

Minutes of AGM meeting held 12/8/15 at the Railway Social Club

GRANTHAM AND DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE 2014/2015

APOLOGIES

Alex Mercer, Adam Ellis, Peter May, Terry Tresadern, Ken Wingad, Joe Hammond

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES

Previous minutes were then accepted on a proposal by Andy Packham and seconded by Mike Tedbury

Chairman's Report 2015

During last season we ran both the normal and a summer league. Both leagues were successful. The normal league had three divisions, with teams playing each opposing team three times. Across all the three divisions there were 462 matches scheduled, which equates to 4158 singles and 462 doubles - giving a total of 4620 rubbers contested. We had a completion rate 98%, with only 5 matches claimed, so generally a great completion rate. The first division was taken by Cliffedale Chandlers A, with Cranmer 6 claiming second place just six points behind Cliffedale, so a close battle to take the top spot. Both the second and third division were won with only three points separating the winners and runner ups. IN the second BT A claimed the top spot over Arbons Sports A and the third division was won by Ancaster TTD with Cliffedale Chandlers C as runners up. So in all three divisions it was really close fought stuff - my congratulations go out to the winning teams - who will be presented with their awards during tonight's AGM. This year due to Peter being away on holiday, Mike Tedbury the league Vice Chairman will host the presentations.

We organised the summer league once more last season and again it proved to be a massive success, with 15 teams entering the league - which had 1050 rubbers scheduled of which 1030 were played - again a completion rate of 98%. The handicap system was used as per the first summer league, however we made a slight change as to how the doubles handicaps were calculated this season. We accept that the doubles handicaps weren't quite right, but the change was made because during the previous season the doubles handicaps favoured the better players far too much. Unfortunately this year's system then swung the favour too much towards the weaker players - so for next year we will look at a calculation that balances the advantage better. After saying this the results for the matches were generally in line with expected results with the majority of matches being won with a 3-2 margin, which is the desired result when using the handicap system. The league was won by Cliffedale Chandlers, in second place was Ancaster TTC and in third place were Links Taxis - these three teams share the prize pot of £ 100 between them. I would like to thank Simon for his assistance in organising the summer league, Brian for generating the figures and this year beginning to feature the results online and I would also like

to thank Cathy who fell in to the role of money collector on most Mondays. Across both the normal league and the summer league we had organised thirty five weeks of competitive table tennis for our members, which I feel is a good achievement and the league are committed to maintaining this level or hopefully increasing it. So on behalf of the committee I would like to thank every player for supporting the league. To put our leagues numbers into perspective versus the national scene of league tennis it was reported at TTE's AGM held on 11th July this year that four league associations had folded and one hundred individual teams had ceased to play. Our league has generally maintained its numbers over the last few years - and one of the committee's priorities this year will be to look at the future composition and set up of the league to ensure we continue to offer and maintain competitive table tennis in the Grantham area, so during this season we will carry out a full review of the league and look at different potential formats for future years. This will be communicated out sometime during the season. If anyone has any ideas on this please let any committee member know or email Simon so he can collate the information.

The Herbert Pacey Memorial Junior TT Tournament was held this year on Sunday 19th July organised by Cathy in association with the league, Cliffedale Chandlers and GAPS. The event was reasonably well attended and a good days play was had by all the children involved. Ruth Pacey, Herbert's widow attended the event for a few hours. Thanks to Cathy for organising the event.

During last season the league was kindly donated a number of new scoreboards by John Mapletoft and Darran Leete, so thanks from the committee to John and Darran. The league purchased an additional number of scoreboards so now every table at the Meres has a decent scoring machine to use during match nights. These new scoreboards complement the leagues nets, surrounds and tables that have been purchased over the last few years - to ensure that we can all play table tennis with good equipment and in good environment. We are aware that the standard of the tables are getting worse and the committee will be looking at this and working with the Meres for a resolution to this.

Staying with the Meres; as part of the centres revamp they are installing turnstile type gates at the entrance - which are opened by swiping a membership card. It is believed that as a member of the league you will also need to join the Meres as a member, however this will be provided FOC to league members - we are waiting for final confirmation of this, so hopefully it will not change, and when we know we will communicate out to the members, including how to apply for the card.

