

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION,
HELD AT THE CORA HOTEL, UPPER WOBURN PLACE, LONDON W.C.1.
ON SATURDAY, 5th JULY, 1969 COMMENCING AT 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT

Officers: T A Harrison (President),
C Jaschke (Chairman),
W Mitton (Deputy Chairman),
T Blunn (Hon Treasurer)

Hon Life Members: F Milligan, E Reay, E G White

Vice-Presidents: G V Barna, R J Crayden, Mrs J F Reay

Members of National Council: Miss K Waters and Messrs Barrett, Briggs, Clemett, Cornwell, Crickmer,
Greatrex, Goldstein, Harmer, Hartley, Hoffman, Ransome, Reid, Scott,
Stevens, Taylor, Thompson, Watts, Wyles and Yates

Representatives from
County Associations: Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Cheshire,
Cornwall, Cumberland, Devon, Durham, Essex, Gloucestershire, Hampshire,
Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Kent, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Middlesex,
Northamptonshire, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Suffolk,
Surrey, Sussex, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire and Yorkshire

Leagues: Birmingham, Bolton, Brackmill, Brighton, Bristol, Bromley, Burnham-on-
Crouch, Cambridge, Castleford & Pontefract, Central London, Eastbourne,
Hastings, Hull, Leicester, London Business Houses, NALGO, Newham Youth,
North Middlesex, NE Summer, North Yorks, Reading, Salisbury, Stockton,
Sunderland, Wembley & Harrow, Willesden and Worcester

Directly Affiliated Club: Kingston Grammar School

Directly Affiliated Individuals: Mrs E Phillips, W Evans

Other Organisations: Essex Schools TTA, Wiltshire Association. of Youth Clubs

In attendance: D R Tremayne (General Secretary)
A W Shipley (Assistant Secretary)

1 CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF REPORT OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

On a proposition by Mr W Goldfinch (Sussex) seconded by Mr M Greatrex (Hants) the Report was adopted.

2 ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

Mr Jaschke offered the Chair to the President Mr Austin Harrison, who declined and requested Mr Jaschke to Chair the meeting. On a proposition by Mr F Briggs (Yorks) seconded by Mr L Hoffman (Middx), Standing Orders were adopted.

3 APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS

It was agreed that Mr G Campbell (Bolton) and Mr D Wolstencroft (Bolton) be appointed Tellers for the Meeting.

4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from thy; following National Councillors: Mrs F Jarvis (Devon), H Walker (Essex), L C T Davis (Gloucestershire), A E Upton (Lancashire), K Marchant (Northants), A J Hobday (Oxon) and the following members: P Hyde, N K Reeve, A K Vint, (Life Members), J H Carrington, E R A Connell, J A Leach (Vice Presidents), Mrs S Kydd, G T H Fackroli (Sub-Committee members), M Watts (Essex), Miss S Keen (Southport), H Edwards (Uxbridge), Mrs A Reeve, (Wembley & Harrow).

5 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 6th July 1968

These were confirmed and signed as correct.

6 MATTERS ARISING FROM ITEM 5

None.

7 REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31st MAY 1969

The Chairman stated that he would go through the Report, which had been circulated, paragraph by paragraph, and asked members to raise any points at the appropriate moment. He also pointed out that following many approaches from members, the style of presentation of the Report had been changed, under the editorship of Colin Clemett, and asked for an expression of opinion on the new style.

Page 1, Paragraph 2 Mr Jaschke paid tribute to the assistance given by Mr A and Mr C Wyles in the Office of the Association, in addition to Mr H Walker.

Page 2, Paragraph 4 Mr I Crickmer (Worcs), speaking on behalf of the English Schools Table Tennis Association, expressed their gratitude to the ETТА for all the help given during the inaugural year.

Page 2, Paragraph 6 Mr A Shepherd (Essex) asked if it was correct that one Team Manager was responsible for the selection of both senior and junior teams. Mr T Blunn (Chairman of Selection Committee) replied, saying that the original instruction from the National Council was to appoint one Team Manager to have overall responsibility for or all selections. The Team Manager for juniors reported to the Senior Team Manager.

Page 3, Paragraph 3 Mr Landry (Willesden) pointed out that the two juniors sent to the World Championship in Munich were selected on merit. Mr R Crayden (Vice-President) stated that the Report was in error on the matter of the semi-final medal being the first for fifteen years, as we had reached the final of the women's doubles in 1963.

