

Annual General Meeting



Location: Hinckley Island Hotel

Date and time: Saturday 7th July 2018. 1.30pm – 3pm

PRESENT:

VOTING MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY

INDIVIDUAL COMPANY MEMBERS

Mrs S Deaton (Chairman, Director, Vice President), S Griew (Director), D Livingstone (Director), Ms K Skeggs (Director), MGR Smith (Director), Mrs S Sutcliffe (Chief Executive, Director), K Thomas (Treasurer, Director), M Quartermaine (Director), T Purcell (Director)

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE COMPANY MEMBERS

DL Hockney (Avon), A Murdoch (Bedfordshire), B Freer (Cambridgeshire), Mrs KM Tonge MBE (Cheshire, Regional Chair North West and BPTT), AE Ransome OBE (Cleveland), J Cowell (Derbyshire), P Ashleigh (Essex), LJ Smith (Gloucestershire), DB Turner (Hampshire, Regional Chair South), H Jutle (Herefordshire), D Edwards (Hertfordshire), Mrs S Pickering (Leicestershire and Regional Chair East Midlands), A Dias (Middlesex), T Vincent (Norfolk), M Allsop (Nottinghamshire), N Hurford (Oxfordshire), C Dangerfield (Shropshire), Miss M Fraser (Surrey), A Catt (Sussex), EJ Williams (Warwickshire), CN Sewell (Wiltshire), MG Clark (Worcestershire), RB Hudson (Yorkshire)

LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE COMPANY MEMBERS

A Powell (Bristol), P Bradley (Reading), B Whitehead (Aylesbury), M Howard (Milton Keynes), R Chapman (Chesterfield), C Homewood (Bromley), D Goulden (Warrington), E Shaler (Hinkley), D Hayman (Wembley/Harrow), G Powell (Northampton), A Reeves (Walsall), D Webb (Hastings), M MacFarlane (Leamington), R Whittaker (Nuneaton), L Reid (Evesham), J Stalker (Malvern), B Hudson (Hull)

PRESIDENT

Mrs J Parker MBE

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

P Bradley, AN Murdoch, AE Ransome OBE, LJ Smith, MGR Smith, Mrs KM Tonge MBE, HJ Webb, Peter Charters, S Clark, M Clark.

VICE PRESIDENTS

J Rogers, K Thomas, S Shutt, D Parker, B Freer, D Goulden, D Hockney

OTHERS

J Arnold MBE, C Williams, P Wilkinson, M Tafler, T Jarvis, C Brockwell

Before the meeting formally started, a video was shown.

Introduction from Chairman and minutes silence

Mrs S Deaton (Chairman) welcomed all present and opened the Annual General Meeting.

A minute's silence was held for members for the table tennis family who had sadly departed this year.

Reporting of Standards Committee

Mrs S Deaton (Chairman) introduced the report of the Standing Orders Committee.

David Hockney (Avon), Chairman of the Standing Orders Committee welcomed any comments. No comments.

Adoption of Standing Orders

By a show of hands, the meeting accepted the Standing Orders.

Appointment of Tellers

It was agreed that Caroline Williams (Warwickshire TTA) and Paul Nichols (Northampton) were appointed as tellers for the meeting. The tellers were reminded that they could not vote or take part in debate on matters for voting.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absences: Susie Hughes, Cyril Villiers and Gail Johns.

Declaration of Business Interests

Mrs S Deaton (Chairman) invited anyone with a business interest to declare it now. Alan Ransome OBE (Cleveland and Honorary Life Member) declared his interest as a director of Tees Sport and Ransome Sporting Goods. Chris Dangerfield (Shropshire) declared his interest as a director of TT365 Ltd.

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2017

Mrs S Deaton (Chairman) asked for any points of accuracy. No points of accuracy were raised and the meeting accepted them as a true record.

Minutes of Extraordinary General Meeting on 12th August 2018

Mrs S Deaton (Chairman) asked for any points of accuracy. No points of accuracy were raised and the meeting accepted them as a true record.

Matters Arising from Minutes from last AGM

Any points of accuracies arising not covered by the agenda.

Matters Arising from Minutes from last EGM

Any matters arising from the minutes of the EGM not covered by the agenda.
No points of accuracy.

Proposition – Proposed Increase of Affiliation fees

Proposition by the Board to increase affiliation fees in 2018/19 from £14 to £16 for senior player members and £7 to £8 for junior player members.

The proposition was introduced and the rationale explained.

Comment: Unidentified contributor

It is agreed that the increase is part of the five-year plan to increase affiliation fees however it would be better if it outlined what the increase is going towards and where money is being spent. Members may be more inclined to contribute if they had a breakdown of the benefits you get from the affiliation fees. They may even be inclined to pay more than a £2 increase.

Response from Keith Thomas (Treasurer)

The paper does refer to where the money is going and explained and it is an on-going continual job to explain. In relation to the review into the future as part of the on-going financial review the figure to be proposed is still to be determined but this does not stop us at looking at other increases in the future.

Comment: Martin Clark (Worcestershire)

In my view it cannot be increased it by more than £2 in one go but I support this proposition. We need to acknowledge the fact that Sport England is reducing funding. £16 is not a lot in comparison to some other sports.

No further comments and the meeting moved to a card vote.

The votes were collected and counted and verified by the Returning Officer. The Proposition was carried by 94.3% (5.26% against)

Reports of directors and auditors accounts for the previous year.

Kelly Skeggs, Board Director, presented on behalf of the Finance Committee. The presentation provided a high-level breakdown of how income is obtained and spent.

