

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION - 1 of 6 -
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Skyline Suite, Ponds Forge Leisure Centre, Sheffield, on Saturday 3rd July 1999 commencing at 2pm.

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), Mrs KM Tonge (Without Departmental Responsibility)

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS: LA Chatwin, RJ Crayden, PHM Hillier, MWJ Lewis, KTO Ponting, AE Ransome OBE, Mrs DM Stannard, AE Upton, AJH Wickens

VICE-PRESIDENTS: M Allsop, JM Blackband, A Drapkin, E Hill, MR Holt, S Parr, RH Sinclair, HJ Webb, J Woodford, DA Young

ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES - COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS:

Avon (Mrs PA Archdale), Buckinghamshire (R Washington), Cheshire (Mrs KM Tonge), Cleveland (Mrs J Ransome), Cornwall (Mrs PA Archdale), Derbyshire (L Allwood), Devonshire (KTO Ponting), Dorset (HJ Webb), Essex (S Kerns), Hampshire (BP Lamerton), Herefordshire (N Merchant), Hertfordshire (J Jermyn), Lancashire (AE Upton), Leicestershire (MR Holt), Lincolnshire (K Eliot), Middlesex (M Close), Northumberland (A Drapkin), Nottinghamshire (M Allsop), Staffordshire (D Sherratt), Surrey (Miss G McCulloch), Sussex (A Beames), Warwickshire (D Palmer), Worcestershire (DA Young), Yorkshire (BW Walker)

ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES - NON-COUNTY LOCAL LEAGUE:

None.

ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES - LOCAL LEAGUES:

Birmingham (R Hughes), Bristol (IJ Mead), Eastbourne (J Woodford), Hastings (J Woodford), Hull (RB Hudson), Liverpool (KA Armson MBE) Liverpool Business Houses (AC Knowlson), North Herts (J Jermyn), Nuneaton (S Parr), Weston Super Mare (Mrs PA Archdale)

OTHERS:

P Avenell (Suffolk), R Burch (National Councillor - Yorkshire), S Clarke (Liverpool TTL), DA Elliott (Worcester TTL Secretary), D Jermyn (North Herts TTL Assistant Secretary), BP Lamerton (Regional Chairman Southern), D Marples (Derbyshire Chairman), IE McKelvey (Rules Committee Chairman), S Perry (Liverpool Business Houses TTL), K Shepherd (Yorkshire Secretary), SE Sherlock (Blackpool TTL), B Spicer (East Grinstead TTL), AJH Wickens (Standing Orders Committee)

ORGANISATIONS IN GOOD STANDING:

JM Blackband (ESTTA Chairman), J Jermyn (VETTS)

