

NOTES OF MAG MEETING SATURDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2021

Present: Neil Hurford (Chair), Sandy Nash, Dave Randerson, Jo Green, John Andrews, Phil Ashleigh, John Mackey

Apologies for Absence: Dan Simms, Kevin Buddell, Dean Nabarro, Steve Pratt, Steve Bertie, Juliet Bertie, Liam McTiernan, Stuart Sherlock, Kevin Buddell

1. Chairman's Introduction

NH welcomed those present to the meeting. The meeting provided the opportunity to pull together the various activities after the summer break. He was conscious that all MAG members were heavily involved in restarting table tennis in their clubs, leagues and counties, and in national competitions.

2. Note of Previous Meeting

Noted.

3. Actions

All would be covered by the various agenda items.

4. Projects Update

- (a) **Clubs Development** – we've set up a project team comprising of MAG members, the Board and TTE Staff to develop an Action Plan. Colin Wilson will be an "independent" member who will be a source of challenge to make sure we cover as many issues as possible. The MAG members are Neil, Sandy and Kevin. We had our first meeting last night to map out how we will tackle the production of the action plan. We have set ourselves the target of substantially completing the work by the December Board meeting.
- (b) **Performance** – we will now take a back seat on this following the setting up of the Board's Sub-Committee on Performance. This does not preclude MAG from raising new issues relating to Performance should the need arise.
- (c) **Decline in Players in 17-24 Age Range** – Liam has produced a project plan for taking forward this project now that the TASS report has been published.
- (d) **Transparency & Accountability** – NH will re-draft the presentation we made to Board Members so that it is more in the form of a report (albeit still in Powerpoint format). NH and SN attended the Board meeting 9 Sept. We had already formally submitted our feedback on "Ask Us Anything 2", but we raised it in the discussion with the Board. There was an acknowledgement that it had not been successful as "AUA1". Board members offered some different perspectives, but all were in line with the view in our feedback that there was not enough challenge to the Board participants. An independent "Chair/Facilitator/Moderator" would have strengthened this element.

- (e) **National Clubs Leagues** – this can be re-started using data this is now available for British League competitions in 2021/22. Specifically, we can investigate how many of the teams belong to “real” clubs and how many to “clubs of convenience”.

5. Engagement with the TT Community

NH had attended the Wiltshire AGM and presented the MAG Annual Report. This had gone well and one member of the Wiltshire Committee was so impressed he asked how he could join MAG. NH was also due to attend the Bath League pre-season social gathering on 17 Sept. More generally, MAG was keen to engage with clubs, leagues, counties and specific groups within the table tennis community. NH asked to be advised if any opportunities arise.

6. MAG Ways of Working

For the last 18 months during varying degrees of lock-down it has been pretty easy to set up meetings – both of MAG members and with members of the table tennis community. But with a return to more normal activities – people’s availability is more limited. We will have to see how this plays out before coming to any conclusions – but we might need to be more flexible in the way we work. One possibility for MAG meetings is to consider mid-week meetings rather than just at weekends. And perhaps more project meetings and fewer meetings of the entire MAG team. No need to make any decisions on this at the moment – but see next point about date of next meeting.

7. Date of Next Meeting

NH to investigate dates towards end of November or early December.

8. Costs of the Meeting

The direct costs of the meeting to TTE were £0.00

October 2021