

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION HELD IN THE BISHOP PARTRIDGE HALL, CHURCH HOUSE, GREAT SMITH STREET, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, SW1, ON SATURDAY 18th JANUARY 1964, COMMENCING AT 1.50PM

PRESENT:	Hon I G S Montagu (President) I C Eyles (in the Chair) G James (Deputy Chairman) T Blunn (HonTreasurer) D P Lowen (Secretary).
Members of NEC:	Miss M Fry, Mrs F Jarvis, Messrs Clemett, Cook, Goldstein, Jaschke, Mitton, Reay, Reeve, Scott, Thompson, Walker, Woollard
Hon Life Member:	E GWhite
County Representatives:	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, Derby, Devon, Durham, Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Middlesex, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Somerset, Staffordshire, Surrey, Sussex, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Yorkshire
League Representatives:	Acton & District , Ashton-u-Lyne & District ,Aylesbury & District , Barking, Bath & District, Beckenham & District, Billericay & District, Blackpool & District, Bolton SSS, Bracknell & District, Bristol & District ,Bromley & District, Cheltenham & District ,Coventry, Crawley & District , Dagenham & District, Dagenham Churches, Dewsbury, Folkestone & District , Hertford & District, High Wycombe & District, Hull & East Riding, Ilford, Leeds & District, Liverpool & District, London Banks, London Business Houses, London Civil Service, Manchester & District, Mansfield & District, Newark, North Acton, Northallerton, North Middlesex, Nottingham & District North- West Kent, Plymouth, Romford & District, Reading & District, Scarborough & District, Silvertown & District, Sittingbourne & District, Slough & District, Southampton, South London, Staines & District, Sunderland, Swindon, Uxbridge & District, Walsall & District, Wandsworth & District, Warrington, Wembley & Harrow, West Ham Youth, Willesden & District, Wolverhampton &District, Worcester
Directly Affiliated Individuals:	Mr s E Phillips, J Corser
Registered Members:	L G Adams, A W C Simons
In attendance	J H Carrington (Director of Coaching), Mr s N K Reeve (Minutes)
Press	G R Harrower (Daily Telegraph), R Moseley (PA), B Cuttress (ExTel)

1 CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS.

Mr Eyles welcomed all members who had been able to come to this Special General Meeting of the Association. He felt that this was probably the most important meeting held since our inception in 1925 and was sure that today history would be made. He stated he wished to maintain the integrity of the Chair and he would, therefore, like to say a few words prior to the commencement of the meeting. In his view, progression had been hampered over the last four years due to the fight over amending the Constitution, but he hoped that this meeting would scale the issue and get on with the job on hand as had been suggested in the Development Commission report. The members should look forward to a strong ETTA having healthy international commitments and he instanced, in particular, the Swedish Association which had gone from strength to strength over the past few years and were now the No 1 country in Europe. The Coaching side of the game in this country should be altered and improved and much work had to be done in the schools; he wanted to see an improvement in all types of tournaments, whether national or local, and a whole field of future activity was available to the ETTA if the members would allow the Association to progress and get on with the job in hand. He sincerely hoped that the members of the ETTA would agree with him that this was the sort of future policy which was required. He was of the opinion that the present NEC, as now elected, was not nearly large enough to carry out this work. He felt that the present regional people had far too much to do in their various regions and this was retarding progress. In his opinion, one could not expect one person to cover such large areas and it was now becoming more obvious that much of the work of the Association had to be entrusted to officials at a much more local level. He therefore felt that the setting up of a National Council was a good idea for this, in

his opinion, would bring in new recruits and people from local level would be able to speak with and have conversations with the Local Education Authorities who were now receiving financial support in many shapes and forms from H M Government. He thought that the Association must stand on its own feet. He knew that the Government were prepared to financially assist a progressive governing body but he emphasised the fact here that in all the speeches made by Government spokesmen on this particular matter, the Government had said they were prepared to assist financially so long as the governing body was prepared to put up the same amount of money as the Government were prepared to give. In other words, to progress and to take up this Governmental offer, the Association had to find extra cash from the membership to take advantage of this new facility.

Finally, Mr Eyles hoped that the members present today would study very carefully the Agenda as the various items arose. He stated that the prestige of the ETTA was high throughout the sporting world for the way in which the game had advanced over the past years. He stated that in this country and internationally the ETTA were very proud to have as members such people as the President, Ivor Montagu, and other old friends such as Bill Vint and the late Bill Pope. He also knew they had been proud to be members of the ETTA. He, therefore, hoped that the meeting would be an extremely successful one and that everybody would benefit from the discussions to be held. He mentioned he had received a telegram from Bill Vint who was unable to be present owing to his having to attend hospital. The meeting agreed with acclamation to send Bill Vint their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

2 TO ADOPT STANDING ORDERS FOR THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Mr Eyles proposed the adoption of the Standing Orders on behalf of the NEC and hoped that the members present would adhere to same throughout the meeting. He did not wish to curtail discussion on any matter because of the Standing Orders and he would be prepared to extend the "five minutes" Standing Order for speeches on various subjects. However, he hoped that people would be as brief as possible and that there would be no repetition. At this stage Mr Eyles mentioned the question of the Leagues' representatives who were present at the meeting and whose fees had not been paid by the 17th January 1964, the date on which the NEC had decided all fees must be paid in order for their votes to be valid. He mentioned that one particular League had paid today and he wondered whether the meeting would be prepared to accept this League's vote at this particular meeting.

Mr George White, (Hon Life Member), in reply, stated he was an independent person at the meeting with no vote and, therefore, no axe to grind. However, he felt the meeting should be strict about this matter and the date which had been agreed by the NEC should be observed. He felt that although people had paid today this was too late and, therefore, votes could not be accepted. This was duly seconded and on being put to the vote, was duly carried. No League, therefore, which had paid after the 17th January 1964 would be allowed to vote at the meeting. Mr Dewar (Lincolnshire) stated that under item 5 of the Standing Orders- "Formal Motions" - no doubt it would be agreed that a speaker to a motion could not move that the question be now put once he had moved a resolution. This was duly agreed by the meeting as being so. At this stage the Chairman asked the Hon Treasurer to read out a list of the Leagues who were not paid as at the 17th January 1964 and Mr Blunn gave the meeting this information. Mr Eyles stated that Mrs Jarvis and Miss Fry had volunteered to act as Tellers for the meeting and asked the members present whether they were agreeable to this arrangement. The meeting agreed that Mrs Jarvis and Miss Fry should act as Tellers for the Special General Meeting.

3 TO CONSIDER AND DETERMINE THE PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO RULES

Proposition No 1 (proposed by NEC)

In Rule 1, delete all words after "Table Tennis Association".

Mr Blunn, on behalf of the NEC, asked for the meeting's agreement to withdraw this proposition. This was agreed.

Proposition No 2 (proposed by NEC)

Add new Rule as follows:

2X DEFINITIONS

- (a) The following words and phrases shall throughout the Rules and Regulations of the Association have the meaning assigned to them by this Rule.
- (1) Affiliated Club: A club in membership of a Local League.
 - (2) Affiliated Player: Any player who is either a Directly Affiliated Individual or in membership of an affiliated body.
 - (3) Directly Affiliated Club: A club which pays an affiliation fee direct to the ETTA, whether or not also in membership of a Local League.

(4) Directly Affiliated Individual: An individual who pays an affiliation fee direct to the ETTA, whether or not also in a member of a Directly Affiliated Club or of a club in membership of a Local League.

(5) Directly Affiliated School Club: A School Club which is accepted into direct affiliation with the ETTA, whether or not also in membership of a League.

(6) Local League: Any organisation or association which runs a competition between teams from clubs in a particular locality. Except where specifically excluded, Local League includes Youth League.

(7) Member: Any person mentioned in Rule 3X(a), or any official, player or other member of a body mentioned in Rule 3X(a).

(8) Organisation in Good Standing: An organisation which has been given official recognition by the ETTA, under Rule 3X(b), being EITHER an organisation which is not a table tennis organisation, but under whose auspices table tennis is played, OR a table tennis organisation or competition which is not of a type mentioned in Rule 3X(a).

(9) Registered Member: a member of the Association duly registered under the provisions of Rule 27 and the Registered Members' Regulations in Appendix "A".

(10) School Club: A club the membership of which is restricted to schoolchildren.

(11) Schools Leagues: A league consisting entirely of School Clubs.

(12) Youth Club: A club the membership of which is restricted to persons under 21 years of age AND which is certified by a Local Education Authority Youth Committee to Be a youth club or accepted by the National Council as a youth club.

(13) Youth League: A League consisting entirely of Youth Clubs or of Youth Clubs and School Clubs.

- (b) (1) Where the context so permits, the masculine gender shall be taken to include the feminine.
(2) Where the context so permits, the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

Mr Blunn proposed this proposition on behalf of the NEC, stating that this was a question of tidying up. He stated that these definitions had been accepted in principle for some time and that they should now be included in the Constitution. The proposition was duly seconded.

Amendment No 1 to Proposition No 2 (proposed by Swindon & District)

In Rule 2X(a)(12), after "A club" delete "the membership of which is restricted to persons under the age of 21 years of age AND".

In Rule 2X'(a)(13), after "a League", add "the membership of which is restricted to persons under 21

Mr Smith (Swindon & District) proposed this amendment on behalf of his League. He stated that a number of Youth Clubs playing in his League would no longer be Youth Clubs if the definition as agreed by the NEC was carried at this meeting. He appreciated that the membership of Youth Clubs was normally up to 21 years of age but in some cases Youth Clubs had members over that age. If, therefore, the definition No 12 was carried, certain members would have to leave the Youth Clubs in his League and he felt that the NEC should not be dictatorial on this particular point. He further explained that Youth Clubs ran more than one activity; table tennis was but one of the games played, and in view of the fact that other governing bodies of sports accepted Youth Clubs without putting a maximum age limit on the players taking part, he asked that the NEC withdraw Definition No 12. Mr Watts (Sussex) stated that his County was against the Swindon amendment. He stated this was the same old tale which had been told for many years and in his opinion, it might be unfortunate for the present people in Youth Clubs, but they must appreciate how lucky they had been over the past number of seasons. They had played and been affiliated at an extremely cheap rate whereas other people of the same age group had been asked to pay the full economic fee. He went on to say that in his opinion, the 18-21 age groups of the community were probably better off than the rest of the players of the Association because between these ages their earnings were quite reasonable and their responsibilities in the normal way were nil. He was quite happy for members to belong to Youth Clubs and pay the lower fees up to the age of 21 but not above that age. He appreciated that the Education Act appeared to be very lax on this particular matter and that local autonomy created a different situation in practically every area. However, he felt that the ETTA had to draw a line and he, therefore, supported wholeheartedly on behalf of his County, the definition as stated by the NEC. On behalf of the NEC, Mr Blunn stated he wished to oppose the amendment. In the opinion of the NEC, Youth Clubs, were subsidised by local authority and when a Youth Club had older members it was the NEC's opinion that they should not continue to get concessions. Mr Blunn mentioned that the ETTA were always ready to help the younger members of the community and this was in fact why the Association had taken the decision to affiliate Schools and School Clubs free of charge. In the opinion of the NEC the Youth Club which had members of over 21 years of age should pay the proper senior fees. Mr De la Haye (Hampshire) stated he supported the

Swindon amendment and Mr Hartley (Bromley) also indicated that, having listened to the arguments for and against, he wished, on behalf of his League, to support the Swindon amendment. In reply to the discussion, Mr Smith (Swindon) said the ETTA could control the Leagues under the constitution but could not tell a Club what members it should have in membership with it. He hoped the members present would support the amendment which had been put up by his League. The Chairman then asked for a show of hands for any' against the Swindon Amendment No 1. On a show of hands the Chairman stated he was not clear whether this Amendment had a 2/3 majority or not. He, therefore, suggested to the meeting that a block vote should be taken and asked the meeting's agreement to this procedure.