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

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

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

1. REPORT OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (Document 4378/1/AJHW)

1.1 On behalf of the Standing Orders Committee, AJH Wickens introduced the report.

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- 1.2 He drew attention to the fact that some members of the Standing Orders Committee had been in post for a considerable of years and reminded the meeting of the need for new members to be found.
- 1.3 Acceptance of the report was proposed by MR Holt (Vice-Chairman (Marketing)) and seconded by DA Young (Worcestershire). The report was accepted.
2. **STANDING ORDERS (Document 3882/1/AJHW)**
 - 2.1 Adoption of Standing Orders was proposed by MR Holt (Vice-Chairman (Marketing)) and seconded by AE Upton (Lancashire). Adopted.
3. **TELLERS**
 - 3.1 It was proposed by AE Upton (Lancashire), seconded by DA Young (Worcestershire) and agreed that S Clarke and K Armson be appointed Tellers for the meeting. They were reminded before the appointment that Tellers could not take part in debate.
4. **APOLOGIES**
 - 4.1 Apologies for absence had been received from the following:
H Albery, J Arnold, P Bradley, Mrs E Carrington, GG Hammond, DN Tyler, DR Tremayne, C Villiers, MD Watts and BRJ Webb (Vice Presidents), BR Halliday (Vice-Chairman (Public Relations)), J Whitehead (Warwickshire), TPJ O'Flynn (Oxfordshire), RR Thompson (Kent) and AL Seward (Somerset) (National Councillors), J Freeman (Board of Appeal) and L Darnell (Disciplinary Committee), R Scruton (NURC), TR Vardon (NURC), D Hockney (Avon and Bath TTL), N Heavyside (Liverpool Business Houses TTL), T Gadsby (Uxbridge Burton), P Taylor (BTTAD), DA Lomas (Burnham)
5. **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 4TH JULY 1998 (Document 4227/1/DMN):**
 - 5.1 Document 4227/1/DMN was approved, proposed by MR Holt (Vice-Chairman (Marketing)) and seconded by HJ Webb (Dorset), and signed as a true record.
6. **MATTERS ARISING:**
 - 6.1 Minute 5.1 - Re-confirmation was given to the re-draft of minute 10.5 of minutes of Annual General Meeting on 28th June 1997 (document 4380/1/AJHW to be attached to Minutes of AGM 1997 document 4164/1/RJS) proposed by AJH Wickens (Standing Orders Committee) and seconded by Mrs KM Tonge (Vice-Chairman (without Departmental Responsibility)).
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 Public Relations (Item 7.2.2 & 7.5.1)
 - 7.1.1 J Woodford (Sussex) acknowledged the thanks expressed for weekly reports in the Daily Telegraph saying that the task had been enhanced by the arrival of Ken Muhr, Information Officer. He also welcomed Matthew Syed to the journalistic scene with his articles in The Times.
 - 7.1.2 M Allsopp (Nottinghamshire) asked for information regarding the situation with Rainbow Press and Table Tennis News. P Hillier (Honorary Life Member) commented on the situation as he saw it. AE Ransome (Chairman) said that the matter had been referred to the Association's insurers and was in the hands of the insurer's solicitors. It was subjudice and therefore was not a matter for discussion.
 - 7.2 Selection (Item 8)
 - 7.2.1 AE Ransome (Chairman) said that the results of the Cadet Six Nations that had been held in the Netherlands in June had been excellent with the teams finishing in 2nd and 3rd positions. He felt that this was an indication of the progress that had been made through the work at the National Training Centre, Holme Pierrepont.

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7.3 Membership Figures (Page 42)

- 7.3.1 P Hillier (Honorary Life Member) commented on the 4.8% drop in affiliated teams and 25% drop in Woolwich Junior League teams.
- 7.3.2 AE Ransome (Chairman) said that these facts were recognised and that strong development programmes had been launched. The end of the Woolwich sponsorship has meant that the affiliation fees are now at the full junior rate. The Top Club programme has an initiative that will increase the 2-man junior teams.
- 7.3.3 In answer to a question from J Woodford (Sussex), AJH Wickens (Standing Orders Committee) said that 'affiliated teams times 4' is purely a financial calculation and that the Association was not in a position to know exactly the number of affiliated players.
- 7.3.4 The Player Licence scheme has included many players who do not play in Local League.
- 7.3.5 MWJ Lewis (Vice-Chairman (Development)) said that the number of National Junior League teams had doubled after the first year and that the British Junior League has always had a waiting list of teams wanting to participate. It is hoped to increase the venue facility from 27 tables to 36 tables for the coming season.

7.4 Training

- 7.4.1 In reply to a question from P Hillier (Honorary Life Member) concerning plans to encourage administrators, AE Ransome said that, with the new Teaching and Training Department, the training of coaches will continue and increase, the qualification of voluntary table tennis development officers will continue to progress, a new qualification for tournament organisers at local level will be introduced and the NURC will prepare a recruiting campaign. Clubs and Leagues are to be encouraged to apply for funding to train volunteers in administration under Awards for All, National Lottery Grant Programme administered by Sport England.

