



## **West Kent Table Tennis Association**

### **AGM Information**

#### **Leigh Small Hall**

26th June 2015

8pm

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# **1 Agenda**

## **1.1 Apologies for absence**

Any apologies for absence. Dan Powley and Dave Cowlen have already sent their apologies in advance.

## **1.2 Minutes of last AGM**

Minutes of the last AGM, detailed in section 3, are submitted for approval.

## **1.3 Matters arising**

Any matters relating to last year's minutes in need of discussion.

## **1.4 Reports**

### **1.4.1 Hon. General Secretary**

The Hon. General Secretary presents his report for the year.

### **1.4.2 Hon. Treasurer**

The Hon. Treasurer presents his report for the year. The accounts can be seen in section 4.

### **1.4.3 Kent League**

Report on Kent League teams 2014/15.

## **1.5 Election of Officers**

*Rule 3: All officers shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election. Nominations shall be made at the Annual General Meeting, and if more names are proposed than the number required to fill the vacancies the election shall be by ballot.*

### **1.5.1 Chairman**

Held by Malcolm Cole in 2014/15. Malcolm has decided to stand down and therefore a new chairman is required.

### **1.5.2 President**

Held by Ming Majoe in 2014/15.

### **1.5.3 Hon. General Secretary**

Held by Steve Day in 2014/15. Steve is unable to continue in this role and a volunteer will be required to fill this position.

### **1.5.4 Hon. Registration Secretary**

Held by Dan Powley in 2014/15. Dan has indicated he will be willing to continue in the role for 2015/16.

### **1.5.5 Hon. Treasurer**

Held by Brian Lees in 2014/15. Brian has indicated that he is able to continue as treasurer.

### **1.5.6 Vice Chairman**

Held by Tyron Stalberg in 2014/15.

### **1.5.7 Development Officer**

This role is currently administered by the League Development sub-committee, chaired by Steve Day. Steve is unable to continue and therefore a new sub-committee Chairman/Development Officer is required.

### 1.5.8 General Committee

General committee members for 2014/15 were David Cowlen, John Davison, Roger Harris, Sarah Maris, Neil Marsden, Roger Pingram, Nick Smith, Sue Sullivan and Tony York. Sue Sullivan later resigned from the committee.

### 1.5.9 Vice Presidents

Vice Presidents for 2014/15 were J. Batchelor, J. Bateup, A. R. Blundell, J. Butler, Mrs. M. Carden, M. Cole, J. Davison, H. A. Hart, P. Henderson, B. S. Hodder, E. G. B. Houghton, R. Jeffery, C. Kelly, J. Knock, B. Lees, Mrs D. Levey, D. Lowrie, H. M. Macdonald, J. Neal, D. Pilcher, J. Reeves, R. Smewing, R. Taylor, A. J. W. Woollven and D. Wootten. Sadly Harry Hart, John Knock and Doreen Levey passed away during the year.

## 1.6 Proposals

### 1.6.1 Constitution and Rules

**Proposition 1.1.** *Subject to the potential league structure changes, the committee proposes the association adopt the following constitution (with notes in italics):*

#### CONSTITUTION AND RULES

##### The Association.

1. The Association shall be known as the West Kent Table Tennis Association. Our Association shall be affiliated to English Table Tennis Association Limited known as Table Tennis England and Kent County Table Tennis Association (K.C.T.T.A.) and adopts the disciplinary codes of those bodies.

*No change of substance, but recites affiliation to National and County bodies with their disciplinary codes.*

##### The League.

2. The Association shall run a League. The Rules under which the Leagues competitions shall be played shall be those of Table Tennis England subject to the discretion of the Associations 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 Development League, open to all players of all ages, shall be created as and when feasible to function outside the principal league and subject to such rules as the Committee shall from season to season decide, but to be considered as part of the West Kent Table Tennis Association.