A number of members present felt that an amendment to a proposition should only have a simple majority because an amendment of a proposition on the Order Paper of this meeting was not an amendment to the present Constitution. At this stage Mr James explained to the meeting that a precedent had been set on this matter some two years ago where an amendment to a proposition proposed on the Order Paper had had to receive a 2/3 majority; this had been the decision of the Chairman at that time. Mr James undertook to ask the NEC to refer this matter to the Rules Committee with a view to new regulations at the forthcoming AGM. After further discussion by many of the delegates present, the Chairman ruled that the Amendment should receive a 2/3 majority on block voting and the meeting accepted this decision. On being put. to a block vote, the Swindon Amendment No 1 was defeated by 1,092I votes for with 945 votes against.

Amendment No 2 to Proposition No 2 (proposed by Swindon & District TTL)

Add new rule as follows:

2X(a)(14) Division: a unit of a League which contains a number of teams.

Mr Smith (Swindon & District) proposed this amendment on behalf of his League. He stated that in his League's opinion there should be a definition dealing with a 'division'. Mr James, in reply to Swindon, on behalf of the NEC stated that the word 'division' did not appear anywhere in the Rules at present and, therefore, the NEC did not see why there was any necessity to define the word 'division'. On being put to a vote the Swindon Amendment No 2 was carried.

The Chairman then returned to the original Proposition No 2 and asked if any further discussion was required regarding this matter. Mr Killmister (London Civil Service) stated he was sure the members present felt that there was a desire to have the definitions included in the Rules of the Association and, therefore, everyone should support the NEC's proposition. On being put to the vote this proposition was duly carried.

Proposition No 3 (proposed by NEC)

NOTE: It is the intention of the Chair to invite general debate on the principles of Rules 13X(a) and 13Z(a) and (b) in order to assess the feeling of the meeting on these matters of over-riding principle, before there is any detailed discussion of the content of other clauses of the rules contained in this Proposition or amendments thereto.

The NEC shall be abolished and its functions assumed by a National Council and a Management Committee, for which purpose the following amendments shall be made to the Rules:

Delete Rule 13; in Rule 14(a), (lines 2-4), delete "Regional members of the Association and the two members of the Association and the one woman member of the Association to be elected on a national basis"; in Rule 14(b), line 1, delete "members of the Committee and"; delete Rule 23. Insert new Rules as follows:

NATIONAL COUNCIL

13X (a) The Association shall, subject to the control of the Annual General Meeting, be governed by a National Council which shall consist of the Officers of the Association (as defined by Rule 9X(a) together with one person representing each County Association elected annually in the manner laid down by Rule 13Y.

(b) No Councillor may represent more than one County.

(c) Every Councillor shall retire annually at the end of the Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) In the event of a Council seat becoming vacant, it shall be filled by election in the manner laid down by Rule 13Y so far as applicable.

(f) Except as herein otherwise provided, every question at a meeting of the Council 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. The President shall not be entitled to vote.

(g) The Council may delegate any of its duties to the Management Committee.

(h) Standing Orders for the Management Committee shall be subject to approval by the

Council.

(i) The Council may appoint sub-committees consisting of such persons as it thinks fit, which shall, in the performance of their duties, conform to any regulations that may be imposed on them by the Council and shall report to the Management Committee.

(j) The administration of the Rules and Regulations of the Association shall be vested in the Council who shall (subject to Rule 13X(g):

(i) decide questions of laws and other matters relating to the game but cannot alter the Rules of the Association;

(ii) decide matters relating to international and representative matches, teams, conferences etc, as affecting the Association;

(iii) sanction Open Tournaments, Invitation Tournaments or general competitions;

(iv) decide all questions under Rule 30.

(k) The Council shall have the power to make regulations to cover international contacts, regulation dress and badges and such other matters not specifically dealt with in these Rules the Council shall think fit. Such regulations shall be published as appendices to these Rules.

(l) At the first meeting of the Council after the Annual General Meeting it shall agree its Standing Orders for the coming period of office.

(m) The Council shall hold a meeting within eight days after the Annual General Meeting, at which meeting Management Committee members shall be elected as provided by Rule 13W.

ELECTION OF NATIONAL COUNCIL

13Y (a) A nomination paper shall be sent by the General Secretary to the Secretary of every Local League (except as mentioned in Rule 7Y) at least 30 days before the date fixed for holding the Annual General Meeting.

(b) Each Local League shall be entitled to nominate a person to be National Councillor for the County of which such Local League is part.

(c) To be valid a nomination paper must

(i) be signed by the Secretary and another responsible officer of such Local League and

(ii) be received by the General Secretary of the Association (or such other person as may be appointed for the purpose by the Management Committee) not later than 14 days after issue of the nomination papers.

(d) No person will be effectively nominated unless he is named in at least two valid nomination papers. Exceptionally, where there is only one Local League in membership with the County Association, one valid nomination shall suffice.

(e) If there be more than one person validly nominated in any County, there shall be a postal ballot of the Leagues in that County carried out in such manner as shall be determined by the National Council.

(f) The vote of each Local League having 30 or less teams in the League shall count as one unit, each Local League having 31 to 100 teams as two units, and each Local League having more than 100 teams three units.

(g) Each Local League's voting paper shall be signed by the Secretary and by another responsible officer of such League.

(h) Scrutineers shall be appointed by the National Council to determine any questions as to the validity of nomination and voting papers, and to ascertain the result of any postal vote held under the provisions of this Rule.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

13Z (a) There shall be a Management Committee to manage the affairs of the Association in accordance with the policy and directions of the National Council.

(b) Such Committee shall consist of the Officers and four other National Council members elected by the National Council in the manner laid down by Rule 13W.

(c) Committee members (other than the Officers) shall retire on the election of their successors at the first Council meeting after the Annual General Meeting. Committee members shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) Any casual vacancy occurring in the Committee shall be filled in the manner laid down by Rule 13W so far as applicable.

(e) The quorum necessary for the transaction of business by the Committee shall be four, including at least one Officer.

(f) 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. The President shall not be entitled to vote.

(g) The Standing Orders for the Management Committee shall be as approved by the National Council under Rule 13X(h).

ELECTION OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

13W (a) The four members of the Management Committee other than the Officers shall be elected by secret ballot of the National Council.

(b) The ballot shall be held at the first meeting of the National Council after the Annual General Meeting (hereinafter referred to as "the Election Meeting").

(c) A nomination paper shall be given to every member of the Council present.

(d) Each member shall be entitled to nominate up to four persons.

(e) No person will be effectively nominated unless he is named in at least two papers.

(f) Each member of the National Council shall vote for four persons, no more, no less.

(g) The four persons receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. If an equality of votes results in there not being four persons with a clear majority over the other candidates, then those who have such clear majority shall be declared elected, and a fresh ballot shall be held for the remaining seat or seats, for which only candidates unsuccessful in the previous ballot shall be eligible.

(h) Scrutineers shall be appointed by the Annual General Meeting to determine any question as to the validity of nomination and voting papers and ascertain the result of the ballot.

The Chairman stated he wished the Hon Treasurer to speak on the first paragraph of this proposition which was printed in black on page 3 of the Agenda. He then felt that there should be general discussion on the whole subject, a vote taken on this principle and then continued with the further detail as contained in pages 4, 5 and part of 6. Mr Blunn, therefore, proposed this proposition on behalf of the NEC and this was duly seconded.' He stated that the members present had now to decide whether a National Council was required in place of the present NEC. He felt that a number of members present would think of the financial side of this particular matter but he asked these members not to worry at this stage on this point, because he felt that the whole proposition should be treated on its merits.

He stated the idea of a National Council was not a new one; in fact the present Chairman of the Association had suggested this type of arrangement before the last war. However, subsequently others had brought forward this idea again in recent years and it had been discussed at County Secretaries' Conferences. The question was now, did the Association want a National Council or not? Mr Blunn stated that members who had read the Development Commission report would realise that the members of this Commission had made recommendations that a National Council be set up. In the past there had been many reasons why it had not been acceptable to the Association but in view of the fact that the youth of the country was now emerging with a greater interest, he felt the National Council was very desirable because of the necessity to have a local person of the ETTA in each County or locality. He furthered this point by saying that the life-blood of the game was now probably in the schools and, therefore, the Association had to look very carefully at this particular aspect in order to continue to make the game flourish and progress.

The present NEC, where twelve regional representatives had to cover the whole of the country was, in Mr Blunn's opinion, not now workable. He was convinced that there should be a National Council where one person would represent each County, for this would be so much better than at present when in some cases, one person represented as many as six counties. If the Association wished to progress, the number of persons at national level must be increased. Mr Blunn continued by stating that much progress had to be made with the youngsters in the country. This was a pressing need in order for the ETTA to compete with other governing bodies of sport in England. The new idea of a National Council would, in Mr Blunn's opinion, throw up new people in the various areas who at the moment were not able to compete in an election with the established persons on the NEC. These other people would then be able to find out the workings of the national body, assimilate the necessary details regarding what the national body did for the ordinary member and this would bring about better representation of the Association at a County and League level. The National point of view would be put to the members of each area and, seeing that the National Council would agree a policy for the Association, Mr Blunn felt this would bring the ordinary member much closer to the ETTA. The view which the NEC took on the Management Committee was that this small body of people would deal with the day to day decisions which were necessary in an Association such as the ETTA.

Mr Blunn reminded the members present that the whole of this matter had been left on the table at the last Annual General Meeting. He stated this meeting had now to come to an agreement or otherwise on the setting up of the National Council. The youngsters of the country had to be interested in the working of the

Association and in playing the game and he mentioned at this stage that the youngsters of the country these days had much more money in their pockets than previously and at the present moment most of their money went on cigarettes, pop-records, cosmetics, etc. However, it was interesting to Note that last year about half-million table tennis bats were sold and four to five million table tennis balls. In Mr Blunn's opinion, this number of bats and balls purchased was not only bought by the 68,000 people in membership with the ETTA; there was a vast number of people outside the Association who were buying this equipment. The ETTA had to get hold of these youngsters and he was sure that the National Council who could operate with more members with a national outlook, would increase the chances of getting these youngsters to affiliate. It was increasingly necessary in this day and age to better the image of the game but the people concerned had to be convinced and, in his view, the task of the members of the National Council would be to go back to their area and spread the gospel.

Mr Blunn continued by stating that H M Government were now prepared to pay money to local authorities with special recommendation to keeping the youngsters off the streets at night. If, therefore, the Government were prepared to do this, he felt the ETTA should do all they could to be in receipt of such money, but as the Chairman had stated, more money would be required from the membership to in fact bring about the co-operation which was now desirable from the Ministry. He continued by stating that in Leicestershire he was aware that there had been an increase of 70% in the number of people playing the game. He realised that this might be an isolated instance but he asked the members to think of their own areas and Leagues and consider the fact that there must be much scope for a tremendous increase in all areas of the country. If this increase could be obtained all over the country this would be of great benefit to the game of table tennis and the ETTA in particular.

