

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12th & 13th 1931 AT ST BRIDE'S INSTITUTE, FLEET STREET
& THE GEORGE HOTEL, STRAND, LONDON, AT 6.30pm & 11am respectively

Present: Mr H Oldroyd, President
Mr H M Bunbury in the Chair
Messrs Corti Woodcock, P Bromfield, O W Tarrant and L J McNeal, Vice-Presidents
Mr A K Vint, Hon Treasurer
Mr D W Poupard, Hon General Secretary
League representatives from London, Civil Service, Swindon, Manchester, Luton, St Albans and Basingstoke.
Letters of regret from Liverpool and Leicester
Club representatives from Cheadle Hulme and Rovers, and other affiliated members, in all 23.

Constitution

It was proposed by Mr Swann and seconded by Mr Poupard that the draft constitution prepared by the Rules Sub-Committee and as circulated to the Officers of the Association, be adopted. This was carried, subject to the following amendments:

- Rule 1 "The Association shall be called the ETTA and shall be affiliated to the ITTF".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Poupard and resolved.
- Rule 3 Substitute "other duly elected officers" for "the duly elected officers".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Swann and resolved.
- Rule 5 Substitute "sign same on his behalf or on behalf of" instead of "sign same on behalf*".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Pope and resolved.
- Rule 8 Substitute "to every affiliated league and club" for "every affiliated club of a league, etc.".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Crawley and resolved.
- Rule 9 Insert "further" between "shall have power" and "to elect" and delete "if necessary". Also include Vice-Presidents as officers of the Association.
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Poupard and resolved.
- Rule 11 Substitute "one representative elected by the directly affiliated clubs in each of the six regional areas as may be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee" for "six representatives elected by the directly affiliated clubs in six regional areas".
Proposed by Mr Woodcock, seconded by Mr Montagu and resolved.
- Rule 13 Delete proposed wording and substitute "The funds of the Association shall be lodged at a bank and all cheques, drafts, etc. drawn on the account shall be signed by either the Chairman and Hon. Treasurer or Hon. General Secretary and Hon. Treasurer."
Proposed by Mr Vint, seconded by Mr Poupard and resolved.
- Rule 14 Insert "to take office immediately for the ensuing year" after "officers (as Rule 9)" and "to take office on the following July 1st" after "auditors".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Vint and resolved.
- Rule 14 (a) Add "including statement of accounts" after "agenda" and "Leagues*" after "affiliated".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Woodcock and resolved.
(b) Delete "is open" and substitute "shall be open".
Proposed by Mr Vint, seconded by Mr Montagu and resolved.
(g) Delete proposed wording and substitute "A majority in excess of opposition of one third of the votes represented in person, or in proxy, shall, be necessary to carry any resolution in respect of the rules and regulations of the Association. Other resolutions shall be decided by simple majority and, in the event of a tie, excepting financial questions, the meeting shall proceed to the next business. In the matter of finance, the Chairman shall have a casting vote".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Wilmott and resolved.
An amendment proposed by Mr Woodcock and seconded by Mr Pope that "all matters at the AGM should proceed on simple majority throughout and, in the matter of finance, the chairman shall have a casting vote" was defeated.
- Rule 15 Delete proposed wording after "or on a resolution" to the end and substitute "or within one month of receipt by the Hon General Secretary of a resolution signed by the authorised representatives of at least one third of the leagues and rule 14 respecting circulation of notices and procedure shall apply as at the AGM".

- Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Pope and resolved.
- Rule 16 Insert "together with the demand for a" between "or" and "Special General Meeting".
Proposed by Mr Wilmott, seconded by Mr Montagu and resolved.
- Rule 18 Add "or in exhibition at any club or under any auspices" between "club" and "not registered".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Pope and resolved.
- Rule 19 Insert "on standard stock" after "taken" and delete proposed wording after "Table Tennis", substituting "unless sanction has first been obtained from one of the Officers of the Association".
Proposed Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Woodcock and resolved.
- Rules 21 Add wholly or in part" after "expenses".
Proposed by Mr Woodcock, seconded by Mr Vint and resolved.
(a) add "or by a National Association affiliated to the ITTF" after "Executive Committee".
Proposed by Mr Woodcock, seconded by Mr Montague and resolved.
Delete last paragraph making regulations applicable to championships.
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Pope and resolved.
- Rule 22 Insert, after "matches", "sanctioned by the Executive Committee".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Poupard and resolved.
- Rule 23 Delete "selected" and substitute "representing the Association" and substitute "Executive Committee" for "Association".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Vint and resolved.
- Rule 24 (a) Substitute "in each season" for "in each year".
Proposed by Mr Vint, seconded by Mr Woodcock and resolved.
(b) Delete "properly",
Proposed by Mr Vint, seconded by Mr Pope and resolved.
(c) Insert "and a record of the results of each event, including details of the final and semi-final matches" after "if any".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Woodcock and resolved.
(d) Substitute "four entries in any singles event and two entries in any doubles for "four entries".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Poupard and resolved.
(e) Substitute "on a question of fact relating to the purpose for which he was appointed" instead of "on questions of fact relating to the position of the racket etc"
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Poupard and resolved.
(g) Delete proposed wording and substitute ITTF regulation, as follows: "No prize other than a trophy shall be awarded exceeding £3 in value, and no trophy exceeding £20 in value unless it be a permanent trophy which cannot be won outright".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Poupard and resolved.
- Rule 25 (c) Delete proposed wording and substitute "Five championships shall be held as follows: Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Singles, Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles; in addition a Men's Singles event for competitors eliminated in the first two played rounds of the Men's Singles Championship. A walkover and not a bye shall count as a played round".
Proposed by Mr Montague, seconded by Mr Woodcock and resolved.
(d) Add "in the Championships" after "matches" and also add "in the additional Men's Singles event the best of three games".
Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Pope and resolved.
(e) Add "g".
Proposed by Mr Poupard, seconded by Mr Swann and resolved.

Vote of Thanks

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rules Sub-Committee for the manner in which they had carried out their duties was proposed by Mr Vint, seconded by Mr Emdin and carried unanimously.

Exhibitions

Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Pope and resolved that the Secretary be instructed to incorporate in an early issue of the Monthly Circular Rule 18 in regard to sanction being obtained for exhibitions.

Balance Sheet

A concise statement of account and balance sheet for season 1930/31 was presented by the Treasurer, showing surplus of income over expenditure of £3 2s 5d and liabilities of £30 2s 5d. Income was over 2½ times larger than for the previous season and expenditure correspondingly greater. The adoption of the balance sheet was moved by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Swann and unanimously carried, the Chairman paying tribute to Mr

Vint for the very successful completion of difficult task. Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Vint and resolved that the full Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet be published in the forthcoming issue of the Official handbook and that the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. General Secretary have authority to group various small items of expenditure where deemed necessary.

Standing Orders

12 After full discussion the meeting agreed that the Executive Committee should have power to delegate any of its duties to a properly appointed sub-committee.

18 Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Poupard and resolved that the Minutes be sent to all officers and those who apply for same.

19-24 Proposed by Mr Vint, seconded by Mr Poupard and resolved that these be deleted and that the following be substituted: "The Hon. Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies received by the Association from whatever source derived and he (or the Hon. General Secretary) shall issue receipt for same on the official form; shall pay all the liabilities of the Association as directed by the Executive Committee so far as the funds available will permit".

"Sunday Referee" Tournament

Broad outlines of a scheme for a national tournament, suggested by the proprietors of the "Sunday Referee" were put before the meeting and it was agreed that same should be sanctioned on the express understanding that all the rules in connection with open tournaments should be adhered to, that the committee appointed to run the competition and the dates of the finals should be sanctioned by the Executive Committee.

Harrods Exhibitions

Proposed by Mr Poupard, seconded by Mr Emdin and resolved that the application for an exhibition at Messrs Harrods Limited should be sanctioned and that the Executive Committee should endeavour to arrange for this to be held on conditions satisfactory to the Association.

Messrs Jaques' Tables

An offer made by Messrs Jaques to provide tables free of all expenses for the National Championships was gratefully accepted and permission given the firm to quote in their advertisement that their table had been adopted for the National Championships.

Cinema Film

The question of the preparation of a film of Table Tennis was raised and it was left to Messrs Montagu, Pope and Woodcock to discuss the matter further.

Standard Dress

Mr Woodcock reported the assistance he had received from the Secretary of the LTA on the subject of badges etc and a further report to the Executive Committee was promised.

Magazine

During the discussion on this subject it was revealed that a further magazine entitled "Table Tennis World" is to be published in London and the meeting instructed the Secretary to define more clearly the existing arrangements for the 1931/32 season with the publishers of "Table Tennis Illustrated"; that the Association shall permit that paper to state that it is published with the authority of the ETTA and that the Association shall endeavour to assist the paper in every reasonable way; that in respect of these considerations the ETTA shall receive from the publishers 10% of the profits for 1931/32. No other financial obligation of any sort being incurred.

International Badges

The meeting instructed the Executive Committee to consider the question of granting international badges to those players who represented England before the adoption of the present badge.

Assistant Secretary

On the proposal of Mr Woodcock, seconded by Mr Emdin, it was resolved that Mr E G Nye of London be appointed as Assistant General Secretary.

Vote of Thanks

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.