

Dundee and District Table Tennis Association

(Registered charity no. SC045977)

Minutes of a Sub Committee meeting held at 11:00am in DCA on 13 November 2017

Present: Trustees: Elaine Forbes, Chair; David Sim, Vice Chair; Dave Beveridge, Treasurer; Juliet Johnston, Coaching Convener; Sandy Elrick.

1 Welcome and apologies

Elaine welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Equipment at WRG

Some of the surrounds at WRG are in a poor condition and Mylnefield do not have the funds to replace them. Eddie Dougan had also asked DDTTA to consider the general question of the repair and replacement of equipment given the relative use by Mylnefield and DDTTA. It was agreed that:

- DDTTA should offer to immediately fund the purchase of 7 new surrounds
- DDTTA should offer to fund 80% of the cost of any future repairs and replacements of tables, court surrounds, nets/posts and scorers (but not match balls)
- Mylnefield be requested to take steps to build up reserves that will allow them to meet their share of future costs.

Action point: Dave B to convey this to Eddie Dougan and to arrange the purchase of the 7 court surrounds . [Done]
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3 Grants update

Elaine has managed to secure:

- a £375 grant from the Dundee Youth Fund to help two youngsters attend WRG sessions without charge for the whole of 2017/18. DDTTA has to match this funding. Dave B pointed out that, based on current attendance by the youngsters, we are unlikely to spend all of this
- a £400 development grant from TTS to fund the cost of lets for the new beginners group on Thursday evenings.

Elaine also explained the latest position with the UKCC1 project and that further funding should come in once the candidates based in Fife have claimed their own grants from Fife Council.

There is enough left of the grant received from the Dundee Partnership for Baldragon to pay the coaching fees for another 18 sessions.

4 Treasurer's report

The bank balance on 3 November was £17,089; a cash surplus since 1.1.17 of £164. The approved budget anticipated a deficit for the year of £1520.

The projected final out-turn for the year is around break-even. Dave B pointed out that this has only been achieved by attracting grants and donations of around £3,300, none of which was budgeted. Our current activity levels therefore put us under some pressure to maintain this level of grant funding if we are not to return to a deficit position.

Dave also presented details of the financial performance of each of the Ward Road practice/coaching sessions and the two school clubs at Baldragon and Monifieth. It was agreed that we would not pay coaching costs for the Wednesday 'Active and Healthy' session after the end of this year.

5 District coach's agreement

The District coach's agreement falls to be renewed on 1.1.18. Dave B had consulted widely on the terms of a new agreement and this was approved with the addition of one paragraph aimed only at avoiding any ambiguity.

Discussion then followed about the session rates to be paid from 1.1.18, having regard to the reduction in the District coach's administrative duties over the last 18 months or so and to the lower rates of remuneration paid to coaches in the public sector.

No unanimous view was reached and Elaine was asked to consult those not present, so that progress can be made before the next MC meeting in January.

Action points: Elaine to contact the rest of the committee about the options discussed. [Done – following which the option carrying most favour was to apply a £1/session increase at 1.1.18 and review again at 1.1.20.]

Juliet to convey the remuneration decision to District coach as well as the decision to discontinue coaching on Wednesdays. However, it was agreed that there were a number of other events that she would invite the District coach to attend and be remunerated for (as well as the opportunity to revert to coaching every Thursday).

Dave B to finalise the agreement for sending to the District coach after Juliet has met with him.

6 Coaching update

Juliet presented a comprehensive update on coaching matters.

Paul McCabe and Grant Williams have both now completed UKCC2.

A coaching rota has been set up for WRG for Mondays and Thursdays and this is working well. This was partly necessary because Paul McCabe preferred to coach only on alternative Thursdays. As Paul will not be coaching on Wednesdays from

1.1.18, Elaine suggested that he be given the opportunity to re-consider this, thereby providing continuity of coaching personnel for the Development Squad. If he does not take up the offer, we may seek another coach prepared to provide this continuity.

Action point: Juliet to discuss with Paul and report back to Elaine.

The new beginners/returners session on Thursdays is settling down after a slow start.

A number of forthcoming events were discussed; notably the SSQ on 7.12.17 and the Stephen Gertsen coaching day on 13.1.18. It was agreed that seniors would pay £10 to attend the Gertsen event; juniors will be free of charge.

David Hay (Plebeians TTC) has been invited to join the national youth squad.

Action point: Juliet said that chasing up PVG forms, parental consent and venue risk assessments were among her priorities, as well as reinforcing that children must not be given lifts when only one adult is in a car. The exception is where parents/guardians cannot be contacted and it would place the child at risk to leave them to their own devices.

The current status of all the UKCC coaches was reviewed.

7 AOB

Dave B pointed out that three players in our league are still not affiliated to TTS because they pay through another league. After discussing the potential insurance implications the following actions were agreed:

Action points: From next season it will be mandatory for all players to pay their TTS affiliation fee to DDTTA, unless the player has **already** affiliated individually or assures us that they have **already** paid through another league.

Dave B to contact TTS to ask if they could better align the playing season with their affiliation start and end dates as, under the current arrangements, it appears that players can be unaffiliated (and so uninsured) for up to four months, even if the TT affiliation deadline is met. [Done]

Elaine mentioned that the St Andrews University team is struggling to fulfill its fixtures. She has a meeting organised to see what can be done to improve the situation.

David S reported that Ian McLagan is starting up a session for 'mature adults' at Forthill on Thursday mornings. David also updated the committee on improvements to facilities at Forthill.

Several teams have reported difficulties with sighting the ball against the squash courts walls at Lundin Links.

Action point: Elaine will write to Nat Forno to point out that they are permitted to use orange celluloid balls. [Done]

8 Next meeting

The next management committee meeting will be at a venue to be arranged, at 7pm on 3.1.18, unless notified otherwise.