*Changed junior league to development league to more accurately describe the current situation, principal now seems more appropriate and the committee are specifically given the power to decide rules for the development league each season. Removes fines.*

##### Management

3. The Association shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the following Officers, namely:- Chairman, Vice-Chairman, General Secretary, Treasurer, Registration Secretary and at least seven others.

*Removed Hon and added General to General Secretary.*

##### Election and Retirement of Officers and Committee

4. All members of the committee shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election. Nominations shall be made at the Annual General Meeting, and if more names are proposed than the number required to fill the vacancies the election shall be by ballot.

*It is not only the Officers who retire annually.*

##### Power of Committee

5. The Committee shall have the power:

- (i) to appoint Sub-Committees for specific purposes;
- (ii) to co-opt to fill any vacancy;
- (iii) to exercise their discretion where the Rules are silent.

*No change.*

##### Annual General Meeting

6. The A.G.M. of the Association shall be held not more than 84 days after the close of the season, when the Report of the Committee and the accounts for the past year, duly audited, shall be presented, the Officers

and other members of the Committee and the auditors for the ensuing year elected, and all general business transacted. At least ONE Member of each Club shall attend. Each registered player and each member of the Committee shall have one single vote and the Chairman of the Annual General Meeting shall have an additional casting vote in the event of a tied vote.

*Changed to allow more time after the end of the season and provides specified time within which the A.G.M. should be held. The voting rights are clarified.*

### **Extraordinary General Meeting**

7. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time at the discretion of the Committee and shall be called within 21 days after the receipt by the General Secretary of a requisition in writing to that effect signed by at least six members. Every such requisition shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened and no other business shall be transacted at such meeting. Voting rights at an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be the same as those for an Annual General Meeting.

*Changed Secretary to General Secretary and again voting rights clarified.*

### **Notice of General Meeting**

8. A notice of each General Meeting shall be sent to each Club Secretary at least 14 days prior to the day fixed for such meeting. *Changed printed notice to notice and club to club secretary.*

### **Quorum at General Meeting**

9. No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present and such quorum shall consist of at least 5 percent of the membership.

*No change.*

### **Meetings of Committee**

10. The Committee shall meet not less than six times a year and if possible at intervals of no more than two months during the season. No business other than the formal adjournment of the Meeting shall be transacted at any Committee meeting unless a quorum be present and such quorum shall consist of no fewer than five of the Committee. Resolutions etc. shall be passed by a majority of votes properly recorded, and in the case of any equality of votes the Chairman shall have the casting vote. Any members of the Committee having been absent from three consecutive meetings without satisfactory explanation being received by the General Secretary or Chairman shall cease to be members of the Committee.

*Meetings every month does not happen so this has been changed. Also change Secretary to General Secretary.*

## **RULES**

### **The Principal League Competition**

11. Clubs shall make application to the Registration Secretary, in writing, by 31st July, stating their required team entries for the following season (usually running from September of the current year to the end of April the following year). A Club wishing to enter a new team into the League may nominate this team for a specific Division, the acceptance of this nomination resting with the Committee. A club entering more than one team shall arrange their teams in descending order of playing strength designated from "A" downwards. Teams that have been accepted into the League but who subsequently withdraw, either before or during the playing season, shall cause their Club to be fined at the discretion of the Committee. *Clarifies this rule applies only to the main league competition, changes Secretary to Registration Secretary and moves team playing strength to rule 11.*

12. The Committee shall be empowered to structure the League for the coming season in the light of team applications received. *No change other than capitalisation.*

13. 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. *No change.*

14. At least three players shall be nominated for each team. No player may play for a lower team without prior written permission (written permission includes email) from the Committee. A player may play up for a higher rated team of their own club but once the player has played six matches for a higher rated team or teams that player shall not compete in a lower team without the prior sanction of the Committee. If the player playing up in a higher team has a higher rating than the third highest rated player in that team, that player may only play for that higher team on two separate occasions during each half season and only once against the same team.