Moving on to another key piece of equipment - table tennis ball, the committee is proposing a rule change with regards to the use of the new poly balls - in summary TTE guidelines state that for the forthcoming season leagues can decide their selves whether to adopt poly balls or not. This will be covered off later in today's meeting.

This year saw the election of the TTE board and Sandra Deaton was re-elected as Chair as were her chosen team. I feel that this is a positive move for the sport as TTE are really working hard on modernising the organisation which can only be for the benefit of table tennis. At the AGM it was agreed that individual membership would remain at £ 10 for adults and £ 5 for juniors and associate non playing members would be FOC, this goes against a previous edict that stated that the individual membership costs were going to rise yearly by £ 2.00 over the next five years. TTE individual membership runs yearly until 31st July - it was raised at the AGM that this often runs into summer leagues, so TTE are looking at potentially changing this date. Please can all members renew their individual membership as soon as possible. If anyone wishes to see a copy of TTE's AGM minutes or Annual Report, please let me know so these can be sent out to you.

At a county level the county's committee was fully re-elected at their AGM. At the AGM four town young players were awarded their country badges and they in the league. The county expressed their disappointment on the low level of entries for the county team events, Haigh, Butler and Butlin cups - and we as a town didn't field any teams. It would be good if we could look at fielding teams for this season - we will look at this closer to the dates of the events.

This season the league donated £ 100 out of the proceeds from the Summer League to Jane Ellis to support her epic Cycle ride that she is completing in October this year to raise money for the charity Women versus Cancer. Jane has been a key figure in the town's table tennis scene for many years and the league was pleased to support her with this donation towards her charity fund raising. I feel that we should as league look at supporting a charity every year - but one that is being supported by one of our members, so if any members are involved in fundraising for a charity please could they let me know so that the committee can consider future donations.

One of our long standing members Malcolm Sims moved away from Grantham a few weeks ago. Malc had played in the league for the last 28 years and always proved to be quite an awkward and resilient player to play against, so Terry T please can you pass on our thanks to Malc and wish him all the best now he is living in Yorkshire. The league is run by a team of volunteers who every year put a lot of time into ensuring that the league is well managed and is sustainable for the future. I would like to thank the following for their invaluable contribution:

Simon for being a great secretary and having to yet again for having to endure LTTA meetings.

Brian for managing the fixtures and results, which is a massive task - and running a fantastic website - which as I said last year is second to none in terms of information - I still haven't seen any better site. Brian has over the past few months been working on updating the site and making it more mobile device friendly.

Terry Needham for controlling the books and expenditure.

Russell for organising the trophies.

Peter for his continued commitment to the league and table tennis.

I would also like to thank all the team who sit on the management committee who do a great deal of work behind the scenes.

Briar will have their trade stand at the Meres on Saturday 12th September from 10am to 3pm - if anyone needs to update rubbers and equipment.

All that remains for me to say is that I wish you all the best of luck for the forthcoming season. Thank you.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Balance sheet was put to the meeting.

The Treasurer Terry Needham presented the report personally and following Q&A was accepted on a proposal by Mike Tedbury and seconded by Derrick Hardy.

It was also to be noted that the committee wish to thank Mike Hurst for his continued and valued support.

AFFILIATION FEES AND INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

The committee announced and proposed that for the 2015/2016 season the fees for Team registration will be unchanged at £40.

Following the ETTA AGM decision last year the individual registration for this season will be £10
All members can now renew their individual registration as the year runs from 1st Aug to 31st July and will need to be confirmed prior to play in October.

RULE CHANGES

Proposed Rule changes at the AGM for 2015 on Wednesday 12th August

It is the intention of the committee to propose a rule change regarding the notification of proposed teams to the Secretary for the forthcoming season in advance of an AGM. The reasoning behind this is that we have already moved the AGM back by 5 weeks in the last few years to allow clubs more time to make decisions, but the lack of knowledge on proposed teams doesn't allow the AGM to have an informed discussion on the number of