

Dundee and District Table Tennis Association

(Registered charity no. SC045977)

Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held in WRG at 7:30 pm on 9 February 2018

Present: Trustees: Elaine Forbes, Chair; David Sim, Vice Chair; Dave Beveridge, Treasurer; Andy Hughes, Match Secretary; Juliet Johnston, Coaching Convener; Stuart Halliday, Trophy Convener; Arthur Pritchard; Sandy Elrick.

Others: Paul McCabe (items 1-4 only).

1 Welcome and apologies

Elaine welcomed everyone. Apologies for absence had been received from Miriam Rennet. Paul was congratulated by all over the birth of his and Val's baby girl.

2 Minutes of MC of 3/1/18 and matters arising

The minutes were approved.

Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda:

- no information has been received from Mylnefield as yet about insuring the tables at WRG
- the Aldi grant award is for the full amount of £500 and this has now been received. This is for development squad lets and coaching.

Action point: Elaine to provide Juliet with a news item about the Aldi award for the website.

3 Coaching convener's report

Juliet circulated a report on developments since the last meeting covering:

- the current status of our UKCC coaches
- coaching arrangements at WRG and Baldragon during Paul's paternity leave
- forthcoming junior events and coaching provision for these
- the collection of new parental consent forms

The committee expressed concern that the parents of two siblings appear to have withheld consent for first aid to be delivered, if ever necessary. It was agreed that this should be clarified in case it is simply an omission but, if not, it may be necessary to request that a parent is always in attendance or to advise the parents that the youngsters can no longer take part in our activities.

There was a discussion about the behaviour of one youngster in the development squad. It was agreed that Paul and Juliet would meet with a parent or guardian to discuss the situation before the schools finals. It was agreed that if we cannot be assured about the youngster's behaviour he may need to be withdrawn from the event.

There was also a short discussion about cadets and minors teams for the inter-league.

Action point: Paul to provide email addresses to Elaine so that she can canvass interest and availability.

4 Treasurer's report

Dave B had previously circulated the trustees' report and annual accounts for 2017 which were formally approved for submission to Stewart Clark for independent examination and subsequent submission to OSCR.

A 2018 budget showing a possible deficit for the year of £672 was also approved and considered satisfactory given our level of reserves. The deficit may be mitigated by grant applications submitted during the year.

Action point: Dave B to arrange the independent examination and subsequent submission of the report and accounts to OSCR.

5 Match Secretary's report

Andy reported that the postponements situation had improved since the last meeting. He also identified the incidence of teams that had played fixtures with only two players. These were mainly attributed to Saints, Telstars and Kings. The cup competitions are all largely on track with the doubles being the only event that's running slightly behind schedule.

Action point: It was noted that we need to keep in mind that we have still to set dates for the Handicap and Doubles finals.

Regrettably, Prospects (St Andrews TTC) have been responsible for two 'no shows' since the last meeting. Elaine explained the steps that she had already taken to prevent a recurrence and the committee accepted that no further action was necessary at this stage. SATTC will review the situation carefully for next season. It was pointed out, nevertheless, that a further Claim A would see the team automatically suspended and their results declared null and void.

David Sim said that the playing environment and the standard of etiquette at the recent Saints v Thumpers fixture had been very disappointing. The fixture had been played in a busy hall, no chairs were provided and no court surrounds were in use. The Saints players seemed unaware of their responsibility to umpire every other match and one of their players had used a phone and walked away while umpiring a match.

Action point: Elaine to contact Saints reps again to see whether the playing environment (e.g. absence of chairs at least) can be improved on.

6 Trophy convener's update

Stuart explained the main options for acquiring a new first division trophy. It was agreed that he should go ahead and purchase a new 42cm trophy as shown to the committee in the catalogue. It was suggested that the trophy should be bought

without a lid and be on a square plinth. Estimated cost is c£180 (excluding engraving, although that may be provided free).

7 Forthcoming tournaments and Interleague

The lower division closed championship had been a great success with a similar healthy attendance to last year. Guthrie Park, in particular, had sent a large contingent of players.

After a slow start entries for the closed events on 17 February are picking up. The numbers for the junior event on Sunday 18th remain lower than expected at this stage.

Action point: Dave B to issue a TT365 circular email on Friday 16th requesting that players be present at the due time to give the organisers the greatest flexibility over the order of play.

There was a discussion about the number and composition of teams to be entered in the inter-league.

Action point: In the case of the senior mens' teams, where we have nine keen participants but only places for two teams, Elaine will discuss with Ian McLagan, TTS and the players whether one of our three teams (Gillian E, Mark L, and Jason F) can be entered under Perth, albeit funded by DDTA.

It was agreed that we would seek contributions for playing in the inter-league as follows:

- playing on both days - £15.00
- play on one day - £7.50
- juniors <18 - £0.00
- shirt contribution (if shirt required) - £10

8 Nominations for TTS awards

Three long-standing members were unanimously agreed to be put forward for Honorary TTS life membership. It was also agreed that we should re-instate a list of Dundee's TTS honorary life members in the 2018/19 handbook.

Action points: Elaine to speak to the three members before arranging nominations. Dave B to ensure handbook updated for 2018/19.

9 AOB

After discussion of the alternatives, it was agreed that we should hold a joint AGM and presentation event on 26th April at Forthill.

Action point: David S to explore the best space that can be obtained for the event (either the function room or the main sports hall).

Dave B to arrange an early TT365 circular to remind members that any proposals for changes to the Constitution or Rules must be lodged by 31 March. Formal notice of the meeting will be issued nearer the time.

Sandy mentioned the forthcoming WRG Director's day on 17 March.

Action point: Juliet agreed to liaise with Sandy over organising a schools TT competition as part of this event.

Sandy also asked the committee to reflect on the fact that for the first time in years we have a lack of junior players available for selection for the inter-league etc. A short discussion followed.

David Sim mentioned that 'National play day' will be held on 1 August 2018. There is a possibility of DDTTA providing a TT taster event as part of this and it was agreed to carry this forward for further discussion at future meetings.

Action point: Carry forward under 'matters arising' at our next meeting.

Elaine thanked everyone on the committee for their endeavours and reminded us that John Thain, Eddie Dougan, Ken Head and others are also performing valuable roles outwith the committee environment.

9 Next meeting

Friday 6th April 7pm at WRG.