

**Basingstoke and District Table Tennis Association**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017**  
at  
**Basingstoke Rugby Club**

**Present:**

Sandra Deaton (item 1 only)

Charlie Smith – President

Committee Members:-

Mike Wood, Terri Allison, Tony Amies, Terry White, Keith Russell, Celia Hooker, Dave MacDonald,  
Dave Partridge, Phil Ware, George Hellens and Gill Larking.

In addition to the committee, eighteen members attended from the following clubs:

AWE, KG, Oakley, Hannington, Queens, Saints, BHS and St Peter's,

**1. TTE Presentation**

We were very fortunate to have the Chair of Table Tennis England, Mrs Sandra Deaton, in attendance. She was welcomed by our Chairman and members and spoke to the meeting about the initiatives that TTE are embarking on and the forthcoming AGM in July.

She copied for distribution at the meeting, the TTE document outlining the development plans and expenditure of previous seasons giving a breakdown of monies spent and expected.

A copy is available on the TTE web-site.

She gave a detailed explanation of the requirements that Sport England insist on from TTE in order for table tennis to receive funding. She asked that we as a league read all the proposals and vote on accepting Sport England's conditions and advise her before the TTE AGM.

Terri will send information to all clubs, collate votes and send them on to Sandra at TTE.

**Action: - Terri**

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Sue Gower, Steve Redstall and Les Bone.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the AGM 2016**

Charlie pointed out that he had sent apologies for absence and these were not recorded. With this exception and the assurance of an amendment to reflect this, the Minutes of the AGM held on 23rd June 2016 were approved.

Sarah Whithorn nominated acceptance and was seconded by Dave Kimberley

#### **4. Chairman's Address**

“Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Basingstoke Table Tennis Association for 2017.

This year, I thought that I would not have to report any deaths in our table tennis family, but sadly we learned earlier this month that Ken Wyld had passed away from liver failure on 30<sup>th</sup> May. Ken played for AWE for many years and was much liked and respected by his AWE team mates and his colleagues in the Association. He will be much missed.

I have also been hoping that one year we can get through the season without any controversy, but again I have been disappointed this year.

In the 2014-15 season it was the plastic ball and last season we had an issue with some members not signing up to TTE. This year, we had a number of teams deliberately or mistakenly stretching the rules around postponed matches beyond what was intended – but more on this later.

#### **Development**

We were very fortunate to have Table Tennis England's Sandra Deaton visit our AGM and share with us their vision for table tennis in the near future. We look forward to working with TTE to ensure that we get maximum benefit from the facilities on offer.

I'm pleased to report that, after last year's AGM, Dave Partridge stepped forward to volunteer his services in the role of Development Officer as it had become increasingly difficult to secure any column inches in the local press; he felt that his efforts would be better directed towards development. There have been some practical steps taken to develop the Association which I am quite excited about – but I will let Dave tell you about this later on.

#### **Media and Communications**

Because it has become difficult to get any Table Tennis coverage in the local press, I am concerned that our level of engagement could drop off, so I would like to extend the scope of the old Press Officer role to cover social media. I am hoping that someone will be willing and able to spend a small amount of time each week to develop our presence on Facebook etc.

#### **Closed Competition**

This year's event was organised by Queens Club with George White and Peter Martin at the helm and with a supporting cast drawn from across the club. Entries were slightly down on previous years but this didn't detract from what was a most enjoyable event. I was impressed with the way that the organisers and competitors coped with the curve ball thrown at us when we found out that the Rugby club had double booked the hall, meaning that we had to move to a different night to that which had been scheduled. Peter asked me to say a big thank you to all those who helped beforehand, on the day and afterwards.

#### **Handicap Competition**

The handicap competition was again run by Tom Speed to whom we owe a vote of thanks for continuing to carry out this task. I know that many players, like the opportunity to play against different players so this competition fulfils a useful role and it can provide for some tense evenings and surprising results.

## **Committee**

I'd like to thank my fellow committee members for their efforts this year. All the current committee members are happy to offer their services for another year. It can be very hard to find people who are willing and able to contribute in this way so I think we are very lucky to have such a capable team."

Mike then moved the meeting on to the following committee reports:-

### **5. Honorary Treasurer's Report**

(1) Keith distributed a copy of the accounts which showed a balance of £5401.86. Copy attached

He pointed out that at the current rate of income the league would not be sustainable.

