

Basingstoke and District Table Tennis Association

Annual General Meeting

Monday 17th July 2023

at

Howard Park Bowling Club Basingstoke

Present:

Committee Members:

Mike Wood, (Chair). Terri Allison (Secretary) Keith Russell, Celia Hooker, Chris Parkyn, Martin Gilbey and Terry White

In addition to the committee, 21 members attended.

Only Hannington Club failed to send a representative.

1. Apologies for absence:

Tony Amies, Mark Every, Paul Rattue, Jan MacDonald, John Upham and Francis Brewster

2. Chairman's Address

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting for season 2022-23.

We are holding this meeting a little later than usual this year because we wanted to hold it after the closed competition which had to be rescheduled much later than usual due to circumstances beyond our control. So firstly, my thanks go Keith Russell for running such a successful event and of course, a big thankyou to the players and spectators who participated. Despite it being held out of season and in the afternoon, attendance was good and it was as competitive as ever.

As you will know, George White has been our elected President for the last 2 years and I would like to extend my thanks to George for his support during that time. We like to rotate the role of President every 2 years and we will come to the election of George's replacement later this evening.

As your representative within Table Tennis England, I voted for Sally Hughes in the recent election of Member Elected Director of TTE. Sally came out as the clear winner and appears to have great plans for growing the sport from the grass roots and particularly for women who are very under-represented in table tennis.

I'd like to thank my fellow committee members for their efforts again this year as without them we would not be able to operate. Also, a big thankyou to Phil Snelson who has continued to act as head coach this season, supported by Terry White and myself of course.

Lastly, there are some changes to the committee coming up.

Tony Amies is splitting his time between Hampshire and Norfolk so has decided he is no longer able to devote the necessary time to committee work and has decided to step down as Vice Chair – a post which he has held since 2015. His practical approach and sound advice will be missed by all the committee and I would like to extend my thanks for his support over many years.

Tony's other duties as Webmaster have already been handed over to Chris Parkyn who was co-opted onto the committee during the season – the new website is more suited to mobile working and you'll hear more about it from Chris later on.

Keith Russell has been doing his role for the last 8 years, but has decided to give someone else the opportunity to run the accounts for the association so has resigned his position as Treasurer. This is a key role within the Association and we are very grateful to Keith for his long service in this role.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the AGM held on 9th June 2022 were approved.

Sam Ricks nominated acceptance and was seconded by Chris Smith.

4. Honorary Treasurer's Report

Keith had prepared copies of the annual accounts which he circulated at the meeting.

Keith explained that we are just about staying ahead of our expenditure as bills for Essex Road have increased considerably. The accounts have a fluid income/expenditure and are as up to date as they can be.

With Les Bone our auditor of past years being unwell and unable to carry on, the Association needs an examiner to approve the accounts annually. On this occasion, Chris Parkyn kindly stepped up to review the figures and has signed them off as accurate.

Sarah Whithorn asked about the savings account of £30,000. Mike replied that the Committee had put this aside as we hope to use it to go towards securing a permanent place for our table tennis centre.

With no further enquiries, the accounts were accepted by the meeting.

5. Honorary Secretary's Report

Terri reported that the Committee had met on four occasions during the year. Most members had attended. All minutes of these meetings are published on our web site.

Terri added that as part of the development team she continues to plague the council with phone calls regarding new premises. She suggested adding a building where the golf range is to adjoin the existing building. The local manager was very keen for this to happen but the council were cagey with their response. We now know why. The land has been bought by developers and the whole site will be re-built with a Water Park etc.

Terri had also suggested an add-on to the swimming pool building or perhaps the ice-skating rink. The reason being that there is someone manning the entrance and the facility could be opened up by them. It is unlikely that any table tennis members would be prepared or able to man any centre on a full time basis.

As Child Protection Officer, thankfully no issues had been raised to Terri.

6. Honorary Registration Secretary's report:

Celia reported that:

114 players registered over 25 teams, which was 3 less teams than last year.

Despite asking for player registration forms as early as possible in order to structure the divisions, Celia received 35 on the Sunday evening, the day before the start of the season and 5 on the Monday.

One player played 2 matches before renewing their TTE membership and therefore all their points were deducted from the team.

All matches were completed on time although a couple had to be chased up to get their scores on the web-site.

There were six occasions when teams were deducted 10 points for failing to comply with the rules regarding postponing.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR TEAM ENTRIES THIS YEAR HAS BEEN BROUGHT FORWARD TO MONDAY 31ST JULY 2023.

