

BARNETS & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

Minutes of the AGM held at BTTC on Thursday, 14th July 2016.

Chairman: Keith Spaughton

The meeting opened at 8.08pm.

1/. Members present

Bob Ward (Exiles 11), Margaret Sparrow (Exiles 11), Brian Gale (Hadley Wood 2), Chris Anderson (E & B 6), Brian Reynolds (BAT 2), Kiran Mistri (Herts Unison), Peter Radwell (Potter Bar Reds), Dennis Robinson (Hadley Wood 2), Keith Spaughton, Grahame Fernback (Exiles 8), Mario Muzdeka (Exiles 7), Hooman Najian (Exiles 2), Stuart Nickels (E & B 1), John Masters (Exiles 12), Graham Waddingham (Kidston 4), Ali Bazaz (Exiles 9), David Calver (Exiles 9), Mel Davidson (E & B 1), Tommy Gritton (Exiles 1), Roy Tempest (Exiles 9), Paul Young (Exiles 9), Geno Esposito (Exiles 13), Brian Ray (Cobra Cowboys), Allan Weeks (Exiles 11), Andy Saunders (E & B 5), Jo Radiven (Inception 2), Alan Lipton (Hadley Wood 5), Bambos Nicolaou (Exiles 6), Tony Shum (Inception 2)

2/. Approval of the minutes of 2015 AGM

There being no actions points from the previous years minutes, the Chairman sought approval of the Minutes. The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman

4/. Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that during the previous season just completed forty-seven teams had competed in four divisions. A total of 248 players (an increase of 15% against last year) had taken part of which 15 players were female. Demographically the over 50's comprised 67%; under 50's comprised 33%. Of the under 50's, only 13 players were under 20 years of age.

The Handicap Cups were played in each division but 10 teams across the league declined to compete.

The Annual Championships had again been held in June with 9 events taking place – a fantastic increase on previous years for which David Calver was to be congratulated. Despite the delays for some events to proceed, all competitors thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. Hopefully they will be back for more next year.

Last year the League jointly sponsored a series of Talent Weekends for young players. This endeavour was a great success and they have continued every week since without need of our sponsorship.

To continue to encourage younger players to enter and remain playing table tennis, the League will seek to launch a Junior Table Tennis league for under 16's effective from this winter season. Again we will work with Urban Progress to get this junior league under way but can report that both Herts County TTA and the Barnet Table Tennis Centre have already agreed to co-sponsor this initiative. As is indicated by our league makeup, we need to attract young players to our league and this is a further attempt to bring younger players to the game on a long-term basis.

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The Secretary confirmed that he continued to attend the quarterly meetings of the Herts Table Tennis Association. Whilst the meetings mainly dealt with the County teams, the Secretary was able to persuade them to co-sponsor the Junior League previously mentioned. He will continue to legislate for further initiatives in Herts to bring more youth into the game.

A discussion took place concerning the formation of the Junior Barnets League. The Secretary pointed out that although funding had already been put in place, it was very early days in its establishment. The League wished to run the events on Wednesday afternoons at BTTC but it would take time to establish which schools were willing to participate and what logistics problems might be encountered.

5/. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer went through the accounts for the year ending 31st May 2016. Income had risen due to the increase in teams participating in the League although there was no longer any interest from our deposit account which had been closed. The main costs of the League were explained in detail. The League effectively broke even in the year being reviewed.

The accounts were accepted by the meeting.

6/. Fees for Next Season

The Treasurer explained that he had undertaken a review of the income and funding of the League going forward. To enable investment in our future membership to be made, the EC had come to the conclusion that the method of charging for each team's participation in the League was not the fairest way to proceed. The EC had therefore come to the conclusion that membership in future would be based upon individual membership of the League and that the membership fee for forthcoming season would be £ 10 per member. Juniors would continue to be offered free membership.

An open discussion took place that endorsed the decision.

7/. Proposed Rule Changes

The Chairman detailed the proposed changes. After much discussion, the following rules changes were approved.

1. A team can only have one outstanding match at any time i.e. a postponed match that has either not been played nor got an agreed rearranged date on the website fixture list. However, given exceptional circumstances, the Divisional Secretary may override this.

To postpone a match, agreement must be given by both the opposing captain and the Divisional Secretary. This cannot be sought retrospectively. If an agreement is not given by both, the match must be played on the original date - if the match is not then played, the team that did not turn up to play or declared a walkover will forfeit the match and will be penalised 5 points while the team that was available to play will be awarded the match and will gain 10 points.

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2. Coaching a player may only take place between games, and not during a game, to a maximum duration of 1 minute. If coaching of any sort takes place outside this allotted time during a set then a warning should be issued by the umpire and on a second offence a point awarded to the opposing player at the time the offence occurs. Details of such action should be recorded on the scorecard and reported to the Divisional Secretary.
 3. Time outs are not allowed in the League
 4. Should a team concede a walkover on any occasion during the season a 5 penalty shall be levied on the Team for the first and every subsequent walkover and there shall be 10 points awarded to the receiving team. This rule can only be waived in exceptional circumstances at the discretion the League Committee with the facts and recommendation being presented by the relevant Divisional Secretary.
 5. The League position of a team within a Division will be based on the number of League points gained. In tied situations the positions will be resolved by comparing the matches won and if still a tie then by considering the For/Against ratio of the tied teams. The higher the ratio being ranked top. The ratio order will be sets (for/against), games (for/against) and points (for/against)
 6. Bad behavior e.g. spitting on the floor, throwing a bat, hitting the wall or even worse hitting the table with the bat potentially causing damage to the table and persistent bad language will not be tolerated in any of the matches. The umpire should warn the player first and on a second offence award a point to their opponent. The details of such action must be entered on the scorecard and reported to the Divisional Secretary.
- 9/. Election of Officers
- The existing officers agreed to continue in office there being no new nominations
- 10/. Any other Business
- The Expedite rule was explained and discussed at length. All members were advised that this rule should be implemented, as it was a specific rule of Table Tennis England.
- BTTC requested that team captains be reminded that cancellations should also be notified to BTTC in good time
- The issue of illegal serving was discussed. It was agreed that captains should be encouraged to enforce legal serving during matches.
- There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm after which our President, Brian Gale, awarded the trophies from the season's League and Cup Competitions.