

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Hotel Russell, London on Saturday 6th July 1985 commencing at 2.00 p.m.

PRESENT M Goldstein OBE (President), T Blunn (Chairman), G R Yates (Deputy Chairman), A Drapkin (Treasurer).

Vice Chairmen

D I Whiteside (Administration), C J Clemett (Competitions), A E Ransome (Development), N K Reeve (Public Relations).

Hon. Life Members

Messrs. R J Crayden, L F Landry, K T O Ponting, A K Vint OBE, A E Upton, K Watts, E G White, A J H Wickens.

Vice Presidents

Mrs N Vint, Messrs. C A Burden, I R Crickmer, H T Edwards, B G Fretwell, L W Jones, J M McDonnell, J C McKim, H E Pearce, P W Smith, A G Steggall.

Accredited Representatives - Counties

Avon (Mrs J L Watts), Bedfordshire (Mr G G Hammond), Berkshire (Mr B R Halliday), Buckinghamshire (Mr B R J Webb), Cambridgeshire (Mr E S Day), Cleveland (Mr A E Ransome), Cornwall (Mrs A P Archdale), Devonshire (Mr K T O Ponting), Essex (Mr P J Roden), Gloucestershire (Mr L J Smith), Hampshire (Mr B P Lamerton), Herefordshire (Mr D W Connor), Lancashire (Mr A E Upton), Leicestershire (Mr M R Holt), Middlesex (Mrs D M Stannard), Northamptonshire (Mr K J Marchant), Northumberland (Mr A Drapkin), Nottinghamshire (Mr M Tunningley), Oxfordshire (Mr B T Osborne), Staffordshire (Mr G C Williamson), Suffolk (Mr H F J Newman), Surrey (Mr J A J Dawson), Sussex (Mr B E Spicer), Warwickshire (Mr S Parr), Wiltshire (Mr D M Parsons) Worcestershire (Mr D J Moss), Yorkshire (Mr E Hill).

Accredited Representatives - Leagues

Bristol (Mrs J L Watts), Leicester (Mr M G R Smith), London Civil Service (Miss T J McAllister), North Herts (Mr J Jermyn), North Middlesex (Mr J Fairweather), Nuneaton (Mr S Parr), Wembley/Harrow (Mr G Walsh), Weston-Super-Mare (Mrs A P Archdale).

Other Members

Mr R E Oldfield (Vice-Chairman Public Relations elect), Messrs. J A Hayward, W V Moran (RCC Chairmen), Messrs. J Freeman, D Young (Tournaments Committee), Messrs. J Arnold, D A Lomas (English Schools TTA), Mr P Avenell (Bucks), Mrs V Roffe, Mrs G Squier (Essex), Mrs D Winmill, Mr H Albery (Hants), Mr M Close (Middlesex), Mr M J Kercher (Surrey), Mr J Somerville (Croydon), Mr A M Ross (Hull), Mr R A Walden (S W Middlesex), Ms M Arnold (Wakefield), Mrs A Reeve.

In Attendance

A W Shipley (General Secretary), M D Watts (Deputy General Secretary), R J Stevens (Administrative Secretary), Miss F Brown (Development Officer), R H Sinclair (Administrative Assistant).

In Attendance (Cont)

Mr T Blunn (Chairman) welcomed all present. A special welcome was extended to Mr Tony Brooks (Secretary General ITTF), Mr G R Yates (Secretary General ETTU) and Mr L W Jones (Vice President). The Chairman invited the meeting to stand as a mark of respect to the late Hon. Ivor Montagu and the late Mr Jack Carrington. The Chairman then advised that he would not be continuing in the chair for the afternoon as he had only recently left hospital and was still weak. Mr G R Yates assumed the chair, in accordance with Standing Order 1.1.

1. REPORT OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

Mr K Watts drew attention to an error in line 4 para. 4 of the Report and the meeting noted that the word "chronological" should read "numerical". On a motion of Mr A Drapkin (Treasurer) the report (document 1577/1/AW) was adopted.

2. STANDING ORDERS

Standing Orders as circulated (document 1564/1/AW) were adopted.

