

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of a Special General Meeting held at the Post Office Technical Training College, Milton Keynes, on Saturday 3rd October 1987, commencing at 2.00 pm.

Present: M Goldstein OBE (President), J Prean (Chairman), A E Ransome (Deputy Chairman), P H M Hillier (Treasurer)

Vice Chairmen: M Allsop (Administration), C Wright (Competitions), J Heaton (Development), A E Ransome (Marketing/Promotions), S J Sneyd (Selection/Coaching)

Hon Life Members: A E Upton, K Watts, A J H Wickens

Vice Presidents: W G Goldfinch, R J Marchant, D J Moss, Mrs D M Stannard

Accredited Representatives - County Associations:

Avon (Mr P Sandford), Bedfordshire (Mr G G Hammond), Berkshire (Mr B R Halliday), Buckinghamshire (Mr A C Catchpole), Cambridgeshire (Mr P Day), Cleveland (Mr C Davison), Cornwall (Mrs A P Archdale), Cumbria (Miss C E Rose), Derbyshire (Mr M Allsop), Dorset (Mr D Robinson), Essex (Mr C Oakman), Gloucestershire (Mr L J Smith), Hampshire (Mr H Albery), Herefordshire (Mr P Hall), Hertfordshire (Mr H G Stevens), Isle of Wight (Mr B P Lamerton), Kent (Mr C Wright), Lancashire (Mr A E Upton), Leicestershire (Mr M R Holt), Lincolnshire (Mr P Taylor), Middlesex (Mrs D M Stannard), Norfolk (Mr A H Pickard), Northamptonshire (Mr K J Marchant), Nottinghamshire (Mr M Tunningley), Oxfordshire (Mr B T Osborne), Staffordshire (Mr J M Elackband), Surrey (Mr J A J Dawson), Sussex (Mr B E Spicer), Warwickshire (Mr M Goldstein), Wiltshire (Mr D M Parsons), Worcestershire (Mr D J Moss), Yorkshire (Mr E Hill)

Accredited Representatives - Non-County Local Leagues:

None

Accredited Representatives - Local Leagues:

Bristol (Mrs J L Watts), Cambridge (Mr P Day), North Herts (Mr J Jermyn), Nuneaton (Mr S Parr), Slough (Mr P H M Hillier), Worthing (Mr W G Goldfinch)

Other Members:

Messrs S Clarke, R Hanley, R Yates (RCC Chairmen), Mrs D Winmill (Hants), Mr P B Smith (Derbys)

Organisations in Good Standing:

Mr J Arnold (ESTTA)

In Attendance:

A W Shipley (General Secretary), M D Watts (Deputy General Secretary), R J Stevens (Administrative Secretary)

Mr J Prean (Chairman) welcomed all present and took the chair.

1. STANDING ORDERS (DOCUMENT 2054/1/AW)

Standing Orders as circulated were adopted.

2. TELLERS

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Mr J Arnold and Mr S Clarke be appointed tellers for the meeting.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs P Hyde, E G White (Hon Life Members), Mr I R Crickmer (Vice President), Messrs T Bull, A Drapkin, K Green, A Morpeth, J R Moss, K T O Ponting (National Councillors), Messrs M Close, T Gadsby (RCC Chairmen), Mr E J H Wallbutton (Chief Executive)

4. MOTION A

THAT this SGM approves the propositions of principle contained in Document 2104/1/AW. Mr K Watts (Rules Committee) explained that the propositions on questions listed in document 2104/1/AW related to matters which were not covered in the ETTA's Current Rules, or which it may be wished to change in the process of incorporation. They were to be considered when Motion A was debated, any changes, insertions etc being dealt with as Amendments to Motion 'A' and the draft memorandum and Articles of Association would subsequently be modified to take account of the decisions taken, so that the final draft memorandum and Articles would represent the ETTA's current Rules changed only in so far as such changes approved in principle by the SGM. Mr K Watts reported that earlier National Council had agreed the Management Committee recommendations concerning items in Document 2104/1/AW (see Document 2112/1/AW).

- 4.1. Mr S Parr (Worcestershire) sought clarification of proposition No. 4. Mr A J H Wickens (Rules Committee) explained that over the years scrutineers had to invalidate votes because they had been signed by a non-recognised signatory, which was lamentable, and the intention was to try to avoid lost votes by avoiding possible misunderstandings.
- 4.2. Mr A Catchpole (Bucks) referred to Item No. 7 and the Management Committee recommendation that notice of General Meeting should not be sent to secretaries of County Associations and local leagues as well as to Members of company. On behalf of his county he proposed that where the General Secretary of an organisation concerned was not a Member then he should also receive notice of General Meetings. Mrs J L Watts (Bristol) spoke in support against the Management Committee recommendation and seconded the proposition. On being put to the vote the proposition was carried.
- 4.3. Mr A Catchpole (Bucks) referred to Item No. 8 and the Management Committee recommendation that the quorum for a general meeting should be 10. On behalf of his County he proposed and Mr J Jermyn (N Herts) seconded, that the quorum should be 10% of the membership. Mr A E Ransome (Deputy Chairman) explained the thinking behind the Management Committee recommendation. On being put to the vote the proposition was defeated. Mr J Jermyn (N Herts) proposed and Mr A Catchpole (Bucks) seconded that the quorum should be 20. On being put to the vote, the proposition was defeated.
- 4.4. Mr A Catchpole (Bucks) referred to Item No. 19 and the Management Committee recommendation that proxies be required to be in not later than 48 hours before time for the meeting. On behalf of his county he proposed and Mr J Jermyn (N Herts) seconded that proxies be allowed to be handed in at the meeting. On being put to the vote, the proposition was defeated.
- 4.5. Mr A Catchpole (Bucks) referred to Item No. 21 and the Management Committee recommendation that Rule Change Propositions should not be circulated in March to General Secretaries of County Associations and local leagues as well as to Members of the company. On behalf of his County he proposed and Mrs J L Watts (Bristol) seconded that where the General Secretary of an organisation concerned was not a Member then he should also receive notice of General Meetings. On being put to the vote the proposition was carried.

4.6. Mr K Watts (Rules Committee) moved Motion 'A' as amended. Carried nem con.

5. MOTION B

THAT this SGM approves the incorporation under the Companies Act 1985 of a company limited by guarantee with the name English Table Tennis Association Limited with Memorandum and Articles of Association as contained in ETTA Document 2105/17/AW modified if appropriate to take account of decisions already taken at this meeting.

Mr K Watts (Rules Committee) moved the motion. Carried nem con.

6. MOTION C

THAT this SGM direct the National council to use its powers under Rule (1987/88) 25 to transfer the assets of the Association to the limited company referred to in Motion B and transfer to take effect not later than 31st March 1988. Mr K Watts (Rules Committee) reported on National Council's decision earlier to amend Motion C by altering the transfer from "not later than 21 days after incorporation" to "not later than 31st March 1988" in order to assist the Treasurer by coinciding with the end of the financial year. Mr K Watts (Rules Committee) moved the motion. Carried nem con.

The Chairman paid tribute to the monumental effort put in by Mr A J H Wickens and Mr K Watts in preparing the way for incorporation. Mr A J H Wickens (Rules Committee) advised that towards the 31st March 1988 a circular would be sent to Secretaries of local leagues explaining the decisions taken, voting rights etc, and suggesting that it would be convenient for General Secretaries to be elected as Members. The Treasurer reported that advice was being taken regarding Tax losses etc and he felt confident that the Association would be in credit at the time transfer to incorporation was made.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 3.00 pm.