

# **SURREY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

(Affiliated to ETTA)

## **Minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting held at Graham Spicer Institute, 15 Dukes Avenue, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4HL on Monday 9 June 2008.**

1. Attendance - Tony Laws (Chairman, Guildford), Mike Barratt (Byfleet), Paul Collis (Reigate & Redhill), Chris Andrews, Jane Barella, John Fairweather (Thames Valley), Margot Fraser (Sutton), Mike Huband (Wandsworth), Mike Kercher, John Mullis (Croydon), Brian Spicer.
  
2. Apologies for Absence – Stanley Buchan, Gail Johns, Margaret Watson (Haslemere).
  
3. Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting -  
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on Monday 11 June 2007 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.
  
4. Matters arising from the minutes –  
Mike Huband pointed out that the organisers had not managed to provide an early indication of the date of the Percy Johnson Inter-league tournament so Wandsworth League had again failed to enter a team. He hoped this would be addressed in the coming season.
  
5. Chairman's Report -  
The Chairman made reference to the sad loss to the county of both Ron Crayden, our President for many years, and Roger Hill, who had done a great deal to bring order to the Accounts for the last few years since he had taken over as Treasurer. He also mentioned the loss of another Surrey stalwart in the person of Terry Haley. In relation to the ongoing work of the County Management Committee he offered particular thanks to Jane Barella for her efforts as the lynchpin of our primary activities of coaching and county teams and expressed a desire to get more representation from the county's constituent leagues. He also thanked Chris Andrews for his efforts in getting Surrey articles into the County news section of Table Tennis News.
  
6. Other Reports -
  - (a) Secretary's Report – A written report was distributed at and subsequently accepted by the meeting following an expression of thanks from Tony Laws for the Secretary's efforts over the year. In discussion of the report there was agreement that Leagues should be encouraged to appoint deputies for their county representatives. It was also suggested that the quorum for Management Committee meetings be reviewed in light of the reduction in the number of affiliated Leagues.
  
  - (b) Treasurer's Report – In the absence of the Treasurer, and in recognition of the fact that no replacement had been co-opted onto the Committee, Paul Collis provided an unaudited statement of the accounts for the year. He admitted that was a slight discontinuity between the closing statement of last season and his starting point but he had been unable to resolve this as the previous years' books were still with the Reigate, Redhill & District Treasurer who was having great difficulty in completing the audit in the absence of a Treasurer to answer queries. Equally, without access to those books it would be almost impossible for an audit of the current season's accounts to be satisfactorily completed. Tony Laws offered a vote of thanks to Paul Collis for his efforts in covering for the Treasurer vacancy throughout most of the season.
  
  - (c) National Council – Margot apologised for not having prepared a written report but mentioned the forthcoming EGM of ETTA at which the County vote would need to be cast on the subject of compulsory liability insurance. It was agreed that our vote should be cast in favour of the proposal. Margot mentioned a discussion that had taken place at the National Council meeting in April on the subject of a memorial to Ron Crayden; the proposal was that a percentage of the proceeds from the ETTA 2000 Club would be allocated to a Memorial Fund for table tennis development.
  
  - (d) Coaching Officer – A written report was distributed and Jane Barella emphasised that all coaches must be registered with ETTA and must have both a CRB check and liability insurance cover. Jane received a heartfelt vote of thanks for her efforts from the Chairman before the report was accepted by the meeting.

(e) Umpires' Secretary – Margot Fraser had nothing to report in relation to umpires within the county.

(f) County Captain – In her capacity as County Captain Jane Barella submitted a written report and offered thanks to a large number of people who had helped with organisation and support for the various teams. She made a plea for representatives to search their League areas for girls so that we might enter two Cadet teams next season and also mentioned that Ron Langheim continued to organise a significant number of Veterans' teams for the County. With a vote of thanks from the Chairman to Jane for her own efforts the report was accepted by the meeting.

(g) Press Secretary – Chris Andrews has continued to get his reports into Table Tennis News on a regular basis, with a good coverage of Surrey players' successes. However, he would be grateful to receive more information to include in these reports. Specific mention was made of the obituary for Ron Crayden that appeared and it was noted that Chris has also written a book on table tennis history which he would gladly sell to any potential purchasers. Tony Laws thanked him for his efforts and encouraged everyone to provide Chris with news items from around the Leagues.

(h) Inter-League Secretary – John Fairweather noted that this season's event had yet to be held as it had proved difficult to secure a convenient date; the event is due to take place on Sunday 29 June. There was some discussion as to how best to organise the event in future but no specific proposals were made.

(i) Closed Tournaments – it was noted that, although it was hoped to stage a Junior Closed event during next season, this could not be done unless a Tournament Referee was found. The Chairman would be delighted to hear from any potential volunteers. There was no imminent prospect of holding a Senior Closed event in view of the lack of support for this in the past.

(j) Surrey Schools – There was no report from Neil Williams but Brian Spicer reported on activity within the London area where events are being planned for Boys and Girls at U13 level in September or October but officials are required for them.

## 6. Proposals for Fees –

For the 2009/10 season it was proposed by Paul Collis that the STTA affiliation fee for a 3-player team should be increased to £14.00 whilst that for a 2-player team should increase to £9.00, and this was accepted by the meeting.

## 7. Election of Officers -

(a) Following his nomination by Mike Barratt, seconded by Chris Andrews, the meeting elected Mike Kercher as **President**.

(b) **Vice-Presidents** elected were : D.Beasley, N.Carpenter, J.Cartwright, N.Hooper, J.Mowat, S.Prior and T.Vance, and **Life Members** were noted as S.Buchan, C.Clemett, R.Crayden, M.Kercher, Mrs.G.Johns and Mrs.M.Wright.

(c) The following officers were elected to serve for the coming year :

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Chairman :               | Tony Laws        |
| Vice-Chairman :          | Mike Barratt     |
| General Secretary :      | Paul Collis      |
| Treasurer :              | vacant           |
| Umpires Secretary :      | Margot Fraser    |
| Coaching Secretary :     | Jane Barella     |
| Press Secretary :        | Chris Andrews    |
| Inter-League Secretary : | John Fairweather |

In the absence of any nominations for the post of Treasurer the meeting agreed to delegate the task of appointing a Treasurer and an auditor for the 2008/9 to the Management Committee.

## 8. Any Other Business

(i) Margot Fraser mentioned that with effect from 1 September 2008 certain racket rubbers would cease to be approved by ITTF and gluing up will be banned for all seniors.

(ii) The question of setting up an appropriate County memorial to Ron Crayden was raised and Mike Kercher suggested that we wait to see what is proposed by ETTA at National level before discussing any County proposals. Tony Laws suggested that this could be discussed further at the next management Committee meeting.

(iii) It was announced that the following awards of County trophies had been agreed for this season :

Jim Forrest trophy – Robert Macmillan  
Trevor Channing Memorial Trophy – Phil Miller (for services to Byfleet League)  
George Bourne Trophy – Paul Collis (for services to the County)

(iv) Mike Huband asked about the whereabouts of the Percy Johnson Trophy awarded for the Inter-League tournament. It has still not been traced and Mike Kercher agreed to seek contact details for Peter Barrow so that further attempts could be made to track it down.

The Chairman then red the meeting closed.

Signed .....

Date .....