

# ANNUAL REVIEW 2021 2022

TTE 100

#LevelTheTable



[tabletennisengland.co.uk](http://tabletennisengland.co.uk)



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## OUR PARTNERS

We would like to record our appreciation to all those partner organisations which have worked with us over the last year:



*Editor's note: Except where stated otherwise, this review covers departmental and financial matters for the year to March 31, 2022. For competition and performance matters, obituaries and notable achievements, the period covered is the 2021/22 season.*

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



**Sandra Deaton**

When I wrote these notes last year, we were beginning to emerge from the dark days of the pandemic and keeping our fingers crossed that we would soon get back to normal, not just in the sport we love but in society as a whole.

I am therefore delighted to report that the 2021/22 season has seen a successful return to play, with clubs opening up again, local leagues resuming and regional and national tournaments back on the calendar after the enforced break.

The resumption has not been without its challenges, of course, particularly around the availability of venues, but the fact that more than 83% of our members have resumed their membership is very heartening. I hope that figure will be even higher in 2022/23 without the lingering uncertainty which was still with us last autumn as restrictions eased.

The fact we have been able to bounce back in this way is a testament to the work done at local level by so many dedicated and talented volunteers. I have very much enjoyed catching up with so many of them, and with players at all levels, as I have attended events around the country in recent months.

As well as enjoying watching competitive play at all age groups, I have also been listening to you talk about the challenges and opportunities within the sport and how Table Tennis England can meet them.

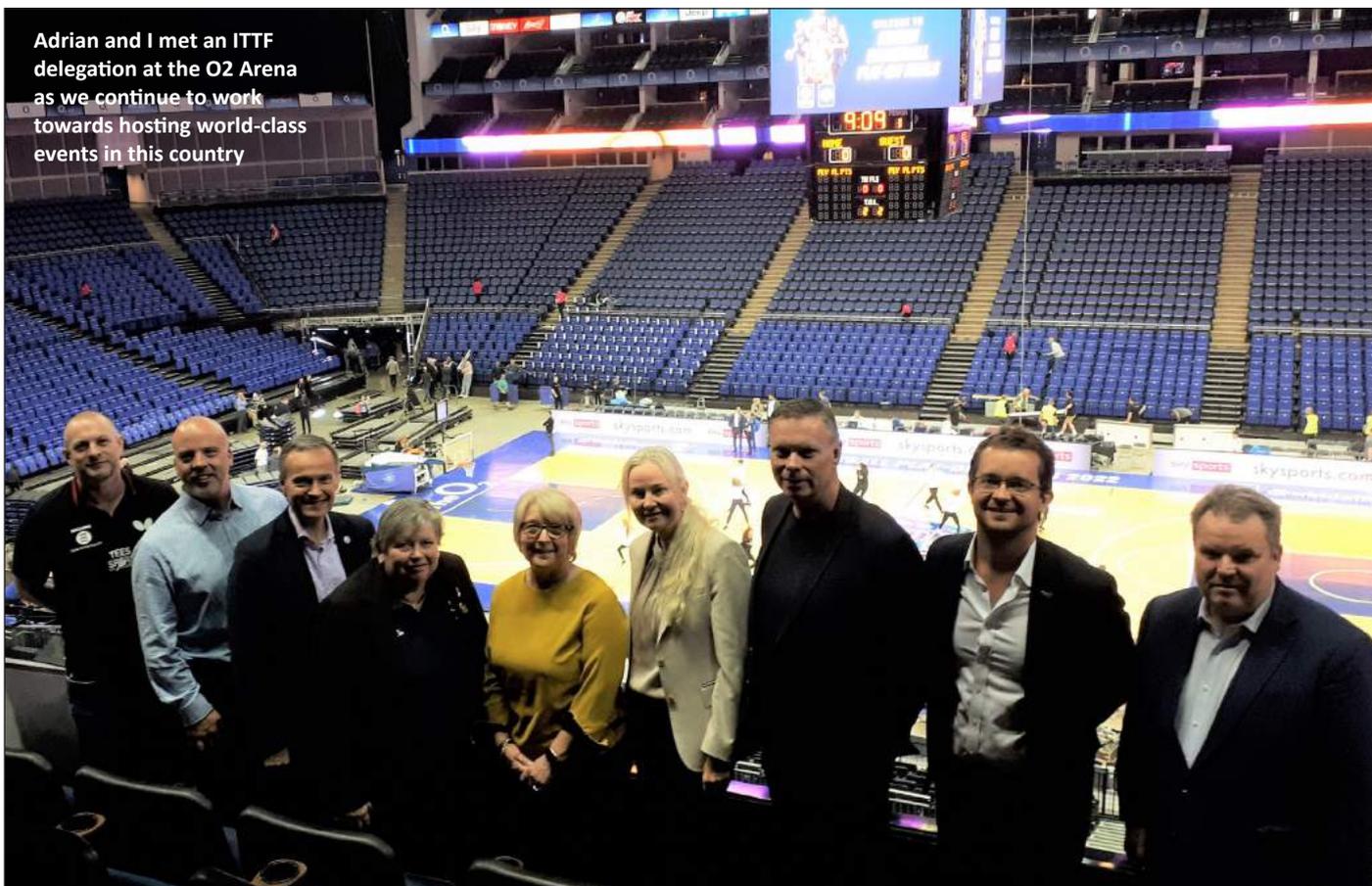
We are currently working on a reset of our strategy to develop the sport, which we touch on in this Review and which you will hear a lot more about in the coming months.

I would like to stress that we primarily remain a membership organisation and that our members are at the centre of our work. Giving you the opportunity to input into our decision-making through the surveys and consultation exercises we undertake is a key part of this, so I thank all those who have had, and continue to have, their say.

It is also our job to increase participation by opening up opportunities for more people to play table tennis in more locations  
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“**The fact we have been able to bounce back from covid is a testament to the work done at local level by so many dedicated and talented volunteers**”

Adrian and I met an ITTF delegation at the O2 Arena as we continue to work towards hosting world-class events in this country



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and this is something we will continue to work hard to achieve.

Our strategic review is prompted not only by the pandemic giving us the chance to reflect on our direction of travel, but also by the fact that our Chief Executive, Adrian Christy, is now in post permanently. Adrian originally took on the interim role after our previous CEO, Sara Sutcliffe, stood down at the end of 2021.

We undertook a rigorous recruitment process with a specialist executive search company and Adrian was the outstanding candidate. He made his mark in the interim position, and we are very fortunate to have someone of his experience at the helm as we build back after the challenges of covid.

I welcome Adrian to the organisation and very much look forward to working with him. I would also like to once again thank Sara for her huge contribution to our sport in the more than eight years she was our CEO. We wish her well in her new challenge at the Royal Yachting Association.

Alongside the positives of the return to play, there have been many other causes for optimism and celebration this season.

In March, we received the news that Table Tennis England had been awarded just over £9 million by Sport England to fund key aspects of its work for up to five years.

This long-term funding is a vote of confidence in us as a National Governing Body and arises because of our commitment to co-deliver change at national and local levels, to help more people enjoy the benefits of playing sport and being active.

In May, we were awarded a further £250,000 from Sport England to support our work in creating more opportunities for women and girls in table tennis through building our digital capabilities and infrastructures.

Creating more opportunities for women and girls is a central part of our vision and I was very proud when we launched our Level The Table strategy last September. You can read more about the initiative in these pages.

On top of Sport England funding, the award of £1.35 million we received from UK Sport has enabled us to come together with the

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“ **Long-term funding is a vote of confidence in us as a National Governing Body and arises because of our commitment to co-deliver change at national and local levels** ”



**Creating more opportunities for women and girls is a central part of our vision**



I was delighted to welcome good friends from the ITTF and ETTU to our Centenary Gala Dinner and would like to thank them for their generous gifts, which are now displayed (right) in our offices. I was also thrilled to receive a letter from our Patron, HM The Queen, extending her good wishes



### From page 3

other Home Nations to create a new Great Britain pathway, enabling the best players, supported by the best coaches, to work towards their dreams of representing Great Britain at the Olympic Games. Included in this project was the creation of a new GB Junior Squad earlier this year.

As well as creating world-class talents, our aspiration remains to host world-class table tennis events in this country. We recently welcomed ITTF President Petra Sörling, Chief Executive Steve Dainton and Secretary-General Raul Calin to this country, where they joined Adrian and me, as well as representatives from UK Sport, at the O2 Arena in London.

It remains our aspiration to be part of the ITTF's Centenary celebrations in London, where international table tennis was born in 1926, and positive discussions continue about a combined able-bodied and para world championships in this country.

On the subject of centenaries, this season has seen us reach our own 100-year milestone, which we celebrated in style with a Gala Dinner at the end of the Mark Bates Ltd National Championships. It was wonderful to see so many friends from across the sport, representing so many generations.

We announced the first 10 members of our Hall of Fame, and we were honoured that five of those inducted were able to pick up their awards in person. We kept the identities a secret until the night – even our President, Jill Parker, was unaware of her induction!

I was particularly pleased that we were also able to include the Pride of Table Tennis Awards ceremony as part of this special night. Volunteers remain our lifeblood and it is right that the winners and runners-up took centre stage at such a prestigious event.

You can read more about both the Centenary and Pride of Table Tennis in these pages, and I also commend to you our Centenary book *English Table Tennis at 100 – A Century in Photographs*, a fabulous record of the first 100 years of table tennis in this country.

So, now it is on to the next 100 years and I am confident that everyone in the sport will strive to make their mark in the coming years, whether as a player, coach, official, volunteer or supporter, and to work towards ensuring the sport remains in the best of health for future generations.





## Adrian Christy

Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you to those who have welcomed me so warmly to Table Tennis England. Your kind words are very much appreciated, and I very much look forward to enjoying the growth and success of table tennis in England with you all in the months and years ahead.

I am delighted to be part of the exciting future for table tennis in this country and to enjoy the privilege of such a prestigious leadership position; I do not underestimate the responsibility that comes with my role, and I hope I serve you well.

Much will have been written and said about the impact of the pandemic on table tennis, and indeed across the whole of the sport sector and wider society, and I would like to commend the thousands of volunteers, players, coaches, officials, and administrators who have performed such a heroic effort to keep table tennis going through such a challenging time.

As we emerge from Covid-19, we do so in a position of strength because of you, so please do take some time to reflect on the outstanding part you have played.

Usually, my Chief Executive's report to the members would reflect on the past 12 months and provide some insight into the future. Given my short time with Table Tennis England, I will leave others to reflect this time and comment more on our forward plan.

I have spent much of my time to date listening, learning, and observing. I have learned much about table tennis, come across many similarities to my previous experience but at the same time discovered some exciting opportunities that I have formulated into a draft reset of Table Tennis England's strategy, financial model, and structure, and I was delighted to share this with the Board for approval in May and to then present to National Council in June.

Having secured support to progress to the next stage, we can look forward to the fun part; bringing the outline plan to life and setting

**“ I am keen that we find ways in which we can showcase not just the talent of our players, but also the sport more generally ”**

out how we will develop table tennis in the years ahead.

One of my early observations was the need to work more collaboratively, bringing together the talent within our team with the knowledge of our passionate volunteers. This combination will be incredibly powerful in ensuring we are not only a well governed organisation but a key enabler in our growth plan really being able to fly as we put table tennis front and centre.

Another key component of our strategy will be ensuring table tennis plays its part in tackling inequalities, with a focus initially on gender parity; we see a significant imbalance in the number of women and girls that take part. We must address that.

Another area for us to address is our visibility. For a sport that is incredibly accessible, we are a well-kept secret, and I am keen that we find ways in which we can showcase not just the talent of our players, but also the sport more generally and I hope to be able to share more of these plans in the months ahead.

The views of groups such as National Council and the Members' Advisory Group will play a part in shaping the final strategy before it is presented to the Board for final approval in September.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish the players representing England at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham this summer, every success. They will make every one of us proud.

# CENTENARY

2021/22 was the Centenary season of Table Tennis England/ETTA and a series of events and activities was launched on November 7th, 2021, co-inciding with the accepted date of the inauguration of the Association.

Steve Joel was appointed Centenary Project Manager to steer this process alongside a Centenary Working Party consisting of Sandra Deaton, Susie Venner, Mike Smith, Jill Parker, Don Parker, Sara Sutcliffe (until December 2021), Adrian Christy (from December 2021).

The Centenary projects undertaken were:

## Commemorative Book

*English Table Tennis at 100 – A Century in Photographs* was published in March 2022. This 192-page hardback book showcases the pictures which illustrate key moments, events, performances and people throughout the history of the National Governing Body.

Researched by Diane Webb and Colin Clemett, the pictures were compiled by the Table Tennis England Senior Communications Officer, Paul Stimpson, including many never-before-published images. The design work was contracted out to Blue Green Design and two editions were published – an Official Edition (500 copies) and a Special Edition (200 copies)

We are most grateful to Butterfly and their UK supplier Ransome Sporting Goods who sponsored the development of the book and the 137 individuals who became Book Supporters, and who names are listed in the book.

As of 4th May, 287 copies had been sold (134 special editions and 153 official editions), with just 66 copies of the special edition remaining. You can buy a copy by ordering online through the [Centenary Celebration pages on our website](#).

Although the costs of design and printing were substantial, the book is well on its way to covering costs and it is anticipated will generate a surplus in due course.

## Gala Dinner

More than 280 guests attended the glittering gala dinner in Nottingham at the end of the Mark Bates Ltd National Championships.

Guests celebrating at this extraordinary event included Senior England international players, English Paralympic players, Senior England team coaches, Honorary Life Members, Vice-Presidents, international dignitaries, Board Members, Committee Members, National Councillors, Regional Chairs, sponsors and Table Tennis England members who secured tickets through the Centenary Gala Dinner Ticket Ballot.

Ten amazing players from the last 100 years were inducted into the Table Tennis England Centenary Hall of Fame at the dinner, with five of the legends on hand to pick up their awards in person. The identity of those honoured was kept strictly under wraps, meaning they did not have any idea before the event.

The evening also included the Pride of Table Tennis Awards, while guests enjoyed some unique footage showcasing some of the most iconic English table tennis moments, players and performances.

## Webinars

Our project focusing on the future that lies ahead for our sport, on the areas critical to future success. Subjects covered included Creating Amazing Table Tennis Environments for Children; Building Coach Employment; Supporting Talented Players to Learn, Develop and Thrive; Imagining the Clubs of the Future and The Future of Local Table Tennis Competition.

The initial aspiration was that the presenters would include a mix of national and international thought-leaders but

this did not materialise. Perhaps as a consequence, engagement, registration and attendance was low.

## Centenary English Leagues Cup Competitions

Our landmark Centenary English Leagues Cup Competitions (ELCC) was sponsored by Rocca Creative and this season provided free entry for leagues to compete against each other across the four categories – the Wilmott Cup for Senior men, the JM Rose Bowl for Senior women, the Carter Cup for Junior boys and the Bromfield Trophy for Junior girls.

In total, 107 entries were received, just over double the number entries since the competition was last played in 2019. This includes a substantial increase in entries for the two female competitions.

For a list of winners, see the Competitions section of this Review.

## Heritage

Our Centenary Heritage project seeks to transform the future collection, preservation, access, research, and documentation of the sport's heritage, leaving a lasting legacy from the season of events and activities.

To achieve this, a bid has been prepared and will shortly be submitted to the National Lottery Fund for Heritage for a project that would be implemented over a three-year period.

This bid has been shaped by range of individuals from across the sport with an interest in table tennis heritage: Diane Webb, Colin Clemett, Graham Trimming, John Ruderham, Mike Smith, Ken Eliot, Tony Catt.

The outcome of the Lottery bid is expected to be known in the autumn.

## Fundraising

The proceeds from our Centenary Jackpot Raffle and Centenary Auction, plus separate

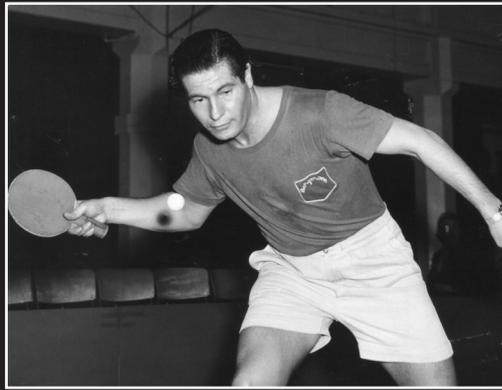
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Hall of Fame inductees at the Gala Dinner (from left) John Hilton, Mary Wright, Jill Hammersley-Parker MBE, Desmond Douglas MBE and Will Bayley MBE



*Fred Perry*



*Richard Bergmann*



*Johnny Leach MBE*

# Centenary Hall of Fame



*Diane and Rosalind Rowe*



*Mary Wright*



*Jill Hammersley-Parker  
MBE*



*John Hilton*



*Desmond Douglas MBE*



*Will Bayley MBE*

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donations made by those invited to the Centenary Gala Dinner, came to £4,290.

The separate auction and raffle were held as part of the celebrations around our Centenary Gala Dinner, with 60 lots going under the hammer and cash prizes to be won.

The proceeds have been added to the Table Tennis England Centenary Legacy Fund, which seeks to help raise funds to

improve access, facilities and opportunities in our sport.

Table Tennis England assessed the feasibility of developing a Charitable Foundation to help raise additional funds to be reinvested back into the sport. This remains with the Board to assess further.