A rating will be allocated by the Registration Secretary to a previously unrated player having consulted with the relevant club secretary or team captain and taking into consideration any data from Table Tennis England or other leagues. Such rating may be amended accordingly after the Registration Secretary has received the results from at least three relevant matches.

*Made playing up rules clearer, amended Ratings Officer to Registration Secretary. Removes the reference to nominated players, which implies another category of unnominated players about which the rules are silent.*

15. A player may only play in a match in the principal league of the Association once their registration has been completed in accordance with the next following Rule and they have been registered with Player Membership of Table Tennis England. A player having won 50 percent of their sets in League matches may not play in a lower division unless their team was relegated. In calculating such percentage sets won by default shall not be taken into account. The Committee reserve the right in all cases to define the Division below which any individual player shall not be permitted to play. Any Team contravening any part of this Rule shall forfeit the sets concerned.

*Amended wording to represent the intention of the rule and adds requirement for Table Tennis England Player Membership, standardising use of sets to accord with other rules.*

16. The name of each player must be entered on a league registration form by their respective Club, and this form, together with a registration fee of £9.00 (Junior Members under the age of 18 on December 31st within the playing season £3.00) must be sent to the Registration Secretary. A player registered after commencement of the season will not be eligible to play in any League matches until the Club Secretary or Team Captain has received confirmation of registration from the Registration Secretary or in his absence either the league Chairman, General Secretary or Treasurer. The Committee shall have discretion to decline any new registration after 31st December for any team for which their playing strength is considered inappropriate having regard to the division in which that team plays.

*Amended to allow team captains to receive registration confirmation, changed Secretary to General Secretary and final sentence altered to make intention clearer.*

17. A player who has played three matches for a Club in one season is not eligible to play for any other Club in the same season, but in exceptional circumstances a player can apply to the Committee for transfer to another Club.

*No changes.*

18. Any team having played at least two-thirds of its fixtures and unable to fulfil remaining fixtures forfeits these to its opponents. *No change.*

19. Each team shall play every other team in the same division at least twice and at least once at home. Matches shall normally be played on only one table, starting by 7.30 p.m. If the home team require an early finish, sets may also be played on a second table of the same standard in equivalent playing conditions. Unless otherwise agreed by both acting captains sets shall only be played in the order shown on the official match card.

*Altered into more natural English, standardising use of sets to accord with other rules and different stress concerning the use of a second table to accord with current practice.*

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

*No change.*

21. Clubs shall endeavour to provide the highest possible playing conditions with a minimum of 500 lux across the whole playing area and any written directives from the League Committee shall be carried out promptly.

*The current rule contains a logical absurdity, wattage is no longer an appropriate measure and a week may be an unreasonably short period for compliance e.g. if a qualified electrician needs to be employed.*

22. (a) When submitting their team entry for the following season clubs shall state their regular home night which the General Secretary shall cause to be communicated to every Club Secretary before the playing season starts and any change of regular home night shall require the approval of the League Committee.

*Provides for home nights to be stipulated at time of entry submission, allows for home nights to be communicated other than through a (paper) handbook and for delegation of this. Also provides for change of home night subject to committee approval, which could be subject to conditions e.g. about communication. Also amend to General Secretary.*

(b) A match may be played on a night during the week allocated for it in the fixture list other than the regular home night if both teams agree. Otherwise no fixture rearrangement shall be allowed except in the case of (i) inclement weather or (ii) non-availability of the home venue. The decision of the Committee on both these points shall be final.

*Clarifies when a match can be rearranged and avoids the use of the misleading words postponement and cancellation.*

(c) If any match is not played in accordance with this Rule, a team judged by the Committee to be at fault shall receive no points and the Committee shall award points to a non-defaulting team taking into consideration relevant matches played up until the end of the first half of the season or the date of the relevant meeting of the Committee if later.