We would be paying out more than we are putting in.

He then distributed another account based on the projected income and expenditure of next season.

The major change is that having settled our outstanding rent to the council we now have to pay a regular rent to them for the use of Essex Road.

There was much discussion on the increase of hire for the match room for next season. It was acknowledged that the small increase of £15 to £18 per night was not really enough and it was suggested that £21 was paid years ago and it should at least return to that figure.

It was decided that the committee would have final say and it was referred to them to deal.

**Action: Committee**

(2) Keith added that he had cash returns to give out to clubs in attendance, for deposits paid.

### **6. Honorary Secretary's Report**

(1) Terri reported that there had been 7 committee meetings since the last AGM with an average attendance of 7 members. She added that she continues to send out all information to clubs and made a point of apologising to Aldworth and Patrick in particular for not having updated the change of secretary for the first weeks of the season.

(2) As Child Protection Officer she advised that there had been no incidents reported to her.

### **7. Honorary Registration Secretary's report**

(1) Celia reported that 139 players had registered for Basingstoke which was 11 less than last season. 20 Teams had entered the league which was 2 less than last season.

(2) She was happy to add that there had been no confusion on membership of TTE this season. All players had registered individually on the web-site before playing for any club.

(3) On the down side she reported that there had been 21 postponements during the season which made her role very difficult as teams failed to advise when matches were postponed believing that putting it on the web-site was sufficient. Celia does not have the time to check the web-site on a daily basis and the rule is that the two captains should advise her by email, or card.

(4) Celia is in the process of updating the registration forms which will now enable players to pay their fee directly into the league's bank account. All forms must still be sent to Celia. It is not acceptable to hand her monies without a form.

(5) Sean Pickin asked if forms could be made available on line to complete and send in. Tony hopes to be able to provide this and will advise in due course.

## **8. Honorary Development Officer's Report**

(1) Dave addressed the meeting by saying that he had previously been the press officer but the Gazette had moved to Southampton and all attempts at getting reports published had failed. He has now taken on the role of development.

(2) He told the meeting that he was leading a sub-committee that had spent time researching the facilities we had in the Basingstoke area for adults and children and what we would need to meet the demand for playing. The purpose for this was to consult with the council regarding a dedicated table tennis centre.

(3) Essex Road is not really suitable for the public to use as there is only one table and access is up a flight of stairs thus making it impossible for wheelchair users. There is the additional problem of the room being above an undertaker. Noise from playing is inappropriate when they are having bereaved persons either visiting to arrange funerals or to view a loved one. This restricts the use of the room and whilst we have every right to be there at any time no-one is insensitive enough to play when they have been asked to wait for a while.

(4) Dave outlined the benefits of a dedicated room with the hope of 12 -15 tables. We could hold all coaching there along with matches and tournaments.

(5) The sub-committee have a meeting with the council on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June. A representative from TTE will also be there.

(6) Dave is also looking into the possibility of sponsorship for our Championships. We can offer advertising on our web-site plus Table tennis Face book and our Handbook.

## **9. Honorary HTTA Representative's Report**

(1) Sarah reported that this year's Hampshire AGM had to be moved back a week or so, which meant that where she would normally be reporting back from the meeting she was unable on this occasion. The AGM will be held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July, in the Winchester Conservative Club starting at 7.30pm.

(2) She reminded members that our fees to Hampshire are used to affiliate the county with Table Tennis England and also go towards all Town and County matches, without which members would not be eligible to represent either.

(3) She added that there had been an Inter Town tournament earlier in the year but as there was a low take up from the men to make up mixed sides Basingstoke was only able to put out one team.

(4) Sarah also added that the Hampshire Chronicle continues to print results of tournaments etc.

(5) She again stressed that the position of Secretary is still vacant and hoped that someone would come forward to take this on.

## **10. Honorary Trophy Secretary's Report**

Dave reported that two trophies were late being returned and he would next year bring the date of return forward.

## **11. BTT Centre and Coaching Officer's report**

(1) Terry reported that minor maintenance had been done at Essex Road, Match Room which was to cover the gap behind the table over the store room, to prevent the ball from being 'lost' in the debris.

(2) He was looking into replacing the existing light bulbs over the table with LED bulbs and has asked an electrician to look at costs etc.

(3) Terry confirmed that there is now no bin in the match room and all users are asked to take home their rubbish and put it in their own bins at home.

