

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE BONNINGTON HOTEL, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, WC1, ON SATURDAY, 24th JUNE 1961, COMMENCING AT 3.30pm

PRESENT:	A K Vint OBE (in the Chair) I C Eyles (Deputy Chairman) T Blunn (Hon Treasurer)
Members of the National Executive Committee (NEC) Representatives from:	Miss M Fry, Messrs Clemett, Cook, Goldstein, James, Jaschke, Jones, Mannooch, Nicholls, Reay, Scott, Senescall, Walker and Woollard
County Associations	Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Cheshire, Durham, Essex, Gloucestershire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Lancashire, Middlesex, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Staffordshire, Surrey, Sussex, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire, Yorkshire
Leagues	Ashton-u-Lyne, Barnets, Basildon, Barrow, Bromley, Beckenham, Brighton, Bristol, Bedford, Buckingham, Billericay, Barking, Central, Croydon, Cheltenham, Cheshunt, Deal, Dewsbury, Darwen, Derby, Dagenham, Doncaster Youth, East London, Evesham, Farnworth, Gravesend, Hull, Hastings, Ilford, Kent Schools, Kidderminster, London Business Houses, Leeds, Leicester, London Civil Service, London Banks, Liverpool Business Houses, Leatherhead, Manchester, Macclesfield, Malvern, Northwich Methodists, North Middlesex, North-Met, North West Kent, Nottingham, North Acton, Oldham, Oxford, Plymouth, Reigate & Redhill, Romford, Sittingbourne, Sunderland, Scarborough, Salford & Eccles, Stockport, Staines & District, St Albans, Urmston, Uxbridge, Woolwich, West Ham Youth, Worcester, Warrington, Willesden, Wembley & Harrow, Watford, Wandsworth, York
Directly Affiliated Club	Crescent
Directly Affiliated Individual	Mrs L R Phillips
Registered Member	V Barna
Other Organisation	Western Counties
In attendance	D Peter Lowen (Secretary to the Association)
Apologies for absence	Mrs F Jarvis, L F Landry, Devon County TTA, Oxfordshire TTA, Portsmouth TTA, Northumberland County TTA

1 ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Mr Eyles proposed the adoption of the Standing Orders for the Meeting and this was seconded by Mr Webb (Willessden). Mr Mitchell (Bromley) stated that many important issues were to be discussed at this meeting and he felt that one speech per member was not adequate. He proposed that each speaker should be allowed to speak twice on the first occasion for 10 minutes and on the second occasion for 5 minutes. This was duly seconded. Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated he supported this view, especially in relation to the propositions regarding Affiliation Fees and he thought it would be an advantage to the meeting for members to be able to speak more than once. Mr Watts (Sussex) stated he felt it would be best for the Meeting to use its discretion regarding this matter and not pass the proposal of Mr Mitchell so that this would be in force for the whole meeting. The Chairman then put the amendment to the NEC proposition to the meeting and this was LOST.

Mr Wickens (Buckingham) proposed that the first amendment to a proposition should be taken first and not the last amendment first as was stated in the Standing Orders. This proposal found no seconder. Mr Brown (Leeds) thought it would be logical to give the Chairman the right to take the least affective motion first and so on until he arrived at the most important one. Mr Wickens (Buckingham) seconded this proposal but, on being put to the vote, this amendment was LOST.

The adoption of the Standing Orders as proposed by the NEC was then agreed.

2 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 25th JUNE, 1960.

The Chairman signed the minutes as a correct record.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

In addition to the apologies noted previously the Chairman stated he had heard from the President of the Association who was on holiday, regretting he would be unable to be present. He sent his warmest greetings for a happy and successful meeting and stated that he was delighted to see the general progress being made by the Association. He had also wished the Chairman to state that in his opinion the prestige of the ETTA in World Table Tennis was very high and it was a matter of gratification that the players who had represented the Association in the recently held World Championships had achieved such high ranking. The President appreciated that difficulties were always to be found but, with patience and the will to find the answers these could always be solved. The meeting agreed to send their warmest regards to the President and to thank him for his kind wishes.

4 REPORT OF THE NEC FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30th APRIL 1961, TOGETHER WITH SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

The report was submitted paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraph 3 - Mr L E Forrest and Mr C E Bartholomew Mr Vint stated it was sad to record the passing of two stalwarts of the game. Les Forrest was, of course, known to everyone as one of the greatest administrators of the game and Mr Bartholomew had also been a tower of strength in the Liverpool area. The meeting stood in silent memory.

Paragraph 17 - Open, Approved Open and Invitation Tournaments Mr Wyles (Sussex) noted that 7 Invitation Tournaments had been sanctioned during the season. Each season it appeared that trouble was encountered with these events and it was evident in certain cases that the Rules regarding these events were not being complied with. He knew of one Invitation event this season which had been run and completed without the knowledge of the Secretary of the Association. He was of the opinion that these events should be dispensed with altogether. In reply Mr Eyles stated that the Open Tournaments Committee would, for the forthcoming season, pay special attention to these events and see that the Regulations were strictly kept.

Paragraph 22 - County Administration Mr Mitchell (Bromley) stated that when he attended the last County Secretaries' Conference he had put forward a number of proposals regarding changes in the administration of the ETTA. He felt those ideas had received a fair measure of support and at the Conference they had been given to understand that the Rules Committee were looking into these proposals. However, from the proposals put forward by the NEC at this meeting it appeared that no action had been taken and Kent had, therefore, been forced to do this. He asked whether the NEC had discussed the thoughts expressed at the County Secretaries' Conference. In reply, Mr Eyles stated that the Rules Committee did put forward to the NEC similar ideas to those on the Agenda paper submitted by Kent. The NEC discussed same and were not of the opinion that the Counties should take over the administration.

Paragraph 23 - Umpires and Referees Mr Peddlesden (Hastings) asked how many umpires were now registered. Mr James stated he did not have the figure available but he thought the number was about 800 but he was unaware how many of these were active or inactive. Mr James stated the Committee had been looking into the question of a Code for Referees. The Umpires and Referees Committee had recommended to the NEC that the Referee should have a complete knowledge of the running of a tournament and that the Referee should be the one responsible person for the good working of the Tournament. They had, therefore, suggested that the Regulation in the Handbook under Open Tournaments should be extended regarding the Hon Referee and this had been agreed by the NEC. The Umpires and Referees Committee would not rush into this matter during the coming season but they would be considering a number of points during that time. They would, however, be preparing, a detailed schedule of the Referee's duties. They would not be dogmatic this year but by this time next year they hoped to have completed a Code for Referees on the line of the Code for Umpires which they hoped they could place before the ITTF for their approval and so establish a general standard of refereeing throughout the world.

Paragraph 24 - Official Handbook Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated that the NEC should ascertain from the membership whether the Handbook was of any use to them or not. He felt the Handbook should only be published once every 2 years which would save the Association the sum of £200 each year when the book was not published. Only a little part of the Handbook became out of date each season and this could easily be dealt with by a duplicated note sent out from the Office.

Paragraph 29 - ETTA Archives (Library) Mr Watts (Sussex) stated that much information must be available to this Library and suggested that Mr Woollard should publish in the Magazine the details of what was still required. Mr Woollard thanked Mr Watts for his suggestion and acquainted the meeting with the further details he had received.

Paragraph 32 - Office Administration Mr Tyler (Hastings) stated that at these meetings the views of the Secretary of the Association were not heard although he was the person who dealt with their correspondence and queries at all times. He felt it would be beneficial for the meeting to hear the views of the Secretary at AGMs as these could, without doubt, be very helpful. Mr Bateman (Romford) also stated that the Duplicating Service which the office had operated throughout the season had been most helpful and he thanked the Secretary for his quick, prompt and good service regarding this matter. Mr Vint stated that Mr White (London Civil Service) had, at the Manchester AGM expressed the same views as Mr Tyler regarding the Secretary's expression of views but that the Secretary had taken the view that he should be seen and not heard. Mr Vint asked the meeting for its expression of feeling regarding this matter and the meeting agreed that the Secretary should be asked to speak and give points of view at Annual General Meetings.

The Chairman then formally moved the adoption of the Annual Report, Mr Bateman (Romford) seconded and the meeting agreed to adopt the Report.

5 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY 1961

The Treasurer submitted copies of the audited accounts to the meeting. He pointed out that last season's figures related to eleven months only whereas this season's figures, of course, related to a full year. The Treasurer stated he had over-reserved the income from Handbook advertisements by a sum of £5 15 0. Therefore, the net cost of the Handbook was now £393 instead of £379 and the balance of Income over Expenditure should now read £14 instead of £5. With regard to the Members' levy, this had realised £134 which was approximately 65,000 players. The levy did not, of course, apply to Youth Clubs or Youth teams in Senior Leagues and although the Association had written to various Leagues where the registered number of players seemed rather low, the Association had had to accept the fact that the figures given were correct.