Page 3, Paragraph 6 Mr Landry (Willesden) felt that the reason for the small support of the National Club Championships was insufficient information, sent too late in the season. Mr M Goldstein (Chairman of National Team Competitions Committee) replied, saying that information was sent to Counties but agreed that some new thinking was required. Mr J Wright (Middx Schools) felt that some Leagues did not strictly comply with the qualification regulations of the Wilmott Cup. Mr Goldstein again replied, saying that no complaints had been received.

Page 4, Paragraph 5 The Chairman felt that the new Disciplinary Committee had worked well under the Chairmanship of Mr A E Upton who was at present making good progress from a serious illness, and the meeting asked that their best wishes be conveyed to Mr Upton.

Page 4, Paragraph 6 Mr J Wright (Middx Schools) felt that the English umpires were a success in Munich and hoped that a similar invitation would be forthcoming from Japan and that the ETТА would invite foreign umpires when we hold the World Championships in 1973. Mr Jaschke endorsed the views of Mr. Wright and confirmed that invitations to foreign umpires would certainly be made for 1973. Mr D Mitchell (Bromley) felt that the requirements for a Tournament Referee

should not necessarily include an umpiring qualification and that the qualifying standards should follow a different course to that of Umpires. Mr C Clemett (Secretary to Umpires and Referees Committee) stated that there was no formal qualification at the moment and applicants were judged on experience but a knowledge of the laws comparable to that of a County Umpire was required. Mrs P Archdale (Glos) stated that the ETТА Handbook inferred that a Referee qualified after reaching the stages of County and then National Umpire. Mr Clemett replied that this was not the present policy of the Umpires & Referees Committee.

Page 4, Paragraph 7 Mr J Wright (Middx Schools) felt that some open tournaments did not comply with the minimum requirements and asked if the Tournaments Committee checked each tournament. G Yates (Chairman of Tournaments Committee) said that most tournaments were covered by a Committee member and nothing obvious had been noticed. The application form for tournaments requested details of the playing conditions and the committee were satisfied that, within reason, conditions were being met. The whole question of tournament conditions was under review.

Page 5, Paragraph 3 Mr Jaschke informed the meeting that Ivor Montagu had written to say that he was pleased at the way the ETТА were active in the international field, and sent his best wishes to the meeting.

Page 5, Paragraph 6 The Chairman confirmed that we would take up our option to stage the World Championships in 1973. M Scott (Staffs) asked what financial commitment would be involved. Mr Blunn (Treasurer) replied that, at this stage, one could only estimate approximately between £50,000 and £75,000 as no approaches had yet been made to venues or hotels, and the amount of sponsorships available was not known. Mr Jaschke informed the meeting that negotiations with several international companies had gone far enough to give hope of obtaining sufficient sponsorship to be able to stage the World Championships in an impressive manner. Further news might be available in August or September.

Page 5, Paragraph 7 The Chairman reported that much interest had been shown in the Commonwealth Tournament, and Singapore had agreed to hold the event for the first time in 1971, and Wales in 1973.

Appendices The Chairman apologised for the omission of the European League table. Mr J Wright (Middx Schools) pointed out that the winners of the Midland and Eastern Divisions of the County Championships were

the 2nd teams of the Counties concerned, Staffordshire and Hertfordshire respectively. Mr B Hartley (Bromley) queried the inclusion of County Championships in the Report, and Mr Blunn replied that it was for information purposes and its omission would cause more comments than its inclusion. Mr W Goldfinch (Sussex) moved that the Report be adopted with congratulations to those responsible for its preparation and presentation. Agreed.

8 STATEMENT OF RESULT OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR SEASON 1969/70

The General Secretary read the documents, which had been distributed nationally, and which showed that the three serving officers had been returned unopposed, ie

Chairman: C Jaschke; Deputy Chairman: W Mitton; Hon Treasurer: T Blunn

Mr Jaschke thanked the members on behalf of the Officers and said that they would do their best to further the interest of table tennis and would welcome comments or criticism at any time.

9 STATEMENT OF RESULT OF ELECTION OF NATIONAL COUNCILLORS FOR 1969-70

The General Secretary read the document which had been distributed nationally and announced the result for Durham, which had been delayed owing to a query on the Electoral Register for that County.