He stressed the fact that the NEC had already recognised the work done by the County Associations in the past and, in fact, had made extra cash available to the Counties for the work they were carrying out. The County Rebate had been increased some two years ago by a figure of £300 and from the Agenda paper the members would Note that the ETTA were now suggesting a further increase from £900 to £1,250, which in fact represented about 50% of each County's income at the present time. He appreciated that many Leagues might not appreciate the amount of money which was being returned to the Counties by the ETTA, but this was a fact and he wanted to try to give the Counties more money to encourage them to "sell" the game of table tennis among their local people. He continued, stating the Association had received much financial support from the manufacturers of the game's equipment and mentioned that in industry in general, there was now more interest in sponsoring sporting events. He suggested that the ETTA would be able to take advantage of this 'new look' by Industry and mentioned that recently he had been told that Lady Pilkington was interested in table tennis and he hoped the Association might receive some sponsorship from that source. The more backing a national body could receive from this type of sponsorship the better it would be for everyone and he was sure this type of thing could only be done by the setting up of a National Council so as to spread the gospel throughout the country.

Mr Blunn concluded his remarks by stating that the members present had a wonderful opportunity today to go forward. He appreciated that this was a big decision but he was sure that if the National Council was set up no one in the room would regret the decision taken for the expansion of the game and the ETTA would be assured that the 18th January 1964 would in future be considered as the day the ETTA grew up. Mr Blunn's remarks were received with acclamation. Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated he was pleased for a change to be able to speak in favour of an NEC proposition. He stated that some four years ago his County had suggested that the National Council should be set up on the basis of one member from each County. He considered that the AGM at that time had been right in turning down their propositions but he still regretted that four years had been lost in getting the motion, as now stated on the Agenda paper, put down for consideration and proposed by the NEC. He was sure that everyone would benefit from the new idea of a National Council and if the present NEC were worried that they would not be elected he was sure they would certainly get on. The chance of giving the Counties a voice on the National Council, who were now not represented on the NEC, was a big step forward and could only do good. He stated that he and Mr Mitchell had been asked to give evidence to the Development Commission. The courtesy extended to them at their interview had changed the views of the people in Kent and the make up of the Commission with such people as Messrs Montagu, Vint, Leach, White, Barna etc., had been well worth while. He felt the Development Commission had done a good job of work. He asked the meeting to give support to the NEC's proposition.

Mr Richardson (Wembley) stated his League was against the setting up of a National Council. Although no one would decry the work of the Development Commission, he was of the opinion that forty members was an unmanageable number to decide policy for the ETTA. He also mentioned that, under the present planning, the National Council would elect the Management Committee and they in turn would be responsible to the National Council. He mentioned that sub-committees would be elected by the National Council and yet they

would have to report back to the Management Committee and the Management Committee would then have to report back to the National Council. All this, he considered, was quite illogical. He again stressed the question of forty people sitting round the table trying to agree on policy. He suggested that all meetings would last so very much longer, that people from the north and far west would have to travel over-night and be paid hotel accommodation for the meeting which would cost the Association more money and this, in turn, would cost the membership more. Such increases as now proposed would be swallowed up purely and simply by the extra cost of meetings and there was also a possibility that many members from far distances would not be able to attend because of the long journeys and the chance of not being able to leave early enough to get to London for the meetings. He thought that the whole government of the Association would, under this system, revolve around London-based people and in this way, the north and far west would not get a voice. He urged the meeting not to adopt this new suggested arrangement.

Mr Lawson (Northumberland) felt the Wembley representative was muddled in his thinking. He thought that the idea of a Management Committee dealing with the day to day matters of the National Council was in fact an advantage to stream-lining the services of the ETTA. In his view the Management Committee, as a small body, would be able to make decisions quickly and with them dealing with the day to day matters in this way the whole set-up would be much more business-like. He suggested that the meeting should not oppose the proposal as had been suggested by the Wembley member. Mr Forrest (Wandsworth) stated he wished to be associated with the thoughts expressed by the previous speaker. Mr Killmister (London Civil Service) thought this whole matter should be put to the vote as the decision to be taken was what the majority wanted and not what an odd minority did not want. He also suggested that a vote should be taken and this should be based on a simple majority.

The Chairman stated he 'was not prepared to accept this suggestion because the setting up of a National Council, which was a very big step, must have a two-thirds majority of the Leagues and County people present and voting. Mr Hillier (Wilts) stated he was a newcomer to Annual meetings of the ETTA but wished to say that the members in the West County were agreeable to the new set up because they had everything to gain and nothing to lose. In his opinion there was too big a gap between the area people and the NEC and he felt the new idea would close this gap and bring the top much closer to the bottom and the bottom much closer to the top. In this way all members would get information channelled through much better. Mr Thompson (Bucks) suggested that the Association should go ahead and do something positive by supporting the NEC proposition for he thought the whole country would be that much stronger with the new type of set up.

Mr Taylor (Nottinghamshire) stated that his area had two excellent representatives on the NEC. They in Nottingham were fully satisfied with the services they had received from their representatives but, because these two regional people were so well known, anyone else in Nottingham had not had an opportunity to get to know the workings of the National body or to attend the NEC meetings. There was no direct contact in his area with the national body and he thought the setting up of a National Council would stimulate interest in this direction. The Chairman then asked Mr Blunn to reply to the debate. Mr Blunn stated that the only person he had to reply to was the Wembley representative because he appeared to be a lone voice at the meeting. He stated he appreciated very much indeed that someone had spoken against the idea and knew that the Wembley Committee had done much- work in order to arrive at their decision. However, he would ask the Wembley representative not to fear the future for he was sure that everyone could and would work together on the National Council and he asked everyone present to give the new idea a chance.

On being put to the vote the first part of Proposition No 3 was carried.

Amendment No 1 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by London Civil Service TTL)

In Rule 13X(a) add further sentence as follows: "For the purposes of this Rule any organisation in Good Standing representative of five or more Local Leagues exempted from County affiliation under Rule 22(a)(vi) shall be deemed to be a County."

Mr Killmister (London Civil Service) in proposing this Amendment stated that he was endeavouring to clear the position regarding the Central London Leagues. Under the suggested National Council set-up the large Leagues in Central London, who did not at the moment affiliate to a County, would have no representation and he reminded members present of the Development Commission Recommendation No 46 which said that some way should be found to get over this particular matter. He appreciated there were difficulties but he wished to stress that there was no suggestion by these Central London Leagues of their wishing to set up a County of London. All he was asking was that these Leagues should be able to have a voice in national affairs. He went on to say that if they were made to join a County Association it would obviously make that County Association extremely strong and he went on to explain that at the moment the members of these Leagues were spread over a number of the Home Counties and Counties near to London and this had always been recognised as the difficulty when trying to affiliate them to a specific County. He also felt that the strong people attached to

these Leagues would better serve the game of table tennis if they were attached to weaker Counties rather than have these strong people attached to an already strong County. He finally stressed the main point as being that the Central London Leagues wanted to have a voice in national affairs and nothing more.

This Amendment was duly seconded and Mr Daniel (NW Kent) thought the suggestion was a good one and he supported Mr Killmister's thoughts. Mr Blunn, on behalf of the NEC stated he wished to oppose the Amendment. He had no doubt that Mr Killmister was very sincere but his suggestion was not the only answer to the proposal. He suggested that if this Amendment was carried this would be a further concession to the Central London Leagues and Mr Blunn stated there was a feeling abroad that the current concession given to these Leagues had been in being too long already. He stated that if the Central London Leagues had to join the Home Counties then they would have as much right as the other Leagues in that County in the appointment of the member for the National Council. Mr Reeve, representing the Insurance Offices, stated the Insurance Offices League strongly supported the London Civil Service League's Amendment.

Mr Wyles (Sussex) stated he had listened at many meetings before to the points raised by Mr Killmister. In his County's view, the stage had now been reached where a new Constitution was being set up and he felt that the concessions given to the Central London Leagues had gone on for long enough and the position should be enforced whereby all Leagues in the country should affiliate to a County Association. Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated he was convinced that the point made by Mr Killmister was a good one and, therefore, he supported the Amendment. Mr Corser (Individual Member) stated that in his opinion the speaker had defeated his whole amendment for they were now asking for double representation. Other large cities could do the same and, therefore, he was against the Amendment as it now stood. Mr Owen (London Civil Service) stated he supported Mr Killmister on the very fact which Mr Blunn had raised earlier in the meeting that being that one regional representative had at the moment far too much to do to cover the number of Leagues in his area and if the Central London Leagues were asked to affiliate to a County this would cause the National Council member for that County very much more work.

Mr Forrest (Wandsworth) asked Mr Blunn to explain about the concession which had been in operation for some time. Mr Blunn replied by stating that the Central London Leagues had not been obliged to join a County whereas every other League in the country, so long as there was a County body in operation, were obligated to do so. This, he stated, had been a long standing concession which had been in operation since something like 1948. Mr Landry (Willesden) stated he was in agreement with the suggestion made by the London Civil Service representative but he felt that the wording of the Amendment left it open to any group of Leagues in any County anywhere in the country to do the same thing. On behalf of Willesden League, he stated he could not accept this. The Chairman then put the Amendment to the meeting and from the vote taken the Amendment was lost.

Amendment No 2 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Essex TTA)

Add new rule as follows:

13X (ee) The Council shall elect its chairman who need not be the Chairman of the Association.

Mr Eagle (Essex) stated he had heard it said that the Amendment on the Order Paper by Essex was an attack on the present Chairman. He wished to say straight away that this was not so because if Essex wished to attack the Chairman they would do this personally and not through the medium of a Special General Meeting. The point which Essex wished to make clear was that if there were two bodies set up under the new, constitution, firstly a National Council, which would be Policy making, and a Management Committee, which would be the Executive branch, the Chairman of the ETTA would become the Chief Executive. It had been made clear by Mr Eyles that he did not want to express his feelings at Annual General Meetings or at this particular meeting and, therefore, the Hon Treasurer had in most cases to put forward the case for the NEC. He, therefore, saw some confusion at National Council meetings for in the opinion of the Essex County, the National Council members should have the right to question the Chairman and he should have the right to speak. He likened the position as he saw it to the Government of the country and stated that the Prime Minister was not the Chairman of the House of Commons. The Prime Minister was expected to reply to questions put to him in the House and the members of the Chamber did not expect a reply to a question put to the Prime Minister being answered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. This Amendment was duly seconded.

Mr Blunn, in reply for the NEC, stated he wished to oppose this Amendment because in his opinion, if the Amendment was carried it would belittle the position of the Chairman of the ETTA. He continued by saying that at NEC meetings the Chairman always had the right to speak and to give his views and advice although he agreed the Chairman did not do this at Annual General Meetings or Special General Meetings. He felt that the point made by Essex was not valid and that the issue at stake at the moment could be summed up by saying what effect would this have on the Chairman of the Association if he was put into this position. He also stated that in his opinion, the National Council would be relegated to a type of sub-committee if it elected its own

Chairman and did not have the Chairman of the ETTA as the person in charge. Mr Burvill (NW Kent) stated that in his opinion the Chairman of the ETTA should be the Chairman of the National Council. However, he thought there was a good case for the Chairman not being the Chairman of the Management Committee and, therefore, he supported the Amendment proposed by Essex. On being put to the vote this Amendment was lost.