With regard to the ball rebate, this was slightly disappointing because it had been lower than Mr Blunn's budgeted figure. He explained he had had to make a 5/6th reserve regarding one of the manufacturer's rebates as this was only paid half-yearly. In Mr Blunn's opinion, the rebate at the moment was a declining figure but, of course, it was difficult to estimate this because one was always dealing with the unknown. With regard to the expenses, the meeting would note that the salaries continued to rise as staff wages, these days, were costing more. However, some of this was, without doubt, due to the duplicating service which had been introduced and income from this aspect had been credited to printing and stationery, etc. The accommodation charges for members attending meetings etc, were going up and this had to be faced year by year.

The figures relative to coaching related to salaries for Mr Carrington and Mr Venner. Mr Blunn stated that Mr Carrington was, of course, appointed on 1st July last and, therefore, there were only 11 months' salary and expenses regarding this work. Mr Blunn stated that certain receipts had been received for Mr Carrington's services and these had, naturally, reduced the expenses which had been paid to him over these 11 months. Mr

Blunn then turned to the working account and with regard to the Supporters Club, stated that the details before the meeting would show that the Supporters Club had worked very hard during the season, their main task having been to pay the whole of the expenses for the World Championships and, although this had not been possible, they had produced £450 to the ETTA for the Peking travel. They had, in fact, received something like £1,700 during the year out of which had been paid commission and prize money. Currently, the Supporters Club was running a Cricket Pool and £125 had already been received by the Association to date and a further donation would be made which would appear in next season's accounts. The balance of the loan made by the ETTA to the Supporters Club had now been completely repaid.

With regard to television fees, Mr Blunn stated these had been disappointing although he appreciated that the Secretary had done everything he could in this direction. The USSR match at Greenwich had, of course, been put over on television and a fee of £350 had been received. This figure, the members would note, was now in the Balance Sheet and it was put there in reserve as the ETTA had to make a return journey to Moscow in October next. With regard to the English Open, the Championships produced only an audience of 1,400 at the Albert Hall this year. The figure of attendances was seemingly always falling and it was obvious that the crowds were not coming these days. The Association had last season attempted to make the event a worth-

while one and invited some of the best players in Europe to attend but still this did not produce a public at the Finals.

An attempt had been made during last season to try to give the players a chance of doing well in Peking and the Committee had agreed to give them the necessary experience of two tours, one to Hungary and Yugoslavia and the other to the Scandinavian Open Championships. The USSR tour had also been considered to be a stepping-stone for the improvement of our players and five matches had been played throughout the country but the financial results were a little disappointing. With regard to the Juniors, it had been decided to play the Welsh match in the provinces and it was eventually staged in Birkenhead where the facilities were good, the match was good but still no spectators came along. There had also been a tour of German Juniors in England which it had been considered was a very worthwhile service to the Junior members but the final results showed just how much these things cost to put on these days. A new departure had been the introduction of events for the intermediate players which mainly applied to our members between the ages of 17 and 21 years. This, again was thought to be a worthwhile service and it was hoped to run more during the coming season.

Turning to the Balance Sheet, Mr Blunn stated that under the Accumulated Fund members would note that the 1/12th affiliation fees reserve last year had now been transferred. Also transferred to the Accumulated Fund was the excess income over expenditure which now brought the Accumulated Fund to a figure of £3,500 approximately and this meant that the general reserve to the Association was back where it was some three years ago. Mr Blunn mentioned that members would note the figure of £300 regarding the King George Silver Jubilee Trust and reminded members that they might recall the commencement of this fund some 25 years ago. He explained that this Fund had written to the Secretary for a donation and through the work of the Secretary, instead of the ETTA making a donation, the King George Silver Jubilee Trust had, in fact, given us a grant of £300 which would bring benefit to the Junior players via Coaching and Trials. Mr Blunn finally stated that the members would note the various assets of the Association and he then had pleasure in putting his report to the meeting. Mr Bateman (Romford) proposed and Mr Thompson (Bucks) seconded that the Annual Report be adopted.

Mr Thompson (Bucks) stated it was awkward for Counties and Leagues to consider the justification of an increase in fees as they did not have the Association's accounts before coming to the Annual General Meeting. In reply, Mr Blunn stated that as the financial year ended on 31st May and he had only received the accounts some four days before the AGM he felt that with only four days available there would have been very little opportunity for Leagues and Counties to discuss the various figures if they had been duplicated and circulated. Mr Blunn was of the opinion that with the present timing of the AGM and the ending of the financial year, the way the accounts were dealt with at the moment was the best thing he could do.

Mr Forrest (Wandsworth) said he was staggered by the size of the levy and the figure of 65,000 members. He was of the opinion that there was a discrepancy in this matter and asked if the ETTA received copies of the Leagues' accounts. Mr Blunn replied that the ETTA did not get these copies and Mr Forrest thought that this matter should be borne in mind. Mr Wickens, (Bucks) speaking on this subject, thought the figures inserted in previous years regarding the number of players in each League had been on the generous side because no cash angle was related to this figure. However, now that 6d per player had to be paid he was not at all surprised at the reduction in the figures. Mr Thompson (Bucks) asked the Treasurer if he could break down the expenses regarding travel. Mr Blunn stated this item related to the expenses of NEC meetings which cost between £80 and £90 per meeting and with five meetings per year this accounted for most of the charge. There was, of course, on top of this a number of expenses regarding Sub-Committee meetings which could not be charged to a specific activity. Mr Hartley (Beckenham) stated the levy had been agreed to so as to build up the Accumulated Fund and although a certain amount of progress had been made in this matter, in his opinion, the amount transferred to the Fund was a very small proportion of the levy received.

In reply, Mr Blunn said he had stated at the last meeting that only part of the levy would be put back into the Accumulated Fund so as to build up the Fund to a figure between £3,000 and £4,000. He, therefore, felt the figure shown of £3,500 went a very long way towards what he had stated at the last meeting but the present meeting would appreciate that other unknown expenses had had to be met which the Hon Treasurer had not expected last year. Mr Blunn stated the meeting must appreciate that there were a number of unknown items about which he could not budget accurately but, without doubt, at the last meeting he had stated that part of the levy would be credited to the Accumulated Fund and the other part would be used for expenses such as Coaching. Mr Clewer (London Business Houses) stated his League had supported the Supporters Club

activities but as yet he had not received any rebate. Mr Eyles stated he would look into this matter. Mr Newell (Cheltenham) stated he felt the Treasurer should issue a more detailed statement regarding international matches. At the moment the accounts showed the general position and he felt it would be more satisfactory if the local profit or loss could be shown and then the various expenses charged to that profit or loss which related to the general travel and hospitality of the touring party. Mr Blunn stated he would bear this in mind and gave the meeting the details of the match which had been staged in Bristol.

Mr Harris (Bristol) stated he could not understand why the £350 television fee could not have been brought into the Accounts as this was relative to last season. Mr Harris also wondered why £15 had been deleted regarding his particular match because in his opinion, a certain amount of money should have been added on. In reply, Mr Blunn stated he would send to the Bristol Association the details of the match and Mr Harris stated his League would like to receive a statement of account of the whole tour which Mr Blunn stated he would have pleasure in so doing.

Mr Hartley (Beckenham) stated that the position of the Association last year was that there had been a loss of £1,000 on the previous season. Because of the decrease in expenditure last year, of things which had caused us to lose £1,000, had been deleted and, therefore, at the last AGM it had been anticipated that things would have been back to where they were at the end of this season. He noted, however, that a number of expenses had gone up again this past year, including the item of salaries. In reply, Mr Blunn stated the reason why the salaries had been increased was due to an increase in the Secretary's professional fees on the renewal of his contract. The reason for other expenditure being increased was that in Mr Blunn's view the Association had not operated a normal programme in the 1959/60 season and, therefore, the levy was asked for at the last AGM to help the Association plan a normal programme for the 1960/61 season. It was, of course, appreciated that the figure for tours was up during last season but it was Mr Blunn's opinion that the main item of expense this year had been the loss at the English Open Championships.

Mr Jaschke (Kent) read to the meeting part of the Minutes of last year's AGM. In his opinion, none of the levy this year had been credited to the Accumulated Fund and he thought there were three items to which this money had been put. These were

- (a) English Open Championships.
- (b) Foreign Tours.
- (c) Coaching.

Mr Jaschke thought the Coaching item was well worthwhile but he wondered whether the Foreign Tours and the English Open were really wanted by the membership. Mr Blunn in reply stated that the Association had conducted what he thought was a normal active programme this past season and the Association had done what it had stated at the last AGM it would do if the levy was accepted. The Treasurer emphasised the object of the levy was to enable the budget to be balanced and for the reserve account to be stabilised.

