

Basingstoke and District Table Tennis Committee Meeting
5th August 2015
At 10 Tyfield
Sherborne St John
RG24 9HZ

Present:

Mike Wood, Terri Allison, Keith Russell, Ron Powell, George Hellens, Tony Amies and Gill Larking.

1 Apologies

John McClarty and Dave MacDonald

Mike welcomed Keith our new treasurer to the committee.

2 Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting on 27th May 2015 were approved.

3 Matters Arising

5 (6.3) Terri emailed George White to ask that the keys are passed to the Essex Road Officer, Terry White.

No confirmation of this as yet. Terri will pursue.

Action: Terri

4(3) Terri had put together a draft advertisement for publication in the Gazette and local village magazines.

It was generally approved by the committee and when finalised will be sent to relevant papers etc. Terri was asked to re-submit the ad and it would be finalised and sent for Publication.

Action: Terri

4(1) George reported that both Carpenters Down Village Hall and Ruckstall School are still interested in table tennis as an additional attraction but they had to have the idea passed by their respective committees. George has been invited to attend and will report back.

Action: George

5.2(2) Terry asked Tony if he could add an additional field to the web-site to show a fourth player and their scores; should a fourth play.

This is underway and the committee will be advised on its completion.

Action: Tony

5.2(3) Before Christmas, Tony input the facility on the web-site to show all Saturday coaching dates at Aldworth in order that Terry can highlight when there are free weeks.

Action: Closed

5(6.2) The light bulb is still to be changed in the gents toilet at Essex Road. George White is to contact the council.

Still outstanding, Mike will remind Terry to speak to George

Action: Terry and Mike

7(1) Charlie presented Les with the whisky as a thank you from BDTTA. Les emailed his thanks and expressed his willingness to continue.

Action: Closed

6 Terri wrote to all secretaries of those teams that rent Essex Road as their home match room advising of the need to pay by Christmas of this year and September each following year

Action: Closed

4 League Structure

4.1 Ron reported that he had collated all team entries and there were the same number as last year though one team had dropped out and one entered.

Mini Tec have withdrawn and Queens have an additional team

There will be 32 teams with 10 in the first division and 11 each in the second and third respectively.

As is the norm the two top teams went up and the two bottom teams were relegated.

4.2 There was discussion regarding the entry of a first division player in the third division. It was felt that one player on choosing which matches to play in could on their own affect the outcome of the division.

Additionally the same player could play up 3 times in other teams to 'control' relegation or promotion. Mike was looking into the rules of other divisions to see if there was a need to introduce a new ruling or if the constitution would allow discretion by the committee to approve or deny the entry.

Action: Mike

Mike thanked Ron for his hard work in structuring the league again.

4.3 Ron added that there were three changes of venue for the season.

5 Officers' Reports

Hon Treasurer

5.1 Keith produced a spread sheet of the current balance (attached).

He has emailed Aldworth to book all Saturdays for coaching from September 5th until next April.

Mike said he would liaise with Terry to see which dates they would not be able to offer coaching and let both Tony and Keith know.

Action: Mike

5.2 Keith confirmed that the tables at Aldworth had been insured.

Web-Master

5.3 Tony reported that the server had been upgraded to include twitter feed.

5.4 Ron asked if the league tables could be printed. Tony said he would forward them to him via email.

Action: Tony

6 Closed Championships

The date of 23rd April has been suggested and Keith will confirm with Aldworth if this is available.

Action: Keith

7 Any Other Business

7.1 Ron informed the committee that Ray Carver died on 28th July. He was a member of Hannington Club and played last season.

Our sympathies go to his family and friends.

7.2 Ron had received an email from Patrick who was concerned about the paying of the rent at the beginning of the season as there are a lot of youngsters within their club.

The committee had sympathy with him and applauded his commitment to the youngsters; however it was felt that other clubs who have youngsters sort their finances internally and charge accordingly.

The committee were in the unfortunate position of still being owed monies from last season for use of the Match Room and the worry of whether monies would be forthcoming if teams drop out etc.

As custodians of the room and finances, monies must be paid up front by those fortunate enough to get a night reserved for their use.

The committee wishes to make clear that if a team isn't paid up there is no guarantee that they will be given use of the room the following year. How individual clubs manage their finances should never be the concern of the committee.

There are always clubs looking for a good venue.

This may seem harsh but the committee would be falling short of their responsibility to the league members if they don't handle money issues sensibly.

Mike will speak with Patrick on this matter.

Action: Mike

7.3 It was suggested that as well as the proposed memorial board and roll of honour board for the match room at Essex Road the web-site could show those members that had passed away and it could also publish the list of past champions throughout the years. This would take some time to compile and input. Dave MacDonald has a lot of information and will liaise with Tony.

Action: Dave and Tony

7.4 Following discussion regarding the return of the club fines, it was decided that they would all be returned for the current year at the AGM and not retrospectively.

7.5 George Hellens raised the issue of with whom the committee would need to contact regarding the terms of the rent for Essex Road in the event of George White, our current contact, moving away.

Mike said he would speak with George White about this.

Action: Mike

7.6 Gill had spoken recently with Barbara Evans (our previous secretary) regarding the confirmation of all club members playing in the league, having joined TTE. All clubs are aware that all players must join individually.

Tony is making enquiries with TTE to see if league lists of members are able to be obtained.

He will also liaise with Barbara to see how she obtained the information in previous years.

Action: Tony

7.7 Gill then suggested asking George White if he might consider taking on the role of Development Officer.

Mike said he would ask him.

Action: Mike

7.8 Terri suggested that since we were having great difficulty in attracting anyone to become qualified as a coach maybe we should consider paying them a rate of £20 per hour. This may bring in coaches from other areas and of course while Terry is still running things he would be paid.

The money would be for the head coach only and those who help out would continue on a voluntary basis.

If others became qualified to run the sessions, the Saturdays would then work on a rota basis which would then free up Terry to spend more time with his family.

To make this affordable without increasing the current fees (£3 child and £4 adult), Mike suggested that the duration be reduced to 1.5 hours (e.g. 10.30am until 12pm)

The committee agreed that this seemed the way forward and Mike will speak with Terry about it.

Action: Mike

7.9 If we are able to pay for only one and a half hours per week instead of two, we should be able to keep the price for coaching as last year. However if Aldworth don't do part hours it may be necessary to increase the individual charge by a small amount.

Keith will ask Aldworth about costs.

Action: Keith

7.10 It was agreed that the season should commence on Monday 21st September 2015

5 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th October, 7.30pm at Gill's home.

The committee expressed grateful thanks to Gill for hosting again and for refreshments.

The meeting finished at 10.30pm