A Ransome 9 votes - elected; E Reay 7 votes - not elected

Therefore, the members elected to National Council were:

Bedfordshire	P E Harmer	Leicestershire	P Reid
Berkshire	M Lijinsky	Lincolnshire	K W Dewar
Buckinghamshire	L Thompson	Middlesex	L Hoffman
Cambridgeshire	D Cornwell	Norfolk	E J Fairhead
Cheshire	J K Kennerley	Northamptonshire	K J Marchant
Cornwall	L F Landry	Northumberland	D Robson
Cumberland	G R Yates	Nottinghamshire	E Taylor
Derbyshire	P Norman	Oxfordshire	A J Hobday
Devon	K T O Ponting	Somerset	D Pope
Dorset	D Meech	Staffordshire	M E Scott
Durham	A E Ransome	Suffolk	D J Barrett
Essex	H Walker	Surrey	C J Clemett
Gloucestershire	L C T Davis	Sussex	K Watts
Hampshire	M S Greatrex	Warwickshire	M Goldstein
Hertfordshire	H G Stevens	Wiltshire	Miss K Waters
Huntingdonshire	S Roberts	Worcestershire	I R Crickmer
Kent	C M Wyles	Yorkshire	F Briggs
Lancashire	A E Upton		

10 REPORT OF THE TREASURER, REPORT OF THE AUDITORS AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MAY, 1969

Copies of the Hon Treasurer's Report had been circulated and were available at the meeting. Mr Blunn (Hon Treasurer) read out the Report from the Auditors which confirmed that everything was in order and congratulated them on producing such a statement in the short time available. £4,000 of the £6,000 shown as debtors had now been received. Although the Government grant for next season had not yet been determined, it was understood that it would be at least the basic £7,300. The Editor of "Table Tennis News" had been accorded an honorarium of £120 which he used to attend the World Championships to report on the event for the magazine. Mr Blunn answered the following points raised by members:

Mr Wyles (Kent) noted the decline in the revenue from Fund Raising and requested a breakdown of the income figure of £653. This was given as £107 from Master Points Scheme, £296 from the Lottery and £250 from the 100 Club.

Mr Landry (Willesden) felt that once again little publicity city had been given to the Master Points Scheme and Mr Woodford (Eastbourne) had asked for the number of Leagues participating in the Scheme. Mr Blunn replied that 40 Leagues participated but commented that income from fund raising had taken on a different aspect, as it was no longer vital to our finances. However, the three schemes provided useful services to our members and as such should be continued.

Mr S Dane (Central London) pointed out that the loss incurred on the home junior international against West Germany at Barnsley had been wrongly carried down. Mr Blunn agreed that the figure of £512 should be £6, the error resulting from a rounding off of £5 12 0.

Mr E G White (Life Member) asked why the order of showing the income and expenditure on the English Junior Open was inconsistent with that of the English Open. Mr Blunn explained that it had been drafted that way in anticipation of a profit, but had turned out to be a small loss.

Mr D Mitchell (Bromley) spoke at length on his views that the accounts should be presented in two different forms as he felt the present method did not give a true picture of the administration and working accounts. Mr Mitchell also asked if the Government grant could be set off against the items for which it was intended. Mr Blunn replied that the form of the accounts was presented in the traditional manner as consistency allowed comparisons to be made. We are relying more and more on outside income for our static expenses and the present accounts show that the administration costs are not being covered by the income from affiliation fees. With regard to the grant, the ETAs were now placed in a global category for grant aid and we were not directed on how the grant was to be utilised. The grant was now part of our permanent income and was therefore shown in the administration account.

Mrs J Clay (NALGO) queried the amount shown as profit on the 12 Stiga tables sold and felt that the item on Travel, Hospitality and Meals at the World Championship was excessive. Mr Blunn explained that £300 of the profit from the Stiga tables was shown in last year's accounts as an estimated item and this £180 made up the actual amount of 12 tables at £40 each. Mr Blunn said that the high cost of the World Championship item was due to the fact that a team of ten players was sent, some of whom we had to pay for in full. Also, the team was sent one day in advance for acclimatisation purposes and the cost of living was very expensive in Munich. He assured the meeting that every penny was accounted for by bills showing that the items were spent only on the official party.

On a proposition by Mr J Ford (Bristol), duly seconded, the Report was adopted.

11 PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO RULES

Proposition No 1 (Proposed by National Council)

New Rule 7A as follows:

- (a) Every Local league, Directly Affiliated Club and Directly Affiliated Individual shall be deemed to remain affiliated until
 - (i) affiliation fees due to be paid to the ETAs are unpaid on 30th April in any season or
 - (ii) affiliation is terminated by the Local League, Directly Affiliated Club or Directly Affiliated Individual or
 - (iii) renewal of affiliation is refused by the National Council.
- (b) A Member by virtue of being an official, player or other member of a body mentioned in Rule 5(a), or of a club in membership of or affiliated to such a body, shall be deemed to remain a Member until the earlier of
 - (i) 31st December following the end of the season for which fees or subscription due were last paid by or in respect of him, or during which he was acknowledged by such body to be a member thereof or
 - (ii) the date on which his membership of that body is terminated by specific decision or operation of the Rules of that body.