*Clearer wording of the old rule 22(d) which nonsensically stated that if a team postponed a match e.g. for non-availability of home venue it would receive no points despite playing an allowed postponement! Also allows for the possibility of both teams being at fault in failing to agree a rearrangement (it happens) and allows the Committee not to ignore new circumstances after the end of the first half. Generally the same numbering has been kept, but the old 22 (c) and (f) seem otiose here.*

(d) The captain of a team requesting a rearrangement must notify the Registration Secretary no later than 24 hours from the time when the match was due to be played.

*Use of captain rather than secretary of team to accord with normal usage.*

23. Teams must ensure that all rearranged matches are played no later than the end of the last week for matches in the League Competition matches shown in the fixture list.

*Defines the period in which rearranged matches must be played by reference to the main league competition. Second sentence of old rule is duplication.*

24. The home and away teams shall be responsible alternately for providing an umpire for each set. The decision of such umpire, who may be a player in the match, shall be final.

*Altered to provide for the umpiring to be shared between the teams.*

25. Results must be notified to the Registration Secretary preferably using the online facility on the website of the Association and otherwise electronically by a scanned copy of the match card, by facsimile or by posting, in all cases within 48 hours of the end of each match. If the original match card is not sent, it shall be retained until the end of the season and provided to the Registration Secretary upon request by the Committee.

*Slight rewording to give greater emphasis to use of the website for submission of results.*

26. All teams shall endeavour to field a full team for every match. When only one team has a full side for a match the unplayed sets shall be awarded to that team. If both teams are short of a player the match shall be played: two of the unplayed sets shall be awarded to each team and the team winning a set of doubles played between the players present shall receive an additional point. One player shall not constitute a team.

*Simplifies wording and clarifies the points to be awarded, but specifies that one player shall not constitute a team. The present rule actually (and specifically!) allows that, meaning six points should be awarded to the non-defaulting team, from which it would follow that at least six points ought always be awarded to a non-defaulting team for an unplayed match.*

27. The home team shall choose and provide 3 star balls of any colour approved under the Laws of Table Tennis, but the same colour ball shall be used throughout any match.

*Currently the Laws do not allow yellow balls, grade of ball specified.*

### **Promotion and Relegation**

28. In the case of three divisions, the teams winning Divisions Two and Three shall be promoted mid season and 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.

*No change.*

29. In the case of three divisions, the teams finishing bottom of Divisions One and Two shall be relegated mid season and at the end of the season. In the case of two divisions, the teams finishing the season bottom and next to bottom of Division One shall be relegated at the end of the season.

*No change.*

30. In the event of a tie on points for a place in the League Table, the final standings shall be decided by (a) matches won, and if still a tie (b) the results of matches played between the teams involved. If there

is still a tie between teams affecting a promotion or relegation, a playoff match or matches shall be arranged by the Committee at a venue which is neutral or agreed between the teams.

*Clearer wording and removal of what seems to be a duplication.*

### **Amendments**

31. Proposals for all new rules and amendments to rules shall be submitted in writing to the General Secretary by the end of the April preceding the relevant Annual General Meeting.

*Slight change of wording, added General to Secretary.*

### **Conduct**

32. Any dispute shall be referred in writing to the General Secretary within 48 hours after the dispute has arisen, a copy of the complaint being sent by the General Secretary to the club of the player or players concerned. Any such dispute shall automatically be referred to the Committee for settlement and the decision of the Committee shall be final provided that it is in accordance with these Rules and does not breach the rules and regulations of the County or National Associations or the principles of natural justice.

*Clarifies who should copy the complaint and avoids appearing to oust the right of appeal to the County Association (cf Kent Rule 14).*

33. Clubs which are persistently in breach of these Rules despite a written warning to that effect shall not be readmitted to the League the following season.

*No fines.*

### **Closed Tournament**

34. The qualification and other rules shall be agreed by the Committee each year and shown on or referenced in the entry form.

*Amplification of the present Rule.*

### **Newsletter**

35. Information contained in the Association Newsletter under the heading League Committee Notes is to be regarded as an official communication from the Association to its member clubs.

*No change.*

### **The Baldry Cup**

36. The Baldry Cup shall be awarded to the individual who achieves the highest average in Division One, having played in at least two thirds of the maximum matches playable.