Mr Mitchell (Bromley) stated that the Treasurer had mentioned a "normal programme" a number of times during the meeting. He agreed that people's views of what was normal programme were different but in his opinion, the programme arranged should be so planned so as to fit in with current circumstances. He felt that if Foreign Tours and the English Championships were now the cause of too much expenditure the Association had to accept this and, therefore, had to cut our garment according to was an obvious lack of interest on the part of spectators regarding the English Championships and if we had no television fees to reckon on then we had to plan the expenditure accordingly.

Mr Hoddy (Northmet) stated the Association could, of course, always spend too much money on tours abroad. In Mr Hoddy's view, television was an ideal medium for table tennis but he thought that the table tennis put on today was not worthwhile to the television authorities. In reply to the last two speakers, Mr Blunn stated the programme was one approved by the NEC and the details of which had, only just previously been reported and accepted in the Annual Report of the NEC. He, of course, agreed that the NEC was always conscious of the opinion of an AGM and he had no doubt that the new NEC would consider very closely what they considered to be a satisfactory programme which maintained good working activity during the coming season.

Mr Hartley (Beckenham) noted that last year there had been a profit of £500 and a reserve of £327 regarding the 1/12th of the Affiliation Fees. In his view the profit last year was approximately £900. This year the position was very much the same with a profit of £500 with the reserve of last year of £327 having been kept out of the Income and Expenditure Account although it was obvious that the £327 should be taken into account

in one or other year which would increase the profit to approximately £900. By the way the Treasurer had treated this matter the profit had been decreased in both years and he was of the opinion that it should have been shown in the accounts of the one or other year. With regard to the £350 television fee he was of the opinion that this should come into this season's accounts which again would have the effect of increasing the profit for the past season. In reply, Mr Blunn stated that he felt Mr Hartley really knew the exact position as he was an accountant and then explained the position if the Association made a reserve each year of so much money so that, in Mr Hartley's view, a year would come when no fees would be required by the Association and this was just not practical politics. Mr Blunn further explained the position regarding the £350 received regarding the USSR match and the reason why this amount had been held in reserve. There being no further discussion, the Treasurer's Report was adopted.

6 REPORT OF THE ELECTORAL REFORM SOCIETY' ON THE POSTAL BALLOT FOR MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON A REGIONAL AND NATIONAL BASIS AND TO REPORT THE ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND HON TREASURER

OFFICERS	Chairman	Mr A K VINT	Unopposed
	Deputy Chairman	Mr I C EYLES	Unopposed
	Hon Treasurer	Mr T BLUNN	Unopposed

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS NATIONALLY ELECTED

Two National Members

F H BATEMAN	84	Elected (1)
L F LANDRY	66	Elected (2)
G R Yates	49	
K Watts	44	
S R Hoddy	13	
G A Owen	35	
A Howcroft	34	
W Mitton	33	
G Eagle	21	

One Woman Member

Miss M FRY	142	Elected
Miss K M Benson	49	
Mrs F Jarvis	11	

REGIONALLY ELECTED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Region No 1	E REAY		Unopposed.
Region No 2	J SENESCALL	13	Elected.
	N Rushton	5	
Region No 3	N COOK		returned unopposed
Region No 4	L W JONES		returned unopposed
Region No 5	M E SCOTT	17	Elected.
	I R Crickmer	10	
Region No 6	M GOLDSTEIN		Unopposed
Region No 7	H WALKER		returned unopposed
Region No 8	L THOMPSON	12	Elected
	L S Woollard	9	
Region No 9	G JAMES		Unopposed
Region No 10	C J CLEMETT		Unopposed
Region No 11	R J NICHOLLS		Unopposed
Region No 12	F G MANNOOCH		Unopposed

Mr Vint stated that the meeting would note that Mr Woollard in Region No 8 had lost his seat and also that Mr Jaschke and Mr Carrington had retired. He would like to take this opportunity of expressing to these members the thanks of the Association for the work that had each carries out and for the very valuable service they had rendered to the Association during their membership of the Committee. Mr Vint stated that Mr Carrington had,

of course, had to retire because of his taking over the position of Director of Coaching of the Association which had, in fact, happened on 1st July 1960. At this stage Mr Woollard stated he would like to congratulate Leo Thompson on his election and at the same time express to the AGM and the NEC his thanks for all the co-operation and help he had received. It was agreed that the Secretary should write to the Scrutineers, thanking them for their help regarding the elections for the 1961/62 season.

7 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULES

Proposed by the NEC

Alterations to the Laws of the Game as adopted by the ITTF (omitted from the Agenda of the AGM held on 25th June 1960)

- Law 8 Delete the first paragraph and substitute:
Out of Order of Ends or Service: If a player serve out of his turn, play shall be interrupted as soon as the mistake is discovered and shall continue with that player serving who, according to the sequence established at the beginning of the game, would have been the server at the score which has been reached. In any circumstances, all points scored before the discovery shall be reckoned.
- Law 12 Add to existing Law:
12 (a) If it be interrupted as provided in Law 8.
- Law 22 Delete existing Law and substitute:
Out of Order of Striking-out: If a player act as striker-out out of his turn, play shall be interrupted as soon as the mistake is discovered and shall continue with that player striking-out who, according to the sequence established at the beginning of the game, or at the score 10 if that sequence has been changed under Law 21, should be striker-out at the score which has been reached. In any circumstances all points scored before the discovery shall be reckoned.
- Law 24 Add to existing Law
Law 8: Insert "or at the score 10 if that sequence has been changed under Law 21" between the words "game" and "should"
- Law 12(e) Add at end "or Law 22"
- Appendix to Laws, Knotty Points
Add New Knotty Point No 9
Service visible to Umpire: It is the responsibility of the server to servo so that the correctness of his service can be checked by the umpire. If the server is serving so that the umpire's view is obstructed, the umpire shall warn him and, on any subsequent occasion on which his view is obstructed and he may have doubt about the correctness of the service, the umpire shall call a fault.

Mr Eyles stated that these alterations should have been submitted at the last AGM but at the time we did not have the exact wording. Mr Hartley (Beckenham) seconded. Mr White (London Civil Service) stated that the last word under 'Knotty Point No 9 showed bad drafting by the ITTF as there was no such word as 'fault' in table tennis. In his opinion this would cause confusion between table tennis and lawn tennis and it was agreed to refer this matter to the Umpires & Referees Committee for their consideration. The alterations were agreed.

Proposed by the Kent County Association and the North-West Kent League

Rule 3 After "Officers" add "County Associations, Local Associations"

Mr Jaschke (Kent), in proposing this alteration, stated that no reference was made to County Associations. Mr Wickens (Buckingham) seconded and this was agreed.

PROPOSALS REGARDING AFFILIATION FEES.

The Chairman explained to the meeting the fact that there were a number of proposals before the meeting relating to the Affiliation fees. The position was that all the motions could be taken separately or they could be treated as amendments but he would like to ascertain if they wished for a general debate by all speakers speaking to their motions and then have a general discussion on say,

- (a) whether 8/6d per team was required.
- (b) 5/6d per team with no County Rebate
- (c) an individual basis of affiliation and what figure was thought suitable.

He posed the question to the meeting that some of the members present might not like any of the proposals which were before the meeting but would prefer to speak and support the resolution regarding the levy. He, therefore, thought it would be best if these people were given the opportunity in general discussion to make their point of view as this would clarify the position to everyone present. Mr Watts (Sussex) felt that the

meeting should stand. by the Standing Orders which they had already agreed and not go forward with a general discussion which would defeat the idea of the reason for having the Standing Orders. Mr White (London Civil Service) thought that the best way to deal with the matter would be to appreciate that there were three aspects involved.

- (1) Who collects?
- (2) Basis on which the fees were assessed
- (3) The amount of the fee

He suggested a discussion should be made on all these three points. Both Mr Jaschke (Kent) and Mr Peddlesden (Hastings) supported Mr Watts' statement and finally, Mr Daniel (NW Kent) proposed and Mr Peddlesden (Hastings) seconded that the matter be dealt with under the Standing Orders. This was agreed. At this stage the Chairman adjourned the meeting for the tea interval.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 6(a) Delete and insert:

The annual subscription shall be as follows:

- (i) Local Leagues - 8/6d. for each team in membership with the League.
- (ii) Youth & Schools Leagues - 5/- for each team in membership with the League.

Mr Blunn proposed this alteration on behalf of the NEC stating that last year the levy had been passed and at the same time it had been agreed that a new basis should be found regarding the affiliation fees. The method proposed now was that the affiliation fees should be based on teams instead of Clubs. It was also true to say that the number of Clubs was decreasing and the number of teams increasing and this, of course, affected the income of the Association as 9/- was being lost and 2/6d received in its place. Naturally, of course, strict control on the question of the number of teams would have to be kept as if there was an under-estimation of teams as we thought there might have been in respect of the levy, then this would be a costly business seeing that the figure was 8/6d as against the 6d per player levy. Mr Blunn continued, stating that the meeting would appreciate that if the County Rebate was going to be increased by 50% the ETTA must have the further cash which it received from the previous season, also the NEC. wished to hand to the Counties more money, so rewarding them for their efforts.