7.5 Adoption of Report

- 7.5.1 The Administration Department and Staff in the Administration Unit were congratulated on the production of the Report.
- 7.5.2 AE Upton (Lancashire) added his appreciation to the Chairman for his comprehensive report and to the Vice-Chairmen and others who are responsible for the contents.
- 7.5.3 KTO Ponting (Vice-Chairman (Competitions)) moved acceptance of the Management Committee Report, seconded by B Walker (Yorkshire). Carried on a show of hands.
(At this point, the Chairman resumed the Chair)

8. REPORT OF ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR 1999/2000 AND 2000/2001

- 8.1 The General Secretary informed the meeting of the results of the election as shown on Document 4335/23/AJHW. The election is for a two-year term commencing 4th July 1999.
- 8.2 The report was noted.

9. REPORT OF APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMEN FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR 1998/9

- 9.1 The General Secretary informed the meeting of the appointments as shown on Document 4224/23/RHS. Vice-Chairmen for the Administrative Year 1999/2000 will be elected on 24th July 1999.
- 9.2 The report was noted.

10. REPORT OF ELECTION OF NATIONAL COUNCILLORS FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE 1999/2000 (DOCUMENT 4379/23/AJHW)

- 10.1 AJH Wickens (Returning Officer) reported that results of elections had now been received from Derbyshire (Mrs S Deaton), Kent (RR Thompson) and Surrey (BR Rowley). Results of elections had not been received from Cheshire, Cumbria, Huntingdonshire, Lincolnshire, South Yorkshire nor Warwickshire.
- 10.2 Document 4379/23/AJHW with above additions was noted.

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11. REPORT OF THE TREASURER, REPORT OF THE AUDITORS AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 1999 (DOCUMENT 4373/825/BRG)

- 11.1 The Treasurer reported a surplus of £14,294 for the year ending 31st March 1999. He explained that Sport England have claimed an underspend of £17,000 on the strength of the draft accounts. Discussions in process using the actual accounts may result in a reduction in this clawback. If this is not granted the surplus will become a deficit of £3,000.
- 11.2 Player Licence fees are included in the Affiliation fees. AE Upton (Lancashire) requested that these fees should be shown separately in future. The Treasurer agreed.
- 11.3 The increase in Sports Council Grants is due to the fact that in 1997/8 regional sports councils contributed to the Association by way of grants for their relevant region towards the salary and costs of the Regional Development Officer. From 1 April 1999, regional sports councils no longer gave grants and all income in respect of grants for regional work was received via Exchequer funding and is therefore shown under Sports Council Grants.
- 11.4 D Sherratt (Staffordshire) requested information concerning the contribution to the County Associations from the Player Licence income. The Treasurer explained that this was sent to County Treasurers in March.
- 11.5 DA Young (Worcestershire) mentioned a legacy that was not shown in the accounts. The Treasurer said this would be included in the figure shown under Creditors & Accruals.
- 11.6 DA Young (Worcestershire) proposed and J Woodford (Eastbourne) seconded that the report of the Treasurer, the report of the Auditors and the Statement of Accounts be accepted. Carried on a show of hands.
- 11.7 The Chairman said that the number of transactions has increased over the last few years and the turnover of two and a half million pounds is significantly higher than ever before. He thanked the Treasurer for his report and for his work during the year.