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council, explaining that in the past problems have arisen due to there being no Rule governing how long a person or body remains a Member of the ETAs, particularly whether a person (or body) remains subject to Rules after the end of a season and before he is "registered" or has taken any step to imply affiliation for the following season. This Rule will provide for membership to continue for an ascertainable length of time.

The proposition was seconded and was carried unanimously.

Proposition No 2 (Proposed by Sunderland & District TTA)

Amend Rule 17(c)(i) by deleting "by another responsible Officer" and inserting "and Chairman or Treasurer".

Mr E Reay (Sunderland) asked the permission of the meeting to withdraw this proposition. Agreed.

Proposition No 3 (Proposed by Sunderland & District TTA)

Amend Rule 17(g) by deleting "responsible Officer" and inserting "Secretary and Chairman or Treasurer"

Several members spoke against this proposition and on being put to the vote it was defeated.

Proposition No 4 (Proposed by Sunderland & District TTA)

Amend Rule 20(a) by deleting "in the manner laid down by Rule 21" and amend Rule 21 by deleting (a), (b), (c), (d), (f), (g), (h), (i) and inserting "the Management or Executive Committee of each County shall appoint a National Councillor"

This proposition fell as it was not seconded.

Proposition No 5

In Rule 21(e) delete "ETAs General Secretary" in two places and substitute "Nominations Officer";

in Rules 17(c)(ii) and 21(c)(ii), after "received by the" insert "Nominations Officer (being the" and delete the bracket between "Association" and "or".

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that in view of the use of the term "Nominations Officer" over the past few seasons, it was thought appropriate for it to be mentioned in the Rules.

The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 6 (Proposed by the National Council)

Add new Rule as follows: 21(ee) In the event of there being no effective nomination under Rule 21(d) or 21(e) for any seat, that seat shall remain vacant for the season.

Mr K Watts formally moved this pro-position on behalf of the National Council and explained that this clarified what was understood to be the present position.

The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 7 (Proposed by the National Council)

Add new Rule as follows: 21(ii) In the event of the ballot resulting in a tie, there shall be a second ballot. In the event of the second ballot also resulting in a tie, the Chairman of the County Association shall exercise a casting vote.

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that there was in the Rules no provision for deciding a tied ballot.

The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 8 (Proposed by the National Council)

Re-number the present Rule 11 as Rule 11(a) and add new Rule as follows:

11(b) No local league shall be entitled to nominate or vote in any election of Officers or National Councillors held between 1st January and the end of that season

- (i) from or in respect of which any affiliation fees are due to the ETTA but unpaid on 1st January, or
- (ii) during any period when it is suspended by the ETTA

Add new Rule:

Electoral Register

16A (a) For the purpose of elections the General Secretary shall not later than 10th January send to the Secretary of every County Association to be referred to as the Electoral Register, Local League a list, to be referred to as the Electoral Register, of all Local Leagues whose affiliation fees were paid on 1st January. Any challenge to the accuracy of the Electoral Register must be made in writing and received by the General Secretary not later than 20th January or within 7 days of notification of any addition, transfer or deletion.

(b) The Electoral Register shall be divided into sections, one for each County Association, in which shall be listed the Local Leagues entitled to vote in the election of National Councillor for that County.

(c) The name of any Local League suspended by the ETTA shall be removed from the Electoral Register forthwith, but shall be restored as soon as the suspension ends.

(d) The name of any Local League which ceases to be affiliated shall be removed from the Electoral Register forthwith.

(e) Between the end of a season and 31st of December following the General Secretary shall add to the Electoral Register the name of any newly affiliated Local League.

(f) No Local League shall without the authority of the National Council be transferred from one County section to another in, nor, except as provided by Rules 16A(c) and (d), be removed from the Electoral Register.

Amend Rule 17(a) to read as follows:

By a date to be notified by the National Council (not being later than 9th March nor earlier than 23rd February) the General Secretary shall send a Nomination Paper to the Secretary of every County Association and to the Secretary of every Local League listed in the Electoral Register under Rule 16A.

Add to end of Rule 17(e):

No Local League shall be entitled to vote which is not in the Electoral Register.

Add to end of Rule 7(f): For the purposes of this Rule a Local League shall be deemed to have in membership the number of teams it had in membership at the previous 1st January or at the beginning of the current season, whichever is the later.

