

Annual General Meeting

Important Information

Introduction & Central Venue

Our AGM is on Friday 24 June at 7.30 pm at the Leigh Small Hall. This is an important meeting for WKTТА as apart from the usual formalities required by the AGM, we will also be revealing our plans for a move to a central venue next season. Our intention to do this and reasons why were explained at the last AGM and of course will be explained in full on Friday, but to recap, it is a very important step for us to sustain and grow our Association and to generally increase participation in the area. The Management Committee fully support this change.

We will not however be asking you to vote on this proposal next Friday as we realise it is important that everyone is given information and time to think about this change and ask questions if necessary. So the process will be that we present details of the plan at the AGM and then ask you to vote on the proposal at an Extraordinary General Meeting approximately two weeks later. Just to explain, at the 2015 AGM when the members present agreed in principle to the adoption of central venue play and that a search for a suitable venue should be pursued, it was also agreed that all the members of the Association would have another opportunity to vote before the switch to central venue play was introduced.

Immediately after next week's meeting we will distribute information about the new venue and the move so that everyone has the same information.

The agenda and supporting documents for the AGM can be found on the WKTТА website by following the link below. The documents consist of the following:

- Agenda, proposals for rule amendments and the revised rules if the proposed rule changes are adopted
- The Secretary's Report
- The Treasurers report

<http://goo.gl/k7BBEo>

There are some specific proposals and rule changes on which we will be asking you to vote and so that you can have a think about the proposed changes before the meeting, an overview of the proposals is set out below. Please note that there may be a need for some further rule changes if we move to a central venue, but we will deal with these once the decision over the central venue has been taken.

1. Division Names

Last year we changed the names of divisions one and two to Premier and Division 1. After feedback from members and further consideration by the Committee, we have decided that it would be preferable to revert to the simple naming as Division 1 and Division 2.

Additionally the Development League will be changed to Development Division.

Those attending the meeting will be asked to vote on this proposal.

2. Reintroduction of Doubles as part of the 11-up competition.

The Committee would like to reintroduce doubles to the 11-up competition, but instead of doubles being tacked onto the end of a singles match as has been the case in the past, doubles matches will be played at intervals of several weeks during the season at either the central venue (if adopted) or one of the WKTТА club venues. Typically a doubles evening will consist of three or four matches

against the same teams that have been played in the 11-up competition during the previous weeks. Points will be added to the 11-up league totals.

We believe this will add an enjoyable additional element to the 11-up competition.

As a secondary option and assuming members vote in favour of reintroduction of doubles, members will be asked to vote on whether a doubles win should count as one or two points for addition to the 11-up totals.

The new doubles competition will replace the separate rating capped doubles competition which has been running for the last few years.

3. Promotion / Demotion – introduction of play-offs

To try and ensure that all players were placed in the division appropriate to their standard of play and to avoid 'yo-yo' teams that are promoted one

season and demoted the following season, last year we removed automatic promotion and demotion. Following feedback from members, we would like to introduce a play-off system for winners of the second division and the lowest team in the top division. Rules will apply for the eligibility of players taking part in a play-off and the venue used.

A play-off will not be mandatory e.g. if the winning team of the second division did not wish to compete for promotion. The Committee will retain discretion over the ultimate composition of each division, taking into account the number of teams competing and the standard of play of each team, though the results of a play-off will be a significant factor.

Members will be asked to vote on the introduction of an end of season play-off.

Further Information

The above is very much a summary of the proposals and full details of the rule amendments needed to support the proposals can be found on the WKTTA website.

Please note that only members attending the AGM may vote on these proposals and we hope that as many of you as possible will attend.

David Cowlen
On behalf of West Kent Table Tennis Association
June 2016