Mr Blunn said that the general cost of running any organisation these days was increasing as everyone would appreciate, and although in the early 1950's profits were made on the English Open Championships, it was now evident that in the past two or three seasons this profit had been turned to losses. Mr Blunn stated that the additional amount of money the NEC were asking for was equivalent to the increase last season but that a different basis was being proposed. In seconding the proposal, Mr Senescall stated that the meeting should appreciate the need of the ETTA and that to maintain the governing body the extra finance was required. The affiliation fee based on teams was thought by the NEC to be a fairer basis and this was why the NEC were putting forward this proposal.

Mr Showler (Woolwich) stated he did not wish to comment on the proposal at this stage but stated that a number of people had been committed as to how they would vote on this matter and if a vote was taken straight away it might save a certain amount of time. The Chairman, in reply, stated it was essential to have a discussion, in fairness to all concerned. Mr Thompson (Bucks) stated he had been instructed to speak against any increase. If there had to be a small increase then he felt the amount would have been agreed without any trouble but the figure of 8/6d was too high.

Mr Frost (Dagenham) stated his League was against this proposal as they felt it was against the interest of the players themselves. He thought that most teams these days were composed of three players but if the affiliation fee was to be based on teams this may well decrease the number of teams operating Leagues would feel that they would have to go back to the old four-a-side basis. Mr Clewer (London Business Houses) stated he was in agreement with the previous speaker because in a League like his own they would have to reduce the number of teams because of the extra cost. He appreciated that some of the Clubs in his League would be paying less but on the other hand some Clubs' affiliation fees would be going up by approximately 170% and he did not feel, therefore, that the motion as it stood was the correct way of dealing with the matter; his League preferred to leave the basis of affiliation as it had been last season for a further year and ask the NEC to discuss the matter again during the next twelve months. He thought the meeting should vote against all the proposals before them regarding the affiliation fees and continue next season with the 6d per player levy.

Mr Hoddy (Northmet) stated he was in complete agreement with Mr Clewer and pointed out that he had stated

these very facts at the last AGM. He was of the opinion that the NEC had wasted a further twelve months regarding this matter and he was ashamed of the way in which the NEC had acted. Mr Eyles thought that the members who had spoken were playing with figures and felt that the meeting should appreciate that the amount asked for was an equitable one and the basis of charging out the fees was much fairer. The NEC had tried to arrive: at a reasonable figure and he was of the opinion that the meeting should appreciate this fact.

Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated that in his opinion the NEC were asking too much. The ETTA he said, could only get what was possible out of the members but at the moment the NEC were trying to act like the British Railways which was forever putting up fares because of lack of support. Continuing, Mr Jaschke stated that the levy which had been passed at the last AGM was, in his opinion, definitely thought to be a "once and for all" affair. He thought that the ETTA must budget for the amount of money they were to receive with the Leagues paying how much they could afford, and the NEC must appreciate that they could not demand more from the Leagues than the Leagues could afford.

Mr Owen (London Civil Service) agreed with the previous speakers in that under the suggested rule of the NEC this would double the affiliation fees due from certain Leagues. Mr Hartley (Beckenham) stated that the intention last year of the 6d per player levy was to bridge the gap about which the Treasurer had spoken and the local Leagues and players had agreed to this as a special item because they appreciated that money was wanted. 6d per player did not sound very much but it was evident that, added together, it was a large sum of money; in fact, it had been pointed out that it was over £1,600. If one considered the proposal of the NEC it was easy to say that they were now asking the Leagues to pay this extra £1,600 and he was of the opinion that the Local Leagues did not get value from the ETTA and this was proved by the fact that the players certainly did not get anything of any value for the extra 6d they paid regarding the levy last year.

In reply to the debate, Mr Blunn stated that in reply to Mr Hartley's statement that the Leagues and the players did not get any value for their extra 6d this was not true, and he instanced the fact of the Coaching Committee's efforts and those of the Director of Coaching himself, which was a benefit direct to all individuals in the country. He also stated that the meeting must appreciate that all costs were rising these days and, therefore, the expenses of the ETTA naturally, of course, were in step with the world at large. Also, he was of the opinion that the basis suggested by the NEC was a fairer one than at the present and although he was aware of the fact that some Clubs would now be paying more and some less, this, he felt, was a better way of distributing the load regarding the affiliation fees. Finally, Mr Blunn stated that it was his view that the levy was imposed last year until something better could be found. On being put to the vote this proposal was defeated.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 6(b) In line 1 delete "15/-" and insert "£1 0 0"

Mr Blunn stated that the proposal before the meeting was purely and simply on the question of economics. The 15/- per Club now received would not cover the expenses paid out by the ETTA regarding a Club affiliating and, therefore, the NEC were suggesting that the 15/- be now £1. This was seconded by Mr Senescall and, on being put to the vote, was carried.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 6(c) In line 1 delete "15/-" and insert "£1 0 0"

Mr Blunn stated that the same observations related to this proposal as to item 6(b) and that an economical figure was required regarding individual membership. Mr Senescall seconded this proposal and, on being put to the vote, this was carried.

Proposed by the Buckingham & District League

Rule 6(a) Delete and insert:

The annual subscription shall be as follows:

(i) Local Leagues. For each team in membership with the League the sum of 2/6d multiplied by the number of players in a team according to the playing arrangements of that League.

(ii) Youth and Schools Leagues. As for the Local Leagues, but with 1/6d substituted for 2/6d.

Alternative in (i) substitute 2/- for 2/6d.

Mr Wickens (Buckingham) stated in the first place that they wished to withdraw the figure of 2/6d and insert the figure of 2/- and this was agreed. Mr Wickens, in proposing the motion, said it was quite clear that the meeting appeared to be against any increase but his League were of the opinion that a fairer basis to work on would be the individual basis. This proposal was seconded by Mr Owen (London Civil Service). Mr Owen

(London Civil Service) asked the Treasurer on what basis he had made the calculations circulated to the meeting and Mr Blunn stated that these had been based on four players per team but the meeting would appreciate that this was an arbitrary figure.

Mr Showler (Woolwich) stated that, working on the figures supplied by the Treasurer, if this proposition was carried the income to the ETTA would seem to be very much the same as that which had just been defeated and which had been proposed by the NEC. He, therefore, opposed this particular proposal. Mr Abraham (Liverpool Business Houses) stated that he supported the last speaker and Mr Frost (Dagenham) asked whether under the Buckingham proposal the Leagues would have to pay for reserve players. Mr Pendred (Leicester) stated he considered the Buckingham proposal was nothing else than a team basis of affiliation and not a players' affiliation at all. Mr Hartloy (Beckenham) stated that he would also have to vote against this proposition.

Replying to the debate, Mr Wickens (Buckingham) stated that one point which the members present were obviously querying was why his League had stated "players in a team" and not "players in membership with a team". His League had considered it was fairer to tax table tennis rather than the number of people who were concerned therein. On being put to the vote this proposition was lost.

Proposed by the Kent County Association and the North-West Kent League

- Rule 6 Delete whole rule and substitute
The Annual Subscription shall be as follows:
- 6(a) Local. Leagues which are affiliated to a County Association shall pay to the County Association (except in cases mentioned in Rule 6(b)) a fee based on the number of teams competing in the Local League. The fee laid down by each County Association must include a sum of 5/6d per team which the County Association shall pay to the ETTA not later than 31st December in any season.
- 6(b) If a County Association is unable or unwilling to collect fees on behalf of the ETTA then the ETTA shall collect 5/6d per team direct from the Local League and, if the ETTA has not received the relevant fees through the County Association by 31st December and the Local League has not paid these fees, then the fees in question shall be payable direct by the Local League to the ETTA within seven days of a demand being received.
- 6(c) Local Leagues not affiliated to a County Association shall pay direct to the ETTA a sum of 7/6d per team by 31st December.
- 6(d) Clubs - £1 for each Club affiliated directly, whether a member of a local league or not.
- 6(e) Individuals - £1 for individuals desiring personal affiliation, provided they were in membership with the ETTA prior to 1st July 1957.

Important - alternative proposals

In Rule 6(b) substitute 6/- for 5/6d

In Rule 6(c) substitute 8/- for 7/6d

In Rule 6, add: 6(f) County Associations may collect fees from Directly Affiliated Clubs and Individuals on behalf of the ETTA.