12. RULE CHANGE PROPOSITIONS (Document 4338/1/AJHW) introduced by I McKelvey (Rules Committee Chairman):

- 12.1 **PROPOSITION No.1:** (proposed on behalf of National Council)
 - 12.1.1 Amend Rule 27.1: After "There shall be no..." insert "fewer than two nor"
 - 12.1.2 Delete Rule 27.2
 - 12.1.3 Add new Rule 27.4a: "The National Council shall have power to appoint trustees"
 - 12.1.4 Amend Rule 27.5: For "until removed" substitute "removal". Delete all after "...from office"
 - 12.1.5 Add new Rule 27.5a: "The National Council may by resolution, for any reason which may seem sufficient to a majority of members present and voting, remove any trustee or trustees from the office of trustee"
 - 12.1.6 Amend Rule 27.6.1: For "Where" substitute "If". After "the Council shall.." For "by resolution nominate the person or persons to be appointed as the" substitute "appoint a". Add "by resolution" at the end
 - 12.1.7 Delete Rule 27.6.2
 - 12.1.8 Add new Rule 27.6.2: "If for any purpose it is necessary for there to be a Deed of Appointment of Trustee such Deed shall be executed by the Chairman of the Association."
 - 12.1.9 Amend Rule 27.7.2: For "minute" substitute "Certificate". Delete "a resolution of the Council" and add "the identity of the current trustees of the Association"
 - 12.1.10 These changes will empower National Council to appoint etc trustees by resolution, instead of only nominating trustees for formal appointment by the Chairman, thus avoiding the need for Chairman to execute a formal document every time.
 - 12.1.11 Proposition No.1 was passed nem.con.
- 12.2 **PROPOSITION No 2:** (proposed on behalf of National Council)
 - 12.2.1 Amend Rule 32.14.7.1: For "rule" substitute "the ETTA Disciplinary Code"
 - 12.2.2 Amend Rule 32.14.8: After "In any case of" insert "breach of the ETTA Disciplinary Code by a"
 - 12.2.3 Amend Rule 32.23: After "deemed a breach of", for "rule" substitute "the ETTA Disciplinary Code"

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- 12.2.4 These amendments to Rule 32 will substitute breach of Disciplinary Code for breach of rule to achieve consistency.
- 12.2.5 Proposition No.2 was passed nem.con.
- 12.3 **PROPOSITION No 3:** (proposed on behalf of National Council)
- 12.3.1 Add new Rule 34.7a: "If a fine imposed under Rule 33.3.2 is not paid within the time limits prescribed by the Disciplinary Committee, the Disciplinary Committee may impose an alternative penalty. The Committee shall have power to decide such alternatively penalty at the same time as deciding to impose the fine, but if they do so shall not be obliged at such time to make known the alternative penalty."
- 12.3.2 This provides for Disciplinary Committee to decide an alternative penalty, which will avoid the need for further Disciplinary Committee proceedings to deal with non-payment of fine.
- 12.3.3 Proposition No.3 was passed nem.con.
- 12.4 **PROPOSITION No 4:** (proposed on behalf of National Council)
- 12.4.1 Amend Rule 48.2.1: After "Propositions" insert ", and Amendments thereto,"
- 12.4.2 Amend Rule 48.2.2: For "One" substitute "A Proposition or Amendment"
- 12.4.3 Amend Rule 48.2.3: For "One" substitute "A Proposition or Amendment"
- 12.4.4 This will clarify that Amendments and Alternative Propositions need to be authenticated under Rule 46.
- 12.4.5 Proposition No.4 was passed nem.con.
- 12.5 **PROPOSITION No 5:** (proposed on behalf of the National Council)
- 12.5.1 Amend Rule 48.3.1: For "Proposals" substitute "Propositions"; after "each such" for "proposal" substitute "Proposition"
- 12.5.2 Amend Rule 48.3.2: For "proposals" substitute "Propositions"
- 12.5.3 Amend Rule 48.3.3: For "proposals" substitute "Propositions"; before "not later", for "proposal" substitute "Proposition"
- 12.5.4 Amend Rule 48.4: For "Proposals" and "proposals" substitute "Propositions" and "propositions"
- 12.5.5 Amend Rule 44.9: For "Proposals" and "proposals" substitute "Propositions" and "propositions"
- 12.5.6 This will do away with the use of the word "proposals" and replace by "propositions" for consistency.
- 12.5.7 Proposition No.5 was passed nem.con.

