

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE
REGENT CENTRE HOTEL, CARBURTON STREET, LONDON W.1, ON SATURDAY,
13TH JULY, 1974, COMMENCING AT 2.00 p.m.

PRESENT: M. Goldstein (President)
C.M. Wyles, O.B.E. (Chairman)
G.R. Yates (Deputy Chairman)
T. Blunn (Hon. Treasurer)

Hon. Life Members:

C.J. Clemett, P. Hyde, G. James, F. Milligan, E. Reay,
N.K. Reeve, A.K. Vint O.B.E., K. Watts, E.G. White.

Vice Presidents:

R.J. Crayden, W. Evans, Miss I. Moss, Mrs. J.F. Reay,
L. Thompson, H. Walker.

Members of the National Council:

Mrs. D. Henderson, Miss C.E. Rose, Miss K. Waters and
Messrs. Barrett, Briggs, Burden, Cavell, Chamberlain,
Channing, Chatwin, Colclough, Crickmer, Goldstein, Greatrex,
Harmer, Inch, Landry, Marchant, Moss, Ponting, Smith L.,
Smith R., Shepherd, Stevens, Thompson, Watts and Wright.

Representatives from the following Counties and Leagues:

Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, Cornwall,
Cumberland, Derbyshire, Devonshire, Durham, Essex,
Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Hertfordshire,
Huntingdonshire, Kent, Lancashire, Middlesex, Norfolk,
Northamptonshire, Northumberland, Nottinghamshire, Shropshire,
Somerset, Staffordshire, Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex, Warwickshire,
Westmorland, Wiltshire, Worcestershire, Yorkshire.

Acton, Ashford, Aylesbury, Barking, Basildon, Bath,
Birmingham, Bolton, Bradford, Bristol, Bromley, Cambridge,
Central, Chelmsford, Cheltenham, Cheshunt, Chesterfield,
Coventry, Dagenham, Darlington, Dunstable, Gloucester,
Harlow, Hartlepool, Hastings, Hereford, Hertford, Hull,
Isle of Wight, Leicester, Leominster, Liverpool, London B.H.,
London C.S., Lowestoft, Medway Towns, Middlesbrough, Murton,
Newbury, N.E. England Summer, North Herts, North Middlesex,
North West Kent, North Yorkshire, Nuneaton, Philadelphia,
Redditch, Salisbury, Silvertown, Southampton, Southend,
Southport, Spalding, Stockton, Stroud, Sunderland, Sutton,
Tunbridge Wells, Wembley and Harrow, Willesden.

Organisations in Good Standing:

English Schools T.T.A., Fire Services Sports and Athletic
Association, International Club, Universities Athletic Union.

Directly Affiliated Members:

Mrs. E. Phillips.

Sub-Committee Members:

K. Mathews, J. Pike, A.G. Steggall, J. Zenthon

In attendance:

D.R. Tremayne	(General Secretary)
M.J. Lawless	(Development Officer)
A.W. Shipley	(Administrative Secretary)
P.A. Hirst	(National Coach)
B.R. Merrett	(National Coach)
R. Cunningham	(National Exhibition Centre)
J.D. Cole	(National Exhibition Centre)

The President, Mr. Maurice Goldstein, took the chair and welcomed all delegates to the meeting. He stressed the importance of the meeting as the Association was going through a period of change and development unequalled in our history and the good attendance showed an awareness of these changes.

1. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF REPORT OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.

Mr. K. Watts (Sussex) moved the adoption of the Report.

Mr. A.J.H. Wickens (Standing Orders Committee) explained the causes and gave apologies for two errors on the proposed alterations to Rules.

It was agreed that for the purposes of Standing Order No. 5.3. each paragraph of the National Council Report would be taken as a separate item.

The adoption of the Report of the Standing Orders Committee was seconded by Mr. A. Wickens and carried unanimously.

2. ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS.

Mr. K. Watts (Standing Orders Committee) stated that there had been no alterations to the Standing Orders and moved their adoption. This was seconded by Mr. R. Colclough (Staffs) and carried unanimously.

3. APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS

It was proposed by Mr. G.R. Yates (Deputy Chairman) and seconded by Mr. T. Channing (Surrey) that Messrs. D. Wolstencroft and G. Campbell be appointed Tellers for the Meeting.