(4) Terry then moved on to advise about the varying balls that are available to buy and use for matches. He explained that they all perform slightly differently in the spin. He suggested that the stock of balls he holds from Tees Sports should be given out, a few to each club, for them to try and maybe if they are happy with them he could arrange to buy in bulk from Tees Sports and on payment, distribute to clubs. This would save each club a small amount of money and ensure that most matches are played with the same ball for continuity. They have proved very reliable in strength and consistency of bounce.

(5) This was agreed and Terry will arrange to send them out and collate response from each club.

**Action: Terry**

## **12. Web-Master's Report**

(1) Tony reported that the web-site was, to coin a phrase, 'strong and stable'. There had been no major breakdowns or faults

(2) There had been over 25,000 visits to the web-site during the year.

(3) Tony reiterated that he was planning to retire from being the web-master in the next year or so and was hoping that a youngster who was just setting out in the computer world might be interested in taking it on. He would be around to offer guidance in the current set-up but is not precious about it if the new incumbent felt they wanted to change it. (This was said with tears in his eyes!)

(4) Our Web Master's stats trivia: - Steve Redstall had won the most 3 set games and Matt Deadman had won most of 5 sets played.

(5) Honorary Life Memberships

Tony asked the meeting to acknowledge the dedication that Ron Powell had given to the League. Last year, Ron stepped down from the role of Registration Secretary after many years of sterling service. He started the role long before computers took hold and possibly even when people were still using quill pens. However, as the registration process moved increasingly online, Ron decided that it was time to hand over to someone more familiar with this medium. While in the role, Ron always carried out this difficult and most important task cheerfully and diligently.

Tony then nominated Ron for an Honorary Life Membership, noting that approval for this must be at least 2 thirds of those present.

The vote was carried unanimously.

### **13. Proposed Rule Changes**

The members had been sent the proposed rule changes a few weeks ago via their club secretaries.

Mike introduced this proposal, noting that, as has been mentioned earlier, we have struggled to agree on fair rules on postponements and this year things came to a head with several teams deliberately or mistakenly stretching the rules. So we have spent a lot of time putting together a package of changes which should discourage postponements and make the position clear. All of these changes must be accepted or rejected as a complete package.

The rule changes proposed were as shown below:

## Proposed Rule Changes

18.(a) If a club or team persistently postpones matches, the Executive Committee shall investigate the matter and may impose such penalty as it thinks fit.

~~18 (b) Where a match is conceded by a club or a team (including in circumstances where Rule 25 applies), the club or team shall be fined £5 in respect of each conceded match.~~

22. ~~Matches may be postponed by mutual agreement between Team Captains.~~ **Matches cannot be conceded and may be postponed only with permission from the committee. Captains must request postponement via the website.**

22b. **Teams that miss a match for which permission was not granted will have 10 points deducted and will be required to play the match at a later date.**

22c. **Any matches postponed in the first half of the season must be played by January 31st.**

~~24. Should a match not be played in accordance with the published Fixture Schedule, both teams shall notify the Honorary Registration Secretary within 5 days of the original fixture date using the standard postponement card or by e-mail. In the event that neither team provides the required notification, regardless of whether any mutual agreement has been made the match shall be deemed void and the clubs each fined £5.~~

~~25. All postponed matches must be played within 14 days of the end of the season. Teams are permitted to postpone up to 2 matches at any one time. In the event of a team being at fault for postponing a 3<sup>rd</sup> match without playing one of their earlier postponements, their earliest postponed match will be concede 10-0 and both team captains concerned will be notified by the Honorary Registration Secretary. Matches postponed by an opposing team will not count towards this penalty.~~

29. (a) Every match will consist of a team of three **at least two** players opposing a team of three **at least two** players save that each team may play a fourth player for the purposes of participating in the Doubles set only. In singles play each player shall play every player of the opposing team one set. One doubles pair from each team will also play one set. A set will be won by the player or doubles pair first winning three games. A league point shall be awarded for every set won.

(b) The relevant number of league points shall be awarded to the opposing team in respect of each absent player.

