

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION WAS HELD ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY, APRIL 23rd/24th 1932, AT ST BRIDE'S INSTITUTE, LUDGATE CIRCUS, & THE ST GEORGE HOTEL, STRAND, LONDON, RESPECTIVELY

Present: H Oldroyd (President)
Mr C C Woodcock took the chair on the commencement of the meeting, later handing over to Mr H M Bunbury
Mr D W Poupard (Hon. Gen. Secretary)
Mr A K Vint Hon. (Treasurer)
Representatives from the Civil Service, London, Luton, Liverpool, Leicester, Business Houses, Manchester, Runcorn, West Yorkshire, Swindon, St Albans and a number of directly affiliated members

Minutes: Adoption of the Minutes of the AGM and a Special General Meeting held last year was carried on the proposition of Mr Swann, seconded by Mr Emdin. Arising from the reading of these minutes it was proposed by Mr Swann, seconded by Mr Pope and resolved that attention should be called in the next report circulated to all members to Rule 18 and that sanction can be granted by any officer of the Association of the Association whose names appear on the official notepaper.

President's Report: The President in his report commented on the success of the past season from the point of view of increases in club strength and the general progress of the Association. It was regrettable that the results of the team sent to Prague were not more satisfactory and he hoped for a better showing next year. He expressed his great sorrow at the retirement of Mr H M Bunbury with whom he had been associated these last few years. The opportunity was also taken of thanking Mr Bunbury and Mr Poupard for their efforts on behalf of the ETTA, which efforts had gone far towards-putting the Association on a sound and solid basis.

Treasurer's Report: Mr Vint commented on the poor response to the fighting fund appeal on the part of a large number of clubs and stressed the fact that at this juncture it was absolutely impossible to give any accurate statement of the financial position of the Association. There was still a large amount of money outstanding and certain unforeseen liabilities. He estimated that the ultimate result would not exceed a deficit of £100 but emphasised that this was purely an estimation. Explanations were given in connection with certain items of expenditure and revenue in connection with the official handbook and English and Continental Tours. The statement as rendered up to the 31st March 1932 showing receipts amounting to £317 9s 8d, against an expenditure of £296 5s 4d. was accepted on the proposal of Mr Swann, seconded by Mr Montagu.

Secretary's Report: In view of the circular issued at the end of March containing a full report of the season's activities Mr Poupard did not comment further on the past year's work but stressed the need for a stipendiary secretary owing to the ever increasing work in connection with the Association. In his opinion such an appointment would ultimately benefit the Association although admittedly it would impose a heavy financial burden for a year or so until the increased income following on the appointment materialised. It was with regret that he announced his retirement but the very heavy pressure of business left no alternative. Mr Poupard took the opportunity of thanking his colleagues for their assistance and support and he paid a very sincere tribute to Mrs Poupard for her unflinching efforts on behalf of the Association, without which it would have been impossible for him to have carried on this past winter. On the proposition of Mr Decker, seconded by Mr Swann, a hearty vote of thanks was conveyed to Mr Poupard and Mr Woodcock, seconded by Mr Vint, in supporting this proposal suggested that the heartiest thanks of the Association be also given to Mrs Poupard. Carried unanimously.

ITTF Delegate's Report: Mr Montagu gave the meeting a brief outline of events at Prague both in regard to the playing side and matters discussed at the Conference. He again stressed the importance of absolute physical fitness on the part of the players and stated that the lack of this was contributory to the failure of our team. Proposals controlling the abuse of finger spin services were agreed upon and also the regulation which in brief prohibited any executive officer from being connected in any manner with the sale of Table Tennis equipment. A sub-committee to discuss the ball question very thoroughly was formed and invitations were to be sent out to selected manufacturers for samples etc. In complimenting Mr Montagu on the admirable manner in which he had detailed happenings at Prague Mr Bunbury, seconded by Mr Pope, proposed a hearty vote of thanks which was carried unanimously.

Ball Question: Proposed by Mr Amies, seconded by Mr Pope and carried that the adoption of the Villa ball be

renewed for the coming season under the existing royalty arrangements and that Messrs J Rose & Son be advised accordingly and that the whole question will be again reviewed next April in the light of the ITTF Ball sub-committee report. An amendment that no monopoly be given to any TT ball manufacturer was defeated. On the proposal of Mr Swann, seconded by Mr Forrest, it was resolved that the Executive committee be instructed to prepare a full report of the ball question following upon the receipt from the ITTF sub-committee of their report for presentation to the next AGM.

West Yorkshire Association's Report: Mr Amies agreed that the complaint as originally made by his Association was couched in rather strong language and in agreeing to withdraw same he suggested that a committee be appointed to draw up a scheme for the organisation of trials for the selection of players for international matches and to formulate a standard of conditions of play in such trials. Seconded by Mr Pope and carried unanimously.

Election of Officers: Proposed by Mr Swann, seconded by Mr Emdin and unanimously resolved that Mr Oldroyd still continue in the office of President. Proposed by Mr Oldroyd, seconded by Mr Woodcock and resolved that Mr Bunbury remain in the chair whilst the appointment of his successor is made. In commenting on his retirement, Mr Bunbury said that the last few years whilst he had been connected with the Association had been happy ones and that he was more than glad that he had been given the opportunity of doing a little to help the progress of the game and the Association. The ETTA were always in need of new men who were willing to give their best and he hoped that volunteers would be as willing in the future as in the past. He expressed his thanks and appreciation for the collaboration and assistance that had been always given by his brother officers in the past. The appointment of Mr Montagu as Chairman, proposed by Mr Pope, seconded by Mr Emdin, was carried by ballot, Mr Woodcock, proposed by Mr Swann and seconded by Mr Vint, being defeated on the poll. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr Bunbury and also to Mrs Bunbury for his efforts on behalf of the Association and to Mrs Bunbury for her very valuable assistance was proposed by Mr Pope, seconded by Mr Swann, supported by Mr. Woodcock and carried unanimously.

Secretary: Mr G W Decker, proposed by Mr Pope and seconded by Mr Emdin, was elected by ballot. An amendment proposed by Mr Vint and seconded by Mr Forrest that the election of the Secretary be referred to sub-committee for consideration and report at the end of the financial year being defeated.

Treasurer: Mr Vint informed the meeting that he could not continue to act as Hon. Treasurer after the end of the present financial year. On the proposal of Mr Westlake, seconded by Mr Swann, it was resolved that Mr. Vint be asked to continue in the present office for the end of the present season at least and the arrangement that Mr Poupard continue to collaborate on all financial matters until the end of the financial year was confirmed.

Vice-Presidents: Proposed by Mr Montagu and seconded. by Mr Westlake that the following gentlemen be elected Vice-Presidents: Messrs B L Hookins, C Corti Woodcock, F S B Dawes, O W Tarrant, C E Bartholomew, L J McNeal, W J Pope, H M Bunbury, D W Poupard, R Emdin, J W Swann, C B Hyde, P Bromfield.

Auditors: Proposed by Mr Montagu, seconded by Mr Woodcock and resolved that the existing auditors, Messrs Forrest and Scholfield, be re-appointed.

Wilmott Cup: On the proposition of Mr Bunbury, seconded by Mr Poupard, it was unanimously resolved that Mr Wilmott's very generous offer to provide a cup for an open team tournament for the whole of the country be gratefully accepted and that the Executive Committee draw up the necessary regulations in connection with the competition.

Vote of Thanks: A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.