### **Legacy**

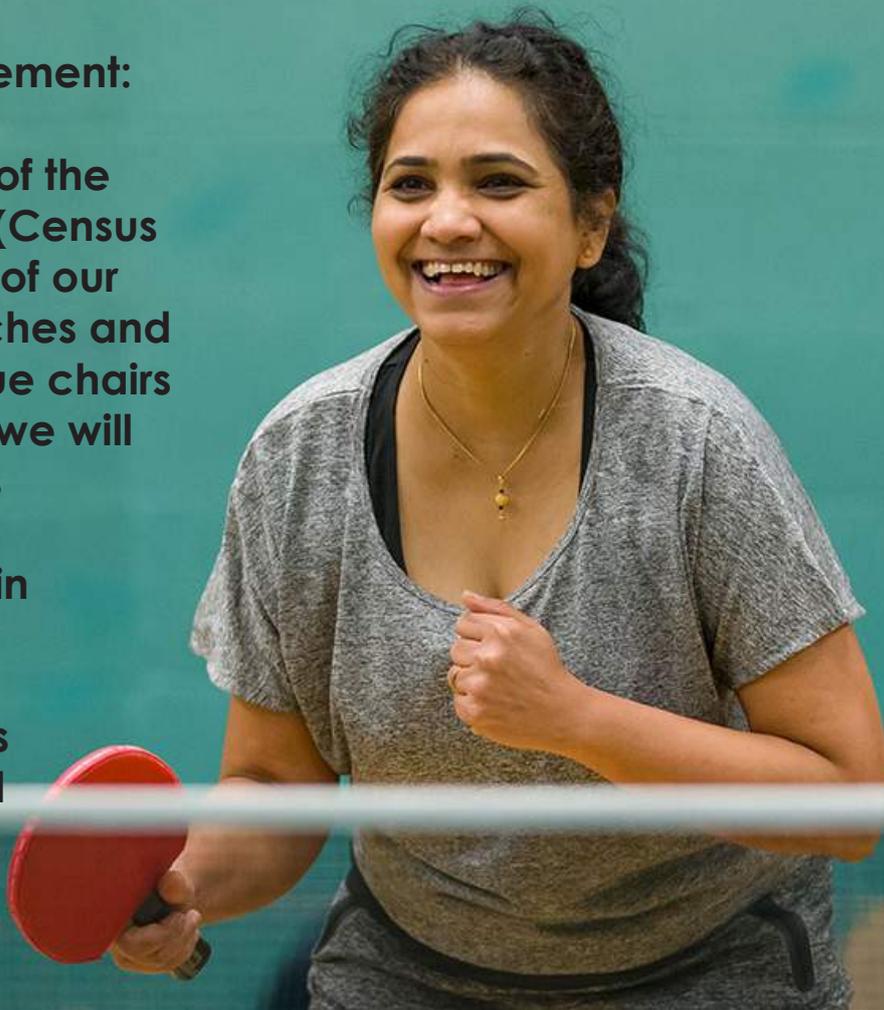
It was intended to evolve a series of projects focused on attracting past players back into

the sport and supporting the recruitment of a new generation of younger players. However, competing priorities did not allow this to take place.

The feasibility of a series of regional exhibition matches involving England players was also assessed and remains an option for ensuring our top players are more visible in this country. Player availability given the demands of the international schedule remains the challenge.

### Our Gender Parity Statement:

Women make up 51% of the population in England (Census data) . . . but only 12% of our members, 17% of coaches and just 3% of club or league chairs are female. Therefore, we will unapologetically focus on increasing women and girls' involvement in our sport and making table tennis a space where women and girls feel welcomed, valued and visible and have the opportunity to progress.



Level The Table (LTT) is Table Tennis England's five-year Diversity and Inclusion strategy, launched on September 27th, 2021.

We have five integrated and interrelated phases to tackle inequality, provide equity, gender parity and ensure that the sport is representative of the demographic in England.

To achieve gender parity, we will have an unapologetic focus on increasing the numbers of women and girls involved in the game, making table tennis a space where women and girls feel welcomed, valued, visible and have the opportunity to progress.

A six-month report was issued in March, which reflects on the work since the launch of the strategy and provides results against our objectives, highlighting the organisation's progress across the different departments and setting out our priorities from March to September 2022.

To achieve our goals, we must continuously nurture an ambitious, progressive and ally culture which seeks to actively challenge discrimination and take proactive steps towards eradication of inequalities. Aspirations cannot



be achieved without our acknowledgment of the societal, institutional, and individual inequalities which present us with barriers to this commitment.

In the first six months:

- Our focus on evidence-based inclusion interventions has enabled us to ensure there is more flexibility for women playing table tennis. As a result, there have been amendments to domestic competition regulations to allow more flexibility in what kit is worn, which aims to benefit women, girls and religious communities.

Additionally, following a Table Tennis England resolution to the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) AGM, the ITTF agreed to consult the sport over the next years and to make its own proposals on clothing flexibility at the next AGM.

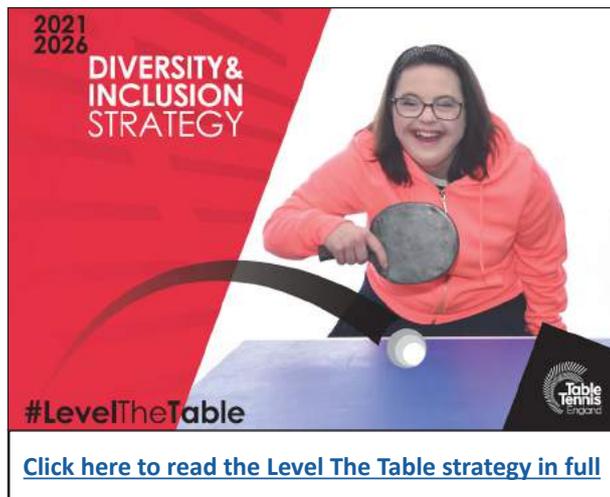
- We launched our 2021-2022 Women and Girls Ambassador programme cohort. The purpose of this programme is to promote table tennis, encourage more women and girls to play the game and inspire them to take up other roles within the sport. We recognise the importance of amplifying the voice of women and girls in the table tennis community and ensure that decisions are informed by the people that it will impact.
  - We launched our Women and Girls Facebook group. The group's aim is to be a community for women in table tennis and a platform to share
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experiences, ideas and promote women and girls' participation in the sport. Based on feedback, this group has been created as a women and girls-only space online and currently has more than 230 members.

- Through the Level The Table Grant scheme, we received 162 applications and, after blindly assessing applications, awarded funding to 62 projects, totalling just over £55,000. The successful projects have the opportunity to engage and reach around 9,000 new participants and 31% of successful projects are taking part in the top 20% of deprived areas (LSEG) in the country.
- We have set clear intersectional focus areas with women and girls.
- We launched a coaching bursary to celebrate International Women's Day, giving 50% off Level 1 courses.
- We are working on our messaging and imagery used online to better reflect our female membership.
- We had female-only categories in the Pride of Table Tennis Awards.
- We supported Pride sports' bid to host an International multi-sport games in Birmingham in 2024.
- For the first time ever we have had an all-female officials line-up for major domestic matches at the the Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championships.

Throughout 2021/22 our partnership with Parkinson's UK flourished and a joint collaboration with St Neots Table Tennis Club led to an inaugural Ping Pong Parkinson's UK Championship event held at the club. There have also been sessions created specifically for People with Parkinson's at five clubs and community groups. See more about this partnership and it's achievements in our [People with Parkinson's Partnership Review](#).



**2021  
2026**  
**DIVERSITY & INCLUSION STRATEGY**

#LevelTheTable

Table Tennis England

[Click here to read the Level The Table strategy in full](#)

# Strategic goals



- **Continue to listen, connect and develop a deeper understanding of the lived experiences of different communities in our sport**
- **Educate the table tennis community (including volunteers and clubs) about what diversity and inclusion means and how inclusive opportunities can be created and/or grown**
- **Increase the diversity of volunteers, coaches, officials and staff across all levels to be more reflective of the sport's participants and the general population of England**
- **Grow participation in the sport to be more reflective of the different backgrounds and communities in England**
- **Establish clear processes and support mechanisms to take action and challenge discriminatory behaviour**



Female officials at the Mark Bates Ltd National Championships (from left): Kim Mudge, Jenny Sanders, Lin Roff, Karen Tonge OBE (Umpire Manager), Chloe Ireland, Jo Outhwaite, Lynda Reid

The Board is the ultimate decision-making body and exercises the powers of the organisation. The Board is responsible for:

- Setting the strategy of the organisation
- Approving the long-term financial plan and annual budget
- Monitoring delivery of the operational plan, priorities and objectives
  - Periodic review of the financial plan and performance against annual budget
  - Periodic review of major risks and programmes

Day-to-day management of Table Tennis England is delegated by the Board to the Senior Leadership Team under the leadership of the Chief Executive. Financial authorities are in place for each level of the Executive structure.

This year continued to be challenging due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic and the significant number of Resolutions submitted to the AGM; the outcome of these can be found in the minutes from the AGM on our website. Significant work was undertaken on the respective Board and Operational Committee Terms of Reference to ensure our ongoing compliance with the Code for Sports Governance.

Sport England and UK Sport published a revised version of the Code for Sports Governance and an action plan was approved by the Board; relevant Resolutions will be proposed to the 2022 AGM to ensure our ongoing compliance. Consistent with the Code for Sports Governance, Table Tennis England is committed to becoming a more diverse and inclusive organisation to bring new and different perspectives to our work.

There were four scheduled Board meetings and one Extraordinary Board Meeting to confirm the Resolutions at the 2021 AGM.

Summaries of the Board meetings are available on the website. The Board enjoyed a largely full attendance from Directors for its meetings. In addition, every Board member sits on at least one of the Board sub-committees of Finance & Audit Committee, Governance & Risk Committee or Talent & Performance Committee, each of which meets in between the scheduled Board meetings. The terms of reference for all Board committees are available on the website.

Following the Annual General Meeting, a new Board Committee was established for Talent & Performance, which has held three meetings to date. The details of all Board committees are listed on the About Us section on the website.

In May 2021, Ritchie Venner joined the Board as an Elected Director and Dr Emma Vickers, Kwadjo Adjepong and Ray James joined in June as Appointed Directors. In June, Susie Venner was confirmed by the Board as the Deputy Chair. In December, Sara Sutcliffe, CEO for the past eight years, resigned and Adrian Christy was appointed on an interim basis initially and then on a permanent basis in March 2022.

The Board undertook an internal evaluation and an action plan was developed following this; all Board Members also had a one-to-one assessment with the Chair. The Board undertook training on their roles, responsibilities as Directors, good governance, finance and the risk management.

National Council re-elected Estyn Williams as their Chairperson and they met virtually in April, June and December but in person in September 2021 and March 2022. The minutes are available on the website.



The role of the Members' Advisory Group (MAG) is to provide strategic advice to the Table Tennis England Board on a broad range of issues relating to table tennis.

MAG has met on four occasions throughout the 2021/22 season. The main task at each of the meetings is to review our various projects (see below).

However, members of the Board and the Table Tennis England Senior Leadership Team frequently attend MAG meetings to provide an update on current Table Tennis England activities.

Issues that we have raised with the Board or one which we have provided feedback to the

## Members' Advisory Group (MAG)

Board have included:

- Cancellation of the Wolverhampton Grand Prix
- The use of the ITTF override in junior rankings
- Input into the Competition Review
- Feedback on the Skills Matrix for Board members
- Input into the Table Tennis England Strategy Development process

Members of MAG participate in the Table Tennis England initiative on Diversity & Inclusion and the Competition Review Steering Group. MAG also provides two members of the Board's Nominations Committee.

Two members of MAG have stood down this year – Dan Simms and Dean Nabarro. Both were part of the original cohort appointed to MAG and played important roles in the development of MAG activities. All members of MAG join me in thanking Dan and Dean for their valuable contributions. There are now 14 members of MAG. We are likely to be undertaking a recruitment exercise for additional MAG members in the autumn.

Project work continues to be at the heart of what MAG does. Most MAG projects involve engaging with members of the

wider table tennis community to provide a wider perspective on the issues being addressed.

The projects we have undertaken over the last year are as follows:

- Transparency & Accountability – these are important issues for both the Board and Table Tennis England. We have recommended a presumption of openness and believe that increased accountability can be achieved by pro-active engagement with the table tennis community.

The Board has accepted the report and plans to undertake a gap analysis to see how current procedures can be improved.

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The Report has been published and is available on the MAG pages of the Table Tennis England website.

- Recruitment & Retention – we have undertaken both quantitative and qualitative research to understand the profile of the membership and why members leave and subsequently re-join our sport.

The data are stark. As a sport we are successful in bringing people into our sport in the age ranges 10-15. But 80% of these members have left by the age of 22. Players return to our sport in increasing numbers from the age of 45.

The qualitative research was based on an extensive survey on Facebook and provides insight into the reasons for both leaving and re-joining table tennis. A report is being compiled that will bring together the quantitative and qualitative strands and this will be published shortly.

The report will be helpful in targeting future member recruitment and retention campaigns.

- Cost-Effectiveness of Tournaments – following discussion of issues relating to the cancellation of the Wolverhampton Grand Prix, the Board asked MAG to set up a project on “Cost-Effectiveness of Tournaments”.

A project team has been assembled which consists of both MAG and non-MAG members and all with extensive experience as tournament organisers, referees, umpires, players, coaches and parents.

Two Discussion Sessions have taken place which have addressed specific issues relating to cost-effectiveness but also wider issues relating to encouraging participation (particularly from top-ranked players) and how tournaments can provide better value for money for participants.

The issues discussed are being assembled into a report to be submitted to the Board and then published.

In 2021/22 all our meetings and project discussion sessions have been online. As a result, no costs have been incurred by Table Tennis England for the operation of MAG in 2021/22.

**Neil Hurford**  
MAG Chair

National Council comprises a member elected by each of our 39 County Associations to represent the views of the membership to the Board.

The names of the representatives and a detailed guide as to how National Council works are set out on the Table Tennis England (TTE) website. Representatives can attend meetings in person or online.

We encourage representatives, who wish to discuss a topic at a meeting, to submit a paper in advance. These are published on the website about two weeks in advance, so that members can let their representative know their opinion before the meeting. The papers also include reports from the Board and staff, who are always welcome to attend.

## Strategy

In 2019 the Board started to review its strategy, Mission 2025. Work paused for the pandemic and again due to the change of CEO.

We were pleased to receive a presentation on the draft of the strategy reset from the new CEO and look forward to taking part in further consultation and to the strategy being presented to the Board in September 2022.

## Membership

Membership has been static for some years up until covid. Good work has been done to increase participation in the sport but we believe the Board now needs to plan how to recruit more members.

Leagues, clubs and other local groups are generally the catalyst for new members to join and we have suggested that the Board should concentrate on supporting local volunteers to increase recruitment.

## Governance

At the 2021 AGM, a resolution to increase the number of elected directors from three to four just failed to receive the 75% majority needed to pass. Council discussed this in September and recommended resubmitting the proposal to the 2022 AGM. We are pleased to report that the Board has now agreed to support it.

The Board also consulted Council on a revised skills matrix to be used when new directors are chosen. We have suggested that greater weight should be given to active involvement in organising table tennis.

Sport England and UK Sport require TTE to comply with their Code for Sports Governance as a condition of receiving public funding. They revised the Code this year. The Board consulted Council on the changes it believes are needed to the Articles to comply with the Code and will now take its modified proposals to the AGM.

A key principle of the Code is transparency and accountability. The Code suggests that the minutes of the Board and its committees should be published and the Board has now agreed to our request to put them on the website.

Council's Select Committee on the Constitution reported in March. It covered a wide range of issues. Key themes were that

## National Council

TTE should give greater priority to the interests of the membership and should increase the involvement of members, particularly volunteers, in its governance. We have invited the Board to consider the recommendations and respond at our June meeting.

## Competitions

We were concerned that the Wolverhampton Grand Prix was cancelled at short notice.

In the last year the Board have commissioned a comprehensive review of our competition structure and we are scheduled to discuss its ideas at our June meeting.

## Talent and Performance

Following discussions at Council and an AGM resolution the Board established a Talent and Performance Committee. We have engaged with the committee regularly.

We believe it has got off to a good start and set out clear principles. But it has rightly recognised that there is much still to do. The biggest constraint is the shortage of funding and we have encouraged the Board to consider how this can be increased.

## MAG

Our colleagues in the Members' Advisory Group (MAG) have produced some very useful work this year. In particular, they put forward proposals for club development. We discussed these at our September meeting and hope the Board will implement them.

## League play

At our September meeting we discussed a proposal to facilitate earlier finishes for leagues with young players. It is for local leagues to decide on the format of their competitions but we thought that the system suggested had a number of advantages.

The proposal is timely as, since the pandemic, it has been harder for some teams to secure venues which can accommodate a late evening finish.

## Safeguarding and welfare

Members will have heard that safeguarding issues have arisen in a number of other sports. In December we discussed safeguarding and welfare with the Safeguarding and Ethics Manager. We were also pleased to see that our new CEO highlighted the importance of safeguarding in his first newsletter.

## Conclusion

The success of National Council, and TTE as a whole, depends on us all working together. I would like to thank all councillors, directors and staff, in particular Jo Keay-Blyth, for all their help over the past year.

**Estyn Williams**  
National Council Chair



**Finals Day at the Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championships was once again broadcast live on the BBC Sport website. There were 25,720 stream starts on the day, which rises to 29,334 when the 30-day iPlayer availability period is included. The average watch time was 22min 03sec, up from just under 18 minutes at the last Nationals in 2020. The BBC described the watch time as “very encouraging” and rated as excellent the coverage provided by our partners 1080media. The first two days of the Nationals were streamed on Recast, where the average watch time was 36 minutes and a total of 1,514 live ‘purchases’ were made. This generated just over £1,100 for Table Tennis England to re-invest into live coverage of the sport. Our relationship with Recast has now ended and we continue to research effective platforms to enable us to improve and extend the visibility of the sport.**

The marketing and communications department has continued to support all areas of the organisation over what has been an incredibly busy year.

In January, our team became part of Table Tennis England’s new Business Development department, where we have joined forces with the Insight and Partnerships functions. Our team’s core objectives are to:

- 1) reach and engage our audience;
- 2) increase the visibility of table tennis in England.

We plan to also grow a more diverse audience, with a particular focus on women and girls, which feeds into our Level the Table strategy and our quest for gender parity in our sport. In addition, we aspire to increase brand awareness and improve the perception of the sport, Table Tennis England, and its subsidiary brands.

In February, we launched our new website, a top-to-bottom revamp designed to improve the user experience, whether visitors are new to the sport or have been involved for years. It will therefore help us both to engage new audiences and better serve our members. The site was designed and built by Jask Creative, has a modern and fresh look and conforms to the latest standards of inclusivity and compatibility with all devices.

According to Google Analytics, there were 2.134 million page views in the year to March 31, an increase of 41% on the previous year. The average session duration was 2min 16sec, an increase of 23.31%. A total of 360,000 users visited the website, an increase of 12.5%. The bounce rate - the percentage of visitors who navigate away from the site after viewing only one page - improved from 66.72% to 55.93%. These stats show that user engagement is improving and we expect that trend to continue as the new website beds in.

Among the other key projects supported were

- Centenary, including Gala Dinner and commemorative book
- Level the Table strategy
- Return to the Table campaign
- Launch of GB Table Tennis

as well as ongoing projects including the Pride of Table Tennis Awards, TT Kidz and membership renewals.