Amend Rule 21(a) to read as follows: By a date to be decided by the National Council (not being later than 30th April nor earlier than 16th April) the General Secretary shall send a nomination paper to the Secretary of every Local League listed in the Electoral Register under Rule 16A.

Add to the end of Rule 21(f): No Local League shall be entitled to vote which is not in the Electoral Register.

Add to the end of Rule 21(g): or the purposes of this Rule a Local League shall be deemed to have in membership the number of teams it had at the previous 1st January or at the beginning of the current season,

whichever is the later.

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that there was presently some uncertainty as to who was entitled to participate in an election; whether a body which is not, say, under Rule 11 eligible to receive a nomination paper may be eligible to vote if it pays its fees before voting closes (even though this is a long time after the proper date for fees to be paid). This Rule sets up a Register, governed by a fixed date, and provides how Leagues are to be put on and taken off. The date in Rule 16a(a) - 1st January - is the latest practicable, having regard to the administrative work entailed, and in any case gives a League 6 weeks' grace after the proper date for payment of affiliation fees. The new Rule would also help scrutineers in their tasks.

The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 9 (Proposed by Sunderland & District TTA)

Delete Rules 22 and 23, and all further mention of Management Committee throughout the Rules.

In proposing this motion, Mr E Reay (Sunderland) stated that the ETTA Development Commission had recommended that the Management Committee should manage the affairs of the Association, with the National Council meeting only once or twice. He felt that the present Management Committee had only advisory powers and should be abolished. Mr E G White, speaking as the Chairman of the E.T.T.A. Development Commission, wished to correct the last speaker, saying that the Commission recommended that a National Council would meet as often as necessary to direct policy, with the Management Committee dealing with matters between Council meetings. Although the proposition fell as it was not seconded, Mr Jaschke said that while the Management Committee was already very effective, the National Council would give thought to any further steps that could be taken to make it even more so.

Proposition No 10 (Proposed by Kent County TTA)

Amend Rules 22(b), 23(a), 23(d), 23(f) and 23(g) in two places by substituting "five" for "four"

Mr C Wyles (Kent), in making this proposition, took the opposite view to the previous proposition, saying that the Management Committee was a very important committee, especially in view of the increasing scope of the Association. Mr M Scott (Staffs) seconded and strongly supported the proposition.

Mr J Wright (Middx Schools) and Mr Wickens (Bucks) spoke against the motion and the Chairman declared the proposition defeated. There was a demand for a block vote, the result of which was:

FOR: 6,329 votes, AGAINST: 8,477 votes, defeated.

Proposition No 11 (Proposed by the National Council)

Delete Rules 32(a)(iv) and (v) and insert:

32(a) (iv) A Local League shall affiliate to one County Association only, and shall not transfer or be required to transfer its affiliation from one County Association to another at any time, except as provided in Rule 32(a)(v+)

(iv+) A Local League affiliating newly or afresh shall affiliate to the County Association in whose geographical area all or the largest number of its member clubs is situated at the time of application, except as provided in Rules 32(a) (iv++) and (v).

(iv++) Where a Local League affiliating newly or afresh has another club situated in the geographical areas of two or more County Associations and EITHER it wishes to affiliate to one of those County Associations other than that determined by Rule 32(a) (iv+) OR at the time of the application there is no one County Association in the geographical area of which a larger number of its member clubs is situated than in any other County THEN such a Local League may apply to the National Council for permission to affiliate to a County Association of its choice in whose geographical area some of its member clubs are situated. The National Council shall decide such application taking into consideration the views of the Local League and of every County Association in whose geographical area any of the Local League's member clubs is situated.

(v) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 32(a) (iv+) a Local League may, with the consent of the County Association to which it would be required to affiliate under Rule 32(a) (iv+), apply to the National Council for permission to affiliate to some other County Association.

(v+) Where changes in the membership of a Local League having member clubs situated in the geographical area of two or more County Associations result in an alteration of the distribution of its member clubs among the geographical areas of such County Associations, either the Local League or any of such County Associations may apply to the National Council to approve the transfer of the affiliation of the Local League to some other County Association. The National Council shall decide such application taking account of the views of the Local league and of every County Association in whose geographical area any of the Local League's member clubs is situated.

