

# Basingstoke and District Table Tennis Association

## Annual General Meeting

20<sup>th</sup> June 2019

at

## Basingstoke Rugby Club

### **Present:**

Mrs Avril Waters – President

Committee Members:-

Mike Wood, (Chair). Terri Allison, Keith Russell, Gill Larking, Phil Ware, Dave McDonald, Dave Partridge, Terry White and Tony Amies

In addition to the committee, eighteen members attended from the following clubs: - AWE, KG, OMI, Oakley, Hannington, Queens, Saints, Aldworth and St Peter's.

\*Pegasus Club and JPS Special, were not represented

### **1. Apologies for absence**

Simon Parker, Celia Hooker, Bill Bavister, Ron Draper, Peter Docherty, David Smith and Darren Rounce. \* Trevor Lay has sent belated apologies; he was unable to attend due to a family emergency.

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of the AGM held on 7th June 2018 were approved. Chris Smith nominated acceptance and was seconded by Phil Ware.

### **3. Chairman's Address**

“Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Basingstoke Table Tennis Association for 2019.

Usually, I start off with paying tribute to those members who have passed away during the past season. But I'm happy to report that this is the first time during my tenure when I've not had to do this.

Another rare feature of this season was that we seemed to get through it without any sort of controversy. In particular, no rules were brought into question so no changes are proposed which means that this will be a short meeting.

## Media and Communications

You will hear more about our development strategy from Dave Partridge later on, but one of the central planks of the strategy is publicity in order to support requests for funding. So, we are in desperate need of a volunteer to take over the old Press Officer role. Ideally this should be extended to cover social media so that we could retain and build on our level of engagement with the playing community. If you think you are able to contribute in this way please consider volunteering.

## Closed Competition

This year's event was organised by Hannington Club who picked up the baton with aplomb and delivered a very enjoyable event, and even managed to finish on time. As always, the finals night at the Rugby club proved to be a great demonstration of the skills of our players, although the attendance was not as good as might have been expected. On behalf of Steve Rollason and his team, I'd like 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.

## Summer League

This year sees the welcome return of the Summer League, organised by Aldworth Club, so I'd like to also thank Jamie and his team for their efforts.

## Committee

As usual, I'd like to thank my fellow committee members for their efforts this year.

After many years of service on the committee in various roles, Phil Ware has decided that it is time for him to stand down. So I'd like to offer a big thank you to Phil for all his work that has helped the league run smoothly over the years.

Having retired from the role of Trophy Secretary last year, Dave MacDonald has said that, in the absence of any volunteers, he is happy to continue in the role.

Unfortunately ill health prevented him from fulfilling the role this year so I have been filling in.

Other than Phil, 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.”

#### **4. Honorary Treasurer’s Report**

(1) Keith distributed copies of the annual accounts which had been examined and signed as correct.

(2) Keith explained that it was difficult to give a definitive account to compare with previous years as invoices are received at differing times as are payments.

(3) Keith suggested that it would be easier if all clubs would consider leaving their deposits with him instead of having them returned only to pay them again in a few weeks.

Those clubs that didn’t wish to do this were at liberty to have them returned and should contact Keith. He keeps a comprehensive record of which teams have paid.

#### **5. Honorary Secretary’s Report**

(1) Terri reported that there had been 4 committee meetings since the last AGM with an average attendance of 6 members.

(2) Terri along with Mike had attended a meeting with the Basingstoke Voluntary Association with intent to gain some knowledge on applying for sponsorships and volunteers.

(3) Terri reported that she has been busy contacting many organisations and sports clubs with a view to getting suitable premises for a table tennis centre or for now at least, a single room to play matches which will give wheelchair access.

(4) No issues were reported regarding Child Protection, however all clubs were reminded of the need to have qualified coaches, who have been police checked and have been on Child Protection Courses if they are to work with vulnerable adults and children. They would then be insured to coach under the conditions of their TTE membership.

#### **6. Honorary Registration Secretary’s report**

Celia sent in her report as below:

(1) 29 teams registered, which is 3 less than the previous season. Aldworth had 2 less teams and KG had 1 less. St Peter's also had one less due to one of their teams breaking away to become JPS Special.

(2) 135 players registered over the 29 teams, and everyone registered with TTE before playing. One player changed clubs during the season.

(3) All matches were successfully completed by the end of the season, even though a number of matches had to be rearranged due to Aldworth hall not being available, and bad weather.

