

MAG Update Note for National Council

Overview

There has been one MAG meeting during the period, at the end of January. Topics discussed at the meeting included:

- “Table Tennis United” and how MAG fitted into the developing structure of the new Advisory Committees to the Board,
- An update on the Competition Review
- A project on the Director Election & Appointment process.

The next MAG meeting is being arranged for April.

“Table Tennis United” and the Role of MAG

We have reaffirmed our support for the “Table Tennis United” strategy. But it is not immediately obvious how MAG fits into the new structure of Advisory Committees to the Board. We have identified a range of options for the role of MAG within the new structure. One is that MAG’s role as an advisor to the Board is taken over by the Advisory Committees. Another is that Advisory Committees will need support and evidence in undertaking their roles and MAG will be well-placed to meet that need. A third role is providing support to the Chair, Chief Executive and other Board Members on specific topics as they arise. The recent project on Director Elections and Appointments is such an example. The Chair of MAG has been asked to work up these ideas and discuss them with the TTE Chair and Chief Executive.

Competition Review

We have continued to be involved in the on-going discussions about the Competition Review – both collectively as MAG and in our individual roles. We were pleased to note that although different views had been expressed about the Competition Review and the future structure of TTE competitions, all sides were agreed that the MAG report on the Cost-Effectiveness of competitions had been a valuable and objective contribution to the debate.

Project – “Director Election & Appointment Process”

MAG had been asked to review the Director Election & Appointment processes with a view to seeing how they might be streamlined and ideally synchronised with the Annual General Meeting. We formed a project team comprising MAG members, National Councillors and the TTE Returning Officer.

A discussion session was arranged in which the issues were discussed in-depth. This led to the production of a draft report on which the participants were able to comment. The report makes a number of recommendations for simplifying the election process, particularly the use of on-line voting via Mi-Voice and limiting the voting period to two weeks. Aligning the appointment periods with the AGM cycle was found to be more challenging and we were not sure how it could be achieved without changing the Articles of Association.

The final report was submitted to TTE at the end of February and is attached. Informal feedback from Table Tennis England is that our view that the election processes can be simplified is shared. Steps are in place to simplify the Nomination Process and quotes are being sought for an on-line voting process.

Neil Hurford
Chair
Members Advisory Group
March 2023