Slide 1 - Total income

Income was over £4.5 million in 2016-17, and in 2017/18 it was just over £4 million. This decline is primarily due to reduced Sport England funding this year as per our agreement. The need to improve our own diversified sources of income was stated. Options being explored include health budgets and combining commercial offerings with other NGBs.

Slide 2 -Decrease in funding from Sport England

2016/17 Sport England funding was over £3.25 million. In 2017/18 (first year of a new funding cycle) it is now just under £2.5 million.

We receive a mixture of Exchequer funding and lottery money; however, in relation to the lottery, people are buying less tickets so this means less funding available for 'good causes. We need to look at ways to become more self-sustainable.

Slide 3 - Basic level expenditure this year

Graph showing that most of expenditure takes place in direct delivery of the sport. Development and mass participation is directly feeding back into the sport.

Slide 4 - The amount being spent directly into the development of grassroots table tennis

Our strategy is predominately focused on growing numbers in table tennis. This achieves growth in participation which we are measured on but should eventually lead to an increase in membership and therefore our own revenue. C £900,000 spent developing grass roots table tennis this year and the same is budgeted for next year.

Slide 5 - Income streams

59% Sport England grant

3% Commonwealth Games grant

3% Miscellaneous Sport England

So, 65% of income is Sport England generated and a lot of it directly correlated with expenditure

9% is membership affiliation fees and only 2% is currently commercial income. In terms of becoming more self-sufficient we need to focus on these areas.

The meeting was asked if there were any questions.

Comment: Neil Hurford, Oxfordshire

NH suggested the slides should be uploaded to the website.

He noted that affiliation fees represented £360,000 income yet more than £900,000 is being spent in supporting grassroots table tennis. This is separate from insurance provision as well. NH congratulated the Board.

Comment: Noel Sewell, Wiltshire

We are never going to fund all the expenditure through affiliation fees and we will struggle if Sport England pull funding. We need to be more secure in our own income.

Comment: Stan Clarke (Honorary Life Member)

Why is there a discrepancy between income and expenditure on competitions and which competitions are losing money?

Answer: Treasurer

Most of the national events have only ever broken even or made a loss historically. We make some profit on parts of British League, and County Championships but major championships (e.g. National Championships for all age groups and European Qualification matches) will always make a loss. This year we also hosted the European Youth Top 10 which was budgeted to make a significant loss.

Comment: Martin Clark, Worcestershire and Honorary Life Member

There are considerable variances between the two sets of comparative figures because of the change in Sport England funding. This should be more clearly demonstrated.

In his view it had been wrong to appoint Jockey Club Services to do the accounting processes and letting go the internal resource of Brian Skinner.

As a not for profit organisation we should not be talking about profits and losses, we should be talking about surpluses and deficits.

Formal receiving of the Report of the Directors and the audited accounts for the year ending March 2018.

Proposed Martin Clark, Seconded Mike Smith. By a show of hands all in favour.

The Treasurer announced that the volunteer expenses policy had be reviewed and from 1st August 2018, the mileage rate would increase from 37p to 40p per mile and 45p for those who share. The dinner allowance will increase from £10 to £12.

Reappointment of Auditors

The Board proposed the reappointment of Hays McIntyre as auditors. This was seconded and approved by a show of hands, with all in favour.

Election of Standing Orders Committee

D Hockney (Avon) is retiring by rotation and available for re-election. Mike Smith, Director, proposed and Alan Ransome (Cleveland) seconded. The members approved.

The business of the AGM was concluded. Before moving to the presentation of awards the meeting was asked if there were any other points people would like to raise.

Harvey Webb (Honorary Life Member) expressed that he was frustrated that he could not find out what all of the tournament entry fees are for next season.

Action – to be uploaded to the website

Comment- Noel Sewell (Wiltshire)

There is a massive shortage of young lady players, we are wide open to ideas of how we could invite more women to come in. During the Swindon League from the 1962-1963 there were 24 women's teams, 2 divisions and over 100 registered players, now there is hardly any.

Response: Sandra Deaton (Chairman)

It is a strategic priority to recruit and retain women and some of the current development programmes are specifically designed for this. It is however a worldwide problem.

Presentation of Honours and Awards

Vice Presidents – New Recommendations: Approved

Brian Freer

David Goulden

David Hockney

Don Parker

Judy Rogers

Sally Shutt

Keith Thomas

A presentation was also made to Judy Rogers to acknowledge her 20 years' service as a member of staff to the association.

Reconfirmation of the following Vice Presidents for 2018-2021 - Approved

Malcom Allsop, Leslie Allwood, Mike Atkinson, John Burtenshaw, Barry Chapman, Jim Clegg, Alan, Cooke, Colin Davison, Desmond Douglas MBE, David Edwards, Colin Hyland, Chris Jacques, Nick Jarvis, Gail Johns, Ann Jones CBE, Brian Lamerton, Christine Lewis, Philip Lewis MBE, Jia YaLiu, Kenneth Marchant, Derrick Marples, Denis Neale, Doreen Nightingale, Sir Jack Petchey CBE, Graham Rogerson, Brian Skinner, Gill Smith, Peter Taylor, Geoff Twiss, Diane Webb.

Malcolm Scott Award - Susie Hughes

Leslie Forrest Memorial Award - Peter Wilkinson

Ivor Montagu Award – Caroline Williams

AK Vint OBE Staff Award - Claire Brockwell

Victor Barna Award - Liam Pitchford

Johnny Leach MBE Most Improved English Player - Tom Jarvis

Mike Watts Achievement Award - Mari Baldwin and Sam Wilson

Keith Ponting Presidents Memorial Award- John Arnold MBE

Special Award – Mark Taffler for his contribution to the ITTF Team World Cup

The Meeting closed at 3pm

Minutes approved at AGM – 29th June 2019