Mr Jaschke (Kent) asked permission of the meeting to withdraw the 6/- and 8/- alternative proposals and this was agreed. In proposing this motion, Mr Jaschke stated that in his County's view, 5/6d per team to the ETTA was a generous increase. This would mean in money approximately £800. The meeting would also note that Kent were suggesting that the fees should be collected by the Counties and not by the ETTA and, therefore, work which was now carried out by the Office of the Association could be split up over the country with the County Associations making the collection. In view of the fact that the money would be collected by the Counties this would be an advantage to them and although he appreciated that the ETTA needed the money, he was of the opinion that they had a substantial balance to get through the first six months of the year. He also felt that this new idea of giving the responsibility of the collection of fees to the Counties would mean a closer link between the Counties and the ETTA. He then pointed out that under item 6(c) the inclusion of an extra 2/- per Club regarding the London Leagues was not what Kent really wanted and this would have to be amended.

He stated that this was obviously due to bad drafting but he hoped this meeting would allow this to be amended at a later stage if they were in general agreement with the principle involved. This motion was duly seconded. At this stage the Chairman asked the Buckingham representative whether he was withdrawing his amendment to the Kent proposition and Mr Wickens stated that this was so. The meeting then agreed to this proposal being

withdrawn. Miss Waines (Oxford) stated that if this proposition was passed it would be rather hard on the Counties which had already held their AGMs as this would not give them any chance to alter decisions already made. Mr Pilfold (NW Kent) stated this rule could not apply until the 1962/63 season but the Chairman pointed out that if carried, the alteration would operate in the 1961/62 season. Mr Peddlesden (Hastings) stated he would like to hear from the County Secretaries and Treasurers whether they would be able to carry out this extra work. Mr Wickens (Buckingham) stated his County would be in favour of this method of collection as they liked the idea. His County were strongly in favour of this method of collection. Mr Edwards (Middlesex) stated his County were against this idea, as in their opinion the Office of the ETTA was the proper place as they had both the paid staff and time available to do this work. Mr Forrest (Wandsworth) spoke for Surrey saying they were quite willing to collect the fees on behalf of the ETTA.

Mr Eyles stated that the following questions should be considered:

- (1) Who is to send out the affiliation forms?
- (2) Does the County have the use of the money collected until such time as it is paid over?
- (3) What does the ETTA do without the money?

Mr White (London Civil Service) stated that there was a mistake regarding the Rule 6(c) item and this very definitely affected his League. He remembered that at previous AGMs motions had been rejected because a comma had been missed and on this point alone, in fairness, the meeting must reject the motion. He was also of the opinion that the ETTA would get their money at a later date in the season, if they got the money at all, and he posed the question that in certain circumstances there could be fraudulent conversion of the monies due to be paid to the Association. Any motion allowing Counties to misappropriate the Association's money should not get the meeting's support.

Mr Hartley (Beckenham) stated it appeared from what the Treasurer had said earlier that certain Leagues did not pay their subscriptions until April of any one season but these fees had been collected in some cases by the previous October. This had not been thought to be wrong until now and the point Mr White was making should be looked at in this light. He felt it was the amount of money due to the ETTA that counted in this proposition and, in his opinion, £8000 was quite a reasonable amount over and above the current affiliation fees without the levy. He agreed with Mr Jaschke that there had been some bad drafting on behalf of his County but he felt it would be regrettable if the whole idea was thrown out because of this particular matter.

Mr Blunn stated he wished to make a number of points. Firstly, no mention had been made regarding Youth Clubs. Secondly, the point which the Oxford Representative had made was a valid one and it would place the County Associations in an impossible position as they relied on the County Rebate which would now not be forthcoming. The third point Mr Blunn raised was that in the Kent proposal they talked about fees not being collected by 31st December and in his view, this admitted defeat before the proposition was even in being. The fourth point was that the Kent proposal spoke about "teams competing in the local Leagues" and, in his opinion, this should have stated "teams in membership with Local Leagues".

Mr Clewer (London Business Houses) stated that the most important factor was that the Office of the Association in London had paid staff to carry out this work for the Association and, in his opinion, the only way to deal with this matter was to make the proper use of that staff which was available. Mr Clewer continued by stating that at the moment if the Treasurer did not know the position regarding any particular League he only had to contact the ETTA office regarding this matter. If the Kent proposal was accepted the Treasurer would have to ask every County the position of Leagues in their County and this, in fact, would increase the work of the Treasurer.

Mr Newell (Cheltenham) speaking for Gloucestershire Association, stated that his County liked the idea of the County Rebates, they liked the idea of money coming from the ETTA and the proposition which Kent were making was far too complicated. Mr Mitchell (Bromley) thought that the Gloucestershire opinion was not an argument against this proposal as simplicity was the thing which Kent were trying to bring in. If the County fee and the ETTA's were collected together this certainly would mean less trouble to the Leagues as they would make but one payment instead of two. The argument that Counties have already held their AGMs was a poor one and, in his opinion, Counties were only suggesting a scheme which was already in existence when each League in the County collected money for its own County Association. With regard to the ETTA Office collecting the money, his County were only trying to reduce the amount of work carried out at the headquarters which would mean a reduction in the salaried staff, and the work of the County Treasurers would not be any

more.

Mr Scott (Staffordshire) stated that the greatest thing in his mind would be the loss of contact between the Leagues and the ETTA Office. He also thought that this proposal would burden County Treasurers and in his opinion, the Hon Treasurer, Mr Blunn, would find a great deal of hardship if this proposal was carried. Mr Wyles (Sussex) stated that it was becoming increasingly difficult to find people to carry out work in the Counties and if this proposal was carried the Counties which now found difficulty in finding people to help would find themselves in a very trying position. In his view, this would be increasing the work of the County Association and, therefore, everybody would fight shy of taking on the further responsibility.

Mr Creed (Staines) thought that everyone agreed the extra money was needed and that 5/6d per team was a good sum. He suggested that the proposition, as it now stood, should be defeated from the point of view that the Counties should not have to do this extra work. Mr Senescall then moved that the question be now put and this was seconded. and agreed. Mr Jaschke, in reply, stated there would not be any extra work involved for the County people as already they had to collect their own fees and to add the extra fee for the ETTA should not cause any hardship. He agreed with Mr White regarding the bad drafting but the meeting should realise his County's proposition had not been drafted by exports. With regard to the office of the Association, he did not feel it was really necessary for them to collect the fees as the more that could be done on a voluntary basis the better.

The Chairman then put the proposal to the meeting and by a show of hands, declared the motion lost. Mr Jaschke asked for a block vote and Mr and Mrs Reeve were appointed as the Tellers. The result of the ballot was 296 votes for and 1,000 against. The Chairman, therefore, declared the proposition lost. The meeting gave permission for the consequential amendments to be withdrawn.

Proposed by the Buckingham and District League

Amendment to the Kent proposition re Rule 6(a)

Delete "of 5/6d" (line 5) and insert after "per team" (line 5) "calculated by multiplying 2/- by the number of players playing in a team in that particular League."

Mr Wickens (Bucks) asked for the meeting's permission to withdraw the above proposal and this was agreed.

RESOLUTION

Proposed by the NEC

In the event of the resolutions to Rule 6(a) Subscriptions not being carried, the following resolution will be submitted in accordance with Rule 6(f):

That Rule 6(e) shall be applicable for the 1961/62 season.

Rule 6(e) reads as follows:

Members' Levy. A levy of 6d per member for all members registered with or in membership with a League shall be paid in accordance with Rule 7, but the levy due from members registering with or becoming members of a League after the 31st October shall be paid to the Secretary of the Association by the following 31st March. The following conditions to apply:

- (i) The levy shall be collected from each League regardless of a member being in membership with more than one League.
- (ii) The levy not to apply to members playing only for Youth Clubs or School Clubs in Youth or Schools Leagues.
- (iii) For the purpose of definition of the word "member", this to mean any member taking part in any League or Tournament competition under the auspices of a League.
- (iv) In the event of a League not registering individual members, the calculation of the levy shall be based on the number of teams competing in the League multiplied by the normal number of players in a team plus two players for each Club.

Mr Blunn, on behalf of the NEC, moved this resolution stating that he had already put forward to the meeting his views on why the income of the Association should remain very much the same as for the previous season and, therefore, he did not wish to further elaborate on why the Association required the 6d per player levy for the 1961/62 season. He moved the resolution and this was seconded by Mr Senescall. Mr Scott (Staffs) stated that the Association should look more closely into the payments which should be made by Youth Clubs as many Youth Clubs accepted members up to the age of 21 years and for these people not to pay the levy seemed unfair on the other members of the Association.

Mr Mitchell (Bromley) stated that he spoke against the player's levy last year but he had voted for same and the main reason why was that he appreciated that the Accumulated Fund had to be built up. He stated it was an act of bad faith on the part of the NEC to re-introduce the levy this year as everyone had been under the impression that the levy was a "once and for all" affair. If the Association had to have an increase then it should be a modest amount and then, without doubt, this would have been agreed by the meeting. He was of the opinion that the NEC were wielding "the big stick" in this matter as the meeting had already decided that the Leagues did not want to pay a further £1,600 which the levy had brought in during the last season.