Our focus continues to be on the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham and the opportunities this presents for table tennis. We have a fantastic opportunity to reach new audiences and encourage people to take up the sport – particularly women and girls – due to the increased media coverage of female sport. We were awarded £250,000 by Sport England to support this work, allowing us to present enhanced coverage, including live streaming, at three key national events held in the West Midlands.

In total, 51 editions of Over the Net were sent in the year to March 31, with a total number of 416,202 emails being opened. This is around 40,000 down on the previous year, which can be attributed to the need to send out less information about pandemic restrictions.

In total, across our Dotdigital email platform, more than 2.5 million emails were sent to a total of 134,344 subscribers. These had an open rate of 47.53% (against a sports industry benchmark of 21.33%) and a unique click rate of 2.03% (industry benchmark 2.62%).

## Social media

Impressions have increased across Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn and YouTube by 367% to 17.764 million compared to the previous year. There has also been a significant increase in engagements with our social media content which has increased by 418% to 719,000 engagements, and video views hit nearly 3.3 million – up by 487%.

Top performing social posts come mainly from the live streaming of events, with one live stream reaching nearly half a million people, and achieving 202,000 video views. The second most viewed video and engaged with piece of content came from the Women’s British League live stream. In fact, seven out of the top ten pieces of content on Facebook were videos focused on female players.

Other highlights over the past year include our International Women’s day campaign which kick-started our new online community for women in table tennis in the form of a Facebook group, which now has nearly 250 active members.

Our number of followers as of 31st May 2022 was:

- Facebook: 24,077 (up from 22,026)
- Instagram: 12,374 (up from 10,019)
- Twitter: 16,471 (up from 15,685)
- LinkedIn: 2,471 (up from 1,952)
- YouTube: 11,733 (up from 10,634)

## PR activity

We continue to engage with traditional and new media to promote the sport. This resulted in notable coverage including:

- Pre-Olympic focus on Liam Pitchford, Paul Drinkhall and Tin-Tin Ho by BBC and ITV, and an interview with Tin-Tin in the Daily Telegraph
- Bat & Chat featured in the Daily Mail and Metro
- TT Kidz featured in Family First magazine, with a reach of up to 3 million parents
- Senior Communications Officer Paul Stimpson quizzed presenter OJ Borg on Midnight Mastermind on BBC Radio 2

In addition, there was extensive regional and local coverage, in broadcast, print and online media, around national competitions and other news. Media monitoring shows press releases sent by the department, or opportunities directly arranged with the media, appeared in national and regional media outlets with a combined reach of more than 110 million, generating coverage worth around £1 million when measured by Advertising Value Equivalent.

# PARTICIPATION AND PLACES

## Membership

Table Tennis England total membership stood at 25,074 on March 31, 2022. This was an increase of 7,736 on the previous year, but down on the figure of 30,072 for 2019/20, reflecting the effects of the pandemic.

Given the lingering restrictions in autumn 2021 and the uncertainty and changes in society as we have emerged from the pandemic, it is heartening to report our membership stood at more than 83% of the pre-pandemic total.

Compete Plus stayed relatively steady from 2019/20 to 2021/22, indicating that competition is important to that sector of our membership.

A total of 3,475 Compete or Compete Plus members requested the 50% rebate on offer for this year's membership fee (equating to £8 for senior members and £4 for juniors). Of this total, 3,000 exactly were senior Compete members.

Around 400 were issued with a refund, having either already paid or not wishing to cancel their direct debits. The rest were issued with a code to use when renewing online or over the phone. In the event, 2,555 people received the rebate, equating to 74% of those who had requested it. The rest chose not to use their codes, or decided not to join.

We introduced a member donation option online for those renewing membership, and more than 570 members chose to make a voluntary donation, amounting to more than £4,000.

Members were able to choose which areas to support, with 49% opting for local club development, 28% for youth development, 20% for covid recovery support and the rest for talent and high performance.

The money donated was used to support a variety of programmes, including TT Kidz, Bat and Chat, Back to TT and defibrillators for clubs.

Our membership offer, benefits and fees will be evaluated as part of our strategic review now under way and we expect to report on this later in the year.

## Clubs and Leagues

The number of PremierClubs remained stable at 171 in 2021/22, while there was an increase from 207 to 268 Associate Clubs - significantly above the pre-pandemic figure of 219 in 2019/20, indicating that clubs see the value in the support we continue to offer.

Our major support at the start of the season was in helping clubs and individuals plan for a safe return to play. Our **Return to the Table** campaign ran from July 26 to September 26 and operated across social media, website and direct email. It resulted in high engagement across the board, with an email open rate of 69.9% as against a Table Tennis England average of around 45%. There were more than 232,000 impressions and 55,000 video views on



A Bat & Chat session at Deighton TTC in Huddersfield during the Return to the Table campaign

Total membership			
	19/20	20/21	21/22
Supporter	4,799	1,143	997
Club Play	n/a	2,899	3,531
Compete	22,905	12,343	18,193
Compete Plus	2,368	1,313	2,353
Total	30,072	17,698	25,074
Membership by age			
Cadet	3,715	1,428	2,437
Junior	760	1,134	1,881
Senior	5,626	2,174	3,732
Veteran	19,971	12,962	17,024
Membership by age - Compete Plus			
Cadet	595	288	509
Junior	436	259	482
Senior	579	288	552
Veteran	758	478	810
Membership by age - Compete			
Cadet	1,871	684	1,133
Junior	1,123	640	1,140
Senior	3,421	1,444	2,668
Veteran	16,040	9,575	13,252

social media. More than 70 events were held under the Return to the Table banner and more than 100 toolkits were sent out to help organisers to support the campaign. In addition, more than 130 people signed up for an online TT Activator course.

We continued to support clubs and leagues with applications to Sport England's Return to Play fund, including delivery of a specific webinar, case studies with successful clubs and tailored support provided by Club Support Officers. In total, support of more than £515,000 was received across more than 90 table tennis organisations from this fund.

The launch of **TT Clubs** was a significant milestone, the new club management platform supporting clubs with their day-to-day tasks including managing club membership, managing bookings, building a customisable club website, using contact management to keep in touch with members and contacts and integrating with TT Leagues for club fixtures and results.

Onboarding webinars were delivered throughout the summer, and a number of support guides were added to the helpdesk. At the time of writing, around 40 clubs are using TT Clubs. Following a series of user focus groups, TT Clubs is now in the development stages of Phase 2, with features to be announced for the 2022/23 season.

Including the TT Clubs webinars, a total of 12 club webinars were held, with 134 bookings and around 1,500 follow-up views on YouTube.

The **Club Audit** was completed in September 2021 by 128 clubs, including 70 PremierClubs and 54 Associate Clubs, providing us with insight into the needs and development requirements for Clubs going forward. The results have been used to inform programme development, webinar delivery plans and newsletter content.

[Click here](#) to find out more about what clubs told us, and how we responded.

**Bat & Chat** has bounced back well from the pandemic and is once again proving extremely popular amongst clubs, leagues and **Continued on page 14**

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wider community groups. There are currently 31 active sessions with an average attendance of 15 participants at each session.

In the coming year, we hope to see session and participant numbers continue to grow but also for Bat & Chat sessions to spread more widely among community groups, proving again how table tennis can positively impact everyone's lives.

**TT Fast Format** was introduced to provide a structure for league matches to be completed in less than two hours, a response to insight received through surveys and consultations which flagged up that players wanted more options for league play.

We supported clubs and leagues re-start activity through year four of the **Be TT** initiative, encouraging them to access different types of funding to set up sessions which encouraged existing or new participants to return to table tennis.

In total 32 projects were supported which included 28 clubs, three leagues and one youth club with an average of 18 participants attending each project and 27% of these being female.

### Schools

Work continues to drive uptake of the Schools Membership offers, which seek to create and develop direct engagement with schools. In the first year, 20 schools signed up.

Both the Butterfly Schools Team and Individual Championships were able to take place again, this year trialling both finals taking place on the same weekend. This was well received by players, volunteers and teachers.

Our partnership continues with the **Jack Petchey Foundation** and we have now been working together for more than 11 years. The partnership instigates and develops opportunities for young people to play and compete in London and Essex.

Highlights of the past year include:

- 204 applications for table donations received from schools and youth clubs across London and Essex
- 248 tables awarded to 83 schools, comprising 190 indoor tables to 54 schools and 58 outdoor tables to 29 schools
- 34 tables awarded to 17 youth clubs, comprising 28 indoor tables delivered to 14 youth clubs and six outdoor tables to three youth clubs
- An average estimate of 292 young people within each school and youth club have participated in table tennis through newly introduced table packages. In total, it is estimated that more than 29,200 young people have benefitted from the table donation scheme.
- 10 London and Essex schools participated in the newly introduced TT Kidz Virtual Schools Championship.
- Three schools completed the T3 Foundation Pilot Scheme, allowing for 18 SEN students to participate in table tennis activities.
- Three girls-only festivals took place in London, at which more than 70 girls had an introduction to the sport.

### TT Kidz

The easing of restrictions has allowed clubs to once again deliver



“ It's been great to be that support for people who might be feeling lonely . . . and give them a place to come and talk if they need to.

John Quinn, Cheslyn Hay TTC Bat & Chat leader

”

### TT Fast Format case study

Worksop and District Table Tennis League in Nottinghamshire were one of four leagues to decide to give the new format a try. Post Covid, research suggested they would be down 25% on their previous membership levels, which was being caused by two main reasons:

- Players from neighbouring towns didn't feel safe travelling and wanted to play locally rather than travelling.
- A local primary school which entered several teams withdrew due to late nights becoming a problem at the school venue.

This left the league a playing standard and enough teams that would stretch to just one division.

After much debate and considering the older membership who were cautious still about spending a large amount of time indoors with strangers they decided to move to a Fast Format Solution of 2 v2 plus doubles. This alteration meant a new total of 24 teams and enough to spread easily to two divisions. It also allowed the once-lost school to return because match times ended significantly earlier.

We anticipate there are and will be several other leagues experiencing a similar situation of dwindling team numbers. However, we are excited about the opportunity that TTF presents and believe it possesses huge potential for the upcoming season.

TT Kidz. To support clubs looking to build back up and develop new junior offerings, Table Tennis England provided new clubs with free equipment and training packages which led to a total of 19 new clubs engaging with the programme for the first time.

The Autumn Phase which began in October 2021 saw 29 venues, spread from Torquay to Middlesbrough, engage 390 new participants into the game.

Feedback from the programme, including parents, children and providers has been really positive with 93% of children wanting to **Continued on page 15**



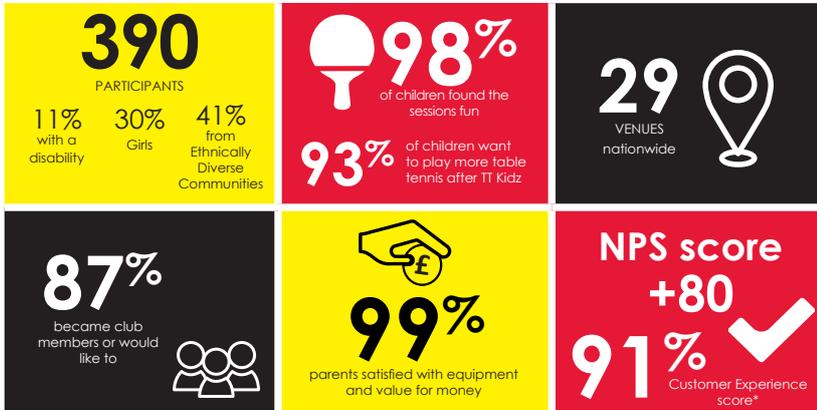
A Jack Petchey Girls' Table Tennis Festival (left) at Ellenborough TTC and (above) the Jack Petchey London Schools Table Tennis Finals returned after a gap caused by the pandemic



# TT Kidz

Autumn 2021

TT Kidz is an 8-week programme designed to introduce young people aged 7-11 to the game of table tennis in a fun, engaging and inspiring way. The programme is delivered in schools and clubs.



\*Customer experience score was based on Sport England funded mystery visits across three programmes.

“Successful programme. We converted all 10 participants into Junior club members. - ACTIVATOR

Great sessions. The team who ran the programme were excellent. My child felt at ease from day 1. Now she plays well and is inspired to carry on playing. Big thanks to the organisers. - PARENT

The TT Kidz was amazing for the kids, this was credit to the coaches and the agenda. Very impressed. - PARENT

It just shows with a bit of time, organisation and a few team members, what can be achieved in our game and getting youngsters playing at a young age. - ACTIVATOR



TT Kidz

An infographic showcasing the Autumn 2021 phase of TT Kidz. [Click here to read the full Autumn phase report](#)



A girls-only session at Ormesby TTC in Middlesbrough. Below: TT Kidz was highly commended in the UK Active Awards



98% of children find TT Kidz sessions fun and 93% want to continue playing after TT Kidz

### From page 14

play more table tennis after TT Kidz and 98% of children finding the sessions fun.

A new feature in the activator training this year was looking at the wider experience provided by clubs in pre-delivery, during the programme and post-delivery, such as creating a comfortable environment for parents. Sport England commissioned mystery visits across the programme, visiting three clubs. Again, the results of this were extremely positive with a 91% customer experience score, which is above the national average for similar programmes in other sports.

The Spring phase was a smaller phase but still engaging 246 new children into the game, making a total of 636 participants across the year entering the sport.

Thanks to generous donations by Table Tennis England members to support youth participation, Table Tennis England supported three initiatives, including a girls-only TT Kidz at Stratford-upon-Avon TTC, following a similar initiative at Ormesby. Feedback from both these programmes highlights a different tone to the sessions, with girls helping and supporting each other to develop, which increases their confidence levels. The lessons from this programme will be adopted as we look ahead to future phases, with girls-only programmes becoming a prominent feature.

Other projects supported took TT Kidz into low socio-economic areas where we have been able to provide free participant packs and support venue hire costs. Feedback has shown that the upfront

cost can be a barrier, which we were able to address. Another barrier often cited is the online booking system for parents where English might not be the first language. By working locally with partners we were able to address this through offline bookings, which have been successful.

As the programme evolves, some great examples are coming to light about how children who started with TT Kidz are becoming full club members and embedded in the table tennis community. Bankfields Primary School in Middlesbrough qualified both a boys' and girls' team in the national schools finals for the first time, with six out of the eight players starting their table tennis journey with TT Kidz. Another example is Halton TTC, which has National Cadet League teams with children who started with TT Kidz.

What is clear from the feedback is that TT Kidz is proving to be fun, engaging and inspiring as well as a positive experience for children and young people. Clubs are finding the programme extremely useful in engaging with new children and developing their junior sections after a much disrupted two years. The programme is increasingly being looked at by other table tennis national associations as well as other sports' governing bodies.

TT Kidz was also highly commended in the Generation Active category at the UK Active Awards This was largely in recognition of the work Table Tennis England did in moving TT Kidz online through the pandemic.

We worked in partnership with Everyone Active, which is a large **Continued on page 16**

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nationally recognised Leisure Management company with more than 200 sites across the UK. Seeing the impact of TT Kidz, the company was keen to explore how the programme could work in their sites and developed a pilot with six programmes across four centres. Engaging 33 children and at 69% occupancy, Everyone Active have considered this a success. Future conversations will explore how this can be rolled out across more sites.

We also partnered with Rackets Cubed, a UK-based charity which delivers integrated sport, education and nutrition programmes to improve the lives of vulnerable young children and raise their aspirations. The charity fosters partnerships between a club and/or venue and a local primary school to provide sports coaching, additional study and a nutritious meal.

Following successful conversations, Nottingham Table Tennis Club commenced a pilot programme to engage 30 children in May, with a view to developing this into a weekly year-round session from September using the TT Kidz framework. The plan is then to work with more clubs to deliver this initiative.

**Ping!**

With towns and cities in England at various stages of recovery from the pandemic, last summer, Ping! projects needed to be agile and reflective of the populations they serve. From Brighton to Warrington, we continued working with 22 Ping! places to enable bespoke programmes of activity which collectively welcomed 991,000 players back to over 680 tables nationally.

Tables and players thrive when activation occurs around tables and people feel welcomed into a community of like-minded individuals. Therefore, we joined forces with StreetTT to activate tables and communities within a range of towns and cities as well select boroughs of London.

Indicative engagement, particularly within London, saw StreetTT successfully engage 349 new users (25% of them women and girls) and players on the StreetTT app, with 1,499 matches played across 11 hub sites in London. We also saw a total of 13 sustained groups of players form through the partnership, leaving a lasting legacy for public/street table tennis participation. We will continue this work in partnership with StreetTT (see image below).

Feedback from Ping! participant surveys shows a range of audiences are engaged in the project, including 42% of participants being female, 22% from ethnically diverse backgrounds and 24% having a disability, long-term health condition or illness. In addition, 98% of participants want to continue playing table tennis after their Ping! experience.



**TT Kidz Schools**



**TT Kidz Schools is a package to support the delivery of table tennis in primary schools.**

**Over the last year, 28 schools have purchased the programme with a mixture of outdoor tables, essentials kit bag or access to the online resources containing lesson plans, activity cards and videos.**

**This equates to more than 300 bats and 1,600 balls being delivered to primary schools.**

**Future plans are to develop and deliver a plan to bring more schools in to the programme and engage them with clubs.**

[Click here to watch a video on TT Kidz schools](#)

**Ping in the Community** supports community groups and venues to introduce or expand their table tennis provision, by providing equipment packages to help bring members of the community closer together and inspire them to lead more active and sociable lifestyles.

Although many communities had to pause their table tennis provision during periods of pandemic restriction, we were still able to support 134 new community projects between April 2021 and March 2022. This includes indoor projects in community halls and youth groups, and outdoor project with parish councils and recreation grounds.

The new projects have spanned the whole country, from rurally isolated areas to inner city areas with high levels of deprivation, **Continued on page 17**



**Ping Partner Case Studies**

[Table Tennis Brings People Back Together – Pitsmoor Adventure Playground](#)

[Utilising Local Delivery to Build a Successful Project – Arboretum, Derby](#)



Table tennis at the Pitch 2 Progress hub

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engaging an estimated 2,000 players to the game within their communities.

Surveys indicate that 72% of participants had not played table tennis prior to starting the community sessions, meaning around 1,400 are completely new participants to the sport. Several of the projects have directly supported the delivery of our Level the Table strategy, through engaging specific audiences such as women and girls, ethnically diverse communities and those with disabilities or long-term health conditions.

Click the links below to watch two case study videos.



[Improving Mental Wellbeing – Hamza’s Story](#)  
[Mental Wellbeing Table Tennis Sessions with Sport in Mind](#)

**Ping Pong Parlours**

Ping Pong Parlours provide informal and social table tennis venues for people to pop into and play. They typically occupy empty retail spaces in shopping centres, as such the project paused during the pandemic and has been slow to recover following the easing of restrictions.