13 STATEMENT Re LAWS OF TABLE TENNIS

- 13.1 KTO Ponting (Vice-Chairman (Competitions)) said that the ITTF decisions re 'Long Pimples', as shown in Document (4364/12/RHS) (25.05.99), do not constitute any changes to ETTA Laws of Table Tennis.
- 13.2 AE Upton (Lancashire) said that ETTA must look towards standardisation concerning this matter in the future.

14 ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENTS

- 14.1 The recent passing of Emlyn Jones MBE, Vice-President for many years, was acknowledged with one minute's silence.
- 14.2 The meeting agreed, on the proposal of the MR Holt (Vice-Chairman (Marketing)) on behalf of the National Council, to a further three-year term for the following retiring Vice-Presidents: Miss J Adams, R Balmford, A Drapkin, BG Fretwell, WG Goldfinch, GG Hammond, A Hydes, Miss I Moss, S Parr, H Pearce, L Pilditch, Mrs S Sandor, AWC Simons, Mrs JL Watts, MD Watts, BRJ Webb, J Woodford.
- 14.2 The meeting agreed, on the proposal of MR Holt (Vice-Chairman (Marketing)), to the election for a term of three years of R C Scruton for his work as Umpire since 1970 and as Referee of world renown and as Chairman of the National Umpires and Referees Committee, to the election of SE Sherlock for his work as Umpire since 1978 and as Referee including the World Championships in 1997, to the election of J Jermyn for his work as Umpire since 1972 and as Referee including the World Veterans Championships in 1998 and to the election of J Freeman for his dedication to table tennis spanning 36 years with Reading League, with Berkshire County Association and

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nationally as Umpire and Referee and with the National Umpires and Referees Committee, Tournaments Committee and currently as Chairman of the Board of Appeal.

15 PRESENTATION OF AWARDS AND HONOURS

15.1 Honorary Life Member

MR Holt was confirmed as an Honorary Life Member of the Association for his work as National Councillor (Leicestershire) from 1985 to 1991, Vice-President, Member of English Championships Committee 1984 to 1991, British League Committee Chairman 1986 to 1990 and Vice Chairman (Public Relations) 1991 to 1992, (Administration 1992 to 1996 and (Marketing) 1996 to date.

15.2 Ivor Montagu Award

This was awarded to Malcolm Macfarlane for his work as West Midlands Regional Chairman, as Chairman of the Information Technology Working Party in connection with the Player Licence Scheme and the Membership Database and as Chairman of the Ranking Committee.

15.3 Leslie Forrest Memorial Award

This award was given to Bob Gale OBE for his work for the Cumbria County Association in connection with the County Championships.

15.4 Malcolm Scott Award

This was given to Mike Watts for his work as Director of the World Championships in 1997 and of the World Veterans Championships in 1998.

15.5 A K Vint OBE Staff Award

This was awarded to Brian Skinner for his work as Finance Officer during the take over of the full, computerised accounts in the office and with the administration of the World Class Performance funds.

15.6 The recipients of awards made in 15.2, 15.3, 15.4 & 15.5 were not at the meeting to collect their awards but presentation would be made at the earliest appropriate opportunity.

16 ELECTION OF AUDITORS

16.1 It was agreed nem.com that Spains be re-elected.

17 ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

17.1 The Chairman expressed the Association's thanks for the work of the Standing Orders Committee. MR Holt (Vice-Chairman (Marketing)) proposed that JM Wright be re-elected to the Committee. This was seconded by MGR Smith (Vice-Chairman (Administration)) and agreed.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

18.1 S Parr (Warwickshire) asked about the progress being made with County Rules approval. IE McKelvey (Rules Committee Chairman) said that he agreed that these were long overdue. He said that the Rules Committee had a backlog of work that it was steadily getting through. The County Rules will be brought up to date and then regularly checked.

18.2 The Chairman expressed warm appreciation to Sheffield City Council for their support in the provision of the facilities.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 4.15pm.

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