Mr Eyles stated that the NEC had not acted in bad faith and had carried out what they stated they would do during the 1960/61 season. He stated that if the levy was agreed at this meeting then the County Rebate would be increased and if the members wished the activities of the Association to be cut then they should have said so when the Annual Report was being considered. He considered that the meeting should inform the NEC where the budget should be cut and this, he stated, had not been done.

Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated he had already suggested to the NEC items which could be cut out if the levy was not passed. He felt if the English Open was run at Herne Bay it should break even and, therefore, the £300 budgeted loss would be saved. The £250 budgeted for the European Championships could probably be discounted as it could be assumed that this would be paid by the Supporters' Club. The total saving, therefore, on these two items would be £550 and in view of the fact that tours during last season had been on the high side and could be curtailed, the position of the Association without the levy would not be too bad. He suggested that the NEC should come back next season asking for the levy again after having worked a season without it.

Mr Wyles (Sussex) stated that he supported the levy and suggested that the NEC should come forward with new ideas again next season. The salvation of the finances of the Association was, in his opinion, based on the idea of an individual fee and he asked the NEC to look into this matter further. Mr Hartley (Beckenham) stated that his League was against this resolution as the money required by the ETTA was too much. Mr Newell (Cheltenham) proposed that the question be now put and this was seconded and agreed. In reply to the debate, Mr Blunn stated that the meeting last year had passed Rule 6(f) and from this it was obvious that the NEC would put this resolution forward again if they thought it was desirable. He felt that the meeting were quite aware of this fact when passing the rule last year and, therefore, this meeting should not be in any way surprised. It was clear that the only reason for the submission of this proposal again was because the proposal to increase the affiliation on a team basis was not acceptable. In reply to Mr Jaschke's statement that the English Open might break even at Herne Bay, this was not correct and would still involve a loss. The resolution, on being put to the vote, was carried.

Proposed by the Kent County Association and the North-West Kent League

Rule 7 Line 2. Substitute 31st December for 31st October.

Mr Jaschke, on behalf of the Kent Association, asked for this alteration to be withdrawn and this was agreed.

Proposed by the Kent County Association and the North-West Kent League

Rule 13 Delete present rule and substitute

(a) The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a National Executive Committee consisting of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Hon Treasurer, Hon General Secretary and one Representative from each County Association. The County Representatives shall be elected by postal ballot, as prescribed by the relevant County Association. Officers, and County Representatives shall have one vote.

(b) County Secretaries who are not County Representatives shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the National Executive Committee, with full rights of voice, but without vote.

(c) The National Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a season. One meeting shall take place before 30th September in any season, when the NEC shall appoint working sub-committees and lay down terms of reference for any sub-committee so appointed. No member shall serve on more than three sub-committees. One meeting of the NEC shall take place in the month of February or March, or April, when the NEC shall consider reports from all sub-committees, accept, amend, or reject such reports, and approve the Annual Report of the NEC to be made to the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

(d) Except as herein otherwise provided, every question at a meeting of the Committee shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the members present and voting, every member having one vote, and in the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have

a second or casting vote.

(e) The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Committee shall be ten.

(f) The Committee shall have power to fill casual vacancies in the membership of the Committee, but any member or members so appointed shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting of the Association.

(g) Forms of nomination for the election of Officers shall be forwarded by the Secretary to all ETTA representatives at least 28 days before the date fixed for holding the Annual General Meeting. Each ETTA representative shall be entitled to nominate as many persons as there are vacancies to be filled and no more. No nomination will be effective unless nominations from at least two different ETTA representatives, each representing a different League, for the person nominated are received by the Secretary of the Association (or such other person approved by the National Executive Committee) within fourteen days of the issue of the nomination papers.

g (ii) Delete.

h Line 1, delete "Members of the Committee and"

Mr Jaschke (Kent), in moving this alteration, stated that in the main it was the proposal put by Mr Mitchell at the County Secretaries' Conference. He wished to speak on the question of why Kent wanted to make this change and he stated that his County's main idea was that they considered the future of English table tennis should be based on progressive County Associations. He stated he had been a member of the NEC and whilst he served on that Committee he had found it difficult to tell the Leagues in membership what the ETTA did for them. He stated Kent had built up a very good feeling as a County Association with their member Leagues, results had been good and his County's history was that of progress. He considered that table tennis had to develop in this way as the game was a players game and it had to be organised in this way. It was obvious that the Counties had to do the spade work to get the Leagues to affiliate and it was obvious too that the ETTA National Executive Committee should be elected on the basis of Club to League, League to County, County to ETTA.

His County were strong opponents of centralisation. In his opinion, the Leagues always found the Counties did a number of things for them but this was not so in the case of the ETTA. Kent, in this proposal, had tried to start something new and, in their opinion, the County must have direct entry to the NEC. He would rather have every County represented at two meetings of the ETTA instead of the Regional Representation as it now stood, to which the person elected attended five meetings. The Counties would then be able to instruct the Sub-Committees what work they should carry out and then the County people could go back to their Counties and inform their member Leagues what had been done. He agreed that this was a revolutionary idea but his County considered that they had to start this, and although he knew that a certain number of NEC members agreed with this they had not been permitted to say that they were in agreement with same. Mr Jaschke also stated that under the present system of regional representation in his region, the Kent nominee was always elected and he knew that the Sussex people did not like having a Kent person representing them at the NEC meetings. Mr Forrest (Wandsworth) seconded this proposal.

Mr Watts (Sussex) stated he must at once correct Mr Jaschke's statement regarding the feelings of Sussex in respect of a Kent person representing their region. This statement was incorrect and Mr Jaschke had no right to say what he had said. They had always supported the Kent person and would continue to do so whilst they thought this was correct.

Mr Watts also thought that the implication which Mr Jaschke had given the meeting regarding the fact that Leagues and players were interested in the County Association and not the ETTA was also quite wrong because in his County it was very difficult to find any player who was interested in the County administration. He felt it was also true to say that at Kent's own AGM there had not been a very good attendance. In the proposition he also objected to the point under 13(a) where it stated that the County representatives shall be elected by postal ballot as prescribed by the relevant County Association.

Mr Watts stated it was impossible to have two or three or four ways of doing the election as one County might lay down one method and another County something completely different. Mr Watts further objected to the "b" part of this proposal as Counties would automatically elect a person other than the Secretary who would attend the meetings by right and this would lead to a great number of people being present at the meetings. Mr Brown (Leeds) stated his League had been struck by the fact that under this alteration there could be a terrific increase in the membership of the Committee which would be most costly. His League doubted the fairness of this proposal in view of the fact that a County representing a small number of persons would have the same voting power as a County with a very large membership. Mr Forrest (Wandsworth) stated that the sponsor of

the motion had made the main point but he disagreed with the last speaker as the point which had been made was in fact happening in the method at the moment used. He also stated that the Leagues came to the AGM to vote and it was obvious that the players were, at the moment, out of touch. A further question was put to the meeting on the matter of finances of the Association under this rule and the speaker wondered who would pay the further expenses for the large number of extra people and posed the question, would it be the ETTA or the Counties themselves?

Mr Blunn, speaking against the proposal, had the following points to make:

- (1) Which season would the proposal operate from?
- (2) No suggested alterations had been made to rules 13(i) and 13(j)
- (3) The size of the Committee would possibly be 74 persons and if they were to meet on two occasions the cost would probably be over £1,000 which was double the amount paid at the present time.
- (4) If September was the first meeting of this Committee the second meeting must be in February and this was quite impossible as Sub-Committee reports would not be finalised by that time, and the Sub-Committee dealing with the Annual Report which had to be made up to 30th April could, of course, not be completed by the end of February.

In his opinion there would be no control and the meeting must appreciate that the ETTA, on this basis, would be purely and simply controlled by Sub-Committee and not by the present assembly. Mr Wyles (Sussex) stated that the costs were obviously going to be high and if the Counties had in any way to subsidise meetings the cost to the Counties would be, extremely heavy. It would be especially a very great liability to the smaller Counties, who were further away from London and, in his view, would be no good for table tennis at all. Mr Eyles, speaking against the proposal, explained to the meeting the position and the working of the Sub-Committees if this proposal was passed. Sub-Committees would organise and work a specific event such as the English Open, and the whole thing could be completed before the second meeting of the Assembly which would consider then a report and by that time it would be impossible to reject such a report as the whole event would be a completed fact by that time. This was not the way to run an Association.