However, in 2022, we’re making steady progress with re-opening locations and aspire to return to pre-pandemic levels in the coming months. To date, 15 shopping centre-based Parlours have re-opened, with a further 21 looking to open their doors in due course.

Parlours which are open are proving to be as popular as ever with an estimated 2 million visits recorded from April 2021 to March 2022. Our feedback survey shows an average rating of 4.7 out of 5 from Parlour visitors, with a Net Promoter Score of +70 (excellent).

The project continues to engage a range of audiences, including 43% of participants being women and girls, 14% being from ethnically diverse backgrounds and 10% having a disability, long-term health condition or illness.

Many of our shopping centre partners see the value of the

project and have continued to act as a delivery partner. However, in the challenging financial climate we find ourselves in, we have unfortunately seen 13 centres decide to close their Parlours, opting to let the space to generate revenue or being unable to continue to deliver the project. We have worked with those centres to donate tables into the community and so far we have donated 13 tables into local areas, creating new community places to play, recently setting up tables in centres for cared-for children, community centres and through mental health charities.

In August 2021, the return of Ping Pong Parlours was helped in no small part by the programme being named winner of the Activation Award at the ukactive Awards ceremony, from a shortlist of seven nominees which included other nationally recognised programmes such as Slimming World and Gym Pass.

**Project Partnerships**

Sported is a UK-wide charity promoting fairness and equality for young people through grassroots sport and physical activity. Piloting in Commonwealth Games host city Birmingham, the hub-and-spoke project provided a perfect opportunity to put a spotlight on table tennis within the city and create a lasting legacy of the games across Birmingham.

The partnership involved Spored identifying a local organisation to act as a core ‘hub’, providing training, equipment and funding to enable them to establish new and develop existing table tennis activities. The ‘hub’ then reached out into the local community to create ‘spoke’ sites, which provide further opportunities to participate in table tennis locally and engage a number of under-represented groups.

One such hub was Pitch 2 Progress, who reported engaging up to 40 young people every day in table tennis over their 2021 summer camps. Since then, they have established sessions twice a week, one for boys and one for girls.

We have had a hugely positive partnership with **Community Integrated Care**, one of the UK’s biggest and most successful social care charities, to pilot the use of table tennis in a range of settings – from specialist dementia care homes and learning disability supported living services, to utilising the game in mental health talking therapies.

The project has flourished and more than 200 of Community Integrated Care’s services have received table tennis starter packs, enabling thousands of people to take part in the activity – many of which allowed people to remain active during the pandemic. Since the pandemic, the charity has created 27 table tennis hubs in their larger services, benefitting almost 1,500 people.

Community Integrated Care have published their [Care to Play Impact Report](#) in June 2022, which outlines the partnership approach, delivery and successes of the pilot.





As pandemic restrictions have eased, we have been able to resume face-to-face education programmes for coaches and tournament and technical officials.

Workforce and volunteer support and development remains a key pillar of our strategy.

### Coaching

Our re-developed and re-designed Level 2 Lead Coach qualification was launched in November 2021 and, as well as increasing their knowledge, seeks to challenge coaches to themselves evaluate what they are doing and whether they can do things better. It connects with the philosophies and training methods we adopt within the National Squads.

The qualification content is modern and aligns with current coaching theories and we have introduced blended learning to improve accessibility for candidates, reducing the on-course time from four to three days without losing any learning time or content.

Since the launch of the Level 2 Lead Coach course our average candidate number per course is 11.3, equating to 34 across three courses, including 18 at the Greenhouse Centre last autumn.

Having now completed the review process of the qualification, a number of Level 2 Lead Coach courses are being organised throughout England.

Our Level 1 Session Coach qualification saw a total of 237 candidates go through a total of 17 courses around the country, including a record number of 26 at Brighton. The average number was 14 per course.

Twelve coaches completed the Level 3 Head Coach course which is run in partnership with the University of Gloucestershire.

Congratulations to Vidal Graham, Head Coach at Grantham Academy, who successfully completed his Level 4 UKCC Postgraduate Elite Coaching Practice programme through the University of Central Lancashire.

During the pandemic, the number of Licensed Coaches dropped to 530.

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## Feedback on our Level 2 Lead Coach course



**Above: Course tutor Craig Bryant talks to three of the 18 coaches who took the Level 2 Lead Coach qualification at the Greenhouse Centre.**

**Feedback received from among the 18 coaches on the course included:**

- **What I found useful in the two days was breaking up sessions into chunks allowing candidates to engage, plan and execute mini sessions (both on and off the table), gearing them up to plan and prepare their own final assessment session.**
- **A much-improved course to deliver. It's methodical, delivers really useful content and engages the coaches. In particular, the Purposeful Practice is the standout addition to the course.**
- **The course inspired me to continue my journey on the pathway to learning more.**



[Click here to watch a video about our Level 2 Lead Coach qualification](#)



## Volunteers

The **Pride of Table Tennis Awards** received more than 100 nominations, and awards were presented at local and regional levels as well as to the national winners, who were revealed at the Centenary Gala Dinner.

This year we awarded male and female winners in both Volunteer of the Year and Young Volunteer of the Year categories. The winners and runners-up were:

### Female Volunteer of the Year

**Winner:** Dale Ward; **runners-up:** Rita Dixon, Jenny Swain

### Male Volunteer of the Year

**Winner:** Chris Beckley; **runners-up:** Tajudeen Alao, Chris Haynes

### Young Female Volunteer of the Year

**Winner:** Holly Williams; **runners-up:** Anna Cole, Edie Newman Dewhurst

### Young Male Volunteer of the Year

**Winner:** Joseph Race; **runners-up:** Tarkan Ates, Damien Henderson

Our thanks to Katie Hicks and Pat Johnson, previous Young Volunteer of the Year and Volunteer of the Year winners respectively, for being part of the volunteer judging panel.

The **Young Ambassador** programme continues to seek to provide meaningful volunteering experiences for young people aged 14-to-25, and offer Clubs a helping hand.

This season has seen 25 active Young Ambassadors, logging 355 hours of activity between them.

The **Women and Girls Ambassadors** programme was launched in October 2021 with the aim to promote table tennis and to encourage more women and girls to play the game and take up other roles within the sport.

There are currently 11 ambassadors, ranging in age from 17 to 49: Juliet Bertie, Erin Green, Natalie Green, Sandy Nash, Debbie Barrow, Andrea Potter, Jodie Morris, Amy Marriott, Brigitta Palinkas, Sally Hughes and Millie Smith. Their roles in table tennis include coaching, playing (from league players to high performance players), MAG members and committee members.

Among the projects and initiatives they have supported are: International Women's Day celebrations, girls-only training sessions, a women and girls-only 1\* competition and a girls-only TT Kidz project.



From top: All the winners and runners-up at the Centenary Gala Dinner; Female Volunteer of the Year Dale Ward and Male Volunteer of the Year Chris Beckley receive their awards from Mark Bates, Managing Director of Mark Bates Ltd, and Jill Parker MBE, Table Tennis England President; Volunteers at the Mark Bates Ltd National Championships

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Since we returned to playing the number has returned to a healthy 670. As a result of the pandemic, coaches were given an additional six-month extension on their licences. All coaches completing a coaching course receive a free one-year licence.

The ratio of men-to-women coaches completing our courses during 2021/22 stood at 81.5% to 18.5%, which is higher than the demographic of our membership as a whole.

Training the trainers is also a key priority, and seven candidates completed the Tutor course and are now working through the process to become qualified Level 3 Tutor and Assessors in Table Tennis. Tutor training is run in partnership with the University of Gloucestershire and the course ran over three online sessions, led by Paul Garner, Senior Lecturer in Sports Coaching.

Our Activator Award saw 130 people complete the online workshop during the *Return to the Table* campaign in September 2021. The workshop was free for all members.

Year One of the Table Tennis England Charlie Childs Coaching Grant saw nine applicants awarded grants totalling £1,639. One applicant has finished their project, the rest are ongoing.

We continue to strive to offer to the best courses to create the best coaches.

We are looking forward to improving and progressing our Level 3 Head Coach course to keep pushing the capabilities of our coaches. We aim to regularly challenge our coaches academically and in their practical application to the theoretical work. We plan to continue our partnership with the University of Gloucestershire, to ensure that we can offer the best possible learning opportunities and content for our coaches.

With the progressions we have made from our Level 1 Session Coach through to our Level 4 High Performing Coach, there are obvious and significant steps from one level to another. We aim to bridge those gaps with suitable and relevant continued professional development (CPD), to further upskill our coaches but to also better prepare them for the next level of course.

## Officiating

Karen Tonge OBE was appointed as table tennis and para table tennis referee for the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games, leading a strong and diverse group of English officials with a near exact 50-50 gender split.

Alongside Karen, 18 English umpires will officiate at the Games, joining another 18 from around the Commonwealth.

The English contingent includes several umpires who recently came through the umpiring pathway following our campaign to increase the number and diversity of umpires. Among them are Dr Immad Qureshi, a Birmingham League player and local resident, and Tom Konarski and Oliver Ingram, who will have both turned 18 just



Female umpires Lin Roff, Jenny Sanders and Kim Mudge at the Mark Bates Ltd National Championships. Below: Colour co-ordinated officials in the back-of-house area at the same tournament



before the Games and who are 60 years younger than the most experienced official, Lynda Reid.

Dan Bullen was originally selected and would have become the first ever wheelchair user to umpire at the table tennis and para table tennis competition, but subsequently qualified to play at the Games.

All the Commonwealth Games umpires were selected for the Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Championships and Sheila Walshe, Immad Qureshi and Kim Mudge were selected for Finland Youth Open to gain more experience prior to Birmingham 2022.

There was a landmark all-women team of officials for the Women's Doubles matches on Finals Day at the Senior Nationals, where Jenny Sanders and Jo Outhwaite were also presented with the International Umpire badges.

Four Level 1 Umpire course were held during the year, with 66 new umpires qualifying. A total of 21 achieved the Level 2

Umpire qualification.

To support these officials, three face-to-face and three online CPD sessions were held and mentoring sessions took place at all WBL, VBL and JBL weekends, plus the Senior Nationals and Senior Nationals Qualifying Tournament.

Two Tournament Organiser Level 2 courses were held, resulting in 99 newly qualified officials.

Seven people qualified as Level 1 Referees. At the Nationals, Jason Ramage was mentored to help him achieve the Level 2 Referee qualification. Dave Goulden and Josh Reynolds both achieved that qualification.

We plan to host a referees' webinar for all those interested in transitioning to become a Referee.

Additional courses are planned, with three Level 1 Umpiring courses and one Tournament Organiser Level 2 course already scheduled.

# PERFORMANCE

Our biggest challenge this season has been operating under, and then managing the emergence from, pandemic restrictions. This affected all squads, in both domestic and international settings.

In addition, we have had to adjust to the new WTT circuit and world rankings system, which has also posed challenges. International events have been arranged and confirmed at relatively short notice as restrictions have lifted, this uncertainty having an effect on the athletes in terms of preparation.

We have also seen calendar clashes between domestic and international events – for example, the staging of a WTT event in Doha at the same time as the Mark Bates Ltd National Championships meant that Liam Pitchford elected to miss the Nationals.

Our partnership with the University of Nottingham continued, enabling us to support players by providing access to facilities and also to support the role of Kelly Sibley as women's coach. A small number of players of all ages, from both England and GB set-ups, are able to work with national staff on an almost daily basis as a result of this and the partnership is vital in allowing players to spend more time on task.

## Seniors

In the Senior calendar, England women qualified for the European Team Championships by defeating Finland and Lithuania in qualifying matches, during which process we explored the possibility of Kelly Sibley taking on a dual coach-player role. However, it was felt that during preparations for a home Commonwealth Games this summer, the team would be



# BUTTERFLY

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We would like to thank our Official Clothing Supplier, Butterfly, and also Tees Sport, the Butterfly partner in the British Isles, for their ongoing support.

better supported by her remaining in a coaching role only.

At the championships 'proper', the women performed well in their group, challenging Sweden and Poland but without being able to advance.

The men's team was very close to reaching the semi-finals and earning a bronze medal, but was defeated by Denmark in a close match in the quarter-finals. Although playing to their seeding, the team was disappointed to lose a match in which they had chances to progress further.

The World Championships in Houston saw Liam Pitchford reach the last 16, coming back from 3-1 down to take China's sixth seed Jiang Lingkun to a deciding game. Paul Drinkhall was unlucky in the draw, going out to the world No 24 Marcos Freitas in the first round, Tin-Tin Ho went out in the second round to the world No 8 Cheng-I-Ching and Sam Walker also made the second round, going out to the world No 39 and former European champion

Emmanuel Lebossion. Liam & Paul reached the quarter-finals of the doubles, going out to the second seeds.

The players played to their rankings and, in the case of Liam and Paul, were on the cusp of reaching the medal matches.

Liam reached the quarter-finals of the delayed 2021 Europe Top 16, but missed the 2022 tournament due to injury.

Elsewhere on the international stage, Liam & Paul reached the final of the men's doubles at the WTT Star Contender Doha, where Liam also reached the men's singles semi-finals. Tin-Tin Ho & Karoline Mischek of Austria reached the women's singles semi-finals.

Tom Jarvis reached the final of the WTT Feeder Fremont event in California, the ranking points he picked up propelling him to the verge of the world's top 100.

Sam Walker won the men's doubles at the Czech Open, alongside Truls Moregard of Sweden, to become the first English player to win a doubles title on the World Tour.

The Home Nations International tournament was used as a development event and all the players selected competed in the age group above their own. Despite some mixed results, it was a productive learning experience.

Selection for the European Under-21 Championships was based purely on European rankings, and on a self-funded basis, with Table Tennis England reimbursing funding for any athletes who reached the last 16. However, neither Denise Payet nor Matthew Daish got through the group stage.

## Pathway

Operating under pandemic restrictions for part of the season and under a limited international calendar meant formal youth squads were not named and wider training groups were maintained, with the players involved varying from camp to camp.

A total of 18-20 players were part of the  
**Continued on page 22**



Charlotte Bardsley in action in European Championships qualifying, watched by the England bench



Left: Gavin Evans, Tin-Tin Ho, Liam Pitchford, Paul Drinkhall and Simon Mills at the Tokyo Olympics; Above: Sue Bailey and Megan Shackleton celebrate winning Paralympic bronze; Below: Jack Hunter-Spivey on the podium

An all-English contingent of three athletes competed at the delayed Tokyo Olympics, including Tin-Tin Ho, the first female athlete to qualify in her own right since 1996.

Liam Pitchford and Paul Drinkhall each competed at their third Olympics. Gavin Evans was coach, Simon Mills team leader and Tom Jarvis attended as a training partner.

Drinkhall won two singles matches, including a first victory over Austria's Robert Gardos, to reach the last 32, losing a close match to ninth seed Jang Woojin. Pitchford spoke of his disappointment at going out in six games at the same stage – his first match – to world No 25 Darko Jorgic, and Ho was defeated in her opening match by 2018 Commonwealth Games gold medallist Manika Batra of India.

At the Paralympics, seven English athletes won medals, including silver for Will Bayley in the Class 7 singles and the Class 6-7 team, alongside Paul Karabardak of Wales.

Bronze medals were won by English athletes Sue Bailey and Megan Shackleton (Class 4-5 team), Aaron McKibbin, Ross Wilson and Billy Shilton (Class 8 team) and Jack Hunter-Spivey (Class 5 singles). In addition, Welsh athletes Karabardak and Tom Matthews won bronzes in Class 6 singles and Class 1 singles respectively.

A GB Junior Squad was created, made possible by the £1.35 million Progression



Funding Award by UK Sport to GB Table Tennis through to the Paris 2024 Olympics.

The main objectives of the investment are:

- To deliver a cohort of athletes to academy standard as defined by the performance matrix agreed with UK Sport

- To develop a GB performance pathway which enables and supports the growth of future GB table tennis players

Players from all the Home Nations were eligible to apply and England's Connor Green was among the initial cohort of three athletes selected. In addition, three English boys – Toby Ellis, Ben Piggott and Kacper Piwowar – were selected to the Development section of the squad.

The Great Britain Table Tennis Committee (GBTTC) met formally for the first time in July 2021, chaired by Simon Griew and including



representatives from all Home Nations. Simon Mills took on role of GB Performance Director and Alan Cooke that of GB and England Head Coach. Ryan Jenkins was appointed GB Coach and Evie Collier as Admin and Logistics Officer, a role sitting across both GB and England performance pathways.

In addition, the Great Britain Table Tennis Coaching Apprenticeship Programme was launched and the first two coaches selected were English duo Lois Peake and Graeme Barella. At the time of publication, applications are being sought for the second intake of coaches on the 15-month programme.

## From page 21

Junior and Aspire branches of the youth programme at any one time, with 21 in the Hopes squad at the start of the season, which was taken down to 11 via a selection process at around the halfway point of the season.

A positive from the covid period was the rolling over of some funding, which has been used as we have emerged from the restrictions to fund a total of four events and two training camps for the players in these training groups. The aim is to get them back up to speed for international events and provide more opportunities to compete internationally.

The intention next season is to resume

the established pattern of smaller, named squads while continuing to monitor and work with players outside of those squads, and their coaches and clubs.

The international year began with the European Youth Championships in July 2021, at which results were disappointing, primarily because a covid outbreak saw the entire selected Junior Girls team ruled out of the event, along with most of the Junior Boys squad and significant numbers of the Cadet cohort. Players were brought in at a very late stage, who had not been selected or prepared for the Championships, and although they performed as well as they could in the circumstances, the end results were disappointing.

The Diploma in Sporting Excellence (DiSE) programme has once again been funded by Sport England and the Department of Education, with 12 players due to take up places in September 2022. The pandemic had a negative effect on delivery of the programme as we were unable to engage the players with training camps, therefore the course completion rate among the previous cohort was lower this year.

We have been awarded eight Backing the Best awards of £5,000 for young athletes, down from 10 last year, a reflection on fewer awards being made across all sports as we emerge from the pandemic.