Mr K Watts formally move this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that, judging by the difficulties of interpretation in the recent past, Rules 32 (a) (iv) and (v) appear not to have been clear from

doubt. The effect of the new Rule 32(a) (iv) will be that every League already affiliated will be bound to continue affiliated to the same County Association, unless it operates in more than one County, when Rule 32(a) (v+) may apply. Rule 32(a) (iv+) is a clarified version of the present Rule 32(a) (iv) and Rules 32(a) (iv++) and (v) provide in clearer terms for a League affiliating for the first time or after a lapse wishing to affiliate to a County Association other than as provided by Rule 32(a) (iv+).

The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 12 (Proposed by Sunderland & District TTA)

Delete Rule 32 (c)

In making this proposition, Mr E Reay (Sunderland) said that his County Association had been in existence for 40 years under the Rules formed by its members and failed to see why the ETTA should need to approve such Rules. The proposition was seconded by Mr Walsh (Wembley & Harrow). Mr R Pierce (Brighton) spoke against the proposition, as he felt that Counties were the branch offices of the ETTA. and welcomed this approval of Rules, wishing that Counties had. the same power over their Leagues. Mr K Watts (Sussex) expressed surprise at Mr Reay's objection to this Rule as it had been in existence for many years and was now being made effective. Mr D Mitchell (Bromley) supported the proposition saying that it was human nature to object to intrusion. He felt that there was an element of threat and that only Rules (of Counties) which were in conflict with ETTA. policies should be the concern of the ETTA.

Proposition No 13 (Proposed by the National Council)

Add to end of Rule 32 (c): Such approval shall be retrospective to the date on which application for approval was made.

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that this ensured that, provided a County Association applies for approval promptly and approval is given in due course, there is no period of time during which a new or amended Rule is not valid.

The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 14 (Proposed by the National Council)

Add new Rule as follows:

32 (bb) Not later than 30th November each season every County Association shall send to the ETTA: (i) a list of all Local Leagues affiliated to the County Association at the date of the list and (ii) a list of Local Leagues which were so affiliated the previous season but have not renewed their affiliation by the date of the list.

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that at present the ETTA was not aware whether or when a Local League complies with Rule 32 (a) by affiliating or renewing affiliation to. a County Association. The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 15 (Proposed by the National Council)

Reword Rule 32 (f) as follows:

32 (f) (i) A County Association shall have power to suspend any Local League, club, player or official within its jurisdiction, and such suspension shall be enforced by all bodies in that County and shall be notified to the General Secretary of the ETTA.

(ii) On the application of the County Association, the National Council may make the suspension national.

(iii) Any such suspension shall be subject to a right of appeal to the Board of Appeal.

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that this provided for the ETTA to be notified of suspensions by a County, amended the body to which appeal lies to accord with Rule 51 (a), and clarified the remainder of the existing Rule. The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 16 (Proposed by the National Council)

In Rule 51 (a), after ". . . Officer of such Association, or" insert "any individual, club, Local League or County Association aggrieved by a decision or action"

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that this provided for a County Association to be able to appeal against a National Council decision. It was thought that the original omission of the County Association was unintentional. The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 17 (Proposed by the National Council)

Amend Rule 51 (a) by inserting after "of such Association" the words "(except the determination of an Appeal).

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that it was never intended that the determination of an appeal should be able to be appealed against, and Rule 50 states that a decision is "final". The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 18 (Proposed by the National Council)

In Rule 51(C), delete the words "every organisation or member against whom a breach of Rule of Regulation or misconduct is alleged".

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that these words were no longer appropriate now that there was no appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 19 (Proposed by Sunderland & District TTA)

Amend Rule 52 in line 6 by substituting "neither" for "either" and in line 7 by inserting after "appeal" "shall be legally represented, but".

In making this proposition, which would prevent any party to an appeal being legally represented, Mr E Reay (Sunderland) said that at an Appeal Board which he attended, the ETTA representative was a solicitor and a member of the Board was a QC, and he felt that this was unfair. The proposition was seconded by Mrs J Watts (Bristol), after an appeal for a seconder so that it could be discussed. Mr A Wickens (Bucks) stated that the ETTA Representative appeared as secretary of the Rules Committee and not as a solicitor, which happened to be his profession. Mr A Shepherd (Essex) felt that this proposition to stop someone being legally represented was contrary to the rules of natural justice. On being put to the vote the proposition was defeated, with no votes for,

Proposition No 20 (Proposed by the National Council)

In Rule 52, delete the words "when the appeal was lodged" at the end.

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that the name of the respondent's representative cannot be notified to the ETTA when the appeal is lodged, as the respondent is not aware of the appeal at that time. It is not thought reasonable that an appellant should be denied a representative because he cannot be named at the time the appeal is lodged. The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 21 (Proposed by the National Council)

Add at the end of Rule 53 "An appeal shall be deemed to be pending from the time notice of appeal is received by the appropriate person".