Mr Newell (Cheltenham) stated he opposed the proposal as in the past the AGM had decided, in its wisdom, to elect twelve regional representatives and if more people were wanted to run the organisation then the NEC had only to ask for the necessary power to have further people available. In reply to the debate, Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated the English Open had been run by a Sub-Committee in the North on previous occasions and, therefore, the idea as proposed by Kent, was not a new one. The size of the Assembly he had noted was a thing which people did not like but, in his opinion, the more people who contributed at a national level to the game the better it would be. He was of the opinion that two weekend conferences would be better than the five NEC meetings now held and if the travelling expenses could not be paid by the ETTA than the County would obviously have to subsidise the travel of their members. However, he did not think that the generous allowance now given to NEC members would necessarily be required by the County people present and, therefore, the costs should not be double as stated by the Treasurer.

Finally, Mr Jaschke stated this proposal was put forward in an endeavour to solve the problem which his County felt was acute at the moment and he was confident that this idea must become a fact in due course, even if it was not agreed at the present time. On being put to the vote this proposal was lost.

Proposed by the Kent County Association and the North-West Kent League

Rule 13 Substitute "National Assembly" for "National Executive Committee" (and alter throughout the Rules & Regulations to National Assembly as a consequential amendment).

Mr Jaschke asked the meeting's permission to withdraw this proposal and this was agreed.

Proposed by the Kent County Association and the North-West Kent League

Rule 12 Lines 2/3. Delete "and members of the National Executive Committee"

Mr Jaschke asked the meeting's permission to withdraw this proposal and this was agreed.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 13(a) In lines 4 and 5, delete the words "two members of the Association elected annually on a national basis".

In moving this proposal, Mr James stated that the NEC's idea was to abolish the position of the two national members. These positions had been created in the early 1950's when there had apparently been just cause for same but it was true to say that the national vote now had a great deal of popularity value in it and, in view of

the economy being called for by the AGM, it was obvious that the original reasons for having these national members having now served its purpose, could be abolished and the NEC recommenced' their deletion. This proposal was seconded by Mr Clemett.

Mr Owen (London Civil Service) stated he saw no reason to abolish the two national members as all the people elected to these two positions had been most able. In his opinion, this was a retrograde step. Mr Watts (Sussex) agreed with the thoughts expressed by Mr Owen and considered the financial position should not be looked at in this matter. He thought that the national people who had been elected to these posts had made a very valuable contribution to the running of the Association and although he realised he had been consistently opposed to the woman member elected on a national basis saw no logic in taking away the two national members and leaving the woman member to be elected nationally. He would have been more in favour of this proposition had the NEC suggested to the meeting the deletion of the three persons but as the matter now stood he must vote against this proposal.

Mr Tyler (Hastings) stated he was against this proposal as in his view, the NEC was suggesting dismissing people who had a wide knowledge of table tennis as a whole in the country. The two people elected this year, Mr Bateman and Mr Landry, were two people who travelled the country and they were in a position of knowing many of the members in the remoter parts. In his view it was a good thing to have two people nationally elected because he felt they had a contribution to make. In view of the debate, Mr James stated the NEC had put this matter forward as it seemed to them a way of reducing the expenditure and, therefore, this was why the proposal had been tabled. With regard to the point which Mr Watts had made regarding the woman member, Mr James stated that the woman's view was very acceptable to the NEC and this is why the suggested alteration had not been made regarding the woman member. On being put to the vote this proposal was lost.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 12 Delete the heading and rule. Every subsequent rule should then be renumbered.

In moving this resolution, Mr Eyles stated that the NEC proposal would delete the post of ETTA representatives and this had been suggested as, in the opinion, of the Committee, the League Secretary was the most suitable person to receive all the information from the ETTA Office and, therefore, these League Secretaries were more in touch with the various activities. He therefore, moved that the ETTA representatives should be deleted and that the League Secretary should deal with all matters appertaining to the ETTA. This was duly seconded and carried.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 13(b)(iii) Delete the words "ETTA Representative" and insert "County or League Secretary"

Rule 13(g)(i) Delete first sentence and inserts "Forms of nomination for the election of Officers of the Association, Regional members of the Association and the one woman member of the association to be elected on a national basis, shall be forwarded by the Secretary to all County and League Secretaries at least 28 days before the date fixed for holding the Annual General Meeting"; in lines 6 and 7, delete the words "ETTA Representative" and insert 'County or League Secretary'; in line 10, delete the words "ETTA Representatives" and insert "County or League Secretaries"; in line 10, delete the words "each representing a different League

Rule 13(g)(ii) Delete whole paragraph

Rule 13(h) In line 6, delete "ETTA Representative" and insert "County or League Secretary"; in line 8, after the word "less" insert new sentence "Each County Secretary shall be entitled to 1 vote, each League Secretary having 15 or less teams 1 vote, 16 - 50 teams 2 votes and 51 or more teams 3 votes.

Rule 19(k) (ii) In line 1, delete "ETTA Representative" and insert "County or League Secretary"

(iii) In lines 3 and 4, delete "of ETTA Representatives"

Rule 19(1) In line 2, between the words "accredited" and "representatives" insert ', County or League'

Mr Eyles, in moving these alterations, stated that these were consequential now that rule 12 had been passed. He appreciated that rule 13g(i) would, now have to be amended in view of the fact that the two national members had been retained but this would he dealt with as a consequential amendment. This proposal was duly seconded. Mr Watts (Sussex) stated he agreed in principle with the proposal but Mr White (London Civil Service) stated that under this proposal the NEC were defeating the large Leagues whop it, came to voting at Annual General Meetings. The meeting should appreciate that a large League could not get any more votes once they had reached 51 teams. Mr White was not opposing the proposal but felt that the meeting should appreciate the position. On being put to the vote this proposal ms carried.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 13(f) Add to existing rule the following: "Any new post or office created by an alteration to Rules made at an Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting, shall be filled, only by postal vote, in accordance with Rule 13(h)."

Mr Eyles, moving this proposal, stated that the alteration had been submitted by Mr Hoddy at the last AGM and the NEC had been instructed to re-consider the wording. It was agreed that Mr Hoddy's wording was quite in order and, therefore, he had pleasure in moving the alteration as had been requested by Mr Hoddy at the last AGM. This was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 19(d) Delete existing Rule and substitute "On any motion the Chairman shall have the power to test the meeting's feelings by a show of hands of accredited representatives. After declaring the hands shown for and against the motion, the Chairman shall accept a demand for a block vote from any accredited representative, or may himself decide to proceed to block voting. In the absence of a demand for block vote, if the Chairman is satisfied that the show of hands indicates a clear decision, he may dispense with a block vote and declare the decision on the basis of the hands shown'.

Mr White (London Civil Service) proposed this alteration on behalf of the NEC and stated that this put on paper what in fact was happening at the present moment. This was seconded and agreed.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 19(e) Delete the rule and substitute "In block voting each County Association shall be entitled to 1 vote for up to 5 Leagues in membership with the County Association and to 1 further vote for each additional 5 Leagues in membership with the County; each directly affiliated Club shall be entitled to 1 vote, each affiliated League to 1 vote for each team in membership with the League, but no directly affiliated individual, Special Organisation including Youth Organisation, or other member present, is entitled to vote.

In moving this alteration, Mr Eyles stated that in block voting the suggestion was now that the County should have a vote. The meeting should appreciate that the NEC were now suggesting that Counties should have the right to vote and this proposal as duly seconded. Mr Pendred (Leics.) stated that under this proposal the County Associations could be swamped by the League votes but in reply Mr Eyles stated that the crux of the matter was that County was now getting a vote and the main thing was that they had never had a vote before. Therefore, this was a move in the right direction. On being put to the vote this was carried.

Proposed by Sussex County Association

Rule 19(e) In line 4, after "Number" add "each County Association to 2 votes"

Mr Watts (Sussex) asked the, meeting's permission to withdraw this alteration and this was agreed.

Proposed by Kent County Association and North-West Kent League

Rule 19(f) Delete the words in line 2, "and refer to a specific decision on a specific resolution proposed".

Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated that his County had put this proposition on the order paper because if a League could not be present then they should have the right to nominate a person to act as their proxy and vote for them, and they should also allow the person acting as their proxy to listen to all the discussions and to arrive at a decision as to whether to vote for or against. Under present arrangements a specific decision had to be given to a specific resolution before the discussions for and against a proposition had been heard and this did not give the person attending a meeting the right to judge for himself which way he should vote. This proposal was seconded by Mr Tyler (Hastings). In speaking for the proposition he stated that if a League appointed a person to vote for them they must have faith in this person and they should allow him the right to make up his own mind as to which way he should. vote after listening to the various discussions. On being put to the vote this was duly carried.

Proposed by the London Business Houses League

Rule 21 (a) Add to Rule 21 (a')

(vi) In any case where the NEC may decide that a League shall not be obliged to affiliate to a County Association, either (a) because no County Association exists in the County concerned or (b) because membership of the Leagues concerned is spread over more than one County', an additional fee equal to 2/- per Club in membership with the said League shall be paid to the ETTA. Money so received in case (a) shall be passed to the appropriate County Association if

one be formed during the year to which payment relates, but shall otherwise become ordinary ETTA income. Money so received in case (b) shall be divided in such a manner as the NEC may decide between the County Associations in whose areas the League concerned operates.