*Avoids inconsistent use of games and improves wording to clarify that the Cup is not awarded if the player with the highest average does not play sufficient matches.*

### **The Pilcher Trophy**

37. The Pilcher Cup shall be awarded to the individual under 18 years of age on the 1st July preceding the playing season who achieves the highest rating at the end of the season, having played in at least two thirds of the maximum matches playable.

*Same comment.*

### **The Paul White Memorial Cup**

38. The Paul White Memorial Cup shall be awarded to the individual who has shown the greatest improvement during the season.

*No change.*

## **1.6.2 League Structure**

### **1.6.2.1 Introduction/Background**

You will recall that at last years AGM we presented our plans for the future development of our league, which included, inter alia:

- Change of name to West Kent Table Tennis Association
- Commencement of Sunday Morning Practice Sessions
- Establishment of a Development League



The main aim of the development plan, and the initiatives therein, was to halt the decline in the number of clubs, teams and players participating in our league by attracting new and developing players from the West Kent area.

We are pleased to report that much of what we had planned has been implemented and even more pleased to say that they have been a success. The Sunday morning sessions have attracted over twenty new and developing players and the Development League a further ten or more new participants.

As a direct result we hope to have two new teams entering our main league competitions next season.

#### **1.6.2.2 What Next?**

Whilst we are delighted with our success so far in attracting new and developing players, we also want to make our competitions attractive to higher standard players, too. That includes those that already play in WKTTA as well as those that do not.

So, we set about asking them how we could improve. We contacted a broad base of players, including some from our current Divisions 1 and 2.

The response was similar regardless of playing standard; we need to adapt our competitions to modern society and the increased demands on our time. By way of example, comments included:

- Better playing conditions, in terms of venues
- Faster match formats to permit earlier finishes
- Improved regularity of matches less gaps in the playing schedules
- Playing new and/or different players
- Closer competition between players and teams

In order to explore these thoughts the Committee established a Working Group and gave it the mandate to review our current league structure and investigate how and whether these ideas could be incorporated.

The outcome of the group's work is a new proposal for the gradual change of our current league structure, details of which will be forwarded to you shortly.

### **1.7 Any other business**

Open to the floor.

### **1.8 Presentation of awards and trophies**

## **2 Reference A: Rules 2014/15**

### **CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

#### **The Association.**

1. The Association shall be known as the West Kent Table Tennis Association.

#### **The League.**

2. The Association shall run a League. The Rules under which the Leagues competitions shall be played shall be those of Table Tennis England subject to the discretion of the Associations 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 Associations 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.

#### **Management**

3. The Association shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the following Officers, namely:- Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Registration Secretary and at least seven others.

#### **Election and Retirement of Officers and Committee**

4. All officers shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election. Nominations shall be made at the Annual General Meeting, and if more names are proposed than the number required to fill the vacancies the election shall be by ballot.

#### **Power of Committee**

5. The Committee shall have the power:  
(i) to appoint Sub-Committees for specific purposes;  
(ii) to co-opt to fill any vacancy;  
(iii) to exercise their discretion where the Rules are silent.

#### **Annual General Meeting**

6. The A.G.M. of the Association shall be held as soon as possible after the close of the season, when the Report of the Committee and the accounts for the past year, duly audited, shall be presented, the Officers and other members of the Committee and the auditors, for the ensuing year elected, and all general business transacted. At least ONE Member of each Club shall attend. Voting rights may be exercised only by subscribing members. The Chairman of the Annual General Meeting shall have a casting vote.

#### **Extraordinary General Meeting**

7. An extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time at the discretion of the Committee and shall be called within 21 days after the receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing to that effect signed by at least six members. Every such requisition shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened and no other business shall be transacted at such meeting.

#### **Notice of General Meeting**

8. A printed notice of each General Meeting shall be sent to each Club at least 14 days prior to the day fixed for such meeting.

