

Minutes of DDTTA Management Committee Meeting held at WRG on Monday 19th August 2019 at 7.00 pm.

Present: Elaine Forbes (Chair), David Sim (Vice Chair), Andy Hughes (Match Secretary), Dave Beveridge (Treasurer), Juliet Johnson (Coaching Convener), Arthur Pritchard (Safeguarding Officer), Stuart Halliday (Trophy Convener), Emma Bissett, Mark Lundberg, Callum Riddoch.

1 Welcome & apologies

Elaine welcomed everyone to the meeting and intimated that Miriam Rennet had, as anticipated, stepped down from the MC but would keep her connection with DDTTA by continuing to assist in the processing of PVG applications, which is much appreciated.

Elaine also passed on Sandy Elrick's best wishes to all the committee members with the news that he had also decided to stand down. Tribute was paid to Sandy's priceless contribution to table tennis in Dundee and Scotland over many decades.

2 Minutes & matters arising from meetings.

Having previously been circulated for comment, the minutes of the following were approved – MC meeting 28/3/19, AGM 25/4/19, Open Meeting 12/6/19, Subcommittee meetings 9/5/19 & 9/7/19.

Matters discussed arising from these included:

- Jim Houghton has now been appointed an Honorary Life Member of TTS and a date will be identified for presentation of his certificate
- Overgate: no further word has been received from TTS on changing the need for DDTTA to act as signatory for this. Juliet advised that WRG directors may be prepared to act as signatories

Action: Juliet to liaise with Mike S-H to put him in contact with TTS.

- Arthur reported that work was continuing with our potential application for DCI and that meetings are arranged for next week with representatives from Angus and Dundee Active Schools

- Elaine is prepared to look into possibilities for a lunchtime workers' TT session and/or corporate event

Action: all MC members to email Elaine with suggestions for best big employers around city centre to be contacted.

- having been asked to look at the feasibility of offering free play for all juniors, Dave reported that this was not something which he could currently recommend as financially sustainable.

3 Financial Report

Dave furnished figures which told that, as at 14/08/19 and taking into account affiliation fees still to be received, balance of funds was £19,774. While the adjusted surplus for the year was currently £568, he expected a deficit at the year end, due largely to the number of affiliations having reduced from 138 (season 18/19) to 112 and warned of the likelihood of the need for an affiliation fee increase next season.

4 Summer League

Callum and Emma reported that, with only a few more days to go, this summer's competition could be adjudged a success with experienced players enjoying the change of format from winter play and juniors benefitting greatly in their development.

There will be a presentation evening on Friday 30th August, free to all SL participants, when a fun competition will be arranged.

Emma and Callum were warmly thanked for taking on the organisation of this successful addition to our programme.

5 Season 19/20

Safeguarding

Arthur has attended two courses and takes over the role of Safeguarding Officer. He has a number of projects in mind to improve our role in this area.

Action: Arthur and Juliet to discuss best way forward on a protocol to be presented to new juniors and their parents.

Coaching

Juliet reported that she currently has names of four players willing to undertake their UKCC Level 1 qualification and is awaiting word from TTS re the next available course.

She expressed disappointment that, having entered a team in the British Junior League, this had been turned down and she will pursue this further with the organisers. In the meantime, she is looking out for other opportunities for our top juniors.

Paul has now been offered full-time employment which will impact on his time available for coaching. He is liaising with Juliet as he receives further details on his new working hours. As a result, and following no positive replies to our TT365 appeal, there will be no coach available to continue the Baldragon Academy lunchtime club.

Action: Elaine and Dave to sort out return of balance of grant received from Dundee Partnership.

More welcome news is that David Hay is prepared to keep the school club going at Monifieth HS, and there was agreement that this would now be handed back to Monifieth as an internal extracurricular club.

Action: Juliet to contact Monifieth HS and David to pass over the responsibility from DDTTA.

Dave and Elaine to withdraw the application to Tesco “Bags of Help”.

Callum presented ideas to the MC for revitalising Thursday evenings, with particular focus on using experienced players to revitalise the Development Squad experience for juniors.

Action: Callum and Juliet to liaise on putting this into practice asap.

Callum advised that he had agreed to TTS’s invitation to be the Scottish representative at the forthcoming ITTF Coaching Conference in England and received congratulations from the MC on this honour.

SNL teams

Callum confirmed that three teams have been entered for this competition but that a difficulty has arisen over finding players for the first series of matches as this coincides with holiday dates. Callum has the matter in hand and will hopefully ensure that enough players are registered. Dave will pay the full cost of team entries and half the amount will be recouped from participating players after the completion of the third series of matches.

Action: Elaine to advise Callum how much each player will be charged per match played.

League and Cup play

Dave shared the disappointing information that three teams fewer have registered for the forthcoming season (Earls, Star and Telsports).

As a result, it was agreed that the 28 teams registered should be divided into divisions of 10, 9 and 9.

Cup draws followed.

Action: David, Andy and Dave will liaise on the matrix for the league fixtures and cup draws to present these on the website.

Dave will finalise the handbook and circulate these to some committee members for proof reading before taking the finished handbook to the printers.

6 AOB

Elaine reported on Derek J's offer to refresh our website and to add a daily calendar of events. This was enthusiastically welcomed and thanks are again due to Derek for his continued invaluable input.

Juliet suggested a new competition for teams made up of one league player plus one novice family member/ friend as part of our development programme

Action: Elaine to include this idea with submission for Development Grant from TTS.

Mark outlined various ways in which the sport and DDTTA could enjoy uplift from greater exposure on social media.

Action: Mark, Stuart and others literate in social media to liaise.

Elaine/Dave to advise membership in next TT365 email of possibility of use of videos on social media.

David advised that Plebeians had been asked to work alongside Forthill PS to offer TT as part of the curriculum and opportunities for this are currently being investigated.

6 Date of next meeting

To be advised in due course by Elaine who thanked everyone for their attendance and for all their work currently being undertaken to hopefully ensure an enjoyable and successful season 19/20.