This was agreed.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from L.S. Woollard (Life Member), J.H. Carrington (Vice President), W. Goldfinch (Vice President), L.W. Jones (Vice President), D. Schofield (N.C. for Cheshire), A.E. Upton (N.C. for Lancashire), Mrs. A.J. Robinson (N.C. for Lincolnshire), J. Woodford (Regional Press Officer), T.W. London (Taxes T.T. League), H. Matthews (Southwark Federation of C.Y.C.) and Mrs. B. Nunns (Womens University Athletics Board).

At this point the meeting was adjourned to allow the holding of the Special General Meeting.

5. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 7TH JULY 1973.

It was proposed by Mr. B. Mayfield (Notts), seconded by Mr. M. Watts (Essex) that the Minutes be signed as a true record. Carried unanimously.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM ITEM 5.

None.

7. REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MAY, 1974.

Mr. C. Wyles, O.B.E. (Chairman) formally moved the adoption of the Report. The President stated he would go through the Report, which had been circulated, paragraph by paragraph, and ask members to raise any points under the appropriate headings.

Paragraph 2

Mr. S. Parr (Warwicks) expressed concern at the delay in receiving approval of his County's Rules. Mr. K. Watts (Chairman of Rules Committee) stated that the delay was regretted but a number of points had to be taken up with Counties by correspondence, which was proving to be a slow progress. Mr. A. Wickens (Secretary of Rules Committee) added that a number of policy decisions were required from the National Council and a report would be submitted to the Council in the near future. He also pointed out that thirteen Counties had still not submitted their rules for examination.

Paragraph 4

Mr. D. Iszatt (Harlow) felt that previous efforts to obtain sponsorship were not very successful. He also felt that there was insufficient communication between the E.T.T.A. and the ordinary members and suggested that a discount scheme be organised with information on its availability going direct to every player.

Paragraph 6

Mr. K. Buckle (North Middlesex) requested that the E.T.T.A. Development Officer should meet Development Officers of Leagues.

Paragraph 8

Mr. C. Wyles, O.B.E. (Chairman) expressed the Association's thanks to Mr. G.R. Yates for his Editorship of the magazine. Mr. L. Constable (Cambridge) felt that the magazine did not contain enough local news.

Paragraph 9

Mr. D. Hope (North Middlesex) criticised the coaching scheme in that communication was poor and told of his personal experience whereby his 2-star coach assessment was on different subjects to the papers supplied in advance.

Mr. D. Iszatt (Harlow) deplored the increase of the price of badges in the Proficiency Award Scheme from 25p. to 60p. especially as sponsorship was now involved.

Speaking as Secretary to the Coaching Committee, Mr. D.R. Tremayne replied that the coaching scheme was undergoing a streamlining of procedure which would overcome previous problems. With regard to the increase in the price of badges, this was decided before sponsorship was obtained and the increased revenue would enable the E.T.T.A. to provide better badges and to cover the increasing costs of assessment.

7. (Continued)

Paragraph 17

Mr. A. Shepherd (Essex) felt that interest in the Sunday Times Super League would be increased if the teams were named after Counties or areas rather than the name of a Captain. This thought led him to suggest that it would have been better for the sponsor to have sponsored the Premier Division of the County Championships.

Paragraph 21

Mr. L. Hoffman (North Middlesex) asked if any details were yet available of arrangements for spectators to attend the World Championships in India. Mr. C. Wyles, O.B.E. (Chairman) replied that negotiations were in hand with several transport agencies and details would be announced in due course.

Mr. M. Watts (Essex) asked what arrangements were being made for the training of the National team in view of the impending departure of the National Trainer/Coach. Mr. R.J. Crayden (Chairman of Selection Committee) replied that the training camps had already been planned and the programme would be carried out as arranged.

Paragraph 22

Mr. T. Blunn made the presentation of the Ivor Montagu award for 1974 to Mr. M. Greatrex for his work as an assistant to the Treasurer and on membership statistics. The trophy was presented with acclaim and Mr. Greatrex suitably replied.

Appendix 2

It was pointed out that the leagues of the winners of the Halex Under-13 Singles Championships should read as follows:

Kevin Beadsley (Halifax)
Angela Tierney (Middlesbrough)

Appendix 4

In the list of representatives it was pointed out that the following players were omitted, having played in the European Youth Championships held in Greece:

Simon Heaps
Desmond Douglas
Donald Parker
Linda Howard

Sales Items

Mr. E.G. White, Life Member, pointed out that the postage rates quoted were not in line with current postage charges and if the amount quoted was designed to include packing then by law this then must be so stated.

