

NATIONAL COUNCIL

PRELIMINARY LETTER AHEAD OF MEETING ON SATURDAY 29 JUNE

To: All National Councillors

Copies (for information) to: Deputy National Councillors, The President, All Directors, Staff designated by the CEO, Representatives of BPTT, BUCS and VETTS

Dear Colleagues

National Council Meeting – Saturday 29 June 2024

The next National Council meeting will be on Saturday 29 June 2024. This meeting will be a hybrid meeting - so you can either attend in person or on-line. The meeting is scheduled to start at 10am. I am hopeful that we will be able to finish around 1pm. But I will set a target finish time once the agenda has been finalised.

Those listed above are invited to attend the on-line meeting, though Deputy National Councillors only attend if the National Councillor is not available.

Papers, topics, motions and written questions are welcome from any National Councillor and from others who receive this letter. I will always try to include them on the agenda. If you can send suggested agenda items to me by Friday 31st May that will be helpful. Please send them to Sue with a copy to me. Please include at least a brief note explaining the issue which can be included with the papers to help Councillors discuss it with their members in advance. (A note is not needed for a written question).

The Minutes of the meeting on 13 April are attached. No amendments were received, so they are unchanged compared to what was distributed after the April meeting. The Action List from the meeting is also attached.

TIMELINE FOR THE MEETING

Friday 24th May - Preliminary Letter ahead of meeting

Friday 31st May – Receipt of questions, motions, suggested agenda items etc

Friday 14th June – Publication of Agenda plus other relevant documents

Saturday 29th June – Date of Meeting

INITIAL THOUGHTS ON THE AGENDA

Here are my current thoughts on the topics that we can usefully discuss at the meeting. As you can see this looks like being a rather lighter agenda than has been the case for the last two meetings. As this is the last meeting of the season, that's hardly surprising.

I will give some further thought to the agenda and welcome suggestions for additional agenda items. The agenda for the meeting will be sent out no later 14th June.

Appointment of National Council Secretary

We agreed at the last meeting to appoint our own Secretary of National Council, rather than this being a post held by a Table Tennis England member of staff. I will ask for nominations for the role, and if more than one candidate is nominated there will be a vote to determine the successful candidate.

Towards A More Autonomous National Council

Discussions are taking place with the Chair of Table Tennis England in developing a Memorandum of Understanding/Collaboration Agreement which will form the basis of a new relationship between National Council and Table Tennis England. I will provide an update on progress made. The Select Committee on the Constitution have made some initial changes to National Council Standing Orders. The changes made are very helpful as they remove a number of items that could give the impression that National Council meets the definition of a “Council” as described in the Sport England Code of Governance. Further changes to the Standing Orders may be required once the MoU has been finalised.

Table Tennis England Annual General Meeting

This will be an on-line only meeting on 20 July. We can discuss any issues relevant to the Annual General Meeting.

Reports of the Select Committees

The Chairs of the Select Committees will have the opportunity to update us on recent activities.

Date Of Next Meetings

We should aim to set the date of the next meeting and gauge preferences for subsequent meetings. Here are some dates for meetings in Sept/Oct, Jan/Feb and April which show potential clashes with events in the Table Tennis England calendar.

	Date	Potential Clashes
Sept/Oct/Nov	Sat 21 Sept	Senior British League
	Sat 28 Sept	U-21 National Cup; Veterans 30 th Anniversary Tour
	Sat 5 Oct	SBL Premier; Veterans British League
	Sat 12 Oct	Junior British League; VETTS Midland Masters
	Sat 19 Oct	U-13 – U19 National Series; SBL Premier
	Sat 26 Oct	Cleveland Junior 4-star
	Sat 2 Nov	Women’s British League; BPTT National Championships
Jan/Feb	Sat 11 Jan	Senior British League (Championship only)
	Sat 18 Jan	Women’s British League
	Sat 25 Jan	Cambridge Junior 4-star; Veterans County Championships
	Sat 1 Feb	U-13 – U19 National Series; Veterans County Champs (Prem)
April	Sat 29 Mar	Veterans County Championships
	Sat 5 Apr	Senior County Championships; SBL Premier
	Sat 12 Apr	Senior British League; VETTS Western Masters
	Sat 26 Apr	SBL Premier; Butterfly Schools Finals

No easy, clash-free choices here. But I’m sure we’ll find some suitable dates.

I look forward to seeing you either on-line or in-person on 29 June.

Neil Hurford
Chair
National Council

May 2024