In addition, we received four grants

**Continued on page 23**

## The following represented Great Britain

**Olympic Games:** Liam Pitchford, Paul Drinkhall, Tin-Tin Ho

## The following represented England

**World Championships:** Paul Drinkhall, Tin-Tin Ho, Liam Pitchford, Sam Walker

**European Team Championships – qualifying:** Charlotte Bardsley, Tin-Tin Ho, Denise Payet, Kelly Sibley (coach-player), Maria Tsapsinos; **Championships proper:** Charlotte Bardsley, Paul Drinkhall, Tin-Tin Ho, Tom Jarvis, Denise Payet, Liam Pitchford, Maria Tsapsinos, Sam Walker

**\*European Under-21 Championships:** Matthew Daish, Denise Payet

**European Youth Championships – Junior:** Mari Baldwin, Charlotte Bardsley, Naphong Boonyaprapa, Toby Ellis, Amirul Hussain, Ben Piggott; **Cadet:** Maliha Baig, Joseph Dennison, Bethany Ellis, Joseph Hunter

**Home Nationals Championship – Senior:** Mari Baldwin, Connor Green, Amy Marriott, Ben Piggott; **Junior –** Connie Dumelow, Bethany Ellis, Jakub Piwowar, Larry Trumpauskas; **Cadet –** Eva Eccles, Sienna Jetha, Kacper Piwowar, Abraham Sellado

## The following competed at WTT/ITTF/ETTU tournaments on a funded basis

**WTT Cup Finals:** Liam Pitchford

**Europe Top 16:** Liam Pitchford

**Europe Under-13 Challenge:** Eva Eccles, Sienna Jetha, Kacper Piwowar, Abraham Sellado

### Other events

**Senior:** Tom Jarvis, David McBeath, Liam Pitchford, Sam Walker

**Under-19:** Scarlett Anders, Mari Baldwin, Toby Ellis, Connor Green, Megan Jones, Amy Marriott, Ben Piggott, Felix Thomis, Jasmin Wong

**Under-17:** Scarlett Anders, Mari Baldwin, Toby Ellis, Anna Green, Connor Green, Joseph Hunter, Megan Jones, Amy Marriott, Ben Piggott, Jakub Piwowar, Felix Thomis,

**Under-15:** Anna Green, Connor Green, Joseph Hunter, Jakub Piwowar, Kacper Piwowar

**Under-13:** Kacper Piwowar

**Under-11:** Kacper Piwowar

## The following competed at WTT/ITTF tournaments on a self-funded basis

**Senior:** Emily Bolton, Paul Drinkhall, Tin-Tin Ho, Tom Jarvis, David McBeath, Liam Pitchford, Louis Price, Maria Tsapsinos, Sam Walker

**Under-19:** Scarlett Anders, Mari Baldwin, Naphong Boonyaprapa, Olly Cornish, Toby Ellis, Erin Green, Megan Jones, Amy Marriott, Evelyn Pace, Ben Piggott, Louis Price, Nathaniel Saunders, Maxim Stevens, Felix Thomis,

**Under-17:** Scarlett Anders, Mari Baldwin, Naphong Boonyaprapa, Krish Chotai, Olly Cornish, Adam Dennison, Bethany Ellis, Toby Ellis, Anna Green, Connor Green, Erin Green, James Hamblett, Joseph Hunter, Megan Jones, Amy Marriott, Evelyn Pace, Ben Piggott, Jakub Piwowar, Louis Price, Felix Thomis

**Under-15:** Krish Chotai, Adam Dennison, Joseph Dennison, Bethany Ellis, Anna Green, Connor Green, James Hamblett, Joseph Hunter, Sienna Jetha, Jakub Piwowar, Max Radiven, Nathaniel Saunders,

**Under-13:** Sienna Jetha, Theo Kniep, Kacper Piwowar, Max Radiven

**Under-11:** Theo Kniep, Kacper Piwowar

## The following officials were selected for overseas events

**Umpires:** Nico Caltabiano, Harry Jutle, Kim Mudge, Tom Purcell, Dr Immad Qureshi, Karen Tonge OBE, Sheila Walshe

Joseph Hunter and Mari Baldwin



## From page 22

of £500 to £1,000 to young athletes through the Team England Futures fund also administered by SportsAid. These athletes will also have the chance of an immersive experience at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games, enabling them to go behind the scenes at a multi-sport event, which is an important learning experience.

## Governance

The Board's Talent & Performance Committee has now been in operation for a year and produced a review of the achievements and challenges during the year, which was shared at June's National Council meeting.

Among the key developments and proposals is the creation of an athlete panel from 2022/23, which will promote and protect the interests of athletes in the pathway and ensure their voices are heard on important issues such as welfare, selection and training environments.

Proposals have also been made regarding moving towards smaller youth squads for next season, changing the ITTF ranking override, how to fund a more extensive international programme within financial constraints, creation of Key Performance Indicators and maximising the opportunities presented by UK Sport funding.

[Click here](#) to read the Talent & Performance Committee report and [click here](#) to read the appendix which covers funded activity in National Training Squads.

## International results 2021-22

**European Team Championships qualifying (women):** England 3 Finland 1; England 3 Lithuania 2

**European Team Championships Women**

Group stage

Sweden 3 England 0

Poland 3 England 1

**Men**

Group stage

England 3 Serbia 2

England 3 Slovakia 0

Quarter-finals

Denmark 3 England 2

**Home Nations International (Largs)**

**Senior Men**

England 3 Ireland 1; England 2 Wales 2;

England 2 Scotland 2; England 1 Jersey 3

**Senior Women**

England 4 Ireland 0; England 3 Wales 1;

England 4 Scotland 0

**Junior Boys**

England 1 Ireland 3; England 2 Wales 2;

England 1 Scotland 3; England 4 Jersey 0

**Junior Girls**

England 1 Ireland 3; England 2 Scotland 2;

England 4 Jersey 0

**Cadet Boys**

England 4 Ireland 0; England 4 Wales 0

England 2 Scotland 2; England 4 Jersey 0

**Cadet Girls**

England 2 Ireland 2; England 2 Wales 2;

England 3 Scotland 1; England 1 Jersey 3

# COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

A Junior British League weekend at Derby Arena; inset: Draycott & Long Eaton hosted additional Veterans' British League matches



It is very pleasing to report a return to a virtually full calendar in 2021/22, beginning with events held under remaining Government-mandated protocols and moving through various stages of the Government 'roadmap' to a point where tournaments could be staged without any mandatory restrictions.

There was a willingness and drive at all levels from local to national to deliver events within whatever restrictions applied at the time.

We appointed Henry Arthur as full-time British League Executive Officer, a dedicated staff resource for British League which has not previously existed. This has created capacity and resource to support British League, ensuring a consistent approach to event planning and delivery and to application of regulations.

A second venue was added to the Veterans' British League weekends which, although born of necessity to accommodate teams which had missed the entry deadline, nevertheless proved a success by creating additional capacity within a few miles of the primary venue and providing a model to incorporate more teams into the competition on an ongoing basis. Our thanks to Draycott & Long Eaton TTC for hosting.

To mark the Centenary, the English Leagues Cup



Competitions (ELCC) was free to enter and, as a consequence, entries were up considerably on previous years. The competition was sponsored by Rocca Creative.

Four Grands Prix were held in Crawley, Preston, London and Gloucester, although the Wolverhampton event was cancelled as a consequence of financial constraints. It is pleasing to report the London Grand Prix was the largest for several years, with 241 competitors and more than 1,400 matches.

The Junior age group was raised to Under-19 from August 1st, 2021, a decision made in response to a similar change in eligibility made by both the ITTF and ETTU and in line with the Mission 2025 objective that 'our domestic competition structure will replicate international standards'.

This has been embraced and welcomed by the table tennis community. All Junior events, including National Championships, National Cup, British League, County Championships ELCC and National Junior League, have been delivered at Under-19 without any issues or complaints.

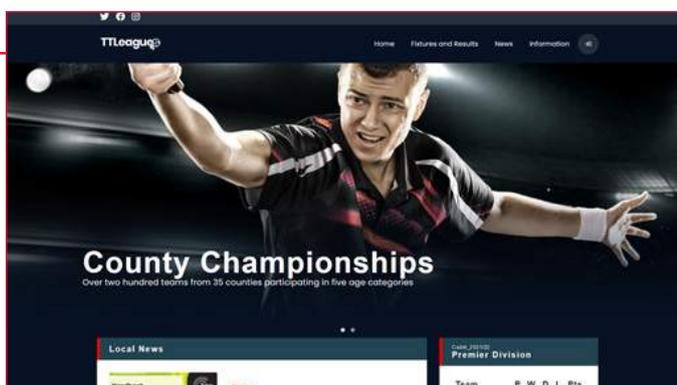
We have also refined our National Championships and now hold championships for every two-year band from Under-11 to Under-21, leading into the Seniors. This included the creation of an Under-17 category and corresponding rankings.

We have National Cups at Under-15 and Under-19 and the roll-out of these events has been successful.

In order to incentivise player participation in 4\* events, we introduced a pathway for players to qualify for the Cadet, Under-17 and Junior Nationals. This replicates the principle, albeit in a different format, of the Senior Nationals Qualifying tournament providing an opportunity to qualify for the Senior Nationals.

We have made progress post-covid with the online tournament entry and payment platform, which was piloted on a number of national events including all three Mark Bates Ltd National Championships and two National Cups. We will now work with selected Tournament Organisers to further pilot the platform with respect to external regulated 1\* and 2\* events.

The consultation phase of the Competition Review has **Continued on page 25**



All British League competitions were transitioned to the TT Leagues platform, providing a high-quality and fully functioning platform to support management of all divisions.

County Championships, National Cadet League and National Junior League have also been piloted on TT Leagues, with the long-term intention to transition these fully to the platform.

We will continue to develop TT Leagues functionality, with some exciting developments in the pipeline for 2022/23.



From top: The volunteer team, new accreditation processes, action in the Fanzone and scoring screens helped improved the spectator and player experience

## Continuing the evolution of the Senior Nationals

The Mark Bates Ltd Senior Nationals was a successful event, which included role-shadowing and knowledge sharing with members of the Birmingham 2022 delivery team. We also integrated live scoring on our website, using the World Table Tennis platform for the first time.

To improve both the spectator and player experience, we invested in additional branding and reconfigured the entry layout. We appointed staff to the roles of Volunteering Lead, Sports Presentation Lead, Accreditation Lead and Fanzone Lead in order to elevate all of those functions to a high standard.

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Table Tennis England | Senior Nationals



**中国太平**  
**CHINA TAIPING**

From page 24 concluded. A total of 385 completed responses were received, which exceeded our target and expectations. In addition, more than 20 forums and one-to-one insight interviews were completed.

The Table Tennis England Board has agreed the vision and principles which will guide the next stage and has shared these with National Council and the Members' Advisory Group. An outline proposal from the next stage of the Review is due to be presented to the Board in the autumn.

Analysis has also been undertaken against ranking

**We received 385 responses during our Competition Review consultation period**

results in 19/20 (114,296 singles matches involving 3,956 players) in order to identify participation trends.

The Rankings Project also remains ongoing. UK Sport's Sport Intelligence Unit has undertaken a modelling and simulation exercise, which has given the project team a robust basis on which to progress to the next stages.

We extend our thanks to all members of the Tournament Approval Panel, chaired now by John Mackey, to our sponsors Mark Bates Ltd, China Taiping and Rocca Creative and to our equipment suppliers TeesSport, Brabar and Topspin.



Clockwise from top: Sam Walker, Tom Jarvis and mascots before the Men's Singles final; Gabriel Achampong celebrates a big win with coach Liam McTiernan; Tin-Tin Ho and mascot; Isabelle Lacorte gets some coaching advice; Under-21 champions Shayan Siraj and Charlotte Bardsley





**Mark Bates Ltd Senior National Champions**

**Men's Singles:** Tom Jarvis  
**Women's Singles:** Maria Tsaptsinos  
**Para class 3-5:** Jack Hunter-Spivey  
**Para class 6-10:** Ross Wilson  
**Men's Doubles:** Sam Walker & Tom Jarvis  
**Women's Doubles:** Tin-Tin Ho & Maria Tsaptsinos  
**Mixed Doubles:** Maria Tsaptsinos & Sam Walker  
**Under-21 Men's Singles:** Shayan Siraj  
**Under-21 Women's Singles:** Charlotte Bardsley

Clockwise from top left: Players chat in the bleacher seating; Para Class 7-10 champion Ross Wilson; singles champions Maria Tsaptsinos and Tom Jarvis celebrate with their respective fathers: Para Class 3-5 champion Jack Hunter-Spivey





**Mark Bates Ltd Cadet, U17 & Junior National Championships**

- Junior boys' singles: Larry Trumpauskas (K)
- Junior girls' singles: Anaya Patel (Bk)
- U17 boys' singles: Naphong Boonyaprapa (Ng)
- U17 girls' singles: Megan Jones (Sp)
- Cadet boys' singles: Larry Trumpauskas (K)
- Cadet girls' singles: Maliha Baig (E)
- Junior boys' doubles: Ben Piggott (Cv) & Tom Rayner (Du)
- Junior girls' doubles: Anaya Patel (Bk) & Millie Rogove (He)
- Junior mixed doubles: Connor Green & Erin Green (Ng)
- U17 boys' doubles: Connor Green (Np) & Naphong Boonyaprapa (Ng)
- U17 girls' doubles: Megan Jones (Sp) & Anna Green (Ng)
- Cadet boys' doubles: Jakub Piwowar (Dv) & Ollie Maric-Murray (Sy)
- Cadet girls' doubles: Sienna Jetha (He) & Naomi Coker (Dy)



**Mark Bates Ltd U11 & U13 National Championships**

- Under-11 boys' singles: Teagan Khazal (Mi)
- Under-11 girls' singles: Alyssa Nguyen (Dv)
- Under-13 boys' singles: Max Radiven (Mi)
- Under-13 girls' singles: Sienna Jetha (He)
- Under-13 boys' doubles: Kacper Piwowar (Dv) & Abraham Sellado (Y)
- Under-13 girls' doubles: Sienna Jetha (He) & Alisha Dutta (Mi)

Clockwise from top left: Larry Trumpauskas won both Cadet and Junior singles titles; Megan Jones & Anna Green; Under-13 champion Max Radiven; Under-11 champions Alyssa Nguyen and Teagan Khazal; U17 winner Naphong Boonyaprapa; Abraham Sellado & Kacper Piwowar celebrate their title win; Cadet champion Maliha Baig; Alisha Dutta won the Under-13 doubles alongside Sienna Jetha; champion doubles pairings Millie Rogove & Anaya Patel; Erin Green & Connor Green; Ben Piggott & Tom Rayner; Naomi Coker & Sienna Jetha



# 2021/22 ROLL OF HONOUR

## Senior British League

Premier Division: Ormesby  
Championship: Nottingham  
Division A1: Wensum  
Division A2: Kingfisher  
Division B1: North Ayrshire II  
Division B2: East Midlands  
Division B3: Lilleshall  
Division B4: Ormeau II  
Division C1: Draycott III  
Division C2: Northfield  
Division C3: Fusion V  
Division C4: WCBTT  
Division C5: Godalming Simply Let

## Women's British League

Premier Division: Joola Plymouth  
Division One: Joola Plymouth II  
Division Two: Fusion II  
Division Three: Wensum  
Division Four: Ellenborough

## Junior British League

Premier Boys: Draycott  
Premier Girls: Wensum  
Division One Boys: Ormeau  
Division One Girls: Brighton  
Division Two Boys: Greenhouse  
Division Two Girls: Cippenham  
Division Three Boys: Grantham College III  
Division Three Girls: Woodford Wells  
Division Four Boys: Britannia  
Division Five Boys: Greenhouse III  
Division Six Boys: Dundee & District  
Division Seven Boys: Loop Dublin  
Division Eight Boys: Draycott III

## Veterans' British League

Premier Men: Team Bribar  
Premier Women: Market Rasen  
Division 1A Men: Central  
Division 1B Men: Foresters  
Division One Women: Topspin Fusion  
Division 2A Men: Foresters II  
Division 2B Men: Westfield Nomads  
Division Two Women: Northern Belles  
Division 3A Men: Norton Commandos  
Division 3B Men: Joola Plymouth  
Division Three Women: Foresters II  
Division 4A Men: Sycamore Zygybete  
Division 4B Men: Horsham Spinners  
Division Five Men: Wirepoint Bulldogs

## County Championships

A total of 222 teams from 37 Counties entered the championships, broken down as follows: Cadets 26; Junior 41; Seniors 44; Veterans 73; Over-60s 38.

This was a decrease of 15 teams from the 2019/20 season, following the pandemic, with no County Championships taking place during the 2020/21 season.

We thank all the County teams and their match secretaries for playing their matches through what has been a difficult time. Unfortunately, 11 teams withdrew from the championships during the season, three from



From left: Table Tennis England President Jill Parker MBE presents the Senior British League Premier Division trophy to Ormesby's Josh Weatherby, Ryan Jenkins, Denis Neale and Sam Mabey

the Cadets, three from the Juniors, three from the Seniors and two from the Veterans divisions. The Over-60s, which had increased by five teams, allowing Division 2 to expand to two sections.

It was disappointing that one Junior team withdrew from the Junior Premier Division.

All the divisions completed their season, although the deadline for completing all matches had to be extended for a small number of divisions to the end of April.

In the Premier Divisions, Nottinghamshire completed a treble by winning the Juniors, Seniors and Veterans - the fifth year running for the Veterans and the second year running for the Juniors.

In the Cadet Premier Division, Lancashire retained their crown as champions, for the third year running, whilst in the Over-60s Premier Division, the champions were Kent.

No fewer than 12 teams had a 100% win record in their section, with a further 19 teams remaining unbeaten during the season. Five divisions were decided on countback from matches won, and one division on countback from games won.

This was the first season in which TT Leagues had been used for all age categories, following a successful trial with the Over 60s in the 2019/20 season.

Result entry via the Section Administrators went reasonably smoothly, with the majority of results entered within a few days of matches taking place, after some initial teething problems, particularly in ensuring players had registered for County Championships within their membership profiles. Thanks must go to the administrators for taking on this new task, which wouldn't have been possible without their dedication.

The TT Leagues system provides a lot more data compared with the manual spreadsheet system, which was run alongside TT Leagues this season. The player averages and team/players statistics have been shown to be particularly popular with the players, as illustrated by the high number of visitors per month to the website.

As data is now available via TT Leagues, it can easily be shared with those Counties

**Continued on page 30**



Cadet County champions Lancashire



Over-60s County champions Kent

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which have their own websites through manual links, which in future could be created automatically, so that a major feature of County sites will be displaying the results of matches, promoting County Championships to a wider audience.