Other Matters

Mr. Kilminster (London Civil Service) asked why no Equipment Committee had been appointed in view of the fact that one of the strong points to encourage affiliation was that members received the benefit of control of equipment by the National body. In particular, Mr. Kilminster referred to the non-approval of the Nittaku ball when the feeling of his members was that this particular ball was of excellent quality.

7. Other Matters (Continued)

Mr. C. Wyles, Chairman, replied, stating that on the basis of approval for quality, the balls which were given E.T.T.A. approval had all received approval from the I.T.T.F. who carried out physical tests on many makes of ball. The National Council had approved two British and one foreign ball in line with the policy to support British Manufacturers, giving them some measure of protection by approving one foreign ball only. In fact, the Association had received no request from any source for the Nittaku ball to be approved.

Mr. L. Hoffman (North Middlesex) asked for details of the financial arrangements connected with ball approval.

Mr. T. Blunn (Treasurer) agreed that an income from ball approval was vital and that in previous seasons the Nittaku ball had been approved on an application by Ascot Sports Ltd. This Company had now discontinued their franchise for Nittaku balls but have taken up the franchise for the T.S.P. Astoll Ball. As this was the only application for approval in respect of a foreign ball and the fact that Ascot Sports gave a guarantee of sponsorship, it was in the E.T.T.A.'s interest to approve the T.S.P. Astoll ball, which had received the full approval of the I.T.T.F. Mr. Blunn went on to point out that members holding stocks of Nittaku balls could exchange them for T.S.P. balls by sending the Nittaku balls to Ascot Sports Ltd.

Several other members spoke in favour of having the right to play with the Nittaku ball. Mr. M. Goldstein (President) ended the discussion by giving a guarantee that the matter would be raised at the first meeting of the National Council and advised members to make their views known to their National Councillor.

Mr. J. Wright of Middlesex said that since the report had been published members had learned of the resignation of Les Gresswell. He wished to place on record an appreciation of the work done by Mr. Gresswell over the past two years.

The President also referred to the resignation of Derek Tremayne, the General Secretary, and thanked him for his past services and wished him well for the future.

The President also spoke on behalf of all the Officers in thanking members of Sub Committees and Staff for the work carried out during the past year.

The motion to accept the report was seconded by Mr. K. Watts (Sussex) and carried unanimously.

8. STATEMENT OF RESULT OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE SEASON 1974/75.

Mr. A. Wickens (Returning Officer) stated that the three serving Officers, Mr. C.M. Wyles (Chairman), Mr. G.R. Yates (Deputy Chairman) and Mr. T. Blunn (Treasurer) had all been returned unopposed.

Mr. Wyles thanked members for the confidence shown in the serving Officers.

9. STATEMENT OF RESULT OF ELECTION OF NATIONAL COUNCILLORS FOR SEASON 1974/75.

<u>No.</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Councillor</u>
1.	Bedfordshire	P.E. Harmer
2.	Berkshire	R. Smith
3.	Buckinghamshire	L. Thompson
4.	Cambridgeshire	J.D. Cornwell
5.	Cheshire	D. Schofield
6.	Cornwall	L.F. Landry
7.	Cumberland	Miss C.E. Rose
8.	Derbyshire	* L.A. Chatwin
9.	Devon	K.T.O. Ponting
10.	Dorset	L.K. Pearce
11.	Durham	F.J. Inch
12.	Essex	+ D.I. Whiteside
13.	Gloucestershire	L.J. Smith
14.	Hampshire	* M.S. Greatrex
15.	Herefordshire	I.R. Crickmer
16.	Hertfordshire	H.G. Stevens
17.	Huntingdonshire	K. Chamberlain
18.	Kent	C.A. Burden
19.	Lancashire	A.E. Upton
20.	Leicestershire	P. Reid
21.	Lincolnshire	Mrs. A.J. Robinson
22.	Middlesex	J.M. Wright
23.	Norfolk	+ D.N. Aldous
24.	Northamptonshire	K.J. Marchant
25.	Northumberland	+ H.B. Dignan
26.	Nottinghamshire	+ B. Mayfield
27.	Oxfordshire	A.E. Davies
28.	Rutland	no County Association
29.	Shropshire	A.J. Cavell
30.	Somerset	* Mrs. D. Henderson
31.	Staffordshire	+ R.H. Colclough
32.	Suffolk	D.J. Barrett
33.	Surrey	T. Channing
34.	Sussex	K. Watts
35.	Warwickshire	M. Goldstein
36.	Westmorland	+ A. Ransome
37.	Wiltshire	Miss K. Waters
38.	Worcestershire	D.J. Moss
39.	Yorkshire	F. Briggs

+ denotes new Councillor

* denotes appointment subject to confirmation

At this point Mr. C. Wyles (Chairman) took the Chair from the President and thanked him for so ably conducting the proceedings.

