



West Kent Table Tennis Association
(formerly Tonbridge & Tunbridge Wells Table Tennis League)
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
27th June 2014
at
Leigh Small Village Hall

Attendees:

Malcolm Cole (Chairman) (MC)	Ming Majoe (General Secretary) (MM)	
Dean Chipperfield	Peter Coles	Dave Cowlen
Steve Day (SD)	Peter Duke	John Knock
Dan Powley	Roger Pingram	Mike Sefton
Nick Smith	Ty Stalberg (TS)	Sue Sullivan
Tony York	Jenny Blackburn (Guest)	

Apologies for Absence:

Neil Marsden Mark Heaton Brian Lees Steve Johnson

1. WELCOME

The Chairman (MC) opened the meeting by welcoming all those present and advising 'Apologies for Absence'. He also thanks fellow committee members for their support and hard work during the year.

2. MINUTES OF 2013/14 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the previous season's AGM were approved and a proposal was received from the floor that they be adopted as a true record. The floor seconded the proposal

3. MATTERS ARISING

None

4. REPORTS

General Secretary, Ming Majoe (MM) gave his report for the season 2013/14. The highlights of which were:

- Successful competitions on three fronts, 11 Up, won by Otford A, Handicap Competition won by Byng Hall B and the new Doubles Competition won by Team Kapow
- Also a successful year for Kent League teams – see below
- Establishment of sub committees to look at Marketing & Communications and the League Structure

- Thank you to both John Knock and Alan Woollven for their many years service to the league. Both stood down from their roles of President and League Development Officer, respectively.
- MM also advised of his intention to resign as General Secretary after around twenty years in office. MC led the meeting in thanking MM for his contribution over the years and presented him with an award to mark his service.

In the absence of the Treasurer, Brian Lees, MC gave a brief report on the League financial status. Copies of the audited accounts were circulated with the meeting agenda prior to the meeting. Highlights were:

- Revenue was lower than previous season largely due to the fact that there was no Closed Tournament income
- Expenses were slightly higher than in 2012/13 largely due to the purchase of shirts for the Kent League teams and expenditure on the League Development Project
- Overall a loss of £331.68 was incurred
- The League retains £3742.86 in funds for future years

The accounts were adopted having being proposed and seconded by the floor.

The next report from the League Development Sub Committee, was provided by SD, who outlined the purpose of the committee and the work undertaken to date. The ultimate goal of committee is find ways of providing a sustainable future for the league. A key part of this will be to raise the profile of the league and create more public awareness of our activities. A key finding of the committee was that the name of the league did not represent its catchment area and in fact it was a deterrent when trying to attract new players from areas outside of Tonbridge or Tunbridge Wells. As a result, the committee has recommended that the league change its name to West Kent Table Tennis Association. It also recommended to the General Committee, and was approved, that new Sunday morning table tennis sessions run by the league are started to attract developing players. They are being run at T & 20 and an advertising campaign has already commenced. This largely involved the distribution of leaflets across our catchment area. BBC Radio Kent also mentioned the sessions on their 'What's on at the Weekend' slot. Attendance, so far, had been low, however, those that have come will be playing competitively in the forthcoming season.

SD also mentioned that two events were under consideration, National TT Day at Byng Hall and an exhibition at Rusthall Fete. The latter was to help the local Parish Council launch their new outdoor table. Suggestions came from the floor as to how to maximise publicity of these events. Unfortunately, due to time constraints some may not be possible.

TS provided the next report, which was on the work of the League Structure sub Committee. In brief, he summarised the work undertaken, their findings and their recommendations, which are outlined below:

11-Up Divisions

- If less than eighteen teams are entered, the 11-up league will consist of two divisions. If there are eighteen or more teams entered, there will be three divisions.

- In the case of two divisions, teams will play each other three times during the course of the season with the top and bottom *two* teams being promoted/relegated at the end of the season.
- In the case of three divisions, teams will play each other four times during the course of the season with the top and bottom teams being promoted/relegated both at the mid-point and at the end of the season.
- The Committee will use its discretion in allocating teams between divisions but wherever possible will honour promotions won at the end of last season

Match format

- Teams will continue to be three person teams, but there will no longer be a doubles game played at the end of the match.

Note: It was decided to not play the doubles element of matches to allow a somewhat earlier finish to matches, recognising that late finishes are difficult for juniors and also many members have long commutes/early morning starts.

Doubles Competition

- Following the success of last years doubles competition, the competition will be run again this season, with three evenings prior to Christmas and three after.

Handicap Competition

- There will be no handicap competition next season.

Development League

- It is hoped to operate a Development League aimed at juniors and developing players below an agreed ratings level. Teams will consist of two players with matches commencing at 7.30 pm and finishing by 9.00 pm. The objective of the Development League is to provide a friendly and supportive environment for juniors and developing players to enjoy competitive table tennis and act as a stepping stone to the main league competitions. The Development League will operate during the same weeks as the Doubles Competition.