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that the word "pending" required amplification. The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 22 (Proposed by Essex TTA)

Amend Rule 58 by substituting "Twelve" for "Five" in line 1, and inserting, after "Mixed Doubles" in line 2, "and Junior Singles (Boys) Junior Singles (Girls), Junior Doubles (Boys), Junior Doubles (Girls), Junior Mixed Doubles, and Mens' and Womens' Veterans Singles".

Mr D Lomas (Essex) in making this proposition said that his County felt there was a need for a Junior Closed Championships. After a short debate, in which it was pointed out that the amended wording would cause such junior events to be the best of five games, Mr Lomas withdrew the proposition on an undertaking from the Chair that every effort would be made to hold an English Junior Closed Championships.

Proposition No 23 (Proposed by the National Council)

Add new rule as follows:

41A Only a brand and grade of ball approved by the National Council may be used in play within, between or organised by any organisations which are affiliated or in Good Standing

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that it was always understood that the purpose of the governing body approving certain balls was that balls not approved could not be used by Members. This proposition put practice into Rule.

Mr Jaschke also explained that quality was a prime consideration in giving approval but this Rule would strengthen our case when approaching manufacturers for an approval fee. The proposition was seconded and carried.

Proposition No 24 (Proposed by the National Council)

Amend Rule 33(i) by inserting "voting" between "Ex officio a" and "member"

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that this was to make it clear that a National Councillor has a vote on his County Committee. The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 25 (Proposed by the National Council)

Add new Rule as follows:

33(iv) No Member shall without good and sufficient cause absent himself from the Hearing of any allegation or appeal after having been requested with reasonable notice to do so, or refuse to answer any questions put to him in connection with such allegation or appeal if the body hearing the allegation or appeal direct him to answer.

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that this assists a County Association in dealing with an appeal by providing for it to be a breach of County Rules for a person involved in an appeal not to co-operate. The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

Proposition No 26 (Proposed by the National Council)

Add new Rule 33(v) as follows:

"Any Local League, club, player or official, may be suspended from the privileges of membership of this Association under the power created by Rule 32(f), subject to the right of appeal provided by Rule 51(a). The ETTA General Secretary will be notified of any suspension under this Rule".

Mr K Watts formally moved this proposition on behalf of the National Council and explained that this was to ensure that members of a County were aware that the County's powers of suspension were governed by ETTA Rules. The proposition was seconded and carried unanimously.

At this point the Annual General Meeting was adjourned and the Special General Meeting was convened.

The only item on the agenda was as follows:

Amend Rule 38C to read as follows:

38C (a) Prizes of £25 or less in value may be awarded and accepted without special permission other than the general sanction granted for the holding of Open Championships.

(b) Prizes exceeding £25 but not exceeding £100 in value (or not exceeding such lesser sum as the National Council may stipulate) may be awarded and accepted only with the permission of the National Council.

(c) No prize may exceed £100 in value.

(d) Badges and colours may be awarded and accepted for participation in representative matches.

Mr K Watts formally moved this amendment on behalf of the National Council, explaining that the ITTF had now altered their Rule to allow for a top prize of £100. The Tournaments Committee felt that it was not in the best interests of all concerned for every tournament to be allowed the maximum of £100 without some form of control as set out in the amendment. Mr L Hoffman (Middx) felt that the only limitation should be that of the ITTF Rule without any need for ETTA approval. Miss I Moss (Middx) was in favour of the proposal on the grounds of caution to see how the new arrangements worked in practice. Mr C Wyles (Kent) asked members to support the proposition and he was proud that an idea which had originated in Kent had come to fruition at international level. The Chairman explained that securing an increase from £7 to £100 in the ITTF prize, limit rule was probably only a first step, but at this stage a higher limit would probably have meant the defeat of this amendment which was put up by the ETTA at the recent ITTF Congress. Mr W Mitton (Secretary of Tournament Committee) said that the English Open would be governed by this limit of £100 and his Committee did not feel that it would be right for small tournaments to give prizes equal in value to our premier event. He also felt that, without some control, certain tournaments would feel obliged to cancel if they had to compete with tournaments able to give £100 prizes. On being put to the vote, the proposition was carried, with 2 votes against.

The agenda of the Annual General Meeting was then resumed.

12 MOTIONS

Motion (a) (Proposed by Essex TTA)

THAT the National Council take steps to procure the amendment of the Association's Rules to provide for the National Councillor for each County Association to be elected in the same manner as the Officers of such County Association.