10. REPORT OF THE TREASURER, REPORT OF THE AUDITORS, AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 1974.

Mr. Blunn read out a letter from the Auditors, giving clearance of the statement of account for the Annual General Meeting.

Mr. Blunn pointed out a number of printing errors and apologised for their inclusion. These were as follows:

On page 1, Item 14: Erroneously spelt "Jacques", with a 'c'
On Item 16, second sentence should read "outstanding at the year end".
Wherever reference was made to the "Ministry" this should be taken as "Sports Council".

10. (Continued)

On Page 3 under the account for the magazine, this should be for 8 issues and the cost of services should read £571 with a consequent alteration to £5827 as the deduction.

Mr. Blunn then went on to point out a number of salient features connected with the accounts, amongst which were the following. The loss of the Coca-Cola sponsorship had been a set-back but there had been an improved profit on Home International matches to the extent that it was able to cover the cost of the away International programme. Assistance from the Sports Council continued to grow, for which the Association was extremely grateful. The loss on the year was not as bad as it may seem as the Association paid V.A.T. on affiliation fees to the extent of £1,240. The cost of training international players is increasing and this trend is likely to continue in the season of a World Championships. The cost of coaching was rising, mainly due to salary increases but the expenses were being held at a reasonable level. The item on the balance sheet under "Owing to Bankers" represented cheques not yet presented to the Bank. Mr. Blunn ended his statement with thanks to Mr. M. Greatrex and Mr. J. Henderson for their invaluable help in preparing the balance sheet and the provision of financial statistics.

Mr. M. Lister (Middlesbrough) queried the increase in insurance premiums. Mr. Blunn replied that premises in Hastings had been acquired in the previous year and there had been a re-assessment of property value and accordingly insurances had been increased to a more realistic figure.

Mr. M. Watts (Esser) asked if the figures under "World Championships" included any revenue from the World Championships lottery. Mr. Blunn replied that the figures quoted were in respect of down-payment on sponsorship by Halex and that there was nothing in the accounts from the lottery.

Mr. Kilminster (London Civil Service) queried the need to pay V.A.T. quoting the recent case of the Automobile Association. Mr. Blunn replied that the A.A. case bore no relationship to the E.T.T.A. situation in that the A.A. had escaped V.A.T. only on that portion of affiliation fees which went towards the provision of literature and therefore we could only claim a very small amount in the years when a full Handbook was published.

Mr. H. Webb (North Middlesex) asked why the income from the Sunday Times was fully expended. Mr. Blunn replied that this was a sponsorship tied to a specific budget.

Mr. N.K. Reeve (Life Member) requested confirmation that the sum of £4,000 shown as debtors was able to be collected. Mr. Blunn gave this assurance. Mr. Reeve went on to remark how the cash position of the accumulated fund had deteriorated over the years and hoped that members would support the proposed fee increases. He felt that the Association should budget for a surplus and it was wrong to go on budgeting in the hope that some source of revenue would materialise in mid-season. Mr. Blunn confirmed that he did in fact budget for a surplus.

10. (Continued)

Mr. D. Iszatt (Harlow) enquired why the premium bonds were not cashed and placed into a deposit account in order to get higher interest. Mr. Blunn explained that the premium bonds were held jointly by the E.T.T.A. and Members of the 100 Club but in any case the deposit account was constantly being drawn on except for a short period when the bulk of affiliation fees came in.

Mr. D. Oldman (Chesterfield) queried why the income from the International match against Hungary at Crawley was so low. Mr. Blunn explained that Crawley had taken this match at very short notice and therefore no sponsorship had been obtained.

The report of the Treasurer was adopted with a vote of thanks for Mr. T. Blunn for the tremendous amount of work involved.

11. PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO RULES AND OTHER MOTIONS

and

12. PROPOSITION No. 1 (proposed by the National Council)

Amend Rule 10.1.1. by deleting the words "not more than 30".
Mr. K. Watts moved the proposition on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. M. Greatrex. On being put to the vote the proposition was carried unanimously.

