

Dundee and District Table Tennis Association

Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting held at Ward Road Gym on Thursday 21st July 2016

Present: Elaine Forbes (Chair), David Sim (Vice Chair), Graeme Elrick (Hon. Sec.), Dave Beveridge (Treasurer), Andy Hughes (Match Sec.), Kenny Stewart, Sandy Elrick, Arthur Pritchard, Stuart Halliday, Paul McCabe (from item 4).

1. Welcome & Apologies

Elaine Forbes (EF) welcomed everyone, gave apologies from Miriam Rennet (MR) and noted that Chris Riddoch was currently on holiday.

2. Minutes arising from EC meeting 10/5/16

a) SportDundee AGM was attended by EF and Dave Beveridge (DB).

Because of dwindling reserves, the Finance sub-group is looking at ways of limiting expenditure which may possibly include limiting the amount which clubs can access to £500 p.a. and only providing coach education grants to volunteer coaches.

A grant has been received from Awards for All for an "Olympic Come and Try Event" at DISC on 20th and 21st August. EF has expressed interest in DDTTA being represented at this and we await more details.

b) Coaching

Paul McCabe (PM) has continued to liaise with TTS, STV and Overgate management for the event on 23rd July. A flyer promoting DDTTA has been produced for distribution at this event and at DISC above.

TTS have approached DDTTA with a view to our becoming partners in a pilot project to establish daytime TT sessions aimed primarily at adults over 50. Representatives from TTS and DDTTA will meet at earliest opportunity with a view to the project getting underway in September.

c) Playing Season 16/17

Dundee will again be represented by a team in the National League.

A large feature on DDTTA was carried in the "Sporting Post" on 7th June

Sandy Elrick (SE) is currently reaching out to contacts in Angus to obtain a list of village hall committees whom we can approach to promote TT.

d) PM attended TTS AGM and has reported by e-mail to EC members.

e) MR has made progress with TTS on PVGs and hopefully will have system in place for the start of the new season.

3. Treasurer's Report

DB reported that -

- cleared bank balance at 10/7/16 was £13,095 which included the closing balance on the 50:50 account
- outstanding SportDundee grant of £150 had now been received as had all advertising income from last season's handbook
- a second attempt to persuade HMRC to permit us to claim grant aid on affiliation fees had been unsuccessful
- invitations to sponsor the activities of DDTTA had been sent to 30 local businesses but as yet there had been no offers of support other than Tesco promising the donation of a raffle prize
- a written agreement has been drawn up for PM's coaching work

The committee agreed that this should now be issued to PM for signature and that there will be a review with PM in 3/4 months to confirm that all the conditions have been met.

DB has sourced a charity deposit account with Virgin Money which offers interest (currently 0.75%). The committee approved opening an account with the transfer of c£9/10k from our current account in order to have the benefit of the interest. DB will set this up with Chairman and Treasurer acting as signatories.

EF thanked DB for his work since taking over as Treasurer, especially ensuring that we are fit for OSCR's purposes.

4. Development Plan

A proposed Development Plan which had already been circulated to EC members was discussed.

The Plan was approved with changes made to drop the proposal to reintroduce entry charges for DDTTA tournaments and to increase the door fees at WRG to £1 rather than 50p. (It was noted that this was the first increase for at least 10 years.)

As a result of this approval :

- PM will now liaise with Active Schools co-ordinators with a view to extending existing coaching at Monifieth and Baldragon to Grove and Harris, seeking to have this underway by end of August/beginning of September. A weekly charge of £2 will be introduced. PM will report back to EC by early December on progress and numbers attending
- PM will organise a junior league on Thursdays for up to six meetings at WRG
- mature adults' session - it is intended to have this underway at WRG in September and as minuted earlier, we are currently liaising with TTS on this

- door fees at WRG will change from Monday 5th September:

Monday – coached session £5

- practice only £4

Thursday – minors/cadets group & junior league £4

Friday - monthly Development squad £5

- practice only £4

5. Playing Season 16/17

There was discussion on team registrations received and on Hecklers' requests that

- Rollercoasters retain Div One status and be renamed Defenders

- Tigers retain Div Two status

- reformed Rollercoasters be granted entry at Div Two level.

It was also noted that Attackers have withdrawn from the league and Mylnefield have dropped Bishops, but we have the addition of Brechin and Rollercoasters, giving 31 teams in total.

Following a vote, the format for the forthcoming season will be ten teams in Div One, eleven teams in Div Two and ten teams in Div Three.

Graeme Elrick (GE) will now match team requirements to the same 12-team matrix as last season and will liaise with Andy Hughes (AH) and DB in order that the fixture list can be drawn up with the season commencing on 12th September.

Cup draws were also completed and discussion followed on fitting these in with league fixtures. Mindful of the reluctance of many teams to play on Saturdays last season, but also being short of playing weeks, it was decided to stage the first round of the Excelsior Cup (six ties) at WRG on Friday 28th October in the hope that this would not only avoid the concessions of last season but also make for a social event.

Dates for DDTTA AGM and Presentation evening were agreed as Thursday 27th April and Friday 28th April respectively.

GE will liaise with SE on all WRG bookings for the forthcoming season and will continue his sterling work on producing the Handbook.

Kenny Stewart (KS) reported that he had sourced two new advertisers for the Handbook and will pass details to GE.

6. AOB

KS suggested that his bowling club may be suitable as a venue if required for future EC meetings.

7. Date & Venue for next meeting

The next meeting will be held at WRG on Thursday 1st September with a 6.30pm start.