Amendment No 3 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Wembley & Harrow TTL)

In Rule 13X(f), after "present and voting", delete "every member having one vote, and in" and insert "In Council voting each member shall cast a number of votes equal to the number of teams affiliated to the County Association which he represents at the end of the preceding season. In". Delete "second. or"

Mr Richardson (Wembley & Harrow) asked for the meeting's approval to this Amendment being withdrawn and this was duly agreed.

Amendment No 4 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Kent TTA)

Add new rule as follows:

13X (n) The Council shall hold a minimum of three meetings every season.

Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated that his County thought there should be a minimum number of meetings stated in the Rules so as to ensure that the Council met on a number of occasions during the season. His suggestion was that this was a question of tidying up and this was duly seconded. On being put to the vote this Amendment was carried.

Amendment No 5 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Mfdlesex TTA)

Add new rule as follows:

13Y (dd) In the event of there being no effective nomination from any County the seat shall remain vacant until the next Council election.

Miss Moss (Middlesex) stated that the only reason for this Amendment was to try to ensure the Leagues were not apathetic about nominating the National Councillor for a County. The intention of Middlesex in this connection was to ensure that the Leagues sent in nominations in the due time. This amendment was duly seconded and carried.

Amendment No 6 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Bedford & District TTL)

Delete Rule 13Y(a) to (e) inclusive and insert as follows:

13Y (a) The election of its own National Councillor shall be carried out by each County Association, and the result of such election notified to the ETTA not later than seven days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting.

Mr Woollard moved this Amendment on behalf of Bedfordshire and it was duly seconded. Mr Blunn, on behalf of the NEC, opposed this Amendment stating that the elections must be carried out by the body to whom the people were in fact being elected. The ETTA had a paid Secretary who would carry out this work in a uniform way and he asked what could be better. Mr Watts (Sussex) stated that the members had been informed that in previous seasons the elections had not been carried out as the Association wished and he therefore, asked for confirmation that there would not be any discrepancies in the future. In his opinion the elections should not be left to a County Committee to decide upon but should be done on a national basis. Mr Yates (Bolton) agreed with the thoughts expressed by Mr Watts and hoped that the Association would ensure that the elections were carried out properly in future years. On being put to the vote this Amendment was lost.

Amendment No 7 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Bedford & District TTL)

Delete Rule 13Y W and insert as follows:

13Y (b) The vote of each Local League having up to 90 registered players shall count as one unit, each Local League having 91 to 300 registered players two units, and each Local League having more than 300 registered players three units.

Mr Woollard proposed this Amendment on behalf of the Bedfordshire and District League which was duly seconded. Mr Blunn stated that the NEC opposed this Amendment on the basis that it was not workable. Many Leagues, he stated, did not have their players registered with the League and if this Amendment was carried those particular Leagues would have to alter their system. The Amendment was, therefore, not workable at the present moment. On being put to the vote this Amendment was lost.

Amendment No 8 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Wolverhampton & District TTA)

In Rule 13Y(a), for "30" substitute "60" and in Rule 13Y(c)(ii), for "14" substitute "40." .

The Wolverhampton representative in proposing this Amendment stated that in his League's opinion, the number of days inserted in the main proposal under this heading did not give enough time to the voters to discuss the matter. His League's suggestion was to allow more time for discussion. This Amendment was duly seconded. Mr Wickens (Slough) stated that under the NEC proposal a person could stand for an office and then if defeated, could again stand for the National Council. In this way two elections had to be held and if the Wolverhampton Amendment was agreed it would mean that the elections for the following year would have to start in the year previous. This would mean that a person elected as an officer of the Association could very well find himself opposed in this office quite shortly after he had been elected. On being put to the vote this Amendment was lost.

Amendment No 9 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Kent TTA)

Substitute "six" for "four" in the following rules: 13Z(b), 13Z(e), 13W(a), 13W(d), 13W(f), 13W(g)

Mr Hartley (Bromley) proposed this Amendment on behalf of Kent and stated that the ETTA Secretary had made a mistake with regard to Rule 13Z(e) which should have stated 5 instead of 6. In view of this fact Mr Hartley asked for the permission of the meeting to accept two Amendments under this heading. This was duly agreed. Mr Hartley then continued by saying that, with the Officers of the Association, the proposal of the NEC could be four other persons elected to the Management Committee. In Mr Hartley's opinion there would be much more work to be carried out by the Management Committee and there would be no place on the Committee for a person who could not serve well. The Kent proposal, therefore) was a suggestion for six people together with the officers and, in Mr Hartley's view, out of these six people to be elected, the Association might well find one rebel who would, in fact, keep other members of the Management Committee on their toes. If only four people were elected to the Management Committee the chance of getting a rebel elected was that much less. This Amendment was duly seconded. Mr Anson (Plymouth) wondered where the first four members would come from. He went on to ask why not have seven or eight people together with the Officers? He personally opposed the Kent Amendment and suggested the meeting should accept the figure of four.

Mr Blunn, on behalf of the NEC, stated that Mr Anson had made the point he was going to put to the meeting. The Management Committee, in the NEC's opinion, had to be a small, workable Committee and four members plus the Officers, making a total of seven, seemed to be the correct number. It was obvious that the Secretary would now have more work to do in circulating information and he stated that seeing that there were four members elected to the Management Committee these people would outnumber the Officers when it came to voting if they felt the Officers' line was not correct. Mr Blunn stated that the NEC felt that the Management Committee should be small and workable but naturally, of course, if too much work fell on these four persons together with the Officers, then there was nothing to prevent the figure being increased to five or six at some later stage. Four members, in his opinion, was ample. On being put to the vote this Amendment was lost.

Amendment No 10 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Kent TTA)

In Rule 13W(f), after "National Council", insert ", other than the Officers,"

Mr Jaschke, on behalf of Kent, asked for this Amendment to be withdrawn. This was agreed.

Amendment No 11 to Proposition No 3 (proposed by Wembley & Harrow TTL)

In Rule 13W(a), delete "secret ballot of", and substitute "election" for "ballot" in Rules 13W(b), (g) and (h)

Mr Richardson (Wembley) proposed this Amendment and stated that his League could not understand why there should be a secret ballot. As this Amendment found no seconder it fell to the ground. The Chairman then asked the Treasurer to formally propose new Rules 13X, 13Y, 13Z and 13W on the Order Paper. Mr Blunn stated he appreciated that everyone who had spoken had come to this meeting having thoroughly discussed the whole question and he was sure that if the meeting voted in favour of the National Council they would not regret this. This proposal was duly seconded. At this stage Mr Wright (North Acton) stated that under Rule 13Y(e) he was of the opinion that the word should read 'effectively' instead of 'validly'. Mr Wickens (Slough) agreed that this was a better word and the meeting agreed to accept that this had been a printing error. On being put to the vote this proposal was duly carried.

Proposition No 4 (proposed by NEC)

Amend Rule 3 to read as follows

CONSTITUTION.

13X (a) The Association shall consist of

(i) President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Life Members and duly elected Officers

- (ii) County Associations
- (iii) Affiliated Local Leagues, Directly Affiliated Clubs and Directly Affiliated Individuals.
- (iv) Affiliated Schools Leagues and Directly Affiliated School Clubs.

(b) Other organisations may be accepted into Good Standing at the discretion of the National Council.

Mr James proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC. This was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 5 (proposed by NEC)

Delete Rule 4 and insert as follows:

AFFILIATION

- 4X (a) The normal unit of affiliation shall be the Local League. Any League playing under the Laws of Table Tennis as approved by the Association shall be eligible for affiliation.
- (b) Additionally any club or any individual player (provided he has attained the age of 45 years at the time of application or was in direct affiliation prior to 1st July 1957), playing under the Laws of Table Tennis as approved by the Association shall be eligible for direct affiliation.

Mr Blunn proposing this proposition on behalf of the NEC stated it was a question of tidying up. This was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 6 (proposed by NEC)

Delete Rule 6 and insert as follows:

AFFILIATION FEES.

- 6X A Local League shall pay affiliation fees on the basis of the number of teams it has in membership.
- 6Y The annual Affiliation Fees shall be as follows:
- (a) Local Leagues:
 - (i) 10/- for each team in a League which is not a Youth League.
 - (ii) 5/- for each team in a Youth League.
 - (iii) Any Local League not affiliated to a County Association shall pay an additional fee of 1/- per team, as mentioned in Rule 22(a)(vi).
 - (b) Directly Affiliated Clubs:
 - (i) 10/- for each club affiliating directly which is not a Youth Club.
 - (ii) 10/- for each Youth Club affiliating directly.
 - (c) Directly Affiliated Individuals: £1 10 0d.
 - (d) Schools Leagues and Directly Affiliated. School Clubs shall be affiliated without fee.
 - (e) Other organisations accepted into Good Standing under Rule 3X(b) may be required by the National Council to pay such fees as the National Council may determine.

Note: If the principle of Rule 6Y is acceptable but not the figures of 10/- and 5/-, this does not make it necessary to vote against the Proposition as the meeting will have an opportunity of altering these figures by passing Proposition 6 ALT.

At this stage the Chairman stated that it was his wish that the meeting should first arrive at a decision on the principle of "team" or "team place". Mr Blunn, therefore, proposed the proposition on behalf of the NEC which was duly seconded. It was also proposed, seconded and agreed, that discussion should first take place on the question of affiliation fees being based on the team or team place. The Chairman then asked for discussion on this particular matter by the members present. Mr Anson (Plymouth) stated he would like to hear from Tom Blunn as to why the NEC had rejected the team place idea, especially in view of the fact that this had been the suggested basis in the Development Commission report.

Mr Blunn, in reply, stated the team place idea had been put forward as the basis of affiliation some two years ago but the meeting had then rejected same by a valid argument because of the variation of 3, 4 or 5 players per team in the various Leagues up and down the country. The NEC had, therefore, taken the view that to base the affiliation fee on the team was less offensive to the membership. Mr Wickens (Slough) stated he thought the Treasurer in his reply would have given the financial side of the question. He went on to say that the individual affiliation fee basis had been obviously talked over to a great extent by the Development Commission members and had been found to not be practical in application. He, therefore, thought it would have been best to have set as near to the individual affiliation basis in view of the fact that it was only the mechanics of such a scheme which appeared to be difficult. He, therefore, felt the team place was a much better idea because there would be no difficulty in enforcing the rule and it would have been a fairer way of spreading the burden from the point of view of affiliation. Mr Lawson (Northumberland) thought it would be best to pay on a team basis and, therefore, he supported the NEC proposition.

Mr Killmister (LCS) stated he was rather surprised at the reply given by Mr Blunn as at the AGM some two years ago there had been great support for the team place idea. The only thing which had ruined the suggestion put forward at that time had been that the financial angle had been tied up with the principle of the basis. He also stated that if the team basis was passed at this particular meeting it had to be supported by the revenue propositions and, therefore, he would like to say straight away that in his opinion, the team place idea should have been proposed by the NEC at this particular meeting in view of the previous support for the idea. At this stage the Chairman stated that tea was available to the members present and he adjourned the meeting for thirty minutes. The Barking representative stated his League were in favour of the team place. He stated that in some cases the affiliation fees payable by leagues would be considerably greater if the 10/- per team was agreed and he stated he thought the fairest way was for the affiliation fee to be on the team place.