#### **Quorum at General Meeting**

9. No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present and such quorum shall consist of at least 5 percent of the membership.

#### **Meetings of Committee**

10. The Committee shall meet, if possible, once per month. No business other than the formal adjournment of the Meeting shall be transacted at any Committee meeting unless a quorum be present and such quorum shall consist of not less than five of the Committee. Resolutions etc. will be passed by a majority of votes properly recorded, and in the case of any equality of votes the Chairman shall have the casting vote. Any members of the Committee having been absent from three consecutive meetings without satisfactory explanation being

received by the Secretary or Chairman shall cease to be members of the Committee.

## **RULES**

### **The League Competition**

11. Clubs will make application to the Secretary, in writing, by 31st July, stating their required Team Entries for the following season (usually running from September of the current year to the end of April the following year). A Club wishing to enter a new team into the League may nominate this team for a specific Division, the acceptance of this nomination resting with the Committee. Teams that have been accepted into the League but who subsequently withdraw, either before or during the playing season, shall cause their Club to be fined at the discretion of the Committee.

12. The Committee shall be empowered to structure the League for the coming season in the light of Team Applications received.

13. 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.

14. Each Club having more than one team in the League shall, before the beginning of the season, arrange them in a descending order of playing strength, the A team being the strongest, and so on. Each team shall have at least three nominated players, who may not play for a lower team without prior permission in writing from the Committee.

In addition to playing for their own team a nominated player may play once as a reserve for a higher rated team in their club in the same week. No nominated player, however, may play more than a total of five times in one season for higher rated teams in their club without becoming ineligible to continue playing for the team that they were registered for at the start of the season, except at the discretion and with the approval of the Committee. Should the nominated player playing up have a higher rating than the player being substituted, then the nominated player may only play for that particular team on two separate occasions being once during each half season and only once against the same opposing team.

A rating will be allocated by the Ratings Officer to a previously unrated player having consulted with the relevant club secretary, team captain and taking into consideration any data from Table Tennis England or other leagues. Such rating may be amended accordingly subject to receipt of results from at least 3 relevant matches.

15. A player having won 50 percent of their sets in League matches and representing a team that has been relegated, may play in a lower Division. In calculating such percentage sets won by default shall not be taken into account. The Committee reserve the right in all cases to define the Division below which any individual player shall not be permitted to play. No un-registered player shall play in the League. Any Team contravening any part of this Rule shall forfeit the games concerned.

16. The name of each player must be entered on a league registration form by their respective Club, and this form, together with a registration fee of £9.00 (Junior Members under the age of 18 on December 31st within the playing season £3.00) must be sent to the Registration Secretary. A player registered after commencement of the season will not be eligible to play in any League matches until the Club Secretary has received confirmation of registration from the Registration Secretary or in his absence either the league Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer. Any player seeking registration after 31st December will be eligible to join subject to the committee's discretion.

17. A player who has played three matches for a Club in one season is not eligible to play for any other Club in the same season, but in exceptional circumstances a player can apply to the Committee for transfer to another Club.

18. Any team having played at least two-thirds of its fixtures and unable to fulfil remaining fixtures forfeits these to its opponents.

19. Each team shall be required to play a minimum of two matches against each opposing team, at least one of which will be a home match. Matches shall normally be played on one table only commencing by 7.30pm. In extenuating circumstances, if both teams are agreed, games may also be played on a second table which should be of the same standard providing equivalent playing conditions. Matches shall be played only in the order set out in the official score card, subject to agreement of both acting captains.