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

(1) Dave reported that the purpose of the sub-committee was to try to find a dedicated home for table tennis in the town. It is hoped from that we could then build the league to the many divisions it used to have years ago. He reminded the meeting that most large firms in the area used to have great sports facilities but now it was rare to find a company that provides any, which is probably a major reason why there are fewer players now.

(2) He added that the match room at Essex Road is fast falling apart with the windows and flooring being old and worn. Also with it being up a flight of stone steps it is not suitable for the disabled.

(3) As we know we have to hire Aldworth for coaching and because of the school's commitments to other activities we often have to cancel sessions. It also affects some Friday matches.

(4) We have been in touch with the council and contact them regularly if we see a potential building or land. Unfortunately (for us) most areas are designated to building homes.

(5) We have recently been in talks with the Basingstoke Rugby Club. They are submitting plans to extend their changing rooms and we had hoped we could build onto them thus saving us including toilet facilities to our plans. They have a bar and catering which we could have used. Unfortunately, for the building to be of any size which will enable us to run coaching sessions and maybe run tournaments there is no suitable land space.

(6) Dave paid tribute to Terri who spends a lot of time pursuing contacts and meetings even if they come to nothing.

(7) He added that in view of the huge amount of time spent by the sub-committee, who are only volunteers and have busy lives, it is disappointing that some people feel the need to record derogatory remarks on media pages. Much of the vitriol was untrue and can undermine the work of the development committee.

(8) Several members asked questions about money to fund such a venture and why had we not tried to link up with schools. Dave replied that we had contacted several schools with no luck and we are still pursuing getting grants from various means but without a project to present it is very difficult to get any parties interested.

(9) Plans have to be submitted to the council, which cost around £800 and could be rejected with the loss of the money. Nothing about this project is easy.

(10) Dave wrote a very comprehensive letter to the Gazette asking firms if they had any premises we could take on but it was not published.

(11) Dave finished by saying that all members please be aware of our plans and if they know of anyone who is an architect, a potential sponsor or builder that can offer advice or assistance we would be very grateful to hear from them.

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

(1) Sarah reported that Hampshire had been well represented by Basingstoke League players and two of the County Teams had been successful in finishing 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in their respective divisions.

(2) The Hampshire Closed Tournament had been well attended. In fact the tournament was oversubscribed this year and players had to be turned away.

(3) The Inter Town Tournament was very poorly attended and disappointingly Basingstoke failed to enter even one team.

(4) The HTTA AGM is to be held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June at Winchester Conservative Club starting at 7.30pm. Members are encouraged to attend.

(5) The Association is still in need of a General Secretary if there is anyone willing to fulfil this role.

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

(1) Mike reported that as Dave had been unable to fulfil his role of trophy secretary through illness, he had bought the medals for the 'Closed' tournament and league winners and had organised the engraving.

(2) The Men's doubles trophy has still not been returned and he is pursuing this.

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

### Essex Road

(1) Terry reported that because of the noise that disturbs the funeral director below the match room, the council is looking into getting the floor sound proofed. Contrators have been in to assess and have submitted a quote of around £10,000. Clearly the council are not prepared to pay that much so we are still waiting to hear back . In the meantime members are free to use the room as always.

(2) The window frames are also due to be replaced as the wood surrounding the glass fell out leaving the glass unsupported. A temporary repair has been done and again we await news of when this work will be carried out.

### Coaching

(1) Terry reminded the members that he was not as young as he was when he started the coaching at Aldworth School 40 years ago. He is now 77 and his health is not as he would wish so he again asked for volunteers to go on the coaching courses to gain level 2 in order to run the sessions. At the moment Terry is the only licensed coach in the Basingstoke Association.

(2) Mike reminded members that the Association will pay for the courses provided the person commits to coaching at Basingstoke for at least a few seasons.

(3) Gill asked that we contact past coaches to renew their qualifications.

(4) Terry added that the coaching could well be moved to Friday evenings at Aldworth which would hopefully suit more youngsters. The plan is to hold the sessions from 6.30pm until 8pm.

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

(1) Tony reported that the web-site had over 12,000 hits during the year.

(2) He gave some trivia statistics saying Praveen had the most straight set wins, while Andy Jefferies and Celia had the most 5 set losses.

(3) He spoke of the current battle that TTE is having with TT365. He said that in his opinion TTE were free to check out other avenues to provide a web-site suitable for the membership and in fact they are now building their own. This will take a little time to get up and running but having had sight of it, so far he was impressed and felt it was easy enough to adapt to suit all users.