### Divisional champions

#### Cadets

**Premier Division:** Lancashire

**Division 1A:** Essex

**Division 1B:** Lancashire II

**Division 2:** Bedfordshire

#### Juniors

**Premier Division:** Nottinghamshire

**Division 1A:** Staffordshire

**Division 1B:** Surrey II

**Division 2A:** Bedfordshire

**Division 2B:** Wiltshire

**Division 2C:** Middlesex

#### Seniors

**Premier Division:** Nottinghamshire

**Division 1A:** Lincolnshire

**Division 1B:** Kent

**Division 2A:** South Yorkshire

**Division 2B:** Sussex II

**Division 2C:** Worcestershire

#### Veterans

**Premier Division:** Nottinghamshire

**Division 1A:** Yorkshire II

**Division 1B:** Hertfordshire

**Division 2A:** Cheshire

**Division 2B:** Suffolk

**Division 2C:** Surrey

**Division 2D:** Devon

**Division 3A:** Cleveland

**Division 3B:** Surrey III

**Division 3C:** Wiltshire III

#### Over-60s

**Premier Division:** Kent

**Division 1A:** Lincolnshire

**Division 1B:** Kent II

**Division 2A:** Kent III

**Division 2B:** Leicestershire

### National Cups

#### Junior

**Boys:** 1 Louis Price, 2 Ben Piggott, 3 Felix Thomis, 4 Joseph Hunter, 5 Larry Trumpauskas, 6 Josh Bruce, 7 Olly Cornish, 8 Tom Rayner, 9 Nahom Asgedom, 10 Jakub Piwowar

**Girls:** 1 Jasmin Wong, 2 Scarlett Anders, 3 Megan Jones, 4 Amy Marriott, 5 Darcie Proud, 6 Evelyn Pace, 7 Rebecca Savage, 8 Bethany Ellis, 9 Lauren Loosemore

#### Cadet

**Boys:** 1 Larry Trumpauskas, 2 Jakub Piwowar, 3 Ralph Pattison, 4 Joseph Dennison, 5 Fred Jones, 6 Ollie Maric-Murray, 7 Joseph Cooper, 8 Isaac Kingham, 9 Benjamin Dunkley, 10 Francesco Bonato

**Girls:** 1 Sienna Jetha, 2 Maliha Baig, 3 Bethany

**Cadet National Cup winners Sienna Jetha and Larry Trumpauskas**



Representatives of the London region show off the Tonge Trophy which they won as overall champions at the Inter-Regional Finals

Ellis, 4 Ella Pashley, 5 Rachael Iles, 6 Naomi Coker, 7 Connie Dumelow, 8 Mia Lakhani, 9 Mabel Shute, 10 Kate Watkinson

### Centenary English Leagues Cup Competitions (sponsored by Rocca Creative)

**Wilmott Cup:** Stockton

**JM Rose Bowl:** Norwich A

**Carter Cup:** Plymouth

**Bromfield Trophy:** Norwich

### Inter-Regional Finals

#### Team

**Under-15 Girls:** London

**Under-15 Boys:** East

**Under-13 Girls:** London

**Under-13 Boys:** South East

**Under-11 Girls:** London

**Under-11 Boys:** London

#### Individual

**Under-15 Girls:** Eva Eccles (East)

**Under-15 Boys:** Zac Greenhough (North East)

**Under-13 Girls:** Isabella Turner-Samuels (London)

**Under-13 Boys:** Phil Snell (London)

**Under-11 Girls:** Zoe Gonpot (London)

**Under-11 Boys:**

Parsia Ahsani (London)

**Tonge Trophy**

**(overall winners):** London

### NCL & NJL

Compared with the 419 teams that played in 2019-20, the total of 304 (153 in NCL

and 151 in NJL) for 2021-22 was very pleasing as a first year back after the pandemic gap.

Despite the Omicron scares around Christmas, which led to a couple of postponements, all organisers completed their programmes apart from one, which was due to structural problems with the roof of the venue.

Thanks to two new organisers, Ed Lynn and Mark Roper, for taking on the organising in the Birmingham and Slough areas, and welcome back to London Academy.

Thanks also to all the other organisers who have been in situ for many seasons.

### Butterfly School Individual Championships

**Under-19 Girls:** Mari Baldwin

**Under-19 Boys:** Josh Weatherby

**Under-16 Girls:** Tianer Yu

**Under-16 Boys:** Jakub Piwowar

**Under-13 Girls:** Sienna Jetha

**Under-13 Boys:** Abraham Sellado

**Under-11 Girls:** Catherine Lv

**Under-11 Boys:** Pablo Ramirez-Rioja

### Butterfly School Team Championships

**Under-19 Girls:** Heanor Gate Spencer Academy

**Under-19 Boys:** London Academy

**Under-16 Girls:** St George's Catholic School, Westminster

**Under-16 Boys:** Wallington County Grammar School, Sutton

**Under-13 Girls:** London Academy

**Under-13 Boys:** Devonport High School for Boys, Plymouth

**Under-11 Girls:** Greenway Primary School, Berkhamsted

**Under-11 Boys:** St Edward's Catholic Primary, Westminster



# NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Ping Pong Parlour initiative won the Activation Award at the ukactive Awards. TT Kidz was highly commended in the Generation Active Award category.

- Table Tennis England's Ready to Return covid-19 campaign was shortlisted in the Best Covid 19 Response by a Sport category of the Sport Business Awards 2021. In the same category, the ITTF Foundation took bronze for its #TableTennisUnited campaign. The Foundation was also shortlisted for the Sports Diversity Award and the Most Successful Sports Event Broadcast. Table Tennis England partners Jockey Club Services won silver in the Best Professional Services in Sport category and were shortlisted in the Best Business Serving Sport category.



Table Tennis England Chair Sandra Deaton and Board member Ray James receive the award on behalf of the ITTF Foundation at the Sport Business Awards

- Karen Tonge (below) was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours, having previously become an MBE in



2009. Karen was also re-elected deputy chair of the Games and Sport Division of the Sport & Recreation Alliance and was appointed to be referee for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games table tennis and para table tennis competition.

Commonwealth Games table tennis and para table tennis competition.

- Paralympian and NHS doctor Kim Daybell was chosen to deliver a reading during Royal Carols: Together At Christmas, which was shown on ITV.

- Tom Purcell was selected to umpire at the inaugural WTT Grand Smash event, in Singapore.

- Two Table Tennis England staff – National Participation Manager Jenny Leach and Director of Development Greg Yarnall – were nominated for the Positive Role Model Award for Gender in the National Diversity Awards.



Sam Walker & Truls Moregard (above) and Tom Jarvis on the podium at the WTT Feeder Fremont (below)



### Performance – senior

- Liam Pitchford & Paul Drinkhall reached the final of the men's doubles at the WTT Star Contender Doha; Pitchford reached the men's singles semi-finals; Tin-Tin Ho & Karoline Mischek (AUT) reached the women's doubles semi-finals.

- Liam Pitchford & Paul Drinkhall reached the quarter-finals of the men's doubles at the World Championships in Houston.

- Sam Walker became the first English player to win a doubles title on the World Tour, winning the Czech Open Men's Doubles with Truls Moregard of Sweden.

- Liam Pitchford reached the quarter-finals of the WTT Cup Finals in Singapore.

- Sam Walker & Tom Jarvis reached the final of the men's doubles at the WTT Feeder event in Dusseldorf in December 2021.

- Tom Jarvis reached the final of the WTT Feeder Fremont and rose to a career high No 105 in the world rankings as a result.

### Performance – junior

- Kacper Piwowar, aged 11, and Sienna

Continued on page 32

At the ITTF Parkinson's World Championships in Berlin, England's and Jan Fuller (left) George Chan (right) took home five medals between them. Fuller was women's singles champion and won mixed doubles silver alongside Chan and women's doubles bronze with Chile's Digna Lopez-Abarca. Chan added to his mixed doubles silver with a gold in the men's doubles class 2 alongside Nenad Bach of Croatia.





The England squad at the Home Nations International won the following medals: **Gold** – Cadet Boys’ Team (Kacper Piwowar & Abraham Sellado), Senior Women’s Team (Mari Baldwin and Amy Marriott), Cadet Boys’ Doubles (Piwowar & Sellado), Senior Women’s Doubles (Baldwin & Marriott), Women’s Singles (Baldwin); **Silver** – Senior Men’s Team (Connor Green and Ben Piggott), Cadet Girls’ Doubles (Sienna Jetha & Eva Eccles), Junior Girls’ Doubles (Bethany Ellis & Connie Dumelow), Junior Girls’ Singles (Ellis), Cadet Girls’ Singles (Jetha); **Bronze** – Junior Boys’ Team (Larry Trumpauskas and Jakub Piwowar), Junior Girls’ Team (Ellis and Dumelow), Cadet Girls’ Team (Jetha and Dumelow), Senior Men’s Doubles (Green & Piggott), Women’s Singles (Marriott), Cadet Boys’ Singles (Kacper Piwowar and Sellado)

#### From page 31

Jetha, 12, took part in the ETTU Hopes Selection camp in September 2021, with Piwowar selected to attend the ITTF World Hopes Week 2021. Piwowar also achieved the top evaluation spot at the ETTU talent camp in March 2022 and was selected for the 2022 ITTF Hopes Week & Challenge Project. Abraham Sellado finished in fourth place and was invited for the final Eurotalents Selection Camp in Otocec in October 2022.

- Kacper Piwowar became England’s first finalist at any level of WTT event as he reached the Under-11 Boys’ gold medal match at the WTT Youth Contender Varazdin.

He lost to No 1 seed Mark Gergely of Hungary 3-1 (11-8, 11-8, 12-14, 12-10).

- Piwowar also won the Under-13 boys’ singles at the WTT Youth Contender Tunis. His older brother Jakub won silver in the Under-15 boys’ singles at the same event.
- Sienna Jetha won the Young Cadet Girls’ Singles title at an international tournament in Linz attended by eight England squad members.
- Hannah Saunders took the individual title and England girls (Saunders, Amber Louise Lemon, Alyssa Nguyen, Charlotte Wong)

the team gold at the British Primary Schools Championship in Guernsey. England boys (Aarif Li, Pablo Ramirez Rioja, Rex Ho, Theo Kniep, Teagan Khazal) won team silver and picked up three individual medals (silver for Li and bronzes for Kniep and Ramirez-Rioja). England’s Chantelle Leather took a team bronze as part of a Wales-Mixed team.

- At the Senior Schools International held in Largs, Scotland, English athletes won a haul of medals, including nine golds. The medals were won by:
    - Gold:** Under-14 Boys’ Team (England A - Abraham Sellado and Max Radiven); Under-14 Girls’ Team (England B - Jonabel Taguibao and Gene Lam); Under-16 Boys’ Team (England B - Nathaniel Saunders and Joseph Dennison); Under-16 Girls’ Team (England A - Tianer Yu and Evelyn Pace); Under-18 Boys’ Team (England A - Tom Rayner and Adam Dennison); Under-18 Girls’ Team (England-Wales - Niamh Scarborough and Lara Whitton); Under-14 Boys’ Singles (Abraham Sellado); Under-14 Girls’ Singles (Gene Lam); Under-16 Girls’ Singles (Tianer Yu).
    - Silver:** Under-14 Boys’ Team (England B - Leo Nguyen and Rex Wong); Under-14 Girls’ Team (England A - Sophie Ackred and Naomi Coker); Under-16 Boys’ Team (England A - Jake Haygarth and Krish Chotai); Under-14 Boys’ Singles (Max Radiven); Under-14 Girls’ Singles (Naomi Coker); Under-16 Boys’ Singles (Jake Haygarth); Under-16
- Continued on page 33**



Brothers Jakub and (inset) Kacper Piwowar with their silver and gold awards respectively at the WTT Youth Contender Tunis



The England squad at the Senior Schools International at Largs, Scotland

### From page 32

Girls' Singles (Bethany Ellis); Under-18 Boys' Singles (Tom Rayner); Under-18 Girls' Singles (Niamh Scarborough).

**Bronze:** Under-16 Girls' Team (England B - Bethany Ellis and Saskia Key); Under-18 Boys' Team (England B - Josh Bramley and Octavian Aparaschivei); Under-18 Girls' Team (England A - Rebecca Savage and Abbie Hurley); Under-14 Boys' Singles (Rex Wong and Leo Nguyen); Under-14 Girls' Singles (Jonabel Taguibao and Sophie Ackred); Under-16 Girls' Singles (Evelyn Pace); Under-16 Boys' Singles (Krish Chotai); Under-19 Girls' Singles (Rebecca Savage).

### Performance – para

- Fliss Pickard won gold in the women's class 6 singles at the ITTF Costa Brava Spanish Para Open in Platja d'Aro. Andrew Guy (men's class 1-2), Martin Perry (men's class 6) and Alex Bland (men's class 7) all took bronze. Perry and Bland won bronze in the men's class 6-7 team.

- Fliss Pickard took gold in the women's class 6 singles in the SQY French Para Open in Saint Quentin en Yvelines. Martin Perry took silver in men's class 6 and Dan Bullen (men's class 5), Alex Bland (men's class 7) and Kim Daybell (men's class 10) all took bronze. Perry and Bland (men's class 6-7), Daybell and Shae Thakker (men's class 10), Andrew Guy (men's class 1-2) and Craig Allen (men's class 9) all took bronze in their respective team events.

- Dan Bullen won gold at the ITTF Para Copa Costa Rica and there were also bronze medals for Rob Davies (men's class 1-3), Lee York (men's class 4) and Ryan Henry (men's class 8). Henry combined with Paul Leonardo Polo Astudillo from Ecuador to take gold in the men's class 8 team event and Bullen and York took bronze in the men's class 1-5 team.

- Ross Wilson (men's class 8), Joshua Stacey (men's class 9) and Fliss Pickard (women's class 6) all won gold in their respective singles events in the Costa Brava Spanish

Para Open in Platja d'Aro, while Billy Shilton (men's class 8) and Sue Bailey (women's class 4-5) took bronze.

Wilson & Stacey beat Aaron McKibbin & Billy Shilton in the MS18 Doubles final to take the gold. Stacey also combined with Fliss Pickard to win bronze in the XS17 doubles and Pickard also took bronze in the WS14 doubles with Grace Williams.

- Jack Hunter-Spivey took gold in the men's class 5 singles at the Egypt Para Open and Joshua Stacey took silver in the men's class 9 singles. Stacey combined with Theo Bishop to take bronze in the men's doubles class MS18.

- Grace Williams took bronze in the women's doubles WD20 with Frenchwoman Lucie Hautiere at the SQY French Para Open in Saint Quentin en Yvelines.

- Will Bayley won the men's class 7 singles title at the Slovenia Para Open in Lasko. Fliss Pickard (women's class 6), Tom Matthews (men's class 1), Jack Hunter-Spivey (men's class 5), Martin Perry (men's class 6) and Aaron McKibbin (men's class 8) all took bronze in their respective singles events.

- Grace Williams won bronze in the women's class 7-9 singles at the Montenegro Para Championships in Podgorica.

- At the Copa Cristina Hoffmann in Cancun, Mexico, self-funded Simon Heaps took silver in the men's class five singles and there were bronze medals for Craig Allen (men's class 9), Lucie Bouron (women's class 2-3) and Ryan Henry (men's class 8). Bouron won gold in the mixed doubles with Heaps and in the women's doubles with Tamara Leonelli

Leonelli from Chile. Allen & Henry took bronze in the men's doubles.

- Sue Bailey (women's class 4), Will Bayley (men's class 7) and Joshua Stacey (men's class 9) all won gold at the Czech Para Open in Ostrava. Billy Shilton (men's class 8) won silver and there were bronze medals for Fliss Pickard (women's class 6), Tom Matthews (men's class 1) and Paul Karabardak (men's class 6).

In the doubles events, Karabardak & Shilton took gold in men's class 14, Bailey women's class 10 with her French partner Alexandra Saint Pierre and Pickard (pictured left) teamed up with Brazilian teenager Sophia Kelmer to take gold in women's class 14. Bailey also took silver in the mixed class 7 with another French partner Francois Geuljans and Bayley & Martin Perry took bronze in men's class 14 after losing the all-British semi-final to Karabardak & Shilton.

- Joe Crouse marked his international debut by taking silver in the men's class 9 singles at the European Para Youth Games and Scotland's Ryan Henry took bronze in the men's class 8 singles. Theo Bishop and Henry won silver in the men's class 16 team and Grace Williams took bronze with her Danish partner Freya Juhl Larsen in women's class 6-10.

### Performance - Veteran

- At the European Veterans' Championships, there were gold medals for Sally Bax (WS80), Simon Heaps (O40 Class 1-5 men's singles) and Lorestas Trumpauskas (MD50, with Sandijs Vasiljevs of Latvia). Silvers went to Bax & Margaret Dignum (WD80), Betty Bird (WS85) and Margaret Welsman (WS75). Bronzes were won by Audrey Robinson (WS85), Paul Giles & Paul Whiting (MD60), Phil Cawser & Raymond Hurst (MD65), Carol Eckersley & Helen Shields (WD65) and Marjorie Dawson & Di Pearce (WD70).



# AWARDS AND THANKS



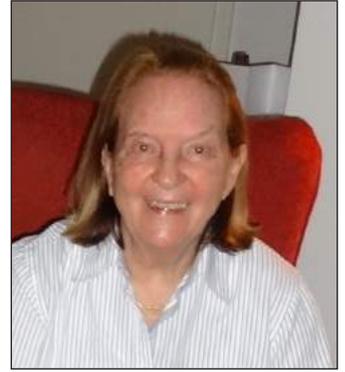
Don Davies



Lisa Lomas



John Mackey



Diane Scholer



Peter Charters with Table Tennis England Chair Sandra Deaton



Mary Wright with Table Tennis England Chair Sandra Deaton



Estyn Williams



Caroline Williams



Greg Yarnall



Liam Pitchford

## Honours bestowed on members at AGM

Each year, individuals are honoured at the Annual General Meeting, receiving awards or honorary positions which reflect the service they have given to the sport, in many cases amounting to many years of dedication and commitment.

The following were honoured at the 2021 AGM:

### Vice-Presidents

- Don Davies
- Lisa Lomas
- John Mackey
- Diane Scholer
- Mary Wright

### Keith Ponting President's Memorial Award

- Peter Charters

### Malcolm Scott Award

- Estyn Williams

### Ivor Montagu Award

- Caroline Williams

### AK Vint Staff Award

- Greg Yarnall

### Victor Barna Award

- Liam Pitchford

### Re-elected as Vice-Presidents for 2020-23

- Malcolm Allsop, Leslie Allwood, Mike Atkinson, Barry Chapman, Jim Clegg, Alan Cooke, Colin Davison, Desmond Douglas MBE, David Edwards, Brian Freer, David Goulden, David Hockney, Colin Hyland, Chris Jacques, Nicky Jarvis, Gail Johns, Ann Jones CBE, Christine Lewis, Philip Lewis MBE, Doreen Nightingale, Don Parker, Sir Jack Petchey CBE, Judy Rogers, Graham Rogerson,

- Sally Shutt, Brian Skinner, Peter Taylor, Geoff Twiss, Diane Webb, Gary Wood.

