



Summary of Covid-19 Extraordinary Boards Calls

(18th March 2020 – 15th May 2020)

18th March 2020

Office & Business Operations

The Board received an update on the closing of the office, staff transitioning to working from home, phones diverted and how post will be collected and scanned. There are plans to ensure staff welfare is looked after.

Risk Register

The Board reviewed the first draft of the corona virus specific risk register.

Performance

Proposals to stop squad activity until further notice.

All senior players are back in England. Mental health of players being monitored.

Tournament & Event Calendar

Updated received. Critical supply chains have been addressed, such as hotels / venues / suppliers etc. 3 national events now cancelled: Wolverhampton Grand Prix, The Cadet National Cup and the Under 12 National Cup. Over 500 refunds being processed.

Club & League advice

Comms being sent out to clubs offering advice and providing a way for them to be able to contact us with any queries / questions.

Communication with clubs is needed during this time as some are vulnerable. Area staff will be speaking with each Premier Club to begin with.

Mass Participation

Mass working with shopping centres and parlours asking them to treat hygiene as a priority. Parlours are very quiet, and most of the parlours over the last couple of days have now closed.

Concern over the future of the ping pong parlours, 2 shopping centre groups have already warned they will close.



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Play at home advice being developed for the website. Supporting the Sport England #stainstayhealthy campaign.

AOB

Advice to be sought from the lawyers on holding the AGM discussed
Financial impact of Covid-19 discussed, more work to be done to assess impact acknowledging that it is a fast-changing crisis.

24th March 2020

CEO Report

Postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games is now confirmed.
Discussions took place on the proposed AGM propositions it was decided that this should be the priority topic for the next board call on 3rd April. Board members to call county and league representatives to discuss proposals.

Events Update

Discussions took place on the events impact, financial implications, cancellations etc.
The decision was taken that all events will be cancelled until end of May. By the end of April, we shall notify of the situation for events in June / July.

3rd April 2020

Chairman Opening Remarks, Update & Welcome

Board observed a minute's silence for Charlie Childs and the Board conveyed its condolences to his family.

CEO Report

Website updates continue, promoting over social media and encouraging how to play at home, engaging clubs etc.
Sport England announcement this week has shown exceptional support to the sector in difficult times. Community Emergency Fund launched and will be promoted to clubs. Sport England has had two key priorities (1) supporting the sector and (2) encouraging the nation to remain active.
Currently assessing the possibility of furloughing some staff (not publicly funded roles). NGB network being supportive and sharing advice.



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AGM Propositions

Board agreed to propose three AGM propositions - affiliation fee, voting and change of tenure for Vice Presidents. The deadline for the propositions is 30 April.

17th April Zoom Call

CEO Report

Nothing further to the report and no questions.

Conclusions of the season and Incomplete Leagues

The Board confirmed two decisions:

1. To close the current season. It was agreed that we need to be fair, transparent and equitable in how to close the season conjunction with the various committees. The Board considered the recommendations regarding the unfinished leagues. Further refining was requested with the final version to be forwarded to Board.
2. Continue to plan for a full 20/21 season until Government advice changes or makes it untenable. A refunds policy needs to be created to accompany 20/21 entries.

15th May Zoom Call

CEO Report

Reported that a good number of table tennis clubs have benefited from the Sport England Community Emergency Fund.

Confirmed that the Director Election would proceed to fill the vacancy left by Charlie Child's death.

Finance

Considerable discussion about the potential financial impact if the association experiences a significant drop in membership when the new season commences in August. Finance committee will continue to review various scenarios with the Head of Finance and the CEO ahead of the full Board meeting in June. B

Risk Register – Covid 19

Reviewed.



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Affiliation Fees and AGM

Considerable discussion took place on whether the Board should continue to pursue the AGM proposition of increasing the membership fee to £20 in light of the on-going crisis and the uncertainty of when the season will be able to commence.

Decision

Agreed (majority decision) that the £20 fee proposition is removed and we do not submit an alternative proposition, therefore membership fees will remain at £16. This also means that the £6 Club Play is withdrawn this year.

Further discussion took place regarding the AGM. As this will now need to be held virtually using Zoom, it is difficult and costly to administer a live weighted voting system. The Board therefore decided to withdraw its other two propositions. A fourth proposition from the company member for Cleveland remains. The Board decided to bring forward a decision on the ranking proposal (to be done via email rather than wait until the 4 June meeting) as it was felt that this would deal with the issue raised in the proposition. A discussion could then take place to see if the proposition would also be withdrawn.

TT365 and Tees Sport

The Board registered its concern regarding the support by Tees Sport, an important partner to TTE, for TT365 and whether this represented a conflict of interest. The Chairman was asked to speak to A Ransome.



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