(4) For now we will keep our current web-site but Tony will evaluate the new TTE site in parallel to test its suitability for Basingstoke. If successful we can consider moving to the TTE solution for the 2020-2021 season.

## **12. Election of Officers**

(1) Mike advised the meeting again that Phil Ware had decided to retire from the committee this year. Mike thanked him for all his input over the years.

(2) Mike handed the meeting over to the President to conduct the election.

(3) Avril asked the meeting for any nominations. Mike was nominated as Chairman, proposed by Charlie Smith and seconded by Phil Ware.

(4) Avril then returned the meeting to Mike.

(5) All other committee members had agreed to stand.

(6) Mark Every volunteered to stand as an additional member and Paul Myers will stand to take on the role of Press and Media Officer.

(7) All the Committee were voted in en-bloc; proposed by Phil Ware and seconded by Steve Redstall.

## **The Committee for 2019-20**

**Chair:** Mike Wood

**Vice Chair:** Tony Amies

**Hon. Secretary:** Terri Allison

**Hon Treasurer:** Keith Russell

**Hon Registration Secretary:** Celia Hooker

**Hon Development Officer:** Dave Partridge

**Hon. Inter-Town Secretaries:** Vacant

**Web-Master:** Tony Amies

**Hon Trophy Secretary:** Dave MacDonald

**The Basingstoke Table Tennis Centre and Coaching Officer:** Terry White

**HTTA Representative:** Sarah Whithorn

**Press and Media Relations Officer:** Paul Myers

**Additional Members:** Gill Larking, Mark Every and Martin Gilbey.

Mike welcomed Paul and Mark to the Committee and thanked them for coming on board.

### **13. Election of Auditor**

Les Bone was nominated by Keith Russell and seconded by Charlie Smith.

He was voted on unanimously.

### **14. Nomination of Club to run 2019 Closed Competition**

(1) Each year a club is drawn to run the following season's 'Closed' Championships.

To date we have had:

2016 KG

2017 Queen's

2018 Oakley

2019 Hannington

(2) OMI kindly offered to run the 'Closed' Championships for next season.

(3) This leaves the following clubs: JPS, Saints, Aldworth, St Peter's, AWE and Pegasus.

When each club has taken a turn it will revert to the first club again to run in the order as drawn or volunteered.

## 15. Any Other Business

(1) Mike paid tribute to Dave MacDonald, saying his fortitude throughout a very difficult year of illness was humbling and it was great to see him back. He is much admired by all the Membership. Dave has given 19 years of his time in organising all the trophies in purchasing, engraving, collection and making sure they were all accounted for and back to the AGM for presentation.

The Committee had agreed to seek Life Membership for him from the meeting.

All the members present voted unanimously that he was very worthy of the honour.

(2) Terry White asked the meeting what their thoughts were on changing the name/status of the first division to a Premiership Division, thus making the 2<sup>nd</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> the 2<sup>nd</sup>. He felt that it may encourage better players to join our leagues.

Following discussion a vote was taken. Terry White proposed and Terri Allison seconded. The motion was carried by 19 votes to change with 1 against.

Terry will change the Handbook and Tony the web-site to reflect this.

A new trophy will need to be bought for the division.

(3) Phil Ware reminded the membership that there was a shortage of qualified umpires and anyone interested in taking the course should get in touch with him.

## 16. Presentation of Trophies

Our President Mrs Avril Waters presented trophies to the following winners and runners up:-

### BASINGSTOKE & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

#### TROPHY WINNERS 2018-19 SEASON

RAY PARTRIDGE CUP (Team Handicap Plate)	Winner	Saints
	Runner – up	Queens H
TONY IACONA TROPHY (Team Handicap)	Winner	Aldworth A
	Runner – up	OMI



ALF CANN TROPHY Most improved Senior Player	Winner	Mike Jones
BARRETT CUP Most Improved Junior Player	Winner	Ian Parkyn
QUEEN'S CUP Most games won in a season	Winner	Steve Mills
DIVISION 3	Winners	Oakley 'B'
	Runner-up	Queen's 'I'
DIVISION 2	Winners	Queen's D
	Runner-up	St Peter's 'B'
DIVISION 1	Winners	Saints
	Runner-up	Hannington 'A'

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

This is a true account of the meeting

Signed: .....

Secretary

Signed: .....

Chairman

Date: 20