PROPOSITION No. 2 (proposed by the National Council)

Insert new Rule as follows:

17.14.4. Review the Organisations in Good Standing, the conditions appropriate in each case and the fees to be charged.
Mr. K. Watts moved the proposition on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. A.J.H. Wickens. On being put to the vote the proposition was carried unanimously.

PROPOSITION No. 3 (proposed by the National Council)

Add at the end of Rule 29.1. "except as provided by specific concession to an Organisation in Good Standing".
Mr. K. Watts moved the proposition on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. M. Greatrex. On being put to the vote the proposition was carried unanimously.

PROPOSITION No. 4 (proposed by the National Council)

Amend Rule 29.4.2.2. to read "Prizes exceeding £25 (but in the case of Open Tournaments only, not exceeding £100) in value may be awarded and accepted only with the specific permission of the National Council.
Delete Rule 29.4.2.3.
Mr. K. Watts moved the proposition on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. T. Channing. On being put to the vote the proposition was carried unanimously.

PROPOSITION No. 5 (proposed by the National Council)

Amend Rule 33.3. by moving the words "notify that other County Association" from before the words "at the same time as sending the Application to its own County Association" to after them.
Mr. K. Watts moved the proposition on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. M. Watts. On being put to the vote the proposition was carried unanimously.

12. (Continued)

PROPOSITION No. 6 (proposed by the National Council)

Insert new Rule as follows:

7.4. Value Added Tax: Every person or body liable to pay affiliation fees to the Association shall in addition pay to the Association Value Added Tax on such fees as the rate in force on the first day of the season in respect of which the fees are payable (such rate being shown on the current Affiliation Form).

Mr. T. Blunn moved the proposition on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. B. Chatterley. On being put to the vote the proposition was carried unanimously.

MOTION "A" relating to PROPOSITION No. 6 (proposed by the National Council)

The Rule change effected by Proposition No. 6 shall come into effect on the day following this Annual General Meeting.

Mr. T. Blunn moved the motion on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. B. Chatterley. On being put to the vote the Motion was carried unanimously.

PROPOSITION No. 7 (proposed by the National Council)

Amend Rule 7.2.1.1. by substituting "25p" for "18¹/₂p" in two places, "75p" for "55¹/₂p" and "£1" for "74p".

Amend Rule 7.2.1.2. by substituting "12¹/₂p" for "9p" in two places.

Amend Rule 7.2.1.3. by substituting "12¹/₂p" for "9p" in two places.

Amend Rule 7.2.1.4. by substituting "25p" for "18¹/₂p".

Amend Rule 28.11.1. by substituting "15%" for "13¹/₂%".

Mr. T. Blunn moved the proposition on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. T. Channing.

Mr. Blunn put the case for the increase in affiliation fees stating that the Association had obligations of salaries etc. and that we could not escape the general trend of inflated costs. Already there were known increases of £4,000 for the coming season making a total administration expenditure of £36,500. The Members paid only 40% of this sum with much of the remainder coming from the Sports Council. There was also the problem of cash flow and it was obvious that we could not spend our fixed assets.

Before putting the proposition the two amendments were debated.

AMENDMENT No. 1 to PROPOSITION No. 7 (proposed by London Civil Service League).

Amend Proposition No. 7 by substituting "21p" for "25p", "63p" for "75p", "84p" for "£1" and "10¹/₂p" for "12¹/₂p" wherever they occur, by deleting Amend Rule 28.11.1. by substituting "15%" for "13¹/₂%", and by adding "Delete Rule 28.11.1."

Mr. Kilminster moved the Amendment to the Proposition on behalf of the London Civil Service League and it was seconded by Mr. S. Parr (Warwickshire). Mr. Kilminster explained that if carried, this Proposition would abolish the present system of County Rebate. In reply to a question from Miss I. Moss (Middlesex) Mr. Blunn stated that this would mean a loss of the use of £2,000 for approximately four months. On a show of hands the Proposition was defeated by 33 votes against and 24 votes for.

A Block Vote was requested and this showed a total of 10,910 votes against 6,494 for. Therefore, the Chairman declared the amendment lost.

12. (Continued)

AMENDMENT No. 2 to PROPOSITION No. 7 (proposed by London Civil Service League)

Amend Proposition No. 7 by substituting "21p" for "25p", "63p" for "75p", "84p" for "£1" and "10¹/₂p" for "12¹/₂p" wherever they occur, by deleting "Amend Rule 28.11.1. by substituting "15%" for "13¹/₂%" and by adding "Amend Rule 28.11.1. by deleting "Local Leagues".

