

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Quality Friendly Hotel, Loughborough, on Saturday 4th July 1998 commencing at 2.00pm.

PRESENT: JA Leach MBE (President), AE Ransome OBE (Chairman), LA Chatwin (Deputy Chairman), BR Granger (Treasurer)

VICE-CHAIRMEN: MR Holt (Marketing), MWJ Lewis (Development), LA Chatwin (Selection), KTO Ponting (Competitions) MGR Smith (Administration), Miss G McCulloch (Coaching), BR Halliday (Public Relations)

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS: LA Chatwin, KTO Ponting, AE Ransome OBE, Mrs DM Stannard, AE Upton, AJH Wickens

VICE-PRESIDENTS: M Allsop, LA Chatwin, MR Holt, MWJ Lewis, S Parr, RH Sinclair, Mrs J Watts, BRJ Webb, HJ Webb, J Woodford, DA Young

ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES - COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS:

Bedfordshire (J Jermyn), Berkshire (BR Halliday), Buckinghamshire (BRJ Webb), Cheshire (Mrs K Tonge), Cleveland (Mrs J Ransome), Cornwall (KTO Ponting), Derbyshire (L Allwood), Devonshire (KTO Ponting), Dorset (HJ Webb), Durham (K Muhr), Essex (S Kerns), Hampshire (DB Turner), Herefordshire (N Merchant), Hertfordshire (JFA Wood), Kent (RR Thompson), Lancashire (AE Upton), Leicestershire (MR Holt), Lincolnshire (K Eliot), Middlesex (M Close), Norfolk (G Rogerson), Northumberland (A Drapkin), Nottinghamshire (M Allsop), Oxfordshire (T O'Flynn), Somerset (A Seward), South Yorkshire (R Loxley), Staffordshire (B Watkins), Suffolk (HFJ Newman), Surrey (Miss G McCulloch), Sussex (J Woodford), Warwickshire (JM Whitehead), Wiltshire (K Satchell), Worcestershire (DA Young), Yorkshire (BW Walker)

ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES - NON-COUNTY LOCAL LEAGUE:

None.

ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES - LOCAL LEAGUES:

Bath (D Hockney), Birmingham (T Whitehead), Bristol (IJ Mead), Derby (L Allwood), Grimsby (W Moran), Hastings (J Woodford), High Wycombe (BRJ Webb), Hull (RB Hudson), Kings Lynn (G Rogerson), Leamington (M Macfarlane), Leicester (R Canton), Liverpool Business Houses (AC Knowlson), North Herts (J Jermyn), Nuneaton (S Parr), Slough (K Phillips), Weston Super Mare (Mrs AP Archdale), Worcester (DA Young)

OTHERS:

R Burch (National Councillor - Yorkshire), I McKelvey (Rules Committee Chairman), JM Blackband (ESTTA), Mrs C Lewis (Women's Development Committee), Mrs P Chatwin (Derbyshire), K Shepherd (Yorkshire), R Washington (Buckinghamshire), S Clarke (Lancashire), N Heavyside & T Purcell (Liverpool Business Houses TTL), D Palmer (Nuneaton TTL), Mrs D Jermyn (North Herts TTL), T Gadsby (Burton Senior TTL), G Trimming (Slough), Mrs L Reid (Evesham TTL), Mrs BJ Hudson (Hull TTL)

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ORGANISATIONS IN GOOD STANDING:

VETTS (P Bradley)

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

R Yule (Chief Executive), RH Sinclair (General Secretary),
Mrs DM Nightingale (Administrative Officer), K Muhr (Regional
Development Officer)

AE Ransome (Chairman) welcomed all present and took the chair.

1. REPORT OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (DOCUMENT 4184/1/AJHW):

- 1.1. On behalf of the Standing Orders Committee, AJH Wickens introduced the report. He apologised for its lateness due to work pressures.
- 1.2. He drew attention to the amended rule numbering system relating to new rules and altered rules which was used to ease debate.
- 1.3. He drew attention to the fact that a new member of the Standing Orders Committee needed to be elected by this meeting. He reminded the meeting that there was a need for prospective new members to be found.
- 1.4. The report was accepted.

