

MINUTES OF THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT ALFORD SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB
ON 23 MAY 2006, COMMENCING AT 7:30pm.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

PRESENT: Committee members: S Clarke (Chairman), J Rushton, D Goulden, K Armson MBE, M Ireland, EA Pentland, A Holt, P Aspin.

Life Member: S Parr

Local Leagues: Blackpool, Bolton, Liverpool, Liverpool Business Houses, Manchester, Oldham, Preston, Salford & Farnworth, Southport & Warrington.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS/TRIBUTES:

The Chairman paid tribute to Norman Heavyside, Chairman of Liverpool Business Houses League, who had passed away during the past season.

APOLOGIES: D Wolstencroft, D Cochrane, Bury League

ABSENT: Local Leagues – Blackburn, East Lancs, Lancaster & Morecambe, Lytham St Annes, Manchester Banks & Insurance & Wigan.

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous AGM had been circulated in advanced of the meeting and had been available on the website.

Proposed by A Knowlson, seconded by H Ross that they be signed as a true record.
Carried unanimously.

MATTERS ARISING: The Chairman reported that the situation with the withdrawal of the Vets 2nd team from the County Championships during last season had now been reversed, resulting in a 2nd vets team being entered for next season, along with a self-financing over 60's team. Barry Crook would take on the responsibilities of team captain for the 2nd vets team and Bob Johnson for the over 60's team.

PRESENTATIONS: The Match Secretary had informed the Cadet players not to attend the AGM for the presentations, as there had been a delay in receiving the trophies from the ETTA. Although the trophies did eventually arrive on the day of the meeting, it was too late to reschedule with the players to attend.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: The report had been circulated on the night and was read to the meeting. There were no questions.

The Chairman also reported that Clive Maule had resigned from the Committee due to ill-health during the season.

Proposed by H Ross, seconded by G Rushton, that the report be accepted.

Carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Income & Expenditure account and balance sheet was circulated at the meeting.

The Treasurer summarised the accounts to the meeting. Income was slightly up on the previous year, although affiliation fees had remained constant. Overall, expenditure was down by £350, with a reduction in Sundry Expenses of £330. County Town Team expenses were similar to the previous year, even though one team less had been entered.

The cost of the senior team in the Premier Division, with two weekend matches requiring overnight stays accounted for this difference.

Overall, the accounts showed a surplus of £920 for the year

A Knowlson asked for a breakdown of the honorarium to which the Chairman replied, stating that they were paid to the General Secretary, Match Secretary and Treasurer only and that in general there were no claims for other expenses from the majority of the committee members.

The accounts were un-audited but they were currently with the Auditor.

Proposed by A Knowleson, seconded by H Ross that the report be accepted.

Carried unanimously.

COUNTY MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT: This was circulated on the night and read out by Mrs J Rushton.

Cadet & Junior trials had been held in September 2005 with the top players being nominated for the Regional trials in November 2005 at Halton.

5 teams had been entered in the County Championships, 1 Cadet, 2 Junior, 1 Senior and 1 Veterans. The Cadets finished runners up in their division, whilst all other teams finished around mid-table and should remain in the same divisions for next season.

The Match Secretary thanked all team captains for their work during the season, Peter Aspin with the Cadets & Juniors, Chris Ford for the Veterans and Kevin Dolder/Stan Clarke for the Senior team.

County Badges were awarded to:

Nathan Buckley, Eric Bradbury, Edward Haynes, Jason Gandhi, Paul Carter, Adam Rowbottom, Ellie Rees and Steve Turner.

Proposed by P Aspin, seconded by Trevor Owen that the report be accepted.

Carried unanimously.

ELECTIONS:

The Chairman told the AGM that there was still no nomination for President or for any new Vice Presidents. He had asked at last years AGM for Leagues to put forward names for consideration by the Executive Committee but none had been given.

Life Member, Stan Parr commented that there had now been no President elected for a number of years and that the committee should look to put forward a suitable candidate at next years AGM. It was further commented that if we continued to wait until we had people of the calibre of the two past and departed Presidents, then we could be waiting for a very long time.

There were several suggested names put forward by the meeting, which the Executive Committee could consider during the next season. The Chairman also asked Leagues to put forward any other suitable candidates to either the Hon. General Secretary or himself.

There had been no new nominations for Officers of the Executive Committee, hence the current Committee members, who were all willing to re-stand, were re-elected unopposed.

The Executive Committee would also consider co-opting Barry Crook (as 2nd veterans team captain) to either the Executive Committee or its sub-committee for Selection.

PROPOSED RULE CHANGES:

Replace "English Table Tennis Association" ("ETTA") with "English Table Tennis Association Ltd." ("ETTA Ltd."). This amendment has been approved by the National Council of the ETTA Ltd.

This change automatically applies to rules 2, 3, 4, 5.1.2, 5.2, 6.1, 6.5, 8.4, 13, 14, 16, 18 & 20.8 as covered by rule 20.7 of the L&CTTA

The following rules 6.3, 9.7, 17.8, 21.2 & 27 require approval of the L&CTTA AGM, so that the wording is consistent with the other rules listed above.

The rule change was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Geoff Rushton and was carried unanimously.

Replace "game" with "sport". This amendment has been approved by the National Council of the ETTA Ltd.

This change automatically applies to rule 2

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Arthur Knowlson asked whether it would be possible for the Lancashire County Table Tennis Association (LCTTA) and the Lancashire & Cheshire Table Tennis League (L&CTTL) AGMs to revert to same night, particularly to prevent Leagues (from some distance away) having to turn out twice.

The Chairman replied stating that the initial change had been at the instigation of the L&CTTL and not the County Association, but it had not always been possible for both AGMs to be on the same night, particularly if one or both meeting had any controversial items to deal with.

The Hon. General Secretary would approach the L&CTTL to see whether they would be in favour, if it were thought that both AGMs had non-controversial items on the Agenda. It was proposed that the LCTTA could look to start its meeting first at 7.00pm.

Harry Ross asked if there had been any discussion within the Executive Committee with regards to Manchester's proposed rule change on voting rights at the ETTA Ltd AGM. The Chairman replied that there had not, since proposed rule amendments had not been received in time for consideration at the last Executive Committee meeting.

Stan Parr reminded the meeting that the ETTA Ltd AGM would be held this year in Harrow on the first Saturday in July. This had come about due to the 100 clubs arranging a tour of the Houses of Parliament, including dinner, for its members. The Chairman commented that he thought that it was disgraceful to allow the 100 club to hijack the ETTA Ltd AGM in this manner.

The Chairman once again stated that if any local league did NOT intend voting in person at the AGM, then he would be prepared to act as their Proxy at ETTA AGM, casting their vote in accordance with the wishes of the local league.

The Meeting closed at 8.40pm