Mr. Kilminster moved the Amendment to the Proposition on behalf of the London Civil Service League and it was seconded by Mr. A.J.H. Wickens (Buckinghamshire).

Mr. Kilminster explained that this amendment was designed solely to avoid the payment of V.A.T. and it would abolish the County Rebate on affiliation fees paid by local leagues. On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 44 votes for and 14 votes against.

Therefore Amendment No. 2 became the substantive proposition and was declared carried.

Mr. Blunn thanked the meeting for agreeing to this increase in affiliation fees.

PROPOSITION No. 8 (Proposed by North East Summer League)

Add to Rule 7.3. "Except in the case of Summer Leagues which run in the months April - September only and fees for these leagues are to be paid by the 15th April, their affiliation being considered for the next season (i.e. 1974 summer season for 1974/75 season.)"

Mr. A. Ransome (North East Summer League) requested and received the permission of the meeting to withdraw the proposition.

PROPOSITION No. 9 (Proposed by North Yorkshire League)

Add to end of Rule 7.3. "except fees from Summer Leagues which shall be paid by 15th April of the season preceding that to which the fees relate."
New Rule: 4.1.13a. Summer League: A Local League which does not run any league competition during any part of the period October to March.

Mr. A. Ransome moved the proposition on behalf of the North Yorkshire League and it was seconded by Miss I. Moss (Middlesex). On being put to the vote the proposition was carried with only one vote against.

PROPOSITION No. 10 (Proposed by North Yorkshire League)

Add to Rule 28.2.1.

"Where local leagues that are situated within the new Government County Boundaries which come into force from the 1st April, 1974, agree, a new county will be formed for that area to take effect for the following season (i.e. for the 1974 Annual General Meeting for the 1974/75 season".

Mr. A. Ransome (North Yorks) requested and received permission of the meeting to withdraw this proposition.

PROPOSITION No. 11 (Proposed by North Yorkshire League)

Insert New Rule: 28.2.1A. Where all Local Leagues situated within the area of an administrative County as laid down by the Local Government Act, 1972, agree, a County Association shall be set up to administer that area and the County boundaries on the Association's official map shall be amended accordingly.

12. PROPOSITION No. 11 (Continued)

In Rule 28.2.1. after "31st March 1974" add "(subject to any later amendment made under the provisions of Rule 28.2.1a)".
Mr. A. Ransome (North Yorks) requested and received permission of the meeting to withdraw this proposition.

MOTION 'C' PROPOSED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

This meeting endorses the decision of the National Council to stage the World Championships in England in 1977. Mr. C. Wyles (Chairman) moved the Motion on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. F. Briggs of Yorkshire. The Chairman explained the progress that had been made in the arrangements to stage the World Championships in England in 1977 and indicated that from a choice of two possible venues, Birmingham and Wembley, it had now been decided, subject to suitable contractual arrangements being made the venue would be Birmingham. Mr. Blunn (Treasurer) gave some indication of the breakdown of the costs of staging the Championships to a realistic budget of £250,000. He was happy that this sum was a realistic one but he warned that should anything beyond our control cause the expenditure to rise above the budget then there would be no alternative but to seek recompense from the membership. On being put to the vote the motion was carried unanimously.

PROPOSITION No. 12 (proposed by the National Council)

Insert new Rule as follows:

7A WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1977 GUARANTEE FUND

- 7A.1. For the season 1974/75, 1975/76 and 1976/77 in addition to paying Affiliation Fees each Local League shall make a contribution to the World Championships 1977 Guarantee Fund at the rate of 25p. per team place, plus 25p for one reserve place for each team in the League (i.e. 75p for each team playing in a 2-a-side division, £1.00 for each team playing in a 3-a-side division and so on pro rata).
- 7A.2. The contribution shall be paid not later than 15th November each season.
- 7A.3. These contributions shall be deemed to be inclusive of Value Added Tax at the rate in force on the first day of the season for which they are payable.

Mr. T. Blunn moved the proposition on behalf of the National Council and it was seconded by Mr. E. Mitchell (Redditch). In accordance with Standing Orders the amendments to proposition No. 12 were first put to the meeting.