2. STANDING ORDERS (DOCUMENT 3882/1/AW):

- 2.1. Standing Orders as circulated were adopted.

3. TELLERS:

- 3.1. It was proposed, seconded and agreed that J Blackband and T Purcell be appointed Tellers for the meeting. They were reminded before appointment that Tellers could not take part in debate.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

- 4.1. Apologies for absence had been received from the following:
CJ Clemett, RJ Crayden and JM Wright (Honorary Life Members), J Arnold, G Gurney, GG Hammond, E Jones MBE, DN Tyler, and PJ Hancock (Vice-Presidents), R Barraclough (National Councillor), L Darnell (Disciplinary Committee), C Hyland (Trade Committee), C Newton (Regional Development Officer), B Pettitt (Brighton), DA Lomas (Burnham), National Federation of Gateway Clubs (Directly Affiliated Club), D Schofield (VETTS)

5. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 28TH JUNE 1997 (DOCUMENT 4164/1/RJS):

- 5.1. Minute 10.5 - M Allsop (Nottinghamshire) questioned the accuracy of this minute. He said that he had given written notice in advance of the 1997 AGM asking firstly for the amount of income received "from the membership" in the form of Affiliation Fees, ranking fees, tournament levies, and entry fees to British League, County Championships and National Team Knock-out competitions, and secondly how this figure compared with previous seasons. The Treasurer had given figures from 1990. He had then asked whether this "income from the members" showed an increase above the level of inflation and the Treasurer had agreed that it did. The Chairman had pointed out that this income did not take account of the expenditure involved as a result of the activity giving rise to the income.

It was agreed that, to avoid the need to hold up the meeting, AJH Wickens on behalf of Standing Orders Committee should draft a revised Minute 10.5.

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- 5.2. With the exception of Minute 10.5, which was to be revised as agreed, Document 4164/1/RJS was approved, and signed as a true record.
6. **MATTERS ARISING:**
- 6.1. There were no matters arising
7. **REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**
At this point the President took the Chair and intimated that he would go through the Report section by section.
- 7.1. World Veterans Table Tennis Championships (Item 1.3)
AE Ransome (Chairman) said that the Championships had been very successful and letters had been received from the English Sports Council and the Swaythling Club congratulating the ETTA on the excellent organisation. He expressed gratitude to Manchester City Council for their sponsorship and to all staff and volunteers who worked together to make the Championships such a success.
JA Leach, speaking on behalf of the Swaythling Club, said that the Executive considered that this had been the best World Veterans Championships they had ever experienced.
- 7.2. Selection
LA Chatwin (Vice-Chairman (Selection)) said that the final sentence of Item 10.7 (Junior Programme) commencing "The Junior Girls team..." should be numbered 10.7.4.
- 7.3. Adoption of Report
- 7.3.1 The Administration Department and Staff in the Administration Unit were congratulated on the production of the Report.
- 7.3.2 AE Upton (Honorary Life Member) moved acceptance of the Management Committee Report, seconded by KTO Ponting (Vice-Chairman (Competitions)). Carried on a show of hands.
(At this point, the Chairman resumed the Chair).
8. **REPORT OF APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMEN FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR 1998/9 (DOCUMENT 4177/23/RHS):**
- 8.1. The General Secretary informed the meeting of the appointments as shown on Document 4177/23/RHS.
- 8.2. The report was noted.
9. **REPORT OF ELECTION OF NATIONAL COUNCILLORS FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR 1998/9 (DOCUMENT 4186/23/AJHW):**
- 9.1. AJH Wickens (Returning Officer) reported that all seats had been filled for 1998/9.
- 9.2. Document 4186/23/AJHW was noted.
10. **REPORT OF THE TREASURER, REPORT OF THE AUDITORS AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1998 (DOCUMENT 4187/825/BRG):**
- 10.1. The Treasurer reported a deficit of £24,033 for the year ending 31st March 1998. He explained that this figure was due to the fact that the World Class Performance income had been expected to start in June 1997 but the grant was not fully operative until September 1997. This had meant that three months of costs, amounting to £34,000 had not been covered by the Programme. Without this set back there would have been a small surplus of approximately £10,000.