### Tom Blunn Fund

- None awarded

### Ivor Montagu Junior Fund

- None awarded

### Maurice Goldstein Awards

- Minimum of 10 years' continual service either as an elected officer or official of a County Association, Local League or Premier Club. Must have made a significant contribution to the administration of the sport at County, League or Premier Club level.
- Barry Carter: Reading and District Table Tennis Association
- Peter Bradley: Reading and District Table Tennis Association
- Adam Laws: Surrey
- Tony Gregory: Cromford Table Tennis Club

# FINANCIAL REPORTS

Sport England provided rollover funding for the year 2021/22 as part of their covid-19 response to support the sporting sector and provide clarity and security, in what was already a challenging time. The rollover funding we received from Sport England in the year was £1,981,241 which allowed us to continue to operate and focus on encouraging people back to activity.

Sport England continued to provide a degree of funding flexibility, to allow us to adapt to the evolving situation that Covid-19 presented within the year. The flexibility provided had to meet the two immediate priorities, namely supporting the sector to ensure it comes through this period in as strong a position as possible and to keep the nation moving, by encouraging and facilitating people to become and stay active.

Due to adapting how we operated during the pandemic, we continued to see a reduction in expenditure compared to pre-pandemic levels, which included staff expenses and holding more virtual committee meetings rather than in person.

Table Tennis England on behalf of British Table Tennis also received a Progression grant from UK Sport to enable Home Nations collaboration and help the teams and athletes to realise our ambitions for Paris 2024.

We were once again grateful to the Jack Petchey Foundation for their support of the Children and Young People Programme which has such a positive impact in table tennis, particularly in London and Essex.

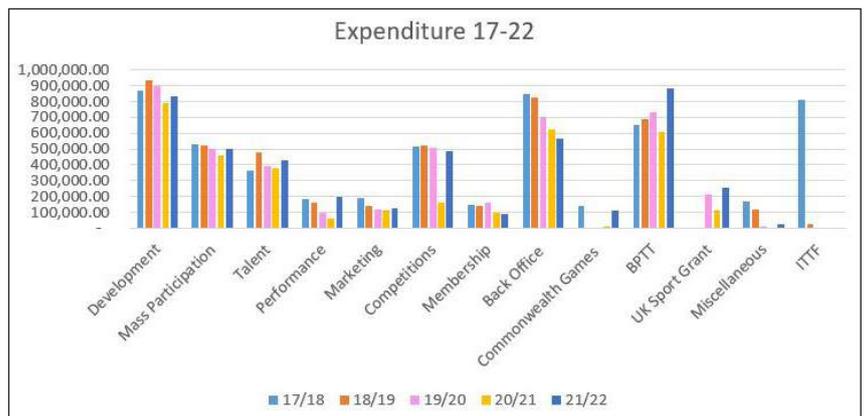
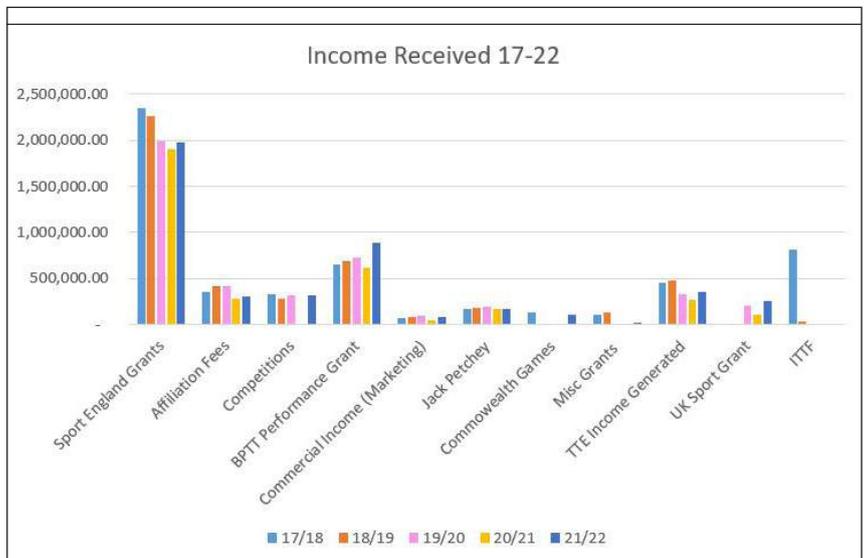
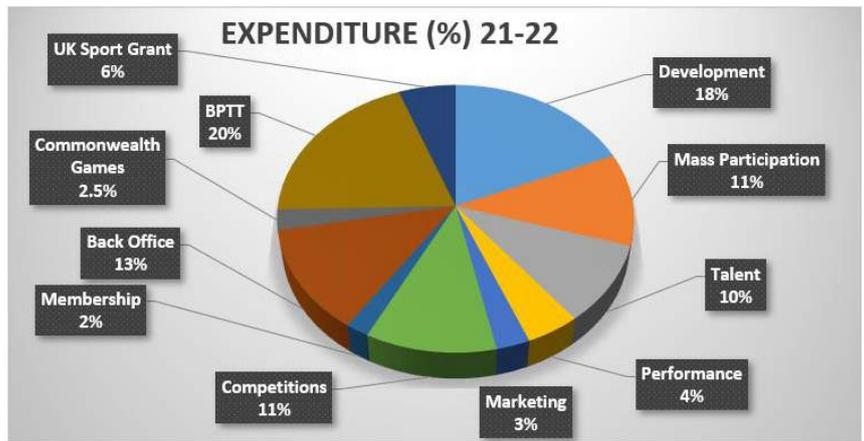
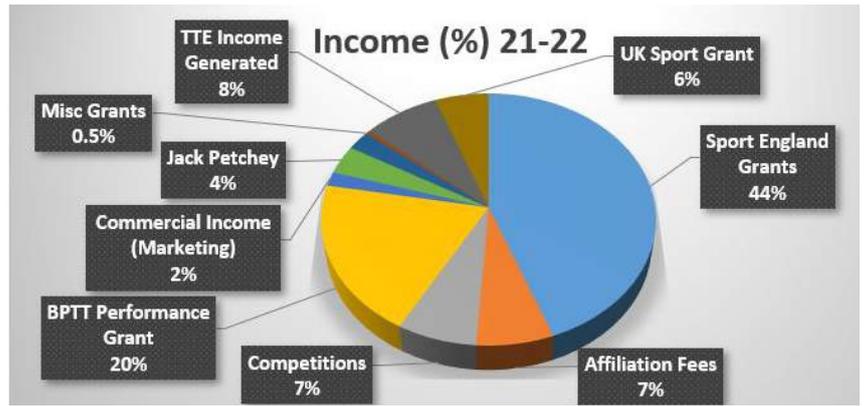
In the 2021/22 year, 83% of members renewed their membership, compared with 2019/20. While this was higher than we had initially forecast for the year, the value of affiliation fees was still £109,000 lower than the pre-pandemic amount in 2019/20. For those members that were eligible for a discount on their membership renewal for 2021/22, less than 19% took up that offer, at a cost to the organisation of just under £17,000.

During the year, we introduced an optional donation feature to the membership scheme, providing options that people could choose to indicate their preference on how their money should be spent. We were extremely grateful to receive 600 individual donations, exceeding £4,000.

As there were still some covid-19 restrictions in place at the beginning of the financial year, we were able to once again utilise the Governments Coronavirus Job Retention scheme. We claimed £9,044 from the scheme between April and July for staff that were not grant-funded.

A detailed Income and Expenditure account is attached to this report. A copy of the Audited accounts are available on our website.

We continue to monitor the financial impact of the pandemic on the organisation, with the biggest risk in 2022/23 still coming from membership renewals not reaching pre-pandemic levels, but also the rising living costs we are all facing.



**English Table Tennis Association Ltd**

**Income and Expenditure**

**for the year ending 31st March 2022**

	2022			2021		
	Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure (Net Income)	Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure (Net Income)
<b>Talent &amp; Performance</b>						
Talent	429,447	-	429,447	381,683	15,000	366,683
Commonwealth Games	111,158	111,158	0	6,066	6,066	0
Performance	200,113	102,567	97,546	60,721	24,520	36,201
	<b>740,718</b>	<b>213,725</b>	<b>526,993</b>	<b>448,470</b>	<b>45,586</b>	<b>402,884</b>
<b>Development</b>						
BeTT Delivery	252,054	39,498	212,556	369,048	35,010	334,038
Clubs	189,496	3,301	186,195	125,566	8,041	117,525
Children & Young People	168,210	164,981	3,229	177,419	174,305	3,114
ESTT	10,896	9,755	1,141	1,380	822	558
Satellite Clubs	37,368	-	37,368	21,500	-	21,500
Diversity and Inclusion	25,533	-	25,533	1,671	-	1,671
Officiating	3,944	-	3,944	370	-	370
Volunteers	7,141	-	7,141	2,237	-	2,237
Coaching	136,367	76,107	60,260	88,752	19,075	69,677
	<b>831,009</b>	<b>293,642</b>	<b>537,367</b>	<b>787,943</b>	<b>237,253</b>	<b>550,690</b>
<b>MASS</b>						
MASS Market	500,343	81,339	419,004	456,038	50,897	405,141
	<b>500,343</b>	<b>81,339</b>	<b>419,004</b>	<b>456,038</b>	<b>50,897</b>	<b>405,141</b>
<b>Marketing &amp; Communications</b>						
Competitions	486,913	278,661	208,252	160,805	6,544	154,261
Ranking & Tournament Levies	-	36,994	(36,994)	-	422	(422)
Sponsorship	-	69,250	(69,250)	-	-	0
Marketing & Communications	125,350	11,748	113,602	112,595	45,620	66,975
	<b>612,263</b>	<b>396,653</b>	<b>215,610</b>	<b>273,400</b>	<b>52,586</b>	<b>220,814</b>
<b>Operations</b>						
Meetings	31,700		31,700	10,108		10,108
Staff Costs	300,529		300,529	300,236		300,236
Membership Costs	81,242		81,242	99,662		99,662
Other Core Costs	181,126		181,126	314,246		314,246
Sport England		1,981,241	(1,981,241)		1,907,741	(1,907,741)
Affiliation Fees		305,290	(305,290)		286,846	(286,846)
Bank Interest		133	(133)		747	(747)
Other Income		16,044	(16,044)		1,112	(1,112)
HMRC CJRS		9,044	(9,044)		108,838	(108,838)
	<b>594,597</b>	<b>2,311,752</b>	<b>(1,717,155)</b>	<b>724,252</b>	<b>2,305,284</b>	<b>(1,581,032)</b>
<b>Other</b>						
BPTT Performance Grant	882,647	882,647	0	609,818	609,818	0
Other Grants	275,388	275,388	0	109,713	109,713	0
Centenary Project	57,601	14,464	43,137			
Regions	2,162	6,783	(4,621)			0
	<b>1,217,798</b>	<b>1,179,282</b>	<b>38,516</b>	<b>719,531</b>	<b>719,531</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>4,496,728</b>	<b>4,476,393</b>	<b>20,335</b>	<b>3,409,634</b>	<b>3,411,137</b>	<b>(1,503)</b>

## Notes to Income and Expenditure Report

### For the Year Ended 31 March 2022

- Note 1 The Jack Petchey Foundation Grant is included in Income. The grant has been matched against related expenditure.
- Note 2 British Para Table Tennis (BPTT) is the governing body for performance of UK table tennis for people with disabilities and is funded by UK Sport. As the Lead Nation, the ETTA has been authorised through a service level agreement, approved by UK Sport to administer the funds and reports directly to UK Sport and the BPTT Performance Monitoring Group.
- Note 3 Ten regional committees operate around the country under the auspices of English Table Tennis Association Limited. All income and expenditure of the Regions is included in the income and expenditure account. The net funds of Regions are included in the Balance Sheet.

**ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)  
REGISTERED NUMBER:04268058

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	5	22,121	32,779
Tangible assets	6	9,962	22,025
		32,083	54,804
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	7	71,516	36,490
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	8	177,046	52,076
Cash at bank and in hand	9	1,346,661	1,089,543
		1,595,223	1,178,109
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(1,213,057)	(798,329)
<b>Net current assets</b>		382,166	379,780
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		414,249	434,584
<b>Net assets</b>		414,249	434,584
<b>Reserves</b>			
Testimonial funds		32,257	32,257
Income and expenditure account		381,992	402,327
		414,249	434,584

# WHO'S WHO (AS AT 31.03.22)

**President:** Jill Parker MBE

**Hon Past President:** Doreen Stannard

## Board Members

**Chairperson:** Sandra Deaton

**Deputy Chairperson:** Susie Venner

**Chief Executive:** Adrian Christy

**Board Members:** Kwadjo Adjepong, Simon Griew, Ray James, Steve Kemish (Senior Independent Director), Don Parker, Tom Purcell, Priya Samuel, Ritchie Venner, Dr Emma Vickers

## Honorary Life Members

Peter Bradley, Peter Charters, Martin Clark, Stan Clarke, Colin Clemett, Sandra Deaton, Aubrey Drapkin, Peter Hillier, Mike Holt, Laurie Landry, Alex Murdoch, Alan Ransome OBE, Richard Scruton, Stuart Sherlock, Les Smith, Mike Smith, Doreen Stannard, Keith Thomas, Karen Tonge OBE, Harvey Webb, John Wright, Richard Yule

## Vice-Presidents

Malcolm Allsop, Leslie Allwood, John Arnold MBE, Mike Atkinson, Dave Berriman, John Blackband, Barry Chapman, Pat Chatwin, Jim Clegg, Alan Cooke, Brian Davison, Colin Davison, Paul Day, Desmond Douglas MBE, David Edwards, Ken Eliot, Dave Evans, Ken Field, Margot Fraser, Brian Freer, Stuart Gibbs, David Goulden, Barry Granger, Diccon Gray, Simon Griew, John Hilton, David Hockney, Andrea Holt, Brenda Hudson, Richard B Hudson, Richard J Hudson, Alan Hydes, Colin Hyland, Martin Ireland, Brian Jackson, Christopher Jaques, Nick Jarvis, Diana Jermyn, Gail Johns, Jan Johns, Ann Jones CBE, Vanda Jones, Jim Kenny, Sheila King, Christine Lewis, Philip Lewis MBE, Jia Yi Liu, Dorothy Macfarlane, Malcolm Macfarlane, John Mapletoft BEM, Ian Marshall, Ken Matthews, Carole Moore, Ken Muhr, Valerie Murdoch, Denis Neale, Chris Newton, Doreen Nightingale, Don Parker, Mike Payne, Sir Jack Petchey CBE, Ken Phillips, Shirley Pickering, Len Pilfold, Rosemary Ponting, Erica Preat, Tom Purcell, Jose Ransome, Lynda Reid, Judy Rogers, Graham Rogerson, Jackie Sands, Carol Seward, Eileen Shaler, Sally Shutt, Rob Sinclair, Brian Skinner, Barry Snowden, Mick Strobe, Matthew Syed, Geoff Taylor, Peter Taylor, Keith Thomas, Ken Tonge, Graham Trimming, Geoff Twiss, George Tyler, Susie Venner, Ron Washington, June Watts JP, Diane Webb, Margaret Welch, Caroline Williams, Estyn Williams, Colin Wilson, Gary Wood

## Members' Advisory Group

John Andrews, Phil Ashleigh, Juliet Bertie, Steve Bertie, Kevin Buddell, Jo Green, Neil Hurford (Chairman), John Mackey, David Maddison, Liam McTiernan, Dean Nabarro, Sandy Nash, Steve Pratt, Steve Randerson, Stuart Sherlock, Dan Simms

## National Councillors

**Avon:** David Hockney

**Bedfordshire:** Alex Murdoch

**Berkshire:** Peter Charters

**Buckinghamshire:** Susan Hayes

**Cambridgeshire:** Brian Freer

**Cheshire:** Karen Tonge OBE

**Cleveland:** Alan Ransome OBE

**Cornwall:** Kevin Fudge

**Derbyshire:** John Cowell

**Devonshire:** Andrew Millman

**Dorset:** Reinhard Lindner

**Durham:** Allan Thompson

**Essex:** Phil Ashleigh

**Gloucestershire:** David Adamson

**Hampshire:** Ken Macleod

**Herefordshire:** Harmesh (Harry) Jutle

**Hertfordshire:** David Edwards

**Isle of Wight:** Tim Giles

**Kent:** Neil Le Milliere

**Lancashire:** Jim Bolton

**Leicestershire:** Shirley Pickering

**Lincolnshire:** George Tyler

**Middlesex:** Tony Dias

**Norfolk:** Trevor Vincent

**Northamptonshire:** Ivor Jones

**Northumberland:** Gareth Pearson

**Nottinghamshire:** Malcolm Allsop

**Oxfordshire:** Neil Hurford

**Shropshire:** Chris Dangerfield

**Somerset:** Jos Kelly

**South Yorkshire:** James Kenny

**Staffordshire:** Awaiting appointment

**Suffolk:** Awaiting appointment

**Surrey:** Margot Fraser

**Sussex:** Jim Skinner

**Warwickshire:** Estyn Williams (Chairman)

**Wiltshire:** Charles Noel Sewell

**Worcestershire:** Martin Clark

**Yorkshire:** Richard B Hudson

## Support & Advisory Network Operations

**Archives, Museum and Records Committee:** Chairman Diane Webb; Secretary Rob Sinclair; Colin Clemett, Ken Eliot, Victoria Wiegleb

**Board of Appeal:** Chairman Graeme McPherson QC; Deputy Chairman Christopher Quinlan QC; Clerk Nigel Gibson-Birch; Secretary Victoria Wiegleb; Katherine Apps; Mike Bishop; Angus Bujalski; Ashley Cukier; Alan Darfi; Murray Rosen QC; Gary Whyman

**Disciplinary Committee:** Chairman Mike Bishop; Secretary Victoria Wiegleb; Phil Ashleigh; Ken Field; Richard Habgood; Craig Milner; Margot Fraser; Investigator Judy Rogers

**Returning Officer and Scrutineers:** Returning Officer Caroline Williams; Scrutineers Jenny Ferguson; Paul Nichols; (two posts vacant)

**Rules Committee:** Chairman Colin Clemett; Secretary Joanna Keay-Blyth; David Adams; Neil Hurford; Lynda Reid; Estyn Williams

## Talent, Performance and Events

**British League Committee:** Chairman Neil Rogers; Secretary Gary Wood; Susie Venner (Board); Jim Kenny (Women's British League); Malcolm Macfarlane (Senior British League); Henry Arthur; Nigel Savage (Junior British League); Alan Ransome OBE (Calendar); Vacant (Veterans' British League)

## Sub-Committees - Senior British League:

Chairman Neil Rogers; Secretary Gary Wood; Administrators Malcolm Macfarlane; Alan Ransome OBE; Referee Stuart Sherlock.