3. TELLERS

It was proposed, seconded and agreed, that Mrs A Reeve and Mr J McKim be appointed Tellers for the meeting.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr P A Charters (Vice-Chairman, Selection/Coaching), Messrs. P Hyde, L S Woollard, J M Wright (Hon. Life Member), Mrs E M Carrington, Messrs. A D Brook, F E Clay, L R J Constable, E Jones MBE, J P Mulcahy, D R Tremayne, D N Tyler (Vice Presidents), Mr M W J Lewis (National Councillor), Mr L A Chatwin (NURC), Mr D Carney (Durham TTA), National Association of Boys Clubs, Broxtowe C.C.

5. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 7TH JULY 1984 (DOCUMENT 1425/1/RJS)

- 5.1. Mr P W Smith (Vice President) asked that his name be recorded in Apologies for Absence. Agreed.
- 5.2. Document 1425/1/RJS as amended was agreed and signed as a true record.

6. MATTERS ARISING

None.

7. REPORT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Mr G R Yates (Deputy Chairman) at this point handed over the chair to Mr M Goldstein OBE (President). The President paid tribute to the dedication of Mr T Blunn (Chairman) for his attendance that day.

- 7.1. The meeting considered the printed report circulated. The following points arose during discussion.
 - 7.1.1. Appendix 6 - (Page 25) The year in paragraphs 1 and 2 should read 1985.
 - 7.1.2. Sponsorship - (para 2.3.) Mr E G White (Hon. Life Member) referred to a recent report in a Sunday newspaper which appeared to suggest that the ETTA was opposing the Sports Council efforts to control Drug Abuse, and sought clarification. Mr A W Shipley (General Secretary) replied that his comments to the reporter had been quoted out of context, and he had

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- 7.1.2. cont.
sent a letter of protest to the Editor about the misleading impression. Happily the Sports Council were well aware of the true position which was that the ETTA fully supported the Sports Council efforts and had promised full cooperation.
- 7.1.3. Development - (para 5) Mr D A Lomas (ESTTA) felt that the report failed to mention that the Development Committee had apparently been disbanded, although he noted in Appendix I that they had met twice during the season.
Mr A E Ransome (Vice Chairman) replied that the Development Committee was still in being; National Council had disbanded the Regional Development Advisory Panels, replacing them with nine Regional Co-ordinating Committees. The Development Department had been concentrating on "Table Tennis to 1990" and subsequent submissions to the Sports Council. Plans took time to come to fruition, and so new ideas had not been acted upon.
- 7.1.4. Development - (para 6) Mr G C Williamson (Staffs) felt that there was a lot of misunderstanding on MSC Schemes and sought clarification.
Mr A E Ransome (Vice Chairman) explained the operation of the MSC Scheme and regretted that support had not been gained nationally.
- 7.1.5. Official Magazine - (para 9.1.) Mr A E Upton (Hon. Life Member) felt that the views expressed were those of all members, and the meeting joined him in extending warmest thanks to the Editor, Mr G R Yates and his wife, for nineteen years of unstinting service.
- 7.1.6. Tournaments - (para 30.5.) Mr A J H Wickens (Tournaments Committee Chairman) apologised for some inaccuracies in statistics and the meeting noted the following:-
- 7.1.6.1. Table 4: Tournaments Committee meetings for 1984/85 should read 3 and not 2.
- 7.1.6.2. Appendix 3: The number of Senior 2 Star Open Tournaments for 1984/85 should read 13 and not 14.
- 7.1.6.3. (para 30.5. - line 4) After the word "sponsorship" deletion of the full stop and addition of the words "and one due to lack of entries".
Agreed.
- 7.1.7. Honours - (para 36) Mr R J Crayden (Hon. Life Member) regretted the omission of Players' Achievement Awards from the Report, despite previous assurances. Mr T Blunn (Chairman) apologised for the omission and gave assurance that a full list of Players' Achievement Awards would appear in the 1985/86 Management Committee Report.
- 7.1.8. Appendix 1 - Table 2 The meeting noted that Mr P J Roden (Essex) had attended National Council on 4 occasions and not 2.
- 7.1.9. Appendix 1 - Table 4 The meeting noted that the National Co-ordinating Committee had met twice in 1984/85 season.
- 7.2. Adoption of Report Mr A E Upton (Hon. Life Member) moved and Mr E Hill (Yorkshire) seconded the adoption of the Management Committee Report.
Agreed.
- 8. REPORT OF ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER FOR SEASON 1985/86.**
- 8.1. Mr G R Yates (Deputy chairman) thanked members for their confidence in re-electing him and his fellow officers.
- 8.2. Document 1539/1/AW was noted.