Mr D Lomas (Essex) in proposing the motion quoted the statistics involved in the number of Leagues making nominations, as he felt that this showed a lack of interest in National Councillor elections. After the motion had been seconded by Mr E Reay (Sunderland) several members spoke against the motion, all with the same basic objection of the wide variance in method being used by Counties to elect their Officers, no method being as democratic as the elections conducted by the ETTA. The motion was defeated with only 2 votes for.

Motion (b) (Proposed by North Yorkshire TTL)

THAT the National Council take steps to procure the amendment of the Association's Rules to provide for Officers to serve for a period of two years.

Motion (c) (Proposed. by North Yorkshire TTL)

THAT the National Council take steps to procure the amendment of the Association's Rules to provide for National Councillors to serve for a period of two years, half the seats becoming vacant each season. Mr A Ransome (N Yorks) asked for permission to withdraw these motions and this was agreed. The Chairman asked for an expression of opinion from the members present on the principles contained in the motions and the general feeling was against changing the present arrangements.

13 ADOPTION OF LAWS FOR 1969/70 SEASON

Motion (d) (Proposed by the National Council)

THAT this meeting approves the alterations to the Laws of Table Tennis passed at the 1969 ITTF Congress for use in England subject to the wording being circulated.

Mr C Clemett (Secretary of Umpires & Referees Committee) formally moved the motion and informed the meeting that the only alteration to the Laws made at the ITTF Congress was to change the order of part of the wording in the service Law. Therefore, he proposed that the ETTA continue to use the Laws as published in the ETTA Official Handbook. This was seconded and carried unanimously.

Motion (e) (Proposed by National Council)

THAT this meeting authorises the National Council to give permission for balls used in specified events to be yellow instead of white.

Mr W Mitton (Deputy Chairman) explained that evidence had been given in Munich that for sighting purposes a yellow ball was superior to a white one. The ITTF had asked Associations to conduct experiments under match conditions and report back, with a view to introducing legislation in 1971 to cover their use. On a point of information, Mr V Barna (Vice-President) stated that manufacturers would have no difficulty in producing yellow balls but there was a need for the colour yellow to be defined. After some further discussion it was proposed by Mr E G White (Life Member) and seconded by Mr L Thompson (Bucks) that the question now be put. On being put to the vote the motion was carried unanimously.

14 ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

No serving members were due for retirement, and no new nominations were made.

15 ELECTION OF HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

There were no nominations for Honorary Life Members.

16 ELECTION OF SCRUTINEERS FOR 1969/70 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ELECTION

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Mr B Hartley and Mr J M Wright be elected.

17 ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

The Chairman stated that Mr E G White had retired from this Committee by rotation and did not wish to stand for re-election, as he was now living in the North. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Mr W Goldfinch be elected to fill the vacancy.

18 ELECTION OF AUDITORS

Mr Mitton proposed that the present Auditors, Messrs Spain Bros, Jukes & Co be re-elected. Agreed.

19 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Mr Blunn (Hon Treasurer) apologised for the brevity of his answer to a question by Mrs J Clay (NALGO) but requested that questions requiring a detailed answer be given in writing before the meeting.

Mr D Lomas (Essex) drew attention to the fact that the England Team Captain (Juniors) had organised events in the County of Essex without any reference to the County Association. Mr Blunn, as Chairman of the Selection Committee, took the responsibility in this case and stated that the policy laid down was for the National Councillor of a County to be consulted in advance but sometimes expediency ruled the day. He gave an assurance that steps would be taken in future to avoid similar occurrences.

Mr I Crickmer (Worcs) asked if the congratulations of the ETTA had been sent to Mrs. Ann Jones on her success at Wimbledon. The Chairman confirmed that this had been done.

Mr A Shepherd (Essex) wished to query the method of the selection of Melvyn Waldman for the England Team taking part in the European Junior Championships, as he understood that Mr Landry had been empowered to be the sole selector for the team. Mr Blunn, replied as Chairman of the Selection Committee, stating that Mr Landry was empowered to make the initial selection which would then be discussed by himself and Johnny Leach, the England Team Manager. Mr Shepherd went on to detail the achievements of Waldman as a player,

claiming that the original omission from the selected team was unjust. Mr Blunn replied that if selections were made purely on results there would be no need for selectors at all. It was not the policy to defend or justify selections and in over 50 teams chosen this has been only the third complaint received.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 6.20pm with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr E Taylor (Notts), for his excellent conduct of the meeting.