Mr Brown (Leeds) stated his League had put up the idea of a sum of money being payable but based on the team place. He considered that the team place idea was simple and equitable. He appreciated that some present administrators would say that the whole thing was not workable but in his opinion, it would work and the members of his League felt strongly that this basis should be employed. He further stated that if the Hon Treasurer felt that the amount to be realised under their Amendment 2 to this Proposition was insufficient then he was prepared to withdraw the Leeds Amendment in favour of Amendment No 1 proposed by Slough. Mr Blunn stated that the present average per team so far as the players were concerned was 3.7 and, therefore, he was happy to take the view that if the team place idea became operative this would basically be four players per team which at 2/6 each would come to the same thing as the 10/- per team, as suggested by the NEC. He would, however, suggest that on the basis of 2/6 per team place, Leagues which played 5 a side would be paying 12/6 per team and he wondered whether they would eventually get down to playing three-a-side because of this new rule. He knew that the Secretary appreciated this might cause further work for the office but the NEC were prepared to accept this.

Mr Hartley (Bromley) stated his League at the moment played four-a-side. He was of the opinion that there were many people who wanted to play the game but were basically in the same state as in areas in London, where there were few venues and, therefore, his League had decided that in order to, give the maximum number of people the opportunity to play, they would play on a four-a-side basis instead of three-a-side. He suggested that Leagues should look into this question carefully and alter their basis to four-a-side which would in fact, give 33¹/₃% more people a chance to take part in League matches. He also stated that if members stated it was better to have 3-a-side competitions because they got more table tennis for their money, then he was of the opinion that they should pay more. Mr Cruwys (Cheltenham) gave details of how things operated in his League and felt that the team basis was the better of the two suggestions in view of the fact that in the lower divisions of his League many Clubs had five or six people registered for each team. The Chairman then stated that he would ask the meeting to decide whether they preferred the team place idea or the team for the basis of affiliation fees. A number of members gave thoughts on the way in which the Chairman should deal with this particular item and finally, it was agreed to take a block vote to determine the agreement of the meeting on a simple majority when the Amendment and the main proposition were voted upon. The President then stated that it was obvious that the meeting at the present moment was not adopting or refusing anything which was written on the Order Paper. In his view the vote now being asked for was purely for a consensus of opinion on the team or on the team place. The meeting then voted on the question of whether the Slough and Leeds Amendments of team place should be substituted in the main proposition for the team basis and on being put to the vote these two Amendments were lost by 2,492 votes for and 2,328 votes against.

Amendment No 1 to Proposition No 6 (proposed by Slough & District TTL)

Add to the end of Rule 6X "and the number of players required to make up a team in that league."

In Rule 6Y(a) delete the whole of sub-clauses (i) and (ii) and insert

6Y(a) (i) A league other than a Youth League: 2/6d per team-place (ie 5/- for each team playing in a 2 a-side division, 7/6d for each team playing in a 3 a-side division, and so on pro rata)

(ii) Youth League: 1/3d per team-place.

In Rule 6Y(a)(iii) delete "1/- per team" and insert "3d per team-place."

In Rule 6Y(a), after sub-clause (iii) add: CALCULATION: The number of team places in a League shall be calculated by adding together the number of team places in each division of that League; the number of team-places in a division shall be calculated by multiplying the number of teams in the division by the lowest number of players required by the rules of the League to constitute a full team.

In view of the voting above Mr Wickens asked the meeting for their agreement to the withdrawal of this Amendment. This was agreed.

Amendment No 2 to Proposition 6 (proposed by Leeds and District TTL)

Delete sub-clauses (i) to (iii) in Rule 6Y (a) and insert as follows:

- (i) 2/- per-team-place for each team in a league which is not a Youth League (the number of team places being defined as the minimum number of team players constituting a team under the League's domestic rules).
- (ii) 1/- per team-place for each team in a Youth League.
- (iii) Any Local League not affiliated to a County Association shall pay an additional fee of 3d per team place.

Mr Brown (Leeds) formally moved the Amendment proposed by Leeds & District TTL and asked Mr Blunn to speak on the question of Finance. The Amendment was duly seconded. Mr Blunn, in reply to Mr Brown, gave details of the financial position of the Association and stated that the last increase in fees had been for the players' levy idea. Certainly this had helped the Association over the past two or three years and the money had been of great benefit. Some two years ago the increase suggested by the NEC was almost approved but the team place idea had been thrown out because it was tied in with the financial side of the matter. However, it was obvious that they had thought the increase as suggested by the NEC had been a fair one and although the Association had not received any extra income, the NEC had stood by their agreement and honoured an increase in the County Rebate.

Mr Blunn stated that the members present must appreciate that costs were rising and that the value of the £ was now 12½% lower than it was some five years ago. The Government had said that the £1 Note of five years ago was now only worth 17/6 and although the value of money had decreased, the Association's resources had not increased, in fact, they had been further depleted by an increase to the Counties. He stated some £600 had been given in increased County Rebate to the Counties in two stages. Returning to the expenses of the Association, he was quite sure members would appreciate that the new Constitution would be costly and if everyone at the meeting considered that this new Constitution was right they must also face the fact that the National Council conception was now going to cost more money. He, therefore, suggested that all members present should agree to the NEC proposal because, in his opinion, the new set up would cost the Association something between £400 and £600 extra which would include travel and hospitality for members to London for meetings. He continued by stating that administrative expenses of the Association went up every day. He stated that if the meeting was now looking forward to progress in a big way they must appreciate that increased fees were necessary. The meeting could not go back now on what they had already agreed earlier in the meeting. He gave details of the increased expenses for the Office. He stated the Secretary was doing much work which he should not be asked to do and, therefore, there had to be a constant look so far as the Office staff was concerned, possibly a senior person had to be employed and not a junior, which could account for a further £3-400 in salaries. He continued by stating that the Secretary himself was paid for a part-time job with the Association and was not paid for the free time which he in fact put into the work of the Association. He mentioned the fact that the Director of Coaching also had much paper work to do for which little or nothing was paid and, therefore, it was essential that the basic income of the Association should cover the costs of administration. He stated that to negotiate with outside persons one wished to do this always from strength but with little or no money to play with this became a great difficulty. He knew members would appreciate that money was received from the Ball Rebate and TV fees but they must appreciate that these were variable items upon which it was difficult to budget correctly.

The Ministry of Education was putting £2,000 into the game these days. Naturally, of course, they were not prepared to do this if they did not feel they were getting a return for their money. However, it was known to be a fact that the Ministry had stated they were prepared to increase Grant Aid to Associations such as the ETTA but from the interviews held it was obvious that if they were prepared to extend financial help they were expecting the members of the Association to contribute an equal amount. They had stated the ETTA must be progressive and Mr Blunn gave the members various ideas which he stated the NEC were currently considering but it was obvious from the Ministry's point of view that much more money would be required. He pointed out that the outside people of the Association were in fact contributing an equal amount of money as the members were regarding the various activities which were carried out. Also, the services given to the members accounted for more in the way of money than was actually received from the membership. The profits which had occurred over the past few years had been purely by chance under circumstances which were unknown until towards the end of the Season but he felt that these profits had enabled him to build up the Accumulated Fund which he considered was now stable and because of this fact the Association were able to negotiate in confidence. The total outlay in this day and age was between ten and twelve thousand pounds a year and he hoped the members would appreciate that the Officers, the Committee, the members, the staff and in fact everyone connected with table tennis were all a part of the Association. The object of the setting up of a National Council would be to get the nationally-minded members out in every locality to bring people in and

he stated that if only a 10% increase was brought about in this way, this would mean, on the present basis, an increase in money of between £500-600. He knew a number of members felt that volunteer labour could be attained for helping in the administration but he wished to say straight away that it was obvious from enquiries made, that this volunteer labour was not as easy to obtain as it was in the old days. One had to appreciate that many of these volunteers had now been taken over as Youth Club leaders and were being paid by the Authorities for whom they worked. Details were given, of the amount paid by the members of the Ten-Pin Bowling Association, which showed that great amount of money which was paid to that Association so willingly by the young people of the country.

Mr Blunn continued by stating the younger generation obviously had the money to spend. They would willingly pay 36/- for a new table tennis bat and yet they appeared to object to paying 2/- as an annual fee to the Association. He stated the members must appreciate that the sport was now more a participation sport than a spectator sport and, therefore, the money had to come from the players in order to finance the various programmes which the NEC had in mind. He stated he could go on for hours talking about this particular matter. He had tried to give the Association a clear picture of the financial aspect when he prepared his Accounts and that was why he had broken the Accounts down between Administrative and Working. He mentioned that some people thought the Working Account was purely and simply dealing with international matters. He stated that this was not so as he knew the members would appreciate for some of the activities within the Working Account did affect every player. He was also sure that if England could produce a European or World Champion, all the Leagues in membership would be delighted and would bask in the reflected glory. He appreciated very much indeed that members foresaw difficulty in obtaining greater finances at the present moment but he felt that if we continued at the present level, the position would still be the same five years hence. Therefore, he considered the new look was an urgent necessity for we must plan more Coaching Rallies, we must have more Ranking Meetings, we must get into the schools, in fact there were so many extra activities which were now wanted that this was already sufficient reason for saying that extra money was an urgent necessity. All these activities would cost more money and finally, Mr Blunn stated that he left it to the meeting to consider what he had said, bearing in mind all the time that all the extra activities would cost money and if the meeting could not see their way to go along with the NEC's proposition and in all honesty had to oppose such a fee structure, he only asked them to suggest to him what they considered could be cut in order to save unnecessary expenditure.

Mr Blunn's speech was received with acclamation. Mr Forrest (Wandsworth) thanked Mr Blunn for his very lucid speech. He had called a special meeting of his Committee on the previous evening and explained that his Committee had voted that he should vote for the lower fee. He sincerely hoped he was defeated at this meeting and now appreciated what the Treasurer and NEC had in mind. However, his league thought that they should not be expected to pay more money for such players as Chester Barnes. Mr Hartley (Bromley) stated that on this occasion he was supporting the NEC Resolution because he felt that Table Tennis players got a lot for the money they paid. He was, therefore, in agreement with the NEC's figure of 10/- per team. Mr Killmister (LCS) stated that his thoughts had now been changed from earlier in the meeting. This Proposition would adversely affect his League but he was in support of the case put by Mr Blunn. He was sure the change to be made in the NEC proposition would encourage smaller clubs to come into the Leagues and, therefore, he approved the NEC Resolution. Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated he also agreed with the NEC Proposition of 10/- per team. He felt that this was a fair amount to charge but he had to say that he had a number of proxies with him which were enforcing him to vote for the lower fee per team. Some of his Leagues opposed the NEC Proposition but he asked the meeting to consider that today's figures would not be final and he hoped that 10/- per team basis would be approved. The Chairman then asked for a vote on Amendment No 2 to Proposition No 6 as proposed by the Leeds & District League. On being put to the vote this Amendment was lost.