AMENDMENT No. 1 to PROPOSITION No. 12 (proposed by North Devon League)

Amend Proposition No. 12 in Rule 7A.1. by substituting "will be asked to" for "shall" after "Local League" and inserting "voluntary" between "a" and "contribution".

Mr. K. Harrison (Bristol) moved the amendment to the Proposition on behalf of North Devon League and it was seconded by Mr. J. Mason (Cheshire). Both the proposer and the seconder spoke in support of the Amendment, saying that in their opinion a compulsory levy would receive little support at local level and that many leagues were likely to disaffiliate. Many members spoke in connection with this amendment with the views expressed contrasting sharply between those who supported a levy by Rule and those who felt that contributions should be voluntary.

On being put to the vote Amendment No. 1 to Proposition No. 12 was defeated.

AMENDMENT No. 2 to PROPOSITION No. 12 (proposed by Ilfracombe League)

Amend Proposition No. 12 by deleting all words after "Guarantee Fund" in Rule 7A.1.

This amendment fell as it was only to be put if Amendment No. 1 to Proposition No. 12 was carried.

AMENDMENT No. 3 to PROPOSITION No. 12 (proposed by Coventry League)

Amend Proposition No. 12 in Rule 7A.1. by deleting "1974/75".
Mr. Elliott moved the amendment to the Proposition on behalf of the Coventry League and it was seconded by Mr. S. Parr (Warwickshire).
On being put to the vote the amendment was defeated.

AMENDMENT No. 4 to PROPOSITION No. 12 (Proposed by North East London Youth League).

Amend Proposition No. 12 in Rule 7A.1. by inserting after "Local League" "other than a Youth League".

Mr. J. Wright moved the amendment to the Proposition on behalf of the North East London Youth League and was seconded by Mr. I. Crickmer (Herefordshire). On being put to the vote the amendment was defeated by 30 votes against and 17 for.

Therefore the original proposition No. 12 became the substantive motion and a show of hands indicated 31 votes for and 23 votes against the Proposition but on a block vote the figures were, for 7,740, against 8,391, and Proposition No. 12 was declared lost.

MOTIONS 'D', 'E' and 'F' were not put to the meeting as they all were dependent upon Proposition No. 12 being carried.

MOTION 'G'

That for the coming season this meeting adopts the Laws of Table Tennis as for last season, including the experimental alteration to Law 4 allowing the material of the blade to be other than wood, e.g. plastics, metal, etc. which was adopted at last season's A.G.M.

Mr. C. Clemett moved the Motion and it was seconded by Mr. C. Davison. On being put to the vote the Motion was carried.

14. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENTS

Mr. T. Blunn, as Chairman of the Life Members and Vice Presidents Committee, proposed, on behalf of the National Council, that Mr. F.E. Clay be elected a Vice President of the E.T.T.A. Mr. Clay had served on E.T.T.A. Committees and had been the Chairman of the London Business Houses League for several seasons. Mr. Blunn also proposed that Mr. L.W. Jones be re-elected as a Vice President as he had served his term of three years.

These proposals were seconded and carried.

15. ELECTION OF HON. LIFE MEMBERS.

Mr. T. Blunn proposed on behalf of the National Council that Mr. L. Thompson of Buckinghamshire be elected a Life Member of the Association. Mr. Blunn praised Mr. Thompson's work, especially in connection with the coaching scheme, over many years. Mr. Thompson was presented with his badge to acclaim and he suitably replied.

16. ELECTION OF SCRUTINEERS FOR 1974/75: MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ELECTION

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Mr. K. Mathews and Mr. A.J.H. Wickens be elected.

17. ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

The Chairman stated that the currently senior member of this Committee, Mr. K. Watts, was due to retire by rotation by the end of this A.G.M. As he was eligible for re-election it was proposed, seconded and agreed that Mr. K. Watts be re-elected.

18. ELECTION OF AUDITORS

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Messrs. Spain Bros and Company be re-elected.

19. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Mr. D. Buckle (North Middlesex) said that although it was his first attendance at an A.G.M. he felt that there should have been more members present and suggested that leagues who were not represented be fined. Mr. Blunn replied that this was not feasible owing to the distance that many league representatives would have to travel, but the majority of leagues were represented at the meeting by their County representative.

Mr. A.K. Vint, O.B.E. (Life Member) thanked the Chairman and President for so ably conducting the meeting.

The Chairman thanked the meeting for supporting the decision to hold the World Championships in England in 1977 and appealed to the Membership to give as much support as possible to this venture.
