

VETTS report for National Council 14th September

This summer saw the VETTS travel to Budapest for the European Veterans Table Tennis Championships. Everyone who attended seemed to have come away with very fond memories of this beautiful city with lovely restaurants and vibrant bars....and the table tennis was good too! Many congratulations to our medallists, not to mention quite a number of quarter finalists.

Once again, we held this year's Ratings and AGM at Cliffedale Chandlers TTC in Grantham, receiving a warm welcome from Darran Leete and the team. At the AGM, the following officials were duly elected: John Hilton (President); Susie Hughes (Deputy Chairman); Norma Millward (Membership Secretary); and new to the team Emma Rose (Gen Secretary).

Sandra Rider was the recipient of this year's Mike Watts Award, which is voted for by the membership in recognition of service to our Society. This is so well deserved, as Sandra works tirelessly for the VETTS. The Alan Ransome Players' Player of the Year was awarded to the ever-youthful Dave Harvey. Again, this is a membership vote, and Dave is such a worthy and popular winner.

The AGM conferred the distinction of Life Membership on John Hilton, our VETTS President, in recognition of his achievement in Table Tennis, and his support and enthusiasm for the VETTS over 30 years.

At the time of writing, we are embarking on a hectic couple of months.

- VETTS are preparing to travel to Hilversum in the Netherlands for the 7th International Team Tournament on the 16th – 19th August. We wish them well.
- We have a good entry (172) for the North Eastern (our smallest event) as it returns to its home city of Sunderland, but in a new venue.
- More than 65% of players have entered on-line, and indeed many VETTS are renewing their membership in this manner.
- VETTS representative teams then travel north of the Border to Perth, for the Home Nations.
- In October we return to Wolverhampton for the Midland Masters, which at 280 entries is one of our largest events.

General information:

We have 1729 members on the VETTS facebook page.

In Membership terms, we have 1087 members, of which 860 are men and 227 are women. Between 77% and 80% of our membership fall within the 50s, 60s and 70s age groups. The 80s and 40s each make up 10%.