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9. REPORT OF APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMEN FOR SEASON 1985/86

- 9.1. Mr G R Yates (Deputy Chairman) paid tribute to Mr N K Reeve who was retiring from the position of Vice Chairman, Public Relations, after seven years loyal and devoted service. Applause.
- 9.2. Document 1560/23/RJS was noted.

10. REPORT OF ELECTION OF NATIONAL COUNCILLORS FOR SEASON 1985/86

- 10.1. Mr A J H Wickens (Returning Officer) referred to Document 1592/23/AW and reported that official documentation had now been received from Yorkshire TTA, with Mr E Hill re-elected Councillor for Yorkshire. Official documentation was still awaited from Cornwall, Derbyshire and Huntingdonshire. The meeting noted that
- Mr M Holt (Leicestershire) should not have a * denoting new Councillor against his name.
- 10.2. Document 1592/23/AW was noted.

11. REPORT OF THE TREASURER, REPORT OF THE AUDITORS AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1985

- 11.1. Mr A Drapkin (Treasurer) apologised that the Auditors had not been able to complete their audit of accounts in time for the AGM. The accounts had been submitted later than usual due to his attendance at the European Championships. A letter dated 5th July 1985 had been received from the Auditors stating that from their examination of the accounts so far they had no questions to raise. No major changes to the accounts presented were envisaged, but the Treasurer emphasized that they were subject to audit. He then gave a detailed explanation of the accounts and invited questions.
- 11.2. Mr G C Williamson (Staffs) enquired about the reaction of the Sports Council to the improved ratio of affiliation fees to Grant Aid. Mr A Drapkin reported a favourable response from the Sports Council, and stressed the urgency of submission by the ETTA of documentation to the Sports Council in order to determine the amount of grant in future years.
- 11.3. Mr P W Smith (Vice President) drew attention to the loss incurred by Table Tennis News, and asked for comparative figures for 1983/84 season. Mr A Drapkin explained that the deficit was caused by decreased advertising revenue and increased production costs.
- 11.4. Mr B R J Webb (Bucks) sought clarification of the increase in Debtors. Mr A Drapkin explained that there were no long term debts, it was merely a reflection of the cash flow at the year end.
- 11.5. Mr E G White (Hon. Life Member) referred to the Fund for Administrators and expressed disappointment at not seeing the inclusion of Referees, Umpires and Officials. Mr T Blunn (Chairman) assured him that there had been no change of principle and the title given to the fund included Referees, Umpires and Officials as well as Administrators. Mr A Drapkin (Treasurer) also gave his assurance that funds would be available for the benefit of all categories.
- 11.6. Mr H Albery (Hants) proposed and Mr D M Parsons (Wilts) seconded that the Report of the Treasurer be accepted. Agreed.

12. PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO RULES (ALL PROPOSED ON BEHALF OF NATIONAL COUNCIL AND MOVED BY MR A J H WICKENS (RULES COMMITTEE)

12.1. Proposition No. 1

Amend Rule 18.11.: Delete "Such regulations shall be published as appendices to these rules."

Add new rule:

"18.11a. All regulations made by Council or by any body to which Council shall have delegated the power, whether under Rule 18.,11. or under specific provisions elsewhere in these rules, shall be published as Appendices to these rules. A regulation shall come into force with effect from such day as the body making it shall specify but not earlier than the day following the meeting at which it was first made or approved."

The proposition was carried on a show of hands.

12.2. Proposition No. 2

Amend rule 23.3.: After "signed by" delete "any"; add at end "Any two of these signatures shall suffice except that no person may sign a cheque in respect to any payment to himself or to a member of his family and that no more than one signature may be that of an E.T.T.A. employee."

The proposition was carried on a show of hands.

12.3. Proposition No. 3

Amend Rule 28.7.4.: After "one vote for each" for "team in membership" substitute "fee unit payable"; after "Rule 7.3.1.5. shall be entitled to" for "five" substitute "twenty"; at end for "teams in membership" substitute "fee units payable".

The proposition was carried on a show of hands.

12.4. Proposition No. 4 (to be proposed on behalf of the National Council)

Amend Rule 31.5.: For "Not later than 30th" substitute "During".

The proposition was carried on a show of hands.