The final report was provided by MC who confirmed, as already reported by MM, that it was a successful season for both Kent League teams. The B team finished top of Division 2 by one point from our A team. It was a close-run finish with the B having to secure almost maximum points from their last game to gain the promotion place to Division 1.

Next season the league will enter three teams with the new team joining Division 2. The structure of each team is still to be decided.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Chairman, Treasurer and Registration Secretary were all re-elected. However, the General Secretary, Ming Majoe, stood down and Steve Day was elected as his replacement. Vice

Chairman, Mark Heaton also resigned and was replaced by Ty Stalberg. Ming Majoe was elected as President to replace John Knock. Sarah Maris was elected as a member of the General Committee. An additional representative from Byng Hall will also be sought for the General Committee.

All other existing members of the General Committee were re-elected, as were all existing Vice Presidents. Mike Palmer was nominated as a Vice President and the Chairman will approach Mike to seek his agreement (MP subsequently declined).

6. PROPOSALS

The following were made and adopted:

1. Name change to West Kent Table Tennis Association
2. Insert a rule 0 (with subsequent renumbering) thus: The Association. The Association shall be known as the West Kent Table Tennis Association.
3. Alter rules 2 to 9 to read "The Association" or "The Association's" and not "The League" as applicable.
4. Change Rule 1 to: The League. The Association shall run a League. The Rules under which the League's competitions shall be played shall be those of Table Tennis England subject to the discretion of the Association's Committee. Clubs shall be required to pay affiliation fees to the K.C.T.T.A., which shall be payable to the Association in advance, and must be paid by July 31st. A Junior League, open to all players below the age of 18, shall be created as and when feasible to function outside the adult league, but to be considered as part of the West Kent Table Tennis Association. At the time of paying the above fees a deposit, repayable at the end of the season, of 1 per team or 2 per club, whichever is the lesser, shall be paid. The Association's Committee shall be empowered to deduct from this deposit fines levied during the following season, which have not been paid within one month of their imposition.
5. Proposition 2.4. Change the logo to:



6. Change the current league structure as follows:

- (a) 11-Up matches 9 singles only
- (b) Cease Handicap Competition
- (c) Continue separate Doubles Competition during fill in weeks
- (d) Two divisions unless a minimum of 18 teams enter, in which case three divisions where playing standards render appropriate.
- (e) Establish new Development League for Junior players and lower rated players

7. Alter rule 12 to read: Each team shall consist of three players. Each player in one team shall play each player in the opposing team one set, the result of which shall be determined by the best of five games. In other words, remove the sentence "There will be one doubles match that may remain undeclared prior to the commencement of the match."

8. Alter rule 19 to read Points for matches shall be awarded on the basis of one point per set, i.e. 9-0, 8-1, 7-2, etc.

Alter rule 25 to read: In a match where one team is at full strength and any or all of the opposing team fail to arrive, the sets un-played shall be awarded to the team that is at full strength. In the case where both teams are one player short only, the match will still be played. Two of the five un-played games shall be awarded to each team; the fifth un-played game shall be awarded to the team winning a doubles match. Where a team fails to arrive without notification to its opponents, a fine may be imposed, of no more than £2, and the points awarded to the opposing team.

9. Change rule 27 to read: In the case of three divisions, the teams winning Divisions Two and Three shall be promoted at the end of the season. In the case of two divisions, the winners and runners up of Division Two shall be promoted at the end of the season.

10. Change rule 28 to read: In the case of three divisions, the teams finishing the season at the bottom of Divisions One and Two shall be relegated. In the case of two divisions, the teams finishing the season bottom and next to bottom of Division One shall be relegated.

11. Remove rule 33.

12. Change rule 24 to: Results must be notified to the Registration Secretary no later than 2 days after the match has been played either by original in the post, by facsimile, via a scanned copy submitted electronically or by use of the online web page. Where the original is not forwarded, it should be retained until the end of the season and if requested by the committee submitted to the Registration Secretary.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

SD raised the topic of New Balls as they are being gradually introduced over the next 12 months by the ITTF and Table Tennis England. Local Leagues do not have to introduce the ball until July 2015. However, they will be used in some competitions such as the National Championships and GrandPrix.

The issue of availability was raised. So far only Joola and Tibhar are producing balls on a major scale. Other makes were delaying production until 2015. After much debate it was decided to adopt the new ball for the forthcoming season. In order to achieve the best possible price SD offered to contact Bribar to see if a discount was available for a bulk order.

8. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

MC and newly elected President, MM presented last season winners with their trophies

9. MEETING CLOSURE

MC thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.