Amendment No 3 to Proposition No 6 (proposed by Swindon & District TTL)

In Rule 6Y(a)(i), add at end "except as stated in Rule 6Y(a)(iii)"

Re-number 6Y(A)(iii) as 6Y(a)(iv) and insert new rule as follows:-

6Y(a) (iii) 5/- for each Youth Club team which plays in a Local League, division membership of which is restricted to persons under 21 years of age.

Note: If Amendment No 2 to Proposition No 6 is carried, alter third part of foregoing Amendment by deleting "5/-" and inserting "1/3 per team place," or if Amendment No 3 to Proposition No 6 is carried, alter foregoing Amendment by deleting "5/-" and inserting "1/- per team place."

Mr Smith (Swindon) proposed this Amendment on behalf of his League and stated they had a Junior Division which was restricted to players of under 16 years of age. He, therefore, stated that if the NEC Proposition was approved at this meeting, the Junior Division Club would have to pay the same fee as the Senior Division Clubs and in his opinion this was not right. This Amendment was duly seconded. Mr Mitchell (Beckenham) and Mr

Hartley (Bromley) both stated they supported the Amendment made by Swindon and on being put to the vote this Amendment was duly carried.

The Chairman now returned to the main Proposition and asked for this to be coupled with the Proposition No 6 Alternative, which read as follows:

Proposition No 6 ALT (proposed by NEC) (Only to be proposed if Proposition No 6 carried, and both Amendments Nos 1 and 2 to Proposition No 6 defeated).

In Rule 6Y(a)(i), for "10/-" substitute "8/-" and in Rule 6Y(a)(ii), for "5/-" substitute "4/-"

Mr Blunn, in proposing the main Resolution as proposed by the NEC, stated he had really tried to make the points in his previous speech which were relative to the amount of affiliation fees now being asked for. In reply to Mr Forrest, he said that if his conscience so desired, Mr Forrest should not vote against the 10/- basic fee, he could always abstain. He appreciated very much the fact that certain people had received mandates from their Leagues which had told them what they had to vote for and against at this meeting but he asked all members present to give what he had said to the meeting, fair consideration and then to vote accordingly. He pointed out that under the old system of affiliation the amount each player paid during the season was 1/7d. Under the new set-up the players would be paying 2/-d each per season. The difference was 5d and he was quite sure every table tennis player in the country would be able to find this sum of money.

At this stage it was proposed and seconded that the Standing Orders should be suspended while a vote was taken first on the principle of the teams and then on the main Proposition of 10/- and 5/- and the Alternative Proposition of 8/- and 4/-. It was then proposed, seconded, and agreed that the basis of affiliation fees should be based on teams. The Chairman then asked the members present to vote on the question of 10/- and 5/- fees per team and on block voting this was defeated by 2,282 votes for and 2,410 votes against. The Chairman then asked the meeting to vote on the question of 8/- and 4/- and this was carried unanimously. The Chairman then asked the meeting to deal with the Amendment to Proposition No 6 ALT proposed by Swindon. This read as follows:

Amendment to Proposition No 6 (proposed by Swindon & District TTL)

Add to foregoing Proposition "and in Rule 6Y(a)(iii) for "5/-" substitute "4/-"

This was duly proposed, seconded and agreed. The meeting now agreed to return to the Standing Orders.

Proposition No 7 (proposed by NEC) (only to be proposed if Proposition No 3 is carried)

Delete Rule 5 and insert as follows:

- 5X Every applicant for affiliation to the Association shall complete the current affiliation form and shall sign it on behalf of himself or of the League or Club for whom application is being made. The Management Committee shall have power to refuse any application for affiliation without giving reasons. Appeal against such refusal may be made to the National Council.

Mr James proposed this proposition on behalf of the NEC and stated it was one of tidying up. He also explained that the new proposition included a right of appeal of an applicant to affiliation against a refusal to accept the application, which was in fact a new departure. This proposal was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 8 (proposed by NEC) (only to be proposed if Proposition No 3 is defeated)

Delete Rule 5 and insert as follows:

- Every applicant for affiliation to the Association shall complete the current affiliation form and shall sign it on behalf of himself or of the League or Club for which application is being made. The NEC shall have power to refuse any application for affiliation without giving reasons.

The proposition was now not necessary and, therefore, it was duly withdrawn with the meeting's agreement.

Proposition No 9 (proposed by NEC)

Delete Rule 7 and insert as follows:

- 7X All Affiliation Fees shall be paid to the General Secretary of the Association not later than 15th November each season.

Mr Blunn proposed this proposition on behalf of the NEC and stated it was one of tidying up. The main difference to the current rule was that the word "season" was used instead of "year" as this seemed to be more in keeping with table tennis terminology. This was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 10 (proposed by NEC)

Delete Rule 20(h) and insert new Rule as follows:

- 7Y No Local League from or in respect of which any Affiliation Fees are due but unpaid shall be entitled to participate in any election of Officers or Councillors, nor to exercise any votes at a

General Meeting, nor shall a County Association be entitled to exercise any votes in respect of such Local League, nor shall any member of such Local League be entitled to attend any General Meeting or take any part in the business of the Association.

Note: If Proposition No 3 is defeated, amend foregoing Proposition by substituting NEC "Members" for "Councillors".

Mr Blunn proposed this proposition on behalf of the NEC and this was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 11 (proposed by NEC)

Delete Rule 8 and insert as follows:

HANDBOOK

8X Copies of the Association's current Handbook when published shall be supplied free of charge to every County Association, Local League, Directly Affiliated Club, Directly Affiliated Individual and Registered Member.

Mr Blunn, in proposing this proposition on behalf of the NEC, stated it had been made quite clear to the NEC that many of the Handbooks now distributed were not of any interest to the Club Secretaries. This meant that many Handbooks had been left in the hands of the League Secretaries and, therefore, the proposition now made by the NEC gave a discretion as to how many copies were in fact distributed. This proposition was duly seconded.

Amendment No 1 to Proposition No 11 (proposed by Wolverhampton & District TTL and seconded by Middlesex TTA)

In Rule 8X, for "Copies" substitute "1 copy" and between the the words "Local League and "Directly Affiliated Club" inset "affiliated club"

This proposition was duly proposed Miss Moss of Middlesex and seconded by Mr Scott on behalf of the Wolverhampton League. Miss Moss stated that Middlesex had suggested the Amendment because many people asked what the ETTA did for them in tangible form and it was always pleasant to be able to say that the ETTA produced a Handbook which was given to Clubs free of charge. Mr Watts (Sussex) agreed with the thoughts expressed in the Amendment and went on to say that Counties liked to be able to tell their Clubs that they should play the game according to the Laws of the game as approved by the ETTA, which were contained in the Association's Handbook. These Laws were not always to be found in League Handbooks. He, therefore, wished to say he agreed with the Amendment suggested.

Amendment No 2 to Proposition No 11 (proposed by Leeds and District TTL)

Add to end of Rule 8X "Copies supplied to a Local League shall be on the basis of one copy for each 12 teams in membership,"

Mr Brown (Leeds) stated that his League had put this Amendment on the Order Paper because he felt that if copies were supplied to a League on the basis of one copy for each twelve teams in Membership, this would supply each League with a sufficient number of copies. However, from the points already made he wished to withdraw this amendment on behalf of his League and asked the meeting's approval of this action. This was duly agreed. The Chairman then returned to the Amendment No 1 to Proposition No 11 and this, on being put to the vote, was lost. He then put to the meeting the Proposition No 1 proposed by the NEC and this was agreed.

Proposition No 12 (proposed by NEC)

In Rule 20(j) delete "the President and" and in Rule 20(j) delete "Vice-Presidents and" (line 1); delete the whole of line 4 and insert new Rule as follows:

PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

- 8Y
- (a) The Association shall have a President and not more than 25 Vice-Presidents, who shall be elected annually by the Annual General Meeting.
 - (b) Nominations for President and Vice-Presidents shall be submitted only by the National Council.
 - (c) The President and Vice-Presidents shall hold office from the day following the AGM at which they are elected.
 - (d) The President shall have the right to attend all meetings of the Association including meetings of the National Council and of the Management Committee.

Note: If Proposition No 3 defeated amend foregoing Proposition by deleting "and of the Management Committee".

Mr Blunn proposed this proposition on behalf of the NEC which was seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 13 (proposed by NEC)

Amend Rule 12 to read as follows:

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS.

- 12X (a) The distinction of Honorary Life Member may be conferred for special or long service in connection with the game nationally.
(b) The distinction shall be conferred only at an Annual General Meeting.
(c) Candidates shall be nominated only by the National Council.
(d) The distinction shall carry with it the right to attend all General Meetings of the Association and the right to the Official Pass.

Mr James, in proposing this motion, stated that it was one of tidying up. The rule had now been reworded which clarified the position regarding the Hon Life Members. This was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 14 (proposed by NEC)

Delete Rules 9, 10, 11 and 14(c); in Rule 14(a), lines 1-2, delete "Officers of the Association" and in Rule 14(b), lines 1-2, delete "and Officers of the Association (other than the Hon General Secretary)."

Insert new rules as follows:

OFFICERS.

- 9X (a) The honorary Officers of the Association shall be Chairman, Deputy Chairman, General Secretary (if the post be not suspended in the manner mentioned in Rule 9X(e) and Treasurer.
(b) All Officers shall retire annually at the end of the Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election.
(c) A casual vacancy in an office shall be filled in the manner set out in Rule 15 so far as applicable, the nomination forms being sent out not later than seven days after the vacancy occurs.
(d) Notice of intention not to seek re-election to any Office shall be sent to reach the General Secretary not later than January 31st in any year.
(e) Should the National Council under the provisions of Rule 11X appoint a paid General Secretary, the office of Honorary General Secretary shall be suspended whilst such appointment is in effect.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

- 9Y (a) A nomination paper shall be sent by the General Secretary of the Association to the Secretary of every County Association and of every Local League (except as mentioned. in Rule 7Y) at least 60 days before the date fixed for holding the Annual General Meeting.
(b) Each County or Local League shall be entitled to nominate one person for each office to be filled.
(c) To be valid a nomination paper must:
(i) be signed by the Secretary and by another responsible officer of such County Association or Local League and
(ii) be received by the General Secretary of the Association (or such other person as may be appointed for the purpose by the Management Committee) not later than 14 days after the issue of the Nomination papers.
(d) No person will be effectively-nominated unless he is named in at least two valid nomination papers.
(e) Voting for the election of the Officers of the Association shall be by postal ballot (if there be more than one effective nomination for any office) which shall to conducted in such manner as the National Council may from time to time determine.
(f) The vote of each County shall count as 1 unit, the vote of each Local League with 30 or less teams in membership 1 unit, 31-100 teams in membership 2 units and 101 or more teams in membership 3 units.
(g) Every voting paper shall be signed by the Secretary and another responsible Officer of the organisation voting.
(h) Scrutineers shall be appointed by the National Council to determine any questions as to the validity of nomination and voting papers, and ascertain the result of any postal vote held under the provisions of this rule.
(i) The result of the election of Officers shall be circulated concurrently with the nomination papers for the election of National Councillors under Rule 13Y(a).

OFFICIALS

- 10X The National Council shall at its discretion have authority to elect additional honorary officials

for up to one year and to invite such persons to attend meetings of the National Council, but, unless they already be members of the Council, without right to speak (unless invited to do so) and without vote.