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- 10.2. Income from affiliation fees had decreased slightly. Only 25% of income had been contributed by members, a ratio which is not acceptable to the English Sports Council. It is important that the percentage of income from members is increased if the English Sports Council is to maintain its grant aid at the current level.
- 10.3. Costs had reduced this year within Coaching, due to the vacant position of Director of Coaching, and within Competitions, due to the cancellation of the English Open Championships, but costs had risen within National Championships causing a reduction in surplus. Corporation Tax is now payable on bank interest.
- 10.4. Mrs D Stannard (Honorary Life Member) asked why costs of National Championships had risen. The Treasurer explained that the first year of Grand Prix events had made considerable surplus whereas in 1997/8 the profit on these events had lessened.
- 10.5. HJ Webb (Dorset) queried the loss shown on British League. The Treasurer explained that this figure included all British League Competitions. The Chairman said that part of the Woolwich sponsorship of £20,000 can be set against this figure.
- 10.6. K Satchell (Wiltshire) asked why the English Sports Council grant was delayed. The Treasurer explained that news of a provisional award was promised in June with conditions to be agreed. This agreement was reached in October and the money was released, back dated to September.
- 10.7. The Treasurer commented that, as an auditor, he would be concerned that this Association was making deficits year after year. There is a need for this problem to be redressed.
- 10.8. MR Holt (Vice-Chairman (Marketing)) proposed and KTO Ponting (Vice-Chairman (Competitions)) seconded that report of the Treasurer, the report of the Auditors and the Statement of Accounts be accepted. Carried on a show of hands.
11. **RULE CHANGE PROPOSITIONS** (Document 4188/1/AJHW) introduced by MGR Smith (Vice-Chairman (Administration)):
- 11.1. PROPOSITION No.1 (proposed on behalf of the Leicester TTL)
- 11.1.1. Add new Rule
"4.1.18a TOP Club: a club affiliated to the ETTA which is registered under the TOP Club programme"
Delete existing Rule 7.3.2 and insert:
"7.3.2 Directly Affiliated Clubs
7.3.2.1 TOP Clubs shall pay fees according to a schedule decided by the National Council, which shall be published before the end of the preceding Administrative Year; 10% of the fee shall be rebated to the County Association in whose area the club is located.
7.3.2.2 Any other Directly Affiliated Club (including Youth Club); seven fee units."
- 11.1.2 AMENDMENT No.1 to PROPOSITION No.1 (proposed on behalf of National Council)
Amend Rule 4.1.18a to read
"TOP Club: a Directly Affiliated Club which has been accepted into the TOP Club programme."
The Amendment was passed nem.con.
- 11.1.3 The Proposition as amended was passed with 4 against.

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- 11.2. PROPOSITION No.2 (proposed on behalf of Leicester TTL)
- 11.2.1. Add new rule
- "41.6 Players wishing to enter an open tournament of higher than one star rating must hold either a Player Licence or a specific licence for that tournament".
- Add new rule
- "4.17a Player Licence: A licence held by a player registered under the Player Licence Scheme as defined in Appendix ???"
- 11.2.2 AMENDMENT No.1 to PROPOSITION No.2 (proposed on behalf of National Council)
- Add to Proposition No.2
- "Add new rule
- 7A Players registered as holding a Player Licence under the Player Licence Scheme shall pay fees according to a schedule decided by National Council, which shall be published before the end of the preceding Administrative Year; 10% of the fee shall be rebated to the appropriate County Association."
- Amendment No.1 to Proposition No.2 was passed with 4 against.
- 11.2.3 AMENDMENT No.2 to PROPOSITION No.2 (proposed on behalf of National Council)
- Add to Proposition No.2
- "Add new rule
- 4.1.17b Player Licence Scheme: a scheme which will not include Local League competitions, national knockout competitions (as covered by Appendices F, G and H), the County Championships or ETTA Approved and 1 star tournaments."
- Amendment No.2 to Proposition No.2 was passed with 2 against.
- 11.2.4 AMENDMENT No.3 to PROPOSITION No.2 (to be proposed on behalf of National Council)
- Amend Rule 4.1.17a: Delete "as defined in Appendix ???"
- Amendment No.3 to Proposition No.2 was passed with 1 against.
- 11.2.5.1 The Proposition No.2 as amended was carried on a show of hands with 5 against.
- 11.2.5.2 AE Upton (Lancashire) requested a block vote. The Chairman asked for the required 5 members to support this request. The request was lost due to insufficient support.
- 11.3. PROPOSITION No.3 (proposed on behalf of Leicester TTL)
- 11.3.1 Add new rule
- "44A DATABASE
- 44A. 1. The ETTA shall maintain a database of its members, as defined in 4.1.17.
- 44A. 2. All members shall be required to provide the information needed for this database, as defined in 4.1.17".
- 11.3.2 AMENDMENT No.1 to PROPOSITION No.3 (proposed on behalf of Leicester TTL)
- Amend Rule 44A.2 to read
- All Affiliated Organisations shall provide the information required by National Council for this database.
- Amendment No.1 to Proposition No.3 was passed with 3 against.

