

Leamington and District Table Tennis Association

Minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee held on 11th January 2005 at AP.

Present: - Malcolm Macfarlane (chair), John Earles (President), Steve Hawkins, Doug Lowe, Carol Meredith, Phil Paine, Ian Stevens, Jim Thomas, Caroline Williams and Estyn Williams.

Apologies: - Richard Grover and Hazel Higgins.

1. Minutes -The minutes of the last meeting held on 11 November were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman subject to the deletion of Richard Grover from the names of those present and in item 7 amending the number of entries in the Coronation Cup to 17..
2. Correspondence - from ETTA, routine correspondence (noted) plus a request that the Association nominate a Welfare Officer to be the local point of contact for child protection issues. It was agreed to invite nominations at the AGM. In the meantime ETTA would be told that contact should be made through the General Secretary.
4. General Secretaries report
 - a. Venue for meetings - It was reported that AP could be used for the next meeting but was unlikely to be available thereafter. The General Secretary had ascertained that RNA might be available but only on Tuesdays or Wednesdays which it was agreed were not suitable nights. It was agreed that Phil Paine approach WCC staff club to see if that might be available.
 - b. Rules revision – it was agreed that the draft revised rules be posted on the web site on the basis that the Committee was not committed to it at this stage and that comments be invited from members by 14 February so that they could be considered at the next meeting.
5. League Secretaries Report
 - a. Two matches were unplayed. It was agreed that in Division 1 Whitnash B v Colebridge A be scored as 0-0. In Division A St Georges E v FC E was unplayed and St Georges had agreed FC who were not at fault could claim the points. It was pointed out that FC were at present tied with Eathorpe for the runners up position and therefore it would be unfair to Eathorpe to award FC points and unfair to FC to award them no points as they were much the stronger side and were not at fault. It was agreed that St Georges E and FC E be directed to play the match and that as home side St Georges should offer FC dates as soon as possible.
 - b. The lowest two sides in division 1 were Riverhouse A (10th) and RNA A (11th). Riverhouse asked to remain in division 1 as they felt that BGN A who had withdrawn should be considered to be the bottom side. This was not agreed as the rules stipulate that if a team withdraws its playing record should be disregarded. It was also felt that Riverhouse who had only scored an average of 1.7 points a game would be more suited to division 2 and that this would avoid matches which did not provide Riverhouse's opponents with sufficiently challenging competition.
 - c. Three sides, Marconi, and RNA C (who wanted to be promoted to division 1) and St Georges D (who were content to remain in division 2) had tied for the runners up position in Division 2 and the rules did not cater for a 3 way tie. It was agreed that runners up trophies be awarded to all three teams and that Marconi and RNA C, together with the division winners Flavels be promoted to division 1 for the Spring competition.
 - d. Two new 3 aside teams (both Free Church) and four new 2 aside teams (2 Free Church, 1 Eathorpe and 1 new club Rugby) were accepted into the league making 12 teams in divisions 1, 3, A and B and 10 teams in division 2, 58 teams in all the largest number for 20 years or more.

e. Some teams in the two aside competition had requested that it change to three 8 team format divisions. However it was pointed out that this would result in each team having 4 blank matches and so it was agreed to continue with two 12-team format divisions

6. Financial report. – It was reported that income this year so far was £1759 and expenditure £1540.

7. Leamington Closed Championships – The Tournament Secretary submitted a draft entry form which was approved. It was agreed that entry fees this year should be unchanged and that there should be a £1 reduction in the administration fee for entries received on paper or by email by the closing date 14th February. It was also agreed to add an Over 60 event to the championships.

8. Representative report – It was reported that the Veterans team in the Alec Brooke Trophy had been beaten in the first round. It was also reported that the Club entered by the league in the Ormsby Cup had withdrawn after the league had paid its entry fees. It was agreed that in future years entry in the Ormsby Cup be offered to the previous season's league champions (or if they did not wish to enter the highest placed club which did) on the basis that it pay its own entry fee but that it could later claim reimbursement from the league provided it had fulfilled all its fixture commitments in the competition.

9. Competitions report – the Southwell cup had now reached the quarterfinals stage. The 2nd round of the Coronation Cup was now being played.

10. Warwickshire Report – it was reported that Leamington's share of the profits for running the Warwickshire Closed were roughly £185.

11. Press Report – The Press Officer reported that press reports were now also sometimes appearing in the Leamington Spa Review.

12. Social Report – It was agreed that if possible presentation evening tickets should be on sale at the Leamington Closed. The General Secretary agreed to print tickets but needed to know the proposed ticket prices from Julie Richardson.

13. Coaching report – it was reported that 10 to 12 people were still attending for coaching each week.

14. HQ report – it was reported that evidence of mice had been found in HQ and this was thought to be because waste food had been left in the cupboard. It was agreed to post a notice asking players to take any waste away. It was also agreed to discuss with Hazel Higgins whether the cleaner could check the cupboard and remove any waste food when she cleaned in future.

15. AOB

a. It was reported that Ken Southwell had been in hospital and the General Secretary was asked to write sending him the committee's best wishes for a speedy recovery.

b. John Earles asked if the General Secretary had written to the Vice Presidents offering them a handbook. The General Secretary said he would be doing this shortly and inviting them to finals night at the same time.

c. It was reported that in some leagues a player who could not play one of his matches because of the absence of an opponent was credited with a win in the averages competition whereas in Leamington the match was disregarded. It was agreed this could be considered as part of the rules revision.

16. Next meetings – It was agreed that the next meeting should held be on Thursday 17 February 2005 at AP. The date and venue of the following meeting would be decided at the February meeting.