34. (a) All score cards shall be entered online to the Association's Web Site by the home team **within seven days of the match being played.**

~~(b) In addition, the home team will be responsible for a correctly completed score card being either posted, delivered or e-mailed to the Honorary press officer within 48 hours of the match being played. The Honorary press officer will send a copy of the score card to the Honorary Registration Secretary.~~

35. A match shall start at 7.30pm unless otherwise agreed by the team captains. A player arriving later than 45 minutes of the agreed start time shall not be permitted to play without the consent of the opposing captain. Where one player in a team arrives later than the time stipulated above, the game or games missed by the said player may be claimed by the opposing captain.

~~If both teams are short of a full complement of players after 45 minutes of the agreed start time, the match automatically be postponed and played in accordance with rule 25, save that in circumstances where two players only in each team are available to play, then by the agreement of the captains the match may be played and points awarded in accordance with games won (including games won by default).~~

Following some discussion the Chairman asked for a vote from the members on adoption of the changes. The vote was 24 for, 4 against with the chairman abstaining. Therefore the motion was carried and Terry will amend the Handbook and Tony will update the web-site.

Action: - Terry to amend the Handbook and Tony to publish on web-site

## **14. Election of Officers**

(1) Mike asked the meeting if anyone would be interested in becoming a Press and Media Relations Officer. He felt that this was the way forward in communication and hoped that one of the younger players would be keen to take this on.

There were no volunteers at the meeting.

(2) Mike then asked Charlie our President to take over for the elections of Officers.

Charlie thanked Mike and asked the meeting if there was anyone prepared to stand in any role.

No-one offered.

Charlie asked the meeting to vote on the post of Chairman – Mike Wood was unanimously re-elected. Charlie then suggested that, since all the committee were prepared to stand again, the meeting should proceed to vote the remainder of the committee en bloc.

All members were unanimously re-elected and are as follows:-

Chair: Mike Wood

Vice Chair: Tony Amies

Hon. Secretary: Terri Allison

Hon Treasurer: Keith Russell

Hon Registration Secretary: Celia Hooker

Competition Secretary Basingstoke Closed: Vacant; Secretaries note: -Oakley Club will arrange for 2018

Hon Development Officer: Dave Partridge

Hon. Inter-Town Secretaries: Vacant

Web-Master: Tony Amies

Press and Media Relations Officer: Vacant

Hon Trophy Secretary: Dave MacDonald

The Basingstoke Table Tennis Centre and Coaching Officer: Terry White

HTTA Representative: Sarah Whithorn

Additional Members: George Hellens, Gill Larking and Phil Ware

## **15. Election of Auditor**

Mike reported that Les Bone had agreed to perform this task again next year and asked the meeting to vote on retaining Les as the auditor.

Keith Russell proposed and Dave Kimberley seconded.

Les was voted on unanimously.

## **16. Nomination of Club to run 2018 Closed Competition**

Turning to the Closed Competition Mike asked Charlie Smith to pull a club from an envelope containing all clubs except last year's organisers, Queens. Oakley was the lucky club and will be running the tournament for 2018.

## **17. Any Other Business**

George raised a concern that the fire escape door at Essex Road, should the main stairs be cut off, was through the boxing club which had a locked door between us and them.

Mike will look into this with the council and report back.

Terri will advise all clubs.

Action: - Mike and Terri



## 18. Presentations of Trophies

Charlie Smith presented trophies to winners and runners up from various events throughout the year.

### BASINGSTOKE & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

#### TROPHIES WINNERS 2016-17 SEASON

##### RAY PARTRIDGE CUP

(Team Handicap Plate)

Winners

QUEEN'S 'E'

Runners up

Aldworth 'D'

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##### TONY IACONA TROPHY

(Team Handicap)

Winners

KG 'C'

Runners up

Aldworth 'C'

---

##### ALF CANN TROPHY

(Most Improved Senior Player)

Winner

SORIN LAKATOS

---

##### BARRETT CUP

(Most Improved Junior Player)

Winner

MATT DEADMAN

---

##### QUEEN'S CUP

(Most Games Won in the Season)

Winner

STEVE REDSTALL

---

##### DIVISION 3

Winners

ALDWORTH 'D'

Runners up

OMI

---

##### DIVISION 2

Winners

QUEEN'S 'D'

Runners up

Aldworth 'C'

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##### DIVISION 1

Winners

SAINTS

Runners up

Hannington 'A'

Mike then brought the meeting to a close and thanked everyone for attending.  
The meeting closed at 10.45pm  
This is a true account of the meeting

Signed: .....  
Secretary

Signed: .....  
Chairman

Date: .....June 2018