All registration this coming season can be done on line. Players can enter themselves and team captains should enter their team. All members are asked to pay by BACs where possible.

No forms should be sent to Celia. It remains important for all players to pay their fee to TTE in order to play for Basingstoke and District Association.

Celia ran through the rules regarding postponement of matches for the benefit of

the members as there appeared to have been some confusion over the process this season.

7. Honorary Development Officer's Report

No Report

8. Honorary HTTA Representative's Report

Sarah reported that the Hampshire Table Tennis Association AGM had taken place where only 8 persons attended, this included the 4 committee members. Three attendees were from Basingstoke. HTTA covers all clubs in Hampshire leagues and still very few players are prepared to support the much-depleted Committee that runs all the county matches, tournaments and coaching. It provides umpires and referees for competitions. Only one Committee member still plays. The majority of the workload is done by Derek Seager, holding 2-3 positions.

Player entry for the 'Hampshire Closed' competition was well attended by Basingstoke.

The Inter Town event was well represented by Basingstoke with 2 Veterans and 2 Men's teams. Both the Veteran's first team and the Men's first team came runners up, losing to very strong Southampton players.

HTTA has decided to keep the affiliation fees the same as last year.

9. Honorary Trophy Secretary's Report

In Jan's absence George White read out her report:

I'm sure everyone will be pleased to hear that I only have a couple of things to say, so this will be very short!

Firstly, many congratulations to the winners of the league trophies and for the first time since 2019 the closed tournament events.

The decision was taken to update the trophies for the closed tournament rather than to replace them, this not only has a significant cost saving of course, but also preserves the history of the previous winners. The only change is in the title of the division, not the standard of the league itself, so the winners remain relevant.

The supply issues we had last year with the knock-on effects of Covid 19 and Brexit have thankfully eased and this year we were able to purchase the medals we wanted, the only exception being the black case is discontinued and we now have to have a clear case.

The cost of the medals has, like everything else it seems, gone up this year. Each medal costs £8.66 including the box and engraving, but hopefully this memento is appreciated by players.

Wishing everyone a successful 2023-2024 season

10. Basingstoke Table Tennis Centre and Coaching Officer's report

Terry reported that it is good to see that the Match Room is being used again regularly for practise. This is mostly at weekends.

The Coaching has had to be cancelled a few times this year as the school now uses the Sports Hall for pupil exams and leaves it set up for the period of time the exams take. They had in the past been held in the classrooms which hadn't affected Hall hire but sadly we now lose several weeks of coaching throughout the year.

Unfortunately, as the agreement with Aldworth for storage of our tables is that pupils may use them, there are several tables that have had minor damage. Terry constantly brings this to the attention of the school but it isn't really likely to change.

Steve Armstrong has kindly mended some of the wheels on the tables and it is hoped that he will fix another couple asap.

Terry explained that in 1983, Mick Oakman, a player and great help to coaching was about to go on his first coaching course but sadly died before he achieved this. However, in his name the Association bought a memorial trophy to be played for by juniors at coaching. It is awarded to the most improved player, not necessarily the best player. This year it was awarded to Filip Zmuda.

Phil Snelson made a point of thanking Tony Palaczky who came to coaching sessions for 2 whole terms to feed the ball to those attending, as well as Ian Parkyn, Steve Ng and Eric Wong who had assisted with coaching from time to time. He added that it would be a great help to the coaches if more players were able to come along whenever they could to help with this. Mike reminded the members that they did not need to commit to coming along every week.

Phil said that he hopes to enter some of our youngsters in the National Cadet League next season.

Dates for coaching next school term have been arranged and published on the web site.

11. Web-Master's Report

With Tony Amies having relinquished this role to Chris Parkyn mid-season, in order to be around in case of any queries, Chris has spent time reviewing licences and updating those that needed it. The web-site now has tighter security.

Chris has now made the web-site mobile friendly.

Match scores can be entered as before.

Any booking for Essex Road is now on the web-site and no-one needs to contact Terry White, unless of course you need to borrow a key for the room, which must be

returned to Terry asap.

All registration can now be done on line. There is no need for paperwork.

Chris has also entered the Summer League on the web-site as a beta test.

Our new URL is: <https://bdtta.org/>

12. Election of President

Mike reported that, in seeking a successor to George White, the committee wanted to nominate an individual who has been integral to table tennis within Basingstoke. Peter Martin was an obvious choice as he has quietly supported table tennis consistently over many years, including being vice-chair and managing inter-town teams and helping to run the annual closed competition. When Peter was asked to consider taking up this post, he was typically humble and appreciative. The committee and George were unanimous in their choice of Peter Martin as their candidate and there being no other nominees, Mike proposed that we vote on the matter and added that a 2/3 majority was needed to approve this and asked for a show of hands.