**Junior British League:** Administrator Vacant; Referee Brian Jackson

**Veterans' British League:** Administrator Vacant; Referee Dave Goulden; Assistant Referee John Mackey

**Women's British League:** Administrators Jim Kenny; Referee Karen Tonge OBE.

**Press and Publicity:** Press Officer Wilf Reeve; Photographers Melvyn Lovegrove, Chris Rayner

## County Championships Committee:

Chairman Stan Clarke; Secretary/Administrator Dave Goulden; Assistant Administrators: Juniors/Cadets Tony Dixon; Seniors Ken Eliot; Veterans Dave Goulden; Over-60s Neil Hurford; Premier Weekend Organisers: Senior/Junior Tony Dias; Cadets David Cochrane; Veterans Vacant, covered by Dave Goulden; Over-60s Neil Hurford; Publicity Officer Stan Clarke; Referee Brian Jackson; Deputy Referee Margot Fraser

## English Leagues Cup Competitions

**Committee:** Chairman Mike Smith; Secretary Brenda Hudson; Referee Jim Kenny; Deputy Referee Richard B Hudson; Alex Mercer

## National Cadet and National Junior Leagues

**Committee:** Chairman Mike Atkinson  
**Schools Committee:** Chairman David Maddison; Deputy Chairman Richard J Hudson (also Team Championships Organiser); Secretary Vacant; Claire Warner; Steve Burge (Internationals and Selection Organiser); Maria Ingles; Gail Johns (Individual Championships Organiser); Charlotte Spencer; Nathan Nicol; Steven Walker; Steven Dolben; Kate Hughes; Demi Reid; Mark Pinder; Greg Yarnall

**Technical Officials Committee:** Chairman Brian Jackson; Secretary Dave Cochrane; Tom Purcell (Board rep); David Edwards; Harry Jutle; Jo Outhwaite; Karen Tonge OBE (training & development co-ordinator); Greg Yarnall; Chris Newton; Dan Bullen; Lyndsey Simpson

## Specialist Panels - Referee Review and

**Examination:** Stuart Sherlock; Brian Jackson; Karen Tonge OBE; **Tournament Management**

**Officials:** Stuart Sherlock; Brian Jackson; Secretary Dave Cochrane; Carol Miles;

**Tournament Organisers:** Stuart Sherlock;

Carol Miles; **Training and Development:** Karen Tonge OBE; David Edwards; John Mackey; **Umpire Selection:** Harry Jutle (Secretary Foreign Competitions); David Edwards (Secretary Domestic Competitions); Lynda Reid; Margot Fraser; Jo Outhwaite; Chris Newton; **2022 Commonwealth Games Umpire Selection:** Stuart Sherlock; Chris Newton; Margot Fraser

**Special Adviser:** Colin Clemett

**Tournament Approval Panel:** Chairman John Mackey; Secretary Kim Mudge; Brian Jackson (TOC rep); Mike Atkinson; Stuart Sherlock; Gary Whyman

The International Table Tennis Federation AGM held at the World Championships in Houston saw history being made as Petra Sörling was overwhelmingly elected as the first ever female President.

She brings a wealth of experience having been a member of the Executive committee for a number of years, serving as Vice President for Finance. Petra (pictured below) was an international player representing Sweden, where she was also President of the Swedish Table Tennis Association.

In addition, the election of ITTF Vice Presidents took place with the following successful candidates: Mr Khalil Al-Mohannadi, Mr Masahiro Maehara, Dr Alaa Meshref, Mr Wahid Oshodi, Mr Liu Guoliang, Mr Roland Nathan, Mr Alaor Azevedo, Mr Graham Symons.

I worked with the Nominations Committee to select the chairs and members for each of the ITTF committee members who were elected at the AGM.

We have the following representation: Tom Purcell (Umpires and Referees Committee), Karen Tonge OBE (Para Committee), Sandra Deaton (Nominations Committee).

The opening up from covid restrictions has seen an increase in WTT events for both seniors and juniors which has benefited our performance players. July will see the first ever Grand Smash in Europe to be held in Hungary. The World Championships due to be held in China have been postponed until September 30th.

The AGM highlighted the continuation of questions raised over the ranking system and the calendar clashes. It was agreed that a working group would be formed to address the concerns. This is now being actioned.

Table Tennis England put forward a resolution for the ITTF EC to consider the regulations for playing clothing.

We were honoured to have ITTF President Petra Sörling and acting ETTU President Pedro Moura in attendance at our Centenary Gala Dinner. They both have very busy schedules but clearly wanted to be with us to celebrate 100 years of English table tennis.

We have had some excellent follow-up meetings with the ITTF representation as we move forward to confirming the delivery of the 2026 integrated World and Para World Championships as part of the ITTF 100-year celebration.



## International Matters

Despite some covid restrictions, the European Table Tennis Union successfully arranged all their competitions in the calendar. With the support of extensive sponsorship, the events were enhanced with both significant prizemoney and marketing activity. As well as the usual club competitions, this year saw the introduction of the men and women's European Trophy, where both Grantham College and Draycott and Long Eaton TTC have reached the Grand Final.

As a consequence of the war in Ukraine the ETTU Executive Board have had to make some difficult decisions and deal with an adaptation of leadership and membership. Although Mr Igor Levitin was the elected president, coming from Russia meant he had to consider his position. In March he decided to step aside from his position, allowing the deputy president Mr Pedro Moura to step in and become the acting ETTU President. This remains the current position, although there may need to be further considerations at the Congress in Munich in August.

Both Polina Mikhailova (Russia), Athletes Commission chair, and Vladimir Samsonov (Belarus) also stepped aside from the executive board. The decision was also taken to remove the Russian clubs from the semi-final of the men's Champions League.

This was later subject to an appeal by the Russian Table Tennis Association and is still in the process of being finalised. Russian players are also not allowed to take part in the immediate future competitions and again an appeal has been launched.

The executive board took the decision to remove all Russian companies from any sponsorship deals with the ETTU. Therefore the current financial situation is constantly being monitored, taking into consideration the variance against the 2022 budget.

Despite these difficulties, the competitions are continuing to take place and mirror the enhanced presentations witnessed in 2021. In addition, there is the introduction of a European U13 Challenge event in June and the Individual European Championships are for the first time part of the multi-sports event in Munich in August.

**Sandra Deaton**

## Regional Structure

### Regional Forum

Chairman Ritchie Venner; Regional Chairmen: East Brian Davison; East Midlands Shirley Pickering; London John Dennison; North East Alan Ransome OBE; North West Karen Tonge OBE; South Mike Atkinson; South East Kim Mudge; South West Jos Kelly; West Midlands Martin Clayton; Yorkshire Bokmun Chan. Board Representatives: Sandra Deaton, Sara Sutcliffe. Good Standing Representatives: Karen Tonge OBE (BPTT); Mike Smith (BUCS); Jan Johns (VETTS). Senior staff: Simon Mills; Greg Yarnall

### Regional Committees

Regional Chairman (appointed by Board); Vice-Chairman; Secretary; Treasurer; Coaching Co-ordinator; Competitions Co-ordinator; (elected by Regional Committee), County elected Representatives: minimum 1, maximum 3 including preferably National Councillor or Deputy National Councillor and Coaching Officer; Good Standing Representatives: BPTT, BUCS, VETTS (appointed by their Organisation); Table Tennis England Area Development Lead or representative (invited)

## Advisory - Individual Advisers

Individual Advisers – As required

### Focus Groups

Focus Groups may be set up as needed

## Board Committees and Groups

### Standing Committees

**Finance & Audit:** Chairman Steve Kemish; Secretary Sam Garey; Sandra Deaton; Susie Venner; Tom Purcell; Ray James; Adrian Christy

**Governance & Risk:** Chairman Simon Griew; Secretary Victoria Wiegleb; Sandra Deaton; Priya Samuel; Kwadjo Adjepong; Dr Emma Vickers; Ritchie Venner; Adrian Christy; Jo Keay-Blyth

**Nominations Committee:** Chairman Sandra Deaton; Secretary Victorian Wiegleb; Adrian Christy; Susie Venner; Don Parker; Steve Kemish; Priya Samuel; Ritchie Venner

**Remuneration Committee:** Sandra Deaton; Steve Kemish

**Case Management Group (Safeguarding):** Joanna Keay-Blyth; Tom Purcell; Judy Rogers; Victoria Wiegleb

**Process Review Group:** Joanna Keay-Blyth; Simon Griew; Mike Smith; Priya Samuel (Others as required)

**Talent & Performance:** Chairman Don Parker; Secretary Matthew Stanforth; Dr Emma Vickers; Sandra Deaton; Ritchie Venner; Adrian Christy; Daniel Reed; Jason Sugrue; Lois Peake

**Honours:** Chairman Sandra Deaton; Secretary Victoria Wiegleb; Jill Parker MBE; Richard Scruton; Mike Smith; Doreen Stannard; Tom Purcell

**Network:** Chairman Tom Purcell; Secretary Joanna Keay-Blyth; Sandra Deaton; Susie Venner; Adrian Christy

**Standing Orders Committee:** David Hockney; Neil Le Milliere; June Watts

## International Representation

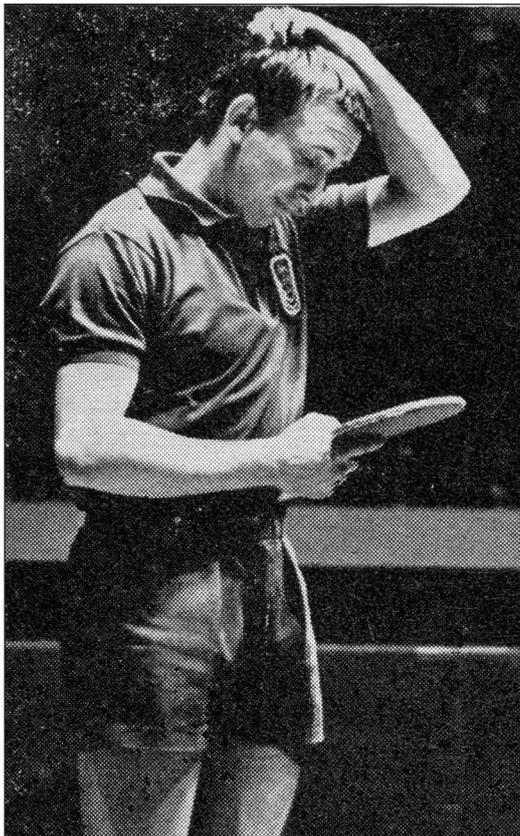
### English members of ITTF committees

**Nominations Committee:** Sandra Deaton; **Rules Committee:** Sara Sutcliffe; **Umpires & Referees Committee:** Tom Purcell

### English members of ETTU committees

**Athletes Commission:** Paul Drinkhall; **Audit Commission:** Keith Thomas; **Coaches Committee:** Matt Stanforth; **Para TT Committee:** Karen Tonge OBE (Deputy Chair); **Ranking Committee:** Simon Griew (Deputy Chair); **Veterans Committee:** Susie Venner

**Commonwealth Table Tennis Federation**  
Deputy Chair: Susie Venner



**Left: Connie Warren**  
**Above: Paul Lyall at the table, watched by the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince of Wales**  
**Below: David House**

**Connie Warren:** England international first spotted by Harry Venner in 1955 and was soon playing at Wimbledon YMCA. Played for Surrey for 18 years and more than 50 matches before retiring in 1973/74 but was called out of retirement a couple of seasons later and was still playing at veteran level for more than another decade.

Connie had some success at junior tournaments and this continued as he moved up to senior level, earning an England place and a debut against Sweden in Stockholm on February 23rd, 1966.

Regarded as one of the most astute thinkers and tacticians of the game, he was one of the great characters on the tournament circuit in the 1960s and 70s.

Connie played in a number of international matches and was a member of the European Championships team at Wembley in 1966 with Chester Barnes, Ian Harrison, Dennis Neale and Brian Wright, which finished sixth, and with Barnes, Harrison, Judy Williams and Mary Wright won the Quadrangular Tournament against Ireland, Scotland and Wales in February 1967.

He also played in the World Championships in Stockholm in 1967 and in the East German Open.

On the home front, Connie's best result was winning the Welsh Open in 1967, beating the England No 1 Chester Barnes in the final. Just prior to this in the National Championships he reached the Men's Singles final, losing to Ian Harrison having beaten Dennis Neale and Brian Wright in



earlier rounds. He also reached the semi-final stage in the National Championships on three other occasions.

His highest ranking in England was No 3 behind world-class players Chester Barnes and Denis Neale.

As a coach he set up, with his wife Joan, the famous Larkhall Table Tennis Centre in South London which became the practice centre for many international, county and club players.

**David House:** Former England junior and senior international who started playing at the Bath YMCA when he was 12 years old and his first junior cap was gained in the 1951/52 season. He was one of the very first junior international players and visited

Sweden in 1952 alongside Ray Dorking and Geoff Pullar, with Leo Thompson as the team captain.

David played another junior international against Germany on 31st March 1952 in London before moving up to play his first senior international against Yugoslavia in Camborne on 2nd April 1958, the first of three matches against the visitors.

May 1954 saw David win the Daily Mirror Men's Singles title, the final being held at the Royal Albert Hall.

**Paul Lyall:** One of the pioneers of para table tennis in Great Britain and a Paralympic gold medallist.

Having been paralysed after an accident in 1960, he was classified as a table tennis player and in 1964 he competed in the Paralympic Games in Tokyo, winning gold in the Men's Singles Class B competition. He also won bronze in the Men's Doubles Class B competition, partnered by Hugh Stewart MacKenzie.

In 1966, Paul played in the Commonwealth Games in Kingston, Jamaica. He won gold in the Men's Singles Class 2 and, partnered by current British Para Table Tennis President Philip Lewis MBE, won the Men's Doubles Class 2.

In 1968, Paul played in his second Paralympic Games in Tel Aviv, again winning gold in Men's Singles Class B and this time silver in the Men's Doubles Class B, partnered by George Monaghan.

Paul's final Paralympic Games was in **Continued on page 38**



**Left: Colin Hyland (left) receives his Vice-President's medal from Alan Ransome OBE**  
**Above: Alf Perry**

**From page 37**

1972 in Heidelberg where he won bronze in Men's Singles Class 4 and bronze in Men's Team Class 4 with Neil McDonald.

**Colin Hyland:** A top official, Colin's qualifications took him around the world. He became a qualified coach in 1970, County Umpire in 1976, National Umpire in 1982 and an International Umpire in 1984. He was also a Tournament Referee (1976) and National Referee (1985).

He umpired or refereed at World Championships, European Championships, European Youth Championships, foreign and English Opens, Commonwealth Championships, European League matches at home and abroad as well as numerous domestic tournaments around the country.

Colin's most memorable experience was umpiring, with Mick Strode, the Men's Team final in the European Championships in Gothenburg in April 1990.

Colin held many senior positions on the Hastings & District Table Tennis Association – President 1983-84 and 1990-91, Chairman 1976-98, Treasurer 1960-68, General Secretary 1967-76. He was made a Vice-President in 1992.

He was Sussex County Chairman (1984-92), Deputy Chairman (1981-84), Treasurer (1973-84), also having been on the Coaching Committee and Appeals/Disciplinary Committee as well as its Honorary Auditor and Umpires Secretary. He was made a Vice-President and later an Honorary Life Member in 2001.

At a national level, Colin had major influence on the Trade Committee, he was a member from 1991 to 2004 and again from 2006 to 14. He was also a valued member of the Tournaments Committee from 1988 to 2004.

Colin was awarded the ETTA Merit Award in 1986 and became an ETTA Vice-President in 2000. In 1988 Colin received the Hastings Sports Council Elka Hillier Shield for services to local table tennis.

**Alf Perry:** Medallist at the Veteran World Championships in 2014 in New Zealand, partnering Charles Usher for silver in the Men's Doubles O/85s and collecting a bronze in the Men's Singles O/85s.

At the same competition in 2016 in Alicante, Alf & Bill Wall took silver in the MD85 doubles.

**Dennis Worrell:** Lincs country treasurer and County Championships secretary and also well known as a coach and coach tutor.

He also served on the English Schools' Table Tennis Association (ESTTA) Executive, representing Lincolnshire. His vast coaching experience saw him acting annually as NPC/Coach for school teams taking part in international events at home and abroad and later in the UK School Games Competitions. He was also ESTTA National Individual Championship Organiser from

1999 to 2010 and became a Life Member of ESTTA in 2012.

Dennis was father-in-law to former England senior international Jackie Worrell (Bellinger), who is married to his son Stuart.

**Bob Wood:** English Schools' Table Tennis Association (ESTTA) Executive member who went on to be Vice Chairman and in 1979 was elected Honorary Treasurer of the Association. He continued in this role until 2002, at which time he accepted the honour of Life Member. Continued to serve on the Executive until 2012.

*Editor's note: We remember here those with honorary appointments or who gave international service as a player, official or coach. Full obituaries were published on the Table Tennis England website. We are indebted to Diane Webb for her help with compiling obituaries. We also remember at National Council meetings all those members of the table tennis family who passed away in the last year. Please notify us of the passing of any individuals so they may be remembered in this way.*



**Melvyn Lovegrove, who died this year, was a familiar presence at events around the country, as both a player and a photographer. In the latter role, he was a good friend of the British League and contributed hundreds of photos from WBL and VBL to Table Tennis England, many of which have been used in this Review over the years, as well as on our website and social media**

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## Acknowledgements

Edited by Paul Stimpson

Photographs courtesy of Michael Loveder, Melvyn Lovegrove, Alan Man, Stephen Pover, Chris Rayner, Mike Rhodes, Diane Webb, ITTF

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen  
President: Jill Parker MBE  
Chairperson: Sandra Deaton  
Company Secretary: Adrian Christy (Chief Executive)

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Registered in England and Wales No 4268058

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