20. Points for matches shall be awarded on the basis of one point per set, i.e. 9-0, 8-1, 7-2, etc.
21. Clubs shall provide the highest possible standard of playing conditions, with a minimum of 150 watts of light over half of the Table, any directives from the League Committee, in writing, shall be carried out within seven days.
22. (a) Clubs will notify the League Secretary of regular nights upon which each of their teams will play Home matches and a list of these will be sent out to Club Secretaries before the playing season commences, and shall be set out in the League Handbook.
- (b) No cancellations or postponements allowed outside the allocated week except for:
- (i) Inclement weather;
- (ii) Non-availability of the Home venue. The Committees decision on both these points is final.
- (c) Any rearrangements within the allocated week will not be regarded as a postponement.
- (d) The team postponing shall not receive any points and the committee shall, award points to the non-postponing team taking into consideration relevant matches played up to the end of the first half of the season.
- (e) The secretary of the team requesting the postponement must notify the Registration Secretary not later than 24 hours from when the match was due to be played. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the appropriate team being fined.
- (f) For the purposes of these rules, season shall be defined as the period covered by the fixture chart in the handbook.
23. Clubs must ensure that all matches are played by the end of the week following the close of the season. Any team responsible for outstanding matches beyond that week shall forfeit such matches and be fined.
24. Each team shall provide an umpire, who may be a member of the team, and all games must be umpired. The umpires decision will be final.
25. Results must be notified to the Registration Secretary no later than two 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.
26. 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.
27. The colour of the ball shall be white, yellow, orange, or any colour as approved by Table Tennis England, with the choice of colour being with the home team. The colour of ball, once chosen, must be used throughout the entire match.

### **Promotion and Relegation**

28. In the case of three divisions, the teams winning Divisions Two and Three shall be promoted mid season and 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.
29. In the case of three divisions, the teams finishing bottom of Divisions One and Two shall be relegated mid season and at the end of the season. In the case of two divisions, the teams finishing the season bottom and next to bottom of Division One shall be relegated at the end of the season.
30. In the event of a tie for a place in the League Table, the higher place shall be awarded to the team winning the most matches. The final positions shall be decided by (a) matches won, (b) matches drawn, (c) the results of matches played between the teams involved in the tie. If a tie remains a further match or matches shall be played at a neutral or a venue agreed by both teams. If there is still a tie for the first two positions or bottom two positions a play off shall be arranged by the Committee.

### **Amendments**

31. All new rules and amendments to existing rules shall be sent in writing to the Secretary by April 30th, preceding the Annual General Meeting.

#### **Disputes**

32. Any disputes shall be referred in writing to the Secretary not later than forty-eight hours after the dispute has arisen, a copy of the complaint being sent to the players Club concerned. Any such dispute will automatically be referred to the Committee for settlement and the decision of the Committee will be final.

#### **Fines**

33. The Committee shall be empowered to levy fines not exceeding 50p for the contravention of these Rules, with the exception of Rules 11 and 17 where the maximum fine shall be £1, and Rule 26 where the maximum fine shall be £2. Fines imposed on Clubs during the season shall be paid as soon as possible after notification of their imposition, and in any case must be paid in full by the date of the A.G.M. Clubs with fines outstanding at that date will not be re-admitted to the League the following season.

#### **Closed Tournament**

34. Qualification rules as shown on Tournament entry form.

#### **Newsletter**

35. Information contained in the League Newsletter under the heading League Committee Notes is to be regarded as an official communication from the League to its Member Clubs.

#### **The Baldry Cup**

36. The Baldry Cup shall be awarded to the individual who achieves the highest average in Division One, provided that the individual has played at least two thirds of the maximum games playable.

#### **The Pilcher Trophy**

37. The Pilcher Trophy shall be awarded to the individual, under 18 years of age on 1st July preceding the playing season, who achieves the highest rating at the end of the season, provided that the individual has played at least two thirds of the maximum games playable.

#### **The Paul White Memorial Cup**

38. The Paul White Memorial Cup shall be awarded to the individual who has shown the greatest improvement during the season.

### 3 Reference B: Minutes of the 2013/14 AGM



**West Kent Table Tennis Association**  
(formerly Tonbridge & Tunbridge Wells Table Tennis League)  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**27<sup>th</sup> 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)	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.

## **6. 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.

## **7. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES**

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

## **8. MEETING CLOSURE**

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

## 4 Reference C: Accounts

To follow.