams throughout the season, for all parents who helped with transport for the Cadets and Juniors and to each and every player for their efforts throughout the season.

## County Training Day

A County training day was held in April 2013 with Andrew Rushton as coach at Our Lady's RC High School. The top Cadet & Junior players were invited and all enjoyed a successful and hard working day.

Proposed by T Purcell, seconded by J Clegg that the report be accepted.

Carried unanimously.

## ELECTIONS:

President: Even with the President's current situation, due to his wife's illness, the Chairman proposed, seconded by Dave Graham, that our current President be re-elected.

Carried unanimously.

Vice Presidents: The Chairman asked that all the current Vice Presidents to be elected by the meeting, which was proposed by H Ross and seconded by T Purcell.

(The current Vice Presidents being Mrs D Yates, D Plowes, P Callaghan, G Stokes, N Deakin, Mrs J Rushton, K Williams, EA Pentland, G Rushton, D Graham, J Clegg)

Carried unanimously.

There had been no new nominations for the Executive Committee, hence the current Committee members, who were all willing to re-stand, they were re-elected un-opposed.

The Chairman stated that there were still vacancies on the Committee and if anyone would like to be co-opted, they should contact a committee member.

## PROPOSED RULE CHANGES:

There were no proposed rule changes.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

1. T Purcell, County Umpire Secretary, gave a brief update on new Lancashire umpires and the proposed junior umpire training session at the Formby Club.

2. Junior & Cadet Trials. It is planned to run the trials on 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> September 2013, subject to available venue, still to be decided.

3. G Rushton gave a more detailed account of the County Training Day, mentioned in the Match Secretary's report.

4. J Clegg commented that the coach, Andrew Rushton, had also done a successful coaching day at Preston in the week prior to the County Training Day.

5. The Chairman gave a brief summary of the ETTA changes and the state of the current ETTA finances, which the new administration will not know about until after the ETTA AGM on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

There will be a proposal at the AGM to raise the Player Membership fee from £6 to £8 for Seniors and £3 to £4 for Juniors.

The Chairman also stated that if any local league wanted for him to act as their proxy for voting at the AGM, then he would be willing to do so. He did also state that he can only vote on any of the proposal in accordance with decision of the local leagues concerned.

The Chairman closed the meeting at approx. 8.30pm, thanking all those present for attending.