12.5. Proposition No. 5

Amend Rule 31.9.2.: Delete "County Championships"; for "Inter-County Championships" substitute "inter-County and other representative matches"; for "They shall also leagues, etc." substitute "Any such event may extend beyond the boundaries or membership of a single county provided that either it is taken into Good Standing under Rule 5.2. or it is run by a single County Association and has the consent of all the other County Associations concerned."

The proposition was carried on a show of hands.

12.6. Proposition No. 6

Amend Rule 31.10.1.: After "power to" for "suspend" substitute "impose one or more of the following penalties on"; after "within its jurisdiction" for full stop substitute colon and insert "31.10.1.1.. That he be suspended either indefinitely or for a stated period."; after "jurisdiction of the County Association" insert

"31.10.1.2. That he be fined

31.10.1.3. That he be censured

- 12.6. cont.
31.10.1.4. That he give an Undertaking in such terms as the County Association may decide.
31.10.1.5. That he be dealt with in such other manner as the County Association may think fit."
Amend Rule 31.10.2.: For "suspension" substitute "penalty"
The proposition was carried on a show of hands.
- 12.7. Proposition No. 7
Amend Rule 32.4.2.3." For "£400" substitute "£1,000"
Mr A J H Wickens reminded the meeting that the maximum limit for prizes was reviewed each year. The 1985 I.T.T.F. B.G.M. had abolished the ITTF limit altogether, but National Council felt it advisable to increase the limit rather than remove it altogether. Mr J Jermyn (N. Herts) sought explanation of the National Council conclusion and Mr A J H Wickens said that he could offer no further explanation than that there had been no proposition at Council to remove the limit altogether.
The proposition was carried on a show of hands.
- 12.8. Proposition No. 8
Amend Rule 32.15.: For "Breach of " substitute "If a Member who has given"; after "Undertaking" delete "given"; after "Rule 33.11.4" insert "breaks such Undertaking within a period of two years after giving it, such breach"
Mr P W Smith (Vice President) felt it would be wrong to limit the period of a member's liability for breach of an undertaking to two years - once a member had given an undertaking he should be liable to be punished for breach of it however long afterwards.
The proposition was carried on a show of hands.
- 12.9. Proposition No. 9
Amend Rule 33.1.: For "sub-committee of the National Council" substitute "committee"
The proposition was carried on a show of hands.
- 12.10. Proposition No. 10.
Amend Rule 33.5.: After "Rule 33.4." insert "or illness"; after "make up" for "such number" substitute "a total of three available persons"
The proposition was carried on a show of hands.
- 12.11. Proposition No. 11
Insert new rule:
"33.15. Nothing in these rules shall prevent the imposition, by the appropriate Committee or official, of fines prescribed by regulations made by or with the authority of the National Council to regulate a competition."
The proposition was carried on a show of hands.
- 12.12. Proposition No. 12
Insert new rule:
"45.6. For the purposes of Rule 28.8. (majority required to pass Rule Change Propositions) a resolution under Rule 45.4. or 45.5. shall be deemed to be a resolution relating to the rules of the Association."
The proposition was carried on a show of hands.

- 12.13. Mr K Watts (Standing Orders Committee) referred to para 6 of the Report of the Standing Orders Committee which expressed the hope that members would find it easier to appreciate the effect of a Proposition on the actual wording of the rule sought to be changed if the Notes also contained the text of the rule as it would be if the Proposition was carried. The meeting voiced approval and agreed that the practice should continue in future.

13. LAWS AND REGULATIONS FOR 1985/86 SEASON

- 13.1. Mr C J Clemett (Vice Chairman Competitions) said a few words to clarify Olympic eligibility and then referred to the changes occasioned by the 1985 I.T.T.F. P.G.M. decisions. All competitions offering single prizes of over £400 must apply to the I.T.T.F. for recognition and pay a fee of 5% of prize money.
- 13.2. Mr A W Shipley (General Secretary) reported on the 1985 I.T.T.F. Conference and the failure of the E.T.T.A. proposition to allow a plain wooden surface for striking the ball. A letter of explanation would be sent to all leagues regarding the plain wooden surface and also the two colour regulation for 1986/87 onwards, pointing out the options for leagues and Counties.
- Mrs J L Watts (Avon) proposed and Mr A E Upton (Hon. Life Member) seconded that National Council be asked to continue until further notice the dispensations authorised in season 1984/85. Carried on a show of hands.
- 13.3. Mr G C Williamson (Staffs) referred to the amendment to the two colour regulation for 1986/87 onwards, and asked that the July 1985 National Council meeting make a strong recommendation to the July 1986 National Council meeting that the red/black requirement should be adopted for E.T.T.A. National Competitions in order to give members as much advance warning as possible before July 1986. Agreed.
- 13.4. The meeting noted that the Laws for 1985/86 season were unchanged from those in operation for 1984/85 season.

14. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Mr G R Yates (Deputy Chairman) at this point handed over the chair to Mr T Blunn (Chairman).

Mr T Blunn (Chairman) reminded the meeting that Mr M Goldstein OBE was completing his 12th year of office and during this time he had travelled the country representing the E.T.T.A., as well as all his Committee work. The meeting agreed on the proposal of the Chairman, on behalf of National Council, the election of Mr M Goldstein OBE as President for a further period of three years.

15. ELECTION OF HON. LIFE VICE PRESIDENT

Mr T Blunn (Chairman) referred to the unique position of this office in that it had only been given once before, can only be held by one person at a time and it must be given to a person who has served as President of the Association. Mr A K Vint OBE was one of the pioneers who had established the E.T.T.A., and his guidance had stretched over 50 years. Tribute was also paid to the support of his wife, Mrs N Vint. In reply Mr A K Vint OBE felt privileged to receive the honour and paid tribute to his predecessor the late Hon. Ivor Montagu, and to the wives of all table tennis administrators. Mr Vint's election was greeted with acclaim.

16. ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENTS

16.1. The meeting agreed, on the proposal of the Chairman on behalf of the National Council, to a further three-year term of the retiring Vice Presidents:

Mrs E Carrington	Mrs A Jones	P Smith
L J R Constable	K J Marchant	A G Steggall
I R Crickmer	P Marks	D N Tyler
C Jaques	M D Shaffner OBE	Mrs N Vint

16.2. The meeting agreed, on the proposal of the Chairman on behalf of the National Council, the election for a term of three years of the following additional Vice Presidents:

Mrs D M Stannard (Middlesex)
 Mr D Barrett (Suffolk)
 Mr L A Chatwin (Derbyshire)
 Mr L J Smith (Gloucestershire)

Mrs D M Stannard and Mr L J Smith were present to accept their badges from the Chairman, and expressed their pleasure at the honour.

Mr D Barrett was unwell and Mr H F J Newman accepted the badge on his behalf. Mr L A Chatwin had been unable to attend and would be presented with the badge on a suitable occasion.

17. ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

The Chairman expressed the Association's thanks for the work of the Standing Orders Committee. It was agreed that Mr A J H Wickens, retiring member, be re-elected.

18. ELECTION OF AUDITORS

18.1. Mr C A Burdon (Vice President) proposed and Mrs D M Stannard (Vice President) seconded that Messrs. Spain Bros, Jukes and Company be re-elected. Agreed.

18.2. Mr J Freeman (Tournaments Committee) enquired as to the current situation regarding Incorporation. The Chairman reported that he had made some progress and had obtained information from other organisations. However due to the amount of time spent on the grant aid documents for submission to the Sports Council there had inevitably been further delay.

19. AWARDS

19.1. Ivor Montagu Award The Chairman presented this award for 1984/85 to Mr M J Kercher in recognition of his work for the Selection Committee and in managing the clothing stock for the England Teams. Mr M J Kercher suitably replied.

19.2. Victor Barna Award The Chairman paid tribute to the achievements of Miss Lisa Bellinger and especially for her success in the English Closed and World Championships. Miss Bellinger was unable to be present and the award would be made at an appropriate time.

19.3. Leslie Forrest Award The Chairman paid tribute to the work of Mr S Parr for the County Championships. The Leslie Forrest Award had already been presented to Mr S Parr at the County Championships Conference.

19.4. Malcolm Scott Award The President presented this award for 1984/85 to Mr G R Yates as a mark of appreciation for his Editorship of Table Tennis News for the past nineteen years, coupled with his position of Deputy Chairman. Mr G R Yates expressed his surprise and gratitude.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked Mr G R Yates (Deputy Chairman) for assuming the chair for the majority of the meeting and everyone for their attendance. The meeting closed at 4.55 p.m.