The voting was unanimously in favour and Peter Martin was duly elected President.

13. Election of Officers

Mike reported that Mark Every has nominated himself for the position of Vice chair and there had been no other nominations. Further, we had received no nominations for the position of Treasurer. We urgently need someone to take over this important role without which we cannot function. Mike stressed that you don't need to be a qualified accountant – just be able to keep track of incomings and outgoings like you would on your own bank account. Mike asked for a volunteer but none was forthcoming.

Mike said that we also had vacancies for Press and Media Relations Officer and for an additional committee member. There had been no proposals received but nominations from the floor were welcomed – again, none was forthcoming.

At this point Mike handed over proceedings to our newly elected President to conduct the election of the Committee for 2023-24, which he decided to carry out en-bloc.

The membership voted overwhelmingly in favour for the existing members and nominee.

The Committee was therefore confirmed as:

Chair: Mike Wood

Vice Chair: Mark Every

Hon. Secretary: Terri Allison

Hon Treasurer: Vacant

Hon Registration Secretary: Celia Hooker

Hon Development Officer: Mark Every

Hon. Inter-Town Secretaries: Vacant

Web-Master: Chris Parkyn

Hon Trophy Secretary: Jan MacDonald

The Basingstoke Table Tennis Centre and Coaching Officer: Terry White

HTTA Representative: Sarah Whithorn

Press and Media Relations Officer: Vacant (though Caitlin Wood updates our Facebook)

Additional Members: Martin Gilbey

Following the election, Mike announced that this coming season would mark his 10th year in the chair and that he would be standing down next year.

14. Election of Auditor

This year, Les Bone was unable to audit our accounts as he has done for many years. So we are in need of someone to carry this out next year. This position remains vacant at this time.

15. Proposed Rule Change

No proposals for rule changes had been submitted to the secretary.

16. Closed Competition 2023-2024

Mike asked for volunteers to run next year's Closed Championships and pointed out that there was help available in the form of a handbook and practical help would also be available. However, there were no volunteers.

17. Any Other Business

Mike stated that Rule 41 requires us to set the annual registration fees for players and non-playing members at the AGM. We traditionally have not charged any fee for non-playing members. For the several years now, the annual fee for players has been £10. Last year we agreed to hold this figure at £10 and to review it this year. Keith has suggested that we should increase this to £11. There was some discussion on this followed by a vote.

The results of the vote were 7 for vs 9 against with many abstaining.

The individual registration fee will therefore be held at £10.

Chris Smith asked if the fees for the use of the match room by teams is going up to help meet the costs of the electricity etc. He felt that whilst as a BDTTA member he didn't mind contributing to the overall running of the facility, those clubs that use the room for their matches should pay a higher rate. Hire of a village hall in and around Basingstoke is approximately £30 per night.

The current rate is £25 per evening to hire the Match Room; it was decided to increase this to £27.

There is no extra charge for members to use the room for practise as their registration fee to belong to BDTTA covers this.

18. Trophies

Peter Martin and George White presented the following trophies for the 2022/2023 season:

Closed Competition Winners 2023

AWARD	RECIPIENT
Cadet singles	Jairus Martin
Junior singles	Bryan Vaz
Handicap singles	Allan Bransgrove
Veteran singles	Phil Snelson
Super Vet singles	Tony Palaczky
Division 2 singles	Sarah Whithorn
Division 1 singles	Andy Prince
Prem Div singles	Ian Parkyn
Men's doubles	Ian Parkyn and Sam Ricks
Mixed doubles	Phil Snelson and Sarah Whithorn
Ladies singles	Celia Hooker
Men's singles	Sam Ricks

Season Winners 2022-23

Category	Winners	Runners Up
Premier Division	Queen's A	Saints
Division 1	Aldworth B	Queen's E

Division 2	Oakley A	Oakley B
Handicap cup	KG D	Queen's A
Ray Partridge plate	KG B	Oakley A

Season Awards 2022-23

Most improved junior	The Barrett Cup	Bryan Vaz
Most improved senior	The Alf Cann Shield	Neil Abbott
Most games won	Queen's cup	Phil Snelson

There being no other business, Mike declared the meeting closed and thanked the members for attending.

This is a true account of the meeting

Signed:

Secretary

Signed:

Chairman

Date: 2024