- 11.3.3 AMENDMENT No.2 to PROPOSITION No.3 (proposed on behalf of National Council)
Amend Rule 44A.1: after "members" delete the comma
Amendment No.2 to Proposition No.3 was passed nem.con.
- 11.3.4 AMENDMENT No.3 to PROPOSITION No.3 (proposed on behalf of National Council)
Amend Rule 44A.2: delete ", as defined in 4.1.17."
Amendment No.3 to Proposition No.3 was passed nem.con.
- 11.3.5 AMENDMENT No.4 to PROPOSITION No.3 (proposed on behalf of National Council)
Add to Proposition No.3 new rule
44A 3. All information shall be provided to the General Secretary not later than 15th November each Administrative Year.
44A 4. Any changes or additions after this date shall be provided to the General Secretary not later than 30th April each Administrative Year.
Amendment No.4 to Proposition No.3 was passed with 1 against.
- 11.3.6 The Proposition No.3 as amended was put to the card vote. The Proposition was carried by 24,271 to 7,024.
- 11.4 PROPOSITION No.4 (proposed on behalf of Leicester TTL)
- 11.4.1 Delete existing Rule 17 and insert
17. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMEN
- 17.1 The Treasurer shall act as Vice-Chairman (Finance) but other Vice-Chairmen shall be elected by the National Council at its first meeting after the Annual General meeting.
- 17.2 Nominations for these Vice-Chairmen may be made by an Officer or any other member of the Council; nominations other than those made by the Chairman shall be seconded by another member of Council.
- 17.3 Each member of the Council may nominate as many persons as there are posts to fill but may not nominate the same person for more than one post.
- 17.4 Anyone nominating the Deputy Chairman to serve also as a Vice-Chairman may submit an additional nomination for a Vice-Chairman without departmental responsibility.
- 17.5 A person who is nominated for more than one post shall decide for which post he or she will accept nomination and shall withdraw his or her candidature for the others.
- 17.6 Each National Councillor shall be informed in writing of the nominations not later than 10 days before the date of the meeting at which the elections are to take place.
- 17.7 There shall be a separate ballot for each post.
- 17.8.1 The winner of the ballot shall be the candidate receiving the largest number of votes provided this number is at least 50% of the total votes cast.
- 17.8.2 If in a ballot no candidate receives 50% of the total votes cast, the candidate receiving fewest votes shall be eliminated and there shall be a further ballot for the remaining candidates.
- 17.8.3 If 2 candidates each receive 50% of the total votes cast the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

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Delete 13.4.2 and substitute:

13.4.2 Vice-Chairmen shall serve from the date of their election until the end of the National Council meeting at which their successors are elected.

Add:

18.16.3 elect Vice-Chairmen in accordance with Rule 17.