Mr Clewer, (London Business Houses), in proposing this motion, stated he did not think it would be necessary to go into any great detail as the proposal was quite clearly defined. His League had tied the motion up in such way that it was quite clear where the money received from affiliation fees should go and this had been quite agreeable to his League. This was seconded by Mr Jaschke and agreed.

Proposed by the Middlesex County Association and the Northmet League

Rule 21 Add to Rule 21 (a):

(vi) In any case where the NEC shall decide that there is no appropriate County Body to which a member League can affiliate, an additional fee equal to 2/- per club in membership with the said League shall be paid to the ETTA

Mr White (London Civil Service) stated that Mr Hoddy (Northmet) had asked him to say in Mr Hoddy's absence that if the proposal to this rule tabled by the London Business Houses League was agreed then Mr Hoddy wished to withdraw his proposal. On being put to the meeting it was agreed that this proposal be withdrawn.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 21(h) Delete and insert "County Associations shall be entitled to the following refunds:

- (i) 6d per team in respect of Youth and Schools Leagues affiliated to them.
- (ii) 1/6d per team in respect of all other Leagues affiliated to them.
- (iii) 1/- for each Directly Affiliated Club affiliated to them.

Mr Blunn gave the meeting the details of the County Rebate which the NEC were now proposing should be paid to County Associations and stated that the members present would appreciate that as the refunds were now in respect of teams this would mean a greater income for each County Association. Mr Eyles seconded this proposal and on being put to the meeting this was agreed.

Proposed by the Kent County Association and the North-West Kent League

Rule 21 (h) Each County Association shall be entitled to raise revenue by adding to the amount of 5/6d per team collected on behalf of the ETTA such amount as the County Association decides under its own rules. Also, County Associations shall be entitled to a refund of 50% on fees collected from Directly Affiliated Clubs and Individuals on behalf of the ETTA.

Alternative proposal: Substitute 6/- for 5/6d.

Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated he wished to withdraw this proposal and on being put to the meeting this was agreed.

Proposed by the Buckingham and District League

Amendment to Kent County & North West Kent League proposal

Rule 21 (h) Delete "of 5/6d" (line 2) and insert after "per team" (line 2) 'calculated under Rule 6(a)

Mr Wickens (Buckingham) stated he wished to withdraw this proposal and on being put to the meeting this was agreed.

Proposed by the Kent County Association and the North-West Kent League

Rule 28 (c) Substitute 50% for one-fifth.

Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated he wished to withdraw this proposal and on being put to the meeting this was agreed.

Proposed by the NEC

Rule 28 (h) Add new Rule: "The age for Veterans shall be that a player 40 or over on July 1st shall be entitled to compete in Veterans events of the subsequent season".

Mr James moved this proposal on behalf of the NEC stating that nowhere in the Rules at the present time was the age of Veterans mentioned. The proposal now brought the age of veterans in line with that stated for the Junior players of the Association which, he felt was tidying up the position generally. This proposal was duly seconded and agreed.

RESOLUTION.

Proposed by the Middlesex County Association and the Northmet League

The NEC shall strictly apply the Rules of the Association as laid down in the Constitution.

On behalf of Mr Hoddy (Northmet), Mr White (London Civil Service) stated he wished to withdraw this resolution and on being put to the vote this was agreed.

7 ELECTION OF PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENTS & AUDITORS

President: Mr Vint, on behalf of the NEC, stated that they wished to propose that the Hon I Montagu be re-elected President of the Association for the coming season and this was duly seconded and agreed.

Vice-Presidents: On behalf of the NEC Mr, Vint proposed that the Vice-Presidents as stated in the Handbook should be elected en bloc with, of course, the exception of members who had passed away since the last AGM, who were Mr C E Bartholomew and Mr F S B Lawes. This was duly seconded and agreed. Mr Vint then stated that the NEC would like to add two names to the list of Vice-Presidents, firstly Mr D Purr and secondly Mr K Mackenzie. He stated that both these gentlemen had been of great help to the Association for many years in the manufacturing world. Both had now retired and it would be a nice gesture to them if they were made Vice-Presidents of this Association. This proposal was duly seconded and agreed.

Auditors: It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Messrs Spain Bros (Chartered Accountants) be re-elected as the Association's Auditors for the coming season.

8 NOMINATION OF LIFE MEMBERS

Mr Eyles, on behalf of the NEC, moved that Mr L S Woollard and Mr E G White be elected Hon Life Members of the Association for their very great contribution to the game over many years. This was seconded and agreed.

9 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS.

Mr Reay stated that the meeting had heard from Mr Jaschke about the generous amount of money given to NEC members when they attended NEC meetings in London five times during the season and he felt he must speak on this particular matter in case any misunderstanding might arise. He stated that obviously there were different interpretations of the word "entertainment" but he felt the members present should hear his side of the case from the point of view of his being the member who probably travelled further than any other member when attending NEC meetings. He pointed out that for this particular AGM and other meetings which had and would be held over this weekend, he had had to leave his home early on Friday afternoon and had already attended two meetings prior to the AGM. There would be a further meeting of the NEC which would commence directly after the AGM and which would continue until lunch-time tomorrow which would mean that he would then have to rush from the meeting to catch his train and would not arrive back in Sunderland until very late Sunday night. In all this time spent in London he felt that probably he saw the outside of a Committee room for approximately twenty minutes of the time he spent there and if the meeting thought that this was well paid "entertainment" then he would be very surprised. He stated he gave up his time to do the work required because of his love for the game and he assured members it was not for any financial or entertainment value that he travelled and spent so much time for table tennis.

One member present stated he felt the Rules of the Association were not clear on the question of a Club's rights with regard to an approach being made to the Association in order to settle a domestic matter. It was not clearly defined which method of procedure was necessary and although he appreciated that a Club had the right to attend its League's AGM to make the necessary complaint, if the Executive Committee of that League did not wish to further the matter he felt the Club should have a right to bring this complaint to the NEC. The Chairman, in reply, stated that the Rules Committee would note this statement and would deal with this matter during the coming season.

Mr Harris (Bristol) stated he wished to pay tribute to the work which Buckingham League and the Kent County Association had put in to bring their various amendments and proposals to this meeting. Although the meeting had not agreed with the thoughts that had been expressed they must have put in a tremendous amount of work and he thought the meeting should be grateful to them. Mr Vint thanked Mr Harris for his very helpful comment and stated this was an indication of the vigour of persons within the Association. In his memory all AGM's of the ETTA had been interesting meetings and he considered that the standard of debate at this particular meeting had been very high. In his view this was a point which showed that the ETTA was very much alive and not stagnating as some people were inclined to believe.

Mr Scott (Staffs) stated the meeting had heard what Mr Reay had said regarding the non-entertainment of NEC members and he wondered whether in future after AGMs the NEC could arrange a "get-together" of NEC members and representatives from the various Leagues. He felt that this would give an opportunity to meet the people present and if a little "get-together" of about two or three hours could be arranged this would be a step in the right direction. The Chairman stated that Mr Scott's idea was a good one and would be noted by the new

Executive Committee.

Mr White (London Civil Service) stated he wished to express deep appreciation of the honour which had been extended him at this meeting on being made an Hon Life Member. He was especially pleased to be associated in this way and at this meeting with his old friend, Mr L S Woollard. Mr White, continuing, stated the meeting had been a most difficult one for the Chairman in view of the length of the Agenda and he wondered whether it might be a very good move for the ETTA to appoint a Standing Orders Committee which should be appointed to study the Agenda and suggest to the meeting the way in which the Agenda should be dealt with. He suggested the new NEC should come to the next meeting with some ideas on this particular matter.

Mr Creed (Staines) stated that there had been difficulty in hearing certain of the speakers at this meeting and he wondered whether an amplifier and a microphone could be arranged for the next meeting so that the various delegates could be heard throughout the hall.

Mr Clewer (London Business Houses) stated he felt the NEC should consider the various motions placed on an Agenda in two groups in order to ensure that the position was made clear to the delegates attending. It could well be that the delegates at the meeting were in agreement with the policy of a suggested alteration but they might feel that a League or County were thinking of their own particular area and, therefore, not all details stated in the motion would be suitable to the whole country. He felt that at future AGM's the following basis should be employed:

- (1) Lay down the policy of the motion and deal with this first.
- (2) Agree the actual facts afterwards.

Mr Owen (London Civil Service) stated that it had been evident there had been drafting errors on the proposals laid before this AGM and he felt the Rules Committee should advise the proposers of the motions of their short-comings in future years. This was duly noted.

In conclusion the Chairman stated he wished to thank all members who had travelled and had attended the AGM and he gave special thanks to Mr & Mrs N K Reeve who had acted as the Tellers. The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the competent way in which he had handled an extremely difficult Agenda.