PAID APPOINTMENTS.

11X (a) The National Council shall have power to create and fill any paid appointment which in its opinion is necessary.

(b) The National Council shall approve any contract necessary in connection with such paid appointment and shall authorise the Officers to sign it on behalf of the Association. The contract shall there upon be binding upon the Association.

Note 1: If Proposition No 6 defeated, amend foregoing Proposition in Rule 9Y(c)(ii) by substituting "NEC" for "Management Committee"

Note 2: If Proposition No 5 defeated, amend foregoing Proposition in Rule 9Y (f).by substituting "15 or less clubs" for "30 or less teams," "16-50 clubs" for "31-100 teams," and "51 or more clubs" for "101 or more teams."

Mr James proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC and pointed out that on page 12 of the Order Paper, item 9X(c), line 2, the number "15" should read "9Y". This had been a printer's error and the meeting accepted this alteration. This Proposition was duly seconded.

Amendment No 1 to Proposition No 14 (proposed by Middlesex TTA)

In Rule 9X(d), for "shall" substitute "should".

Miss Moss (Middlesex) stated that in the opinion of her County the word "should" should be used in this new rule instead of the word "shall". This was on the basis that in the opinion of Middlesex the Rule could not be enforced on people. Mr Wickens (Slough) stated that if a Rule could not be enforced it should not be in the Rules and on being put to the vote this Amendment was agreed by 15 votes for and 14 votes against.

Amendment No 2 to Proposition No 14 (proposed by Wolverhampton & District TTL)

In Rule 9Y(c)(ii), for "14" substitute "40"

This motion was proposed by Mr Scott on behalf of the Wolverhampton & District League and was duly seconded. On being put to the vote the motion was lost.

Amendment No 3 to Proposition No 14 (Proposed by Wembley & Harrow TTL)

In Rule 10X, after "meetings of the National Council", insert "and of the Management Committee"; after "members of the Council" insert "or of the Committee"; delete "without right to speak (unless invited to do so) and."

Mr Richardson (Wembley) stated that in his League's opinion if additional Honorary Officers were elected to attend meetings of the National Council they should have the right to speak. After all, if a person was- elected in this way he would be wanted by the National Council for a specific task and he, therefore, ought to have the right to speak at any time during the discussions of the Council. Mr Jaschke (Kent) stated that his County were against such an idea. Their view was that if a person was not elected to the National Council but only invited to attend then he should only be allowed to speak when requested to do so by the Chairman. Mr Reeve (ETTA Press Officer) stated he supported Wembley from the point of view of his position as ETTA Press Officer at the present time. He suggested that a number of posts were agreed by the NEC at the present time where specialist knowledge was necessary and felt that it would be to the advantage of the National Council if these specialists could have the right to speak freely at all times, although they were not given the right of a vote. He, therefore, wished to support the Wembley amendment. On behalf of the NEC Mr Blunn stated he wished to oppose this amendment and on being put to the vote the Amendment was lost. The Chairman now returned to the main Proposition No 14, and on being put to the vote this was duly agreed.

Proposition No 15 (proposed by NEC) (Only to be proposed if Proposition No 3 defeated and Proposition No 6 carried).

In Rule 14(b), for "15 or less clubs" substitute "30 or less teams", for "16-50 clubs" substitute "31-100 teams," and for "51 or more clubs" substitute "101 or more teams."

The meeting agreed that this motion was now not necessary and that it should be withdrawn.

Proposition No 16 (proposed by NEC)

Insert new rule as follows:

15X The Auditors shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting and shall take office from the day following that meeting.

Mr Blunn proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC and stated it was one of tidying up. This was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 17 (proposed by NEC)

Amend Rule 16 to read as follows:

16X The funds of the Association shall be lodged at a bank, and all cheques, drafts, etc., drawn on the account shall be signed by the Treasurer and by either the Chairman or General Secretary.

Mr Blunn proposed this motion stating that once again this was a question of tidying up. He further stated this was the current practice and, therefore, nothing different to what was being carried out at this particular time.

Mr White (Life Member) asked what would happen if the Treasurer was ill. He suggested that cheques should be signed by two of the three people mentioned and not necessarily by the Treasurer and one or other person concerned. Mr Hartley (Bromley) stated that in his opinion the Treasurer should always sign cheques and on being put to the vote this proposition was duly agreed.

Proposition No 18 (proposed by NEC)

Delete Rule 18

Mr Blunn stated that the current rule in the Constitution was a relic of the old days when, because the Entertainment Tax was very much to the fore, a Coaching Fund had been set up. In view of the fact that the Entertainment Tax did not now apply there was no necessity to have such a Fund and, therefore, the NEC were proposing the deletion of this old rule. This was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 19 (proposed by NEC)

Insert new rule as follows:

VOTING BY LOCAL LEAGUES AT GENERAL MEETINGS

20Y (a) Any Local League wishing to exercise its own votes at a General Meeting shall give notice in writing to the General Secretary of the Association of its desire so to do not later than 14 days before the date of the General Meeting, such notice being signed by the Secretary and by another responsible officer of the Local League. The General Secretary shall issue an official Voting Card to the Secretary of such Local League not later than seven days before the date of the meeting.

(b) The votes of every Local League which does not exercise the option granted by Rule 20Y(e) shall be exercised by the Accredited Representative of the County Association to which such Local League belongs.

Mr James, on behalf of the NEC, proposed this motion stating that the votes at the present time were with the Leagues. The point made in this new proposition was that the Leagues' votes would automatically be in the hands of the Counties but the Leagues would have the opportunity of exercising their own votes if they wished to do so, so long as notification was sent to the General Secretary of the Association. It was suggested that in this way the ETTA would get far wider representation at Annual General Meetings than at the present time and the Leagues would still retain, the right to vote if they so desired. This Proposition was duly seconded.

Amendment to Proposition No 19 (proposed by Wolverhampton & District TTL) and seconded by Wembley & Harrow TTL)

Delete Rules 20Y(a) and (b) and insert as follows:

20Y The General Secretary shall issue an official Voting Card to the Secretary of every Local League not later than 40 days before the date of a General Meeting. Any Local League not wishing to exercise its own votes at a General Meeting may authorise the Accredited Representative of the County Association to which it belongs to vote on its behalf.

Mr Scott moved the proposition on behalf of Wolverhampton League and Mr Richardson (Wembley) stated that in the opinion of his League, no League's vote should automatically go to a County. This, in the view of his League, was all wrong. If a League wished to give the County its vote this was a different matter, but for Leagues' votes to automatically become those of the County was the wrong way to deal with the matter. Mr Upton (Liverpool) stated that he supported the last speaker and in his view the Leagues should always retain the right to vote on matters relating to the Association. Mr Hartley (Bromley) stated he supported the NEC proposition because, in his opinion, this would stop the apathy of Leagues regarding this matter. It would now be the responsibility of Leagues to do something regarding voting and this should have the effect of making them more interested in the ETTA. The Amendment was then put to the vote and was lost. The Chairman then returned to the main Proposition which, on being put to the vote, was agreed.

Proposition No 20 (proposed by NEC)

Delete Rule 20 and insert as follows:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

- 20X (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in the last week in June or the first week in July.
- (b) At least 28 days' notice specifying the place, the date and hour, together with the Agenda, shall be given to the Secretary of every County Association, Local League and Directly Affiliated Club and to every Directly Affiliated Individual.
- (c) Attendance at the AGM shall be open to all Members (except as mentioned in Rule 7Y).
- (d) Each County Association and each Local League which has exercised the option under Rule 20Y(a) shall be entitled to appoint an Accredited Representative who shall hold the official Voting Card issued by the ETTA signed by the Secretary of his County Association or Local League.
- (e) The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting shall include the following items:
- (i) To adopt Standing Orders for the meeting
 - (ii) To read the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
 - (iii) To consider any matters arising therefrom
 - (iv) To read the minutes of any Special General Meeting held since the previous Annual General Meeting
 - (v) To consider any matters arising from (iv)
 - (vi) To receive and consider the Annual Report of the National Council
 - (vii) To receive and consider the Report of the Treasurer, the Report of the Auditors and the Statement of Accounts made up to May 31st or a subsequent date
 - (viii) To consider and determine any alterations to Rules
 - (ix) To consider any other Motions
 - (x) To elect the President and Vice-Presidents for the ensuing year
 - (xi) To elect Honorary Life Members of the Association
 - (xii) To elect Scrutineers for the next Management Committee election
 - (xiii) To elect Auditors for the ensuing year
 - (xiv) To receive the Report of the Election of Officers
 - (xv) To receive the Report of the Election of National Councillors
 - (xvi) To consider any other competent business.
- (f) Before transacting any business the AGM shall adopt Standing Orders which shall govern procedure at the meeting.
- (g) Motions affecting the constitution or the Rules of the Association or the Laws of Table Tennis as approved by the Association
- (i) may be proposed only by the National Council or by a County Association or a Local League and
 - (ii) may be subject to Block Voting as provided in Rule 20X(i)
- (h) 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 declare the motion carried or lost, except as provided in Rule 20X(i).
- (i) On a motion as specified in Rule 20X(g) the chairman shall accept a demand for a Block Vote from any Accredited Representative or may himself decide to proceed to a Block Vote. In the absence of a demand for a 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.
- (j) Block Vote: In Block Voting, each County Association's Accredited Representative shall exercise the votes of every Local League in his County except any Local League which has exercised the option given by Rule 20Y(a), or any Local League as mentioned in Rule 7Y. The Accredited Representative of a Local League which has exercised the option given by Rule 20Y(a) shall exercise the votes of his Local League. Each Local League shall be entitled to one vote for each team in membership.
- (k) A majority in excess of opposition one-third of the votes cast shall be necessary to carry any resolution in respect of the Rules of the Association and the Laws of Table Tennis. Other resolutions shall be decided by simple majority, and, in the event of a tie, except on financial questions, the meeting shall proceed to the next business. In

the matter of finance the chairman shall have a casting vote.

Note 1 If Proposition No 3 defeated, amend foregoing Proposition by deleting Rule 20X(e)(xii)'

Note 2 If Rule 6X be not passed, either as originally proposed or as amended, amend foregoing Proposition in Rule 20X(j) by substituting "club" for "team" (third word from end).

Note 3 If Proposition No 19 defeated, amend foregoing Proposition as follows: Amend 20X(d) to read "Each County Association and each Local League shall be entitled to appoint an Accredited Representative who shall hold the official Voting Card issued by the ETTA, signed by the Secretary of his County Association or Local League," and replace wording of 20X(j), except the prefix "Block Vote", by the wording of present Rule 20 (e).

Mr Clemett proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC. He stated that the main points were as at the present time but the new wording showed other additional items which had been included at AGMs in recent years. This proposition was duly seconded.

Amendment to Proposition No 20 (proposed by Wolverhampton & District TTL)

In Rule 20X(b), for "28" substitute "60".

Note If this Amendment is carried, notice of the AGM will be required to go out (including Agenda) before the last date for amendments to Rules coming in, so it will be necessary for practical purposes that Proposition No 20C is also carried.

Mr Scott moved this proposition on behalf of the Wolverhampton League. This Amendment found no seconder so it automatically fell to the ground. The Chairman then returned to the original proposition and on being put to the vote was agreed.