11.4.2 AMENDMENT No.1 to PROPOSITION No.4 (proposed on behalf of National Council)

Amend 17.2 to read as follows: (changes underlined)

Nominations for these Vice-Chairmen may be made by Officer-elect, an Officer who will be an Officer during the term of office of these Vice-Chairmen or by any other member of Council; nominations other than those made by the Chairman or Chairman-elect shall be seconded by another member of Council.

Amendment No.1 to Proposition No.4 was passed nem.con.

11.4.3 AMENDMENT No.2 to PROPOSITION No.4 (proposed on behalf of National Council)

Add to Proposition No.4 new rule

"17.3a An employee of the Association may not be nominated"

Amendment No.2 to Proposition No.4 was passed nem.con.

11.4.4 Amendments Nos.3 & 4 to Proposition No.4 were not proceeded with by Leicester TTL and not adopted by any other Accredited Representative.

11.4.5 Proposition No.4 as amended was passed nem.con.

11.5 PROPOSITION No.5 (proposed on behalf of Leicester TTL)

11.5.1 Add new rule

"18.7a A member of the National Council who has a financial interest in an item under discussion, or who has a close relative (e.g. partner, child, parent, sibling) with such an interest, shall declare that interest and withdraw from the discussion until invited to return by other members of the Council."

11.5.2 Proposition No.5 was carried nem.con.

11.6 PROPOSITION No.6 (proposed on behalf of National Council)

11.6.1 Amend Rule 34.2.3: delete "five"

11.6.2 Proposition No.6 was carried nem.con.

12. **MOTIONS** introduced by MGR Smith (Vice-Chairman (Administration))

12.1. Motion A (proposed on behalf of Leicester TTL)

THAT this GENERAL MEETING agrees that the Player Licence fees for the 1998/9 Administrative Year will be £5 cadets, £7.50 Juniors and £10 Seniors with 10% rebated to the appropriate County Association.

MGR Smith (Vice-Chairman (Administration)) said that in future years any changes will be dealt with by National Council by Rule.

On being put to the vote the motion was carried with 2 against.

12.2. Motion B (proposed on behalf of Leicester TTL)

THAT this GENERAL MEETING agrees that players will require a valid Player Licence to take part in ETTA 2, 3, 4 and 5 star Open Tournaments after 1st January 1999.

On being put to the vote the motion was carried nem.con.

- 12.3 Motion C (proposed on behalf of Leicester TTL)
THAT this GENERAL MEETING agrees that the Affiliation Fees for TOP Clubs for the 1998/9 Administrative Year will be:-
Introduction Level: £10
Participation Level: £20
Advanced Level: £30
Excellence Level: £40
with 10% rebated to the County Association in whose area the Club is located.
MGR Smith (Vice-Chairman (Administration)) said that in future years any changes will be dealt with by National Council by Rule.
On being put to the vote the motion was carried with 2 against.
- 12.4 Motion D was not proceeded with by its proposer, Leicester TTL, after it had been pointed out that it appeared to duplicate the previous Motion.
13. **ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENTS:**
- 13.1. The meeting agreed, on the proposal of the Chairman on behalf of National Council, to a further three year term for the following retiring Vice-Presidents: H Albery, J Arnold, Mrs W Cunningham, P Day, G Gurney, P Hancock, E Hill, T M Honey, T Inge, E Jones MBE, I Marshall, JM McDonnell, JC McKim, Mrs J Hammersley-Parker MBE, DD Plowes, Rev BJ Rowley, D Schofield, AW Shipley, RH Sinclair, RJ Stevens, DR Tremayne, C Villiers, HJ Webb, M Wolman.
- 13.2. The meeting agreed, on the proposal of MR Holt (Vice-Chairman (Marketing)), to the election for a term of three years of J Blackband (ESTTA) in recognition of his work with the English Schools Table Tennis Association; to the election for a term of three years of W Moran for his work as Treasurer of the Veterans English Table Tennis Society and to the election for a term of three years of P Bradley (VETTS General Secretary) for his work at the World Championships and World Veterans Championships.
14. **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS AND HONOURS:**
- 14.1. Ivor Montagu Award
This was awarded to MGR Smith for his role as East Midlands Regional Chairman, as Vice-Chairman (Administration) and his work with Leicestershire County Association and Leicester TTL.
- 14.5. Victor Barna Award
This was awarded to the England Women's Team for gaining the Bronze Medal at the European Championships 1998
- 14.6. Malcolm Scott Award
This was awarded to CJ Clemett for his work as NURC Secretary for many years and his help and advice to the Rules Committee.
- 14.7. A.K. Vint OBE Staff Award
This was awarded to the Regional Development Officer for the Eastern Region, Sandra Collins, for her work as the driving force behind the Voluntary Development Officer Programme which earned top Sports Council awards at Regional, National and British level.
- 14.8 The recipients of awards made in 14.5, 14.6 and 14.7 were not at the meeting to collect their awards but presentation would be made at the earliest appropriate opportunity.

