

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE HOTEL
RUSSELL, LONDON, ON SATURDAY, 24TH JANUARY 1976, 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:

G. James, E. Reay, N.K. Reeve, K. Watts

Vice Presidents:

J.H. Carrington, F.E. Clay

Members of the National Council:

Mrs. D. Henderson, Mrs. A.J. Robinson, Miss C.E. Rose,
Miss K. Waters, Messrs. D.N. Aldous, D.J. Barrett, F. Briggs,
C.A. Burden, A.J. Cavell, K. Chamberlain, T. Channing, P. Charters,
L.A. Chatwin, R.H. Colclough, A.E. Davies, M. Goldstein,
M.S. Greatrex, L.F. Landry, K.J. Marchant, D.J. Moss, K. Muhr,
L.K. Pearce, K.T.O. Ponting, A. Ransome, E. Reay, P. Reid,
D. Schofield, L.J. Smith, H.G. Stevens, A.E. Upton, K. Watts,
B.R.J. Webb, D.I. Whiteside and J.M. Wright.

Accredited Representatives from the following County Associations and
Local Leagues:

Avon, Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire,
Cheshire, Cleveland, Cornwall, Cumbria, Derbyshire, Devonshire,
Dorset, Durham, Essex, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire,
Huntingdonshire, Kent, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire,
Middlesex, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Northumberland,
Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire,
Suffolk, Surrey, Sussex, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire,
Yorkshire.

Barnets, Basildon, Bracknell, Bristol, Bromley, Burnham-on-Crouch,
Dagenham, Didcot, Exeter, Harlow, Hinckley, Hull, London Business
Houses, London Civil Service, Loughborough, Lowestoft,
Maidenhead, Milton Keynes, Newbury, North Middlesex, North West Kent,
Nuneaton, Oldham, Reading, Redditch, Sheffield Works, Sutton,
Uxbridge, Wembley & Harrow.

Directly Affiliated Clubs:

Lensbury Table Tennis Club

Organisations in Good Standing:

English Schools T.T.A., International Table Tennis Club of England.

In attendance:

A.W. Shipley (Administrative Secretary)
M.J. Lawless (Director, World Table Tennis Championships)
Miss C. Scrivens (E.T.T.A. Staff)

1. ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

It was proposed by Mr. A.E. Upton (Lancs), seconded by Mr. T. Channing (Surrey), that Standing Orders (Document 637/31/AW) be adopted.

(London Civil Service)
Mr. J. Killmister/proposed that the following item be added as Standing Order No. 7.1.(3):

"When taking a vote on a composite motion which can be naturally subdivided into distinct integers the totality of which is identical with the composite motion, the Chairman may, at his discretion, take a separate vote on each integer of such motion."

Although the proposition was not seconded and therefore fell, the Chairman and Secretary of the Rules Committee advised that the Rules did not provide for amendments to motions at Special General Meetings and in their view any attempt to separate the Motion on the order paper into three motions constituted an amendment and was therefore out of order.

On being put to the vote, the adoption of Standing Orders was carried nem.con.

2. APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Mr. K. Mathews and Mr. B.R.J. Webb act as Tellers for the meeting.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from: Mr. E.G. White (Life Member)
Mr. L. Constable (Cambridge T.T.L.)
Mr. R. Bridges (Cheshunt T.T.L.)

4. ALTERATION TO RULES

It was proposed by Mr. T. Blunn (Hon. Treasurer), seconded by Mr. G.R. Yates (Deputy Chairman) to insert a new Rule as follows:

"7A. World Championships 1977 Guarantee Fund

7A.1. For the seasons 1976/77, 1977/78 and 1978/79 in addition to paying Affiliation Fees each local League shall make a contribution to the World Championships Guarantee Fund at the rate of 30p per team place, plus 30p for one reserve place for each team in the League (i.e. 90p for each team playing in a 2-a-side division, £1.20 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. "

Speaking in support of the proposal, Mr. Blunn emphasised that these contributions were returnable in the event of there not being a financial loss on the World Championships. The current situation showed that a loss was improbable and only unforeseen circumstances would alter the position. By the time the third year's contributions were due to be collected the financial situation on the World Championships would be known and if all forecasts were correct they would not be needed. Also the previous contributions could be returned but in the meantime interest on this money would be of considerable benefit to the World Championships Fund. The most important factor was that by making these contributions we could demonstrate to all other supporters of the Association that our members were prepared to back up the decisions taken at the 1974 Annual General Meeting. Mr. Blunn appealed to all members to have faith in the organisers of the Championships for a success would bring great benefits to table tennis in this country.

4. ALTERATION TO RULES (CONTINUED)

After a few points of clarification had been answered Mr. C. Wyles (Chairman) spoke in support of the proposal, reiterating the points made by Mr. Blunn and giving brief details of the support being given by Birmingham City Council and the Sports Council.

On being put to a block vote the proposal was carried by 14,084 votes for and 3,386 votes against.

5. MOTION

Under the provisions of Rule 37.4. it was proposed by Mr. C. Wyles (Chairman), seconded by Mr. G.R. Yates (Deputy Chairman) and carried nem.con. THAT Rule 7A (as set out in the Proposition contained in Item No. 4) should take effect on the first day following the next Annual General Meeting.

6. Mr. C. Wyles (Chairman) ended the meeting with a vote of thanks to Mr. M. Goldstein (President) for taking the Chair, and to Messrs. Mathews and Webb for acting as Tellers.

7. The meeting ended at 3.15 p.m.