Proposition No 20C (proposed by Wolverhampton & District TTL) (Only to be proposed if Amendment to Proposition No 20 carried)

In Rule 3d(a) for "February" substitute "January", for "March" substitute "February" and for "April" substitute "March."

This proposition automatically fell to the ground in view of the fact that the previous Amendment had not been carried.

Proposition No 21 (proposed by NEC)

Delete Rule 21 and insert as follows:

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

21X (a) A Special General Meeting of the Association shall be convened on a resolution of the National Council, or within one month of receipt by the General Secretary of a request signed by the authorised representatives of at least one third of the Local Leagues.

(b) Rule 20X respecting circulation of notices and procedure shall apply as for the Annual General Meeting.

This motion was proposed by Mr Clemett on behalf of the NEC. It was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 22 (proposed by NEC)

Amend Rule 22(a)(vi) to read as follows:

22 (a)(iv) In any case where the National Council may decide that a Local League shall not be obliged to affiliate to a County Association, either (1) because no County Association exists in the County concerned or (2) because membership of the Local League concerned is spread over more than one County, an additional fee of 1/- per team in membership with the said Local League shall be paid to the ETTA. Money so received in case (1) 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 (2) shall be divided in such a manner as the National Council may decide among the County Associations in whose areas the Local League concerned operates.

Note If Proposition No 6 defeated, amend foregoing Proposition by substituting "2/- per club" for "1/- per team".

Mr Blunn proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC and stated this rule was prepared especially for those Leagues who had no County Association. The motion was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 23 (proposed by NEC)

Amend Rule 22(b) to read as follows:

22 (b) (i) Membership of or affiliation to such County Association shall be compulsory for

all Local Leagues, Directly Affiliated Clubs, Directly Affiliated Individuals, Schools Leagues and Directly Affiliated School Clubs in the County, except as provided under Rule 22(a).

(ii) All organisations in the County in Good Standing with the ETTA shall be accepted into Good Standing by the County Association.

Mr Blunn proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC and stated that it was the existing position but amended to come into being under the new Constitution. This motion was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 24 (proposed by NEC)

Amend Rule 22(h) to read as follows.

22 (h) A County Association shall be entitled to receive each season from the ETTA

(i) a rebate of 20%, to be claimed on the official form not later than 31st March each season, in respect of Affiliation Fees paid to the ETTA by that date by Local Leagues, Directly Affiliated Clubs and Directly Affiliated Individuals in membership with such County Association and

(ii) a rebate of 20% of the competitors' fees paid to the ETTA in respect of Tournaments played within the area of such County Association.

Note: If Proposition No 6 defeated (or Amendment No 1 or 2 to Proposition No 6 carried), or the amounts therein modified by Proposition No 6 ALT being carried, amend foregoing Proposition in Rule 22(h)(i) by substituting "17½%" for "20%".

Mr Blunn proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC stating that the figure of "17½%" should be inserted in the place of 20% in item 22(h)(i). This was duly seconded.

Amendment to Proposition No 24 (Proposed by Kent TTA)

In Rule 22(h) delete "to be claimed on the official form not later than 31st March each season".

The Kent representative stated, that the reason for their amendment was that they did not feel that the Counties should have to claim for the Rebate because this matter should be an automatic one in view of the fact that the money under rule was due to the County. Mr Wickens (Slough) stated he wished to support the last speaker because in his view this Rebate should be an automatic one to Counties. Mr Blunn, speaking on behalf of the Hull & East Riding League, stated his League was of the opinion that the Counties should make application for the Rebate in order that the ETTA should have details of what was being claimed. He went on to say that there should be an obligation on the Counties to ask for the Rebate when they wanted it. He also pointed out that if the Kent amendment was to be carried then the words "by that date" should be deleted from the original proposition otherwise it would not read correctly.

Mr Killmister (London Civil Service) stated he thought the Treasurer had made a case for Kent because from what Mr Blunn had said it appeared that certain Leagues paid later in the season and Counties might not appreciate that this money had been so paid. He felt it was an obligation of the ETTA to rebate the appropriate amount of fees due to the Counties and if the Treasurer's point of view was agreed then the Counties might not know that someone had paid and would, therefore, not claim the correct amount. This would have the effect of causing the ETTA's accounts to be not strictly correct and the Kent Amendment would produce a much truer picture of the ETTA Accounts at Annual General Meetings. The Kent amendment was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 25 (proposed by NEC) (To be proposed only if Rule 6X carried)

Insert new Rule as follows:

22X (ii) A Local League shall pay affiliation fees on the basis of the number of teams it has in membership.

Mr Blunn moved this proposition on behalf of the NEC which was duly seconded and agreed.

Amendment to Proposition No 25 (Proposed by Slough & District TTL) (to be proposed only if Amendment No 1 or Amendment No 2 to Proposition No 6 is carried)

In Rule 22X(ii), add at end "and the number of players required to make up a team in that League."

This Amendment automatically fell to the ground.

Proposition No 26 (proposed by NEC)

Insert new Rule as follows:

22X (iii) Schools Leagues and School Clubs may affiliate to the County Association without fee.

Mr Blunn proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC which was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 27 (proposed by NEC)

In Rule 34, insert "General" before "Secretary" in all places.

Mr James proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC which was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 28 (Proposed by NEC)

Amend Rule 26 to read as follows:

26 No affiliated player, organiser or official may take part in a televised event in connection with table tennis unless sanction has first been obtained from the General Secretary of the Association.

Mr James stated that this motion was one of tidying up and was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 29 (proposed by NEC)

In Rule 27(b) line 2, substitute "Member" for "affiliated member" and (line 4) after "duly registered" insert "as a Registered Member".

Mr James proposed this motion on behalf of the NEC and again stated it was one of tidying up the rules. This was duly seconded and agreed.

Proposition No 30 (proposed by NEC) (To be proposed only if Proposition No 3 carried)

Insert new rule as follows:

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

30X (a) Championships shall be organised for competition between teams representing County Associations.

(b) Such Championships shall run under Regulations laid down by the National Council (which Regulations shall be published as Appendix E to these Rules).

Mr Eyles stated that everyone in the room would know that the National County Championships were a sovereign body and, therefore, the ETTA could not automatically insert such a rule in their constitution. He, therefore, proposed that talks should be held with the National County Championships Committee to see if they were agreeable for the Competitions to be run through the new National Council because he felt this would be an ideal way of dealing with the matter now that a National Council was in being. Mr Watts (Sussex) stated he felt this item should not be dealt with without proper notice and in his view, should not have appeared on the Order Paper. He proposed this item be withdrawn and this was duly seconded. After further discussion it was agreed this item should be withdrawn and the matter should be brought to the notice of the AGM which, this year, will be held on 27th June.

RESOLUTIONS

3(a) Proposed by NEC: "That the NEC (or National Council) be authorised to renumber the Rules as necessary."

This was agreed.

(b) To be proposed by NEC if Proposition No 3 carried: "That this meeting elect Scrutineers for the first election of the National Council and the next election of Officers." If carried, there shall follow election of Scrutineers.

This was agreed and Messrs White and Vint were agreed as the Scrutineers for the next Elections.

(c) To be proposed by NEC if Proposition No 3 carried: "That the NEC exercise the power under 13Y (e) and 9Y (e) for the first election of National Council and the next election of Officers."

Agreed.

(d) Proposed by Surrey TTA, seconded by Kent County TTA: "That the National Council may authorise a County Association to collect League affiliation fees on behalf of the ETTA. Where such authority is granted the County Association shall be responsible to the ETTA for the affiliation fees of all Leagues within its area."

Mr Forrest (Surrey) stated his County had put this Resolution on the Order Paper because they felt that certain Counties were well qualified to collect the Leagues' Affiliation fees on behalf of the ETTA. Mr Jaschke (Kent) wished to second this motion. He continued by stating he felt a pilot scheme could be organised to see how the whole thing worked and in the experience of such a pilot scheme, a further decision on this matter could be taken in a year or so. Mr Watts (Sussex) agreed that he had opposed this matter in the past but he thought now was the time to give it a try. Mr Upton (Liverpool) stated his League were very much against this idea because

if a County Secretary was inefficient the Leagues would lose their right to vote at meetings. Mr Scott (Staffs) stated he was against this Resolution because of the trouble which had been encountered in his County with regard to the appointment of an Honorary Treasurer. Mr Blunn stated this Resolution was acceptable to the ETTA. He stated the Committee had now agreed conditions which he felt were in order for this matter to have a trial and it was now up to the Counties to see if they could carry out this experiment. They would have to ask for the necessary permission from the National Council at their first meeting. Mr Brown (Leeds) asked what would happen to Leagues who paid to the Counties should the Counties not remit the fees to the ETTA. Mr Blunn replied that if the ETTA fees were not paid then neither the County nor the League would have any voting power. On being put to the vote this Resolution was duly carried.

(e) Proposed by Slough & District TTL: "That the National Executive Committee submit a Report to the 1963/64 Annual General Meeting stating item by item what action has been taken and/or what action is proposed to be taken in connection with each individual recommendation included in the Report of the Development Commission."

Mr Wickens (Slough) in proposing this Resolution stated that the Development Commission Report had dealt with many matters which were not covered by this meeting's Agenda. His League felt that the Council would like to know what was being done with regard to the other recommendations proposed by the Development Commission; it was the duty of the NEC to let the country know. Mr Blunn agreed that the point Mr Wickens had raised was sound and stated that at the 1964 AGM a detailed statement would be given to the meeting with reference to the other recommendations of the Development Commission Report which had not been dealt with today. On being put to the vote this Resolution was agreed by the Meeting.

The Chairman asked the meeting for their views on whether the AGM for 1964 should be held in London. He pointed out that as the Special General Meeting had been in London today the members present might wish for the Annual General Meeting to be held elsewhere. The delegates present, by a show of hands, voted for the AGM for 1964 to be held in London and the Secretary stated that the date for this, so far as he knew, would be the 27th June 1964.

Mr Eyles then thanked the meeting very much indeed for the way in which they had helped to get through a very lengthy Agenda. He also wished to thank Mr Tony Wickens for all the work he had carried out in compiling the Agenda Paper which had been before the meeting today, the President who had sat by him during the whole of the meeting and had been of great help to him from time to time, the Rules Committee and, in particular, Mr White, who had contributed much to the work needed to put all the items before the membership today and, in conclusion, Mr Eyles wished all the members present well and asked them to go back to their areas in the country and try to convert all their members to agree in due course to a sum of £1 per team affiliation fee to the ETTA. In this way he was sure the Association would progress from strength to strength in tale many activities which the Committee wished to extend and to put into operation, which were just not possible at this time through lack of finance.

On behalf of all present, the President thanked the Chairman for the way in which the meeting had been conducted and Mr Lawson (Northumberland) stated he wished to thank the members of the Development Commission for their Report which had done so much to bring about this meeting today. The Chairman thanked Mr Lawson on behalf of the Development Commission members and went on to say how much he appreciated the work done by Messrs Blunn and James at the meeting today in putting forward the various propositions. He stated they had worked very hard prior to this meeting today obtaining a very clear picture of all the Propositions and the meeting received this remark with acclamation. Mr Scott stated he knew the meeting would wish to thank Mrs Reeve who had taken the Minutes of today's meeting, for all her hard work in this connection. Again the meeting received this vote of thanks with acclamation.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.