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15. **ELECTION OF AUDITORS:**

15.1. It was agreed nem.con that Spains be re-elected.

16. **ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE:**

16.1. The Chairman expressed the Association's thanks for the work of the Standing Orders Committee. Roger Canton (Leicester) had been nominated to fill the vacant position. This was agreed.

17. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

17.1. New ITTF Regulation

J Woodford (Sussex) requested explanation of the new ITTF Regulation concerning long pimples which was passed at the ITTF Congress in Durban.

The Chairman said that the proposition to reduce the aspect ratio from 1.3 to 1.1 had been brought by E Scholer on behalf of the German Association. There was considerable dissension and the vote was very close, with the proposition going through on 19 to 23, to come into effect 1st July 1999. Consideration may be given to proposing a reversal or delaying of this decision at the next ITTF Congress at the World Championships in May 1999.

17.2 Junior Umpire Award

Mrs AP Archdale (Weston Super Mare) asked what had become of the Junior Umpire Award. MWJ Lewis (Vice-Chairman (Development)) replied that a sponsor was being sought to fund the promotion of the initiative. R Yule (Chief Executive) said that it was included in the targets for this coming year and it was hoped that it will be launched soon.

17.3 Table Tennis News

17.3.1 Questions were asked concerning the delay in the issue of the magazine. BR Halliday (Vice-Chairman (Public Relations)) admitted that there had been problems during this last year but procedures had now been put in place which should effect an improvement for the coming year.

17.3.2 T Gadsby (Burton Senior TTL) suggested that more emphasis should be put on publicising the sport of table tennis. BR Halliday replied that, as a minority sport, there would always be difficulty at national level. Media publicity at regional and local level is easier to obtain. R Yule said that, now that the funding for an Information Officer has been granted, it is hoped that the sport will be promoted more professionally at all levels.

17.4 Scheduling of Events

G Trimming (Slough TTL) commented on the difficulty of members of teams which had reached the Finals of national events, being called away for national duty abroad. LA Chatwin (Vice-Chairman (Selection)) explained that with the increase of international competition it was inevitable that some clashes would occur. Players had been asked about their availability and had said that they had no conflicting commitments.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the interesting discussions, and declared the meeting closed at 5.35pm.

PLEASE ATTACH THIS DOCUMENT to Document 4164/1/RJS(21.05.98)
(Minutes of A.G.M. on 28th June 1997)

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

4380/1/AJHW
(02.07.99)

1997 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The following amendment to the Minutes contained in Document 4164/1/RJS(21.05.98) was approved by the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 3rd July 1999 having been re-drafted at the direction of the 1998 Annual General Meeting (see Minute 5.1 in Document 4227/1/DMN(07.01.99))

Delete Minute 10.5 and substitute -

10.5. M.Allsop (Nottinghamshire) had asked in advance in writing first for the amount of income received "from the membership" in the form of Affiliation Fees, ranking fees, tournament levies, and entry fees to British League, County Championships and National Team Knock-out competitions, and secondly how the figure compared with previous years. The Treasurer gave figures from 1990. Mr Allsop then asked whether this income "from the membership" showed an increase above the level of inflation and the Treasurer agreed that it did. The Chairman pointed out that this income did not take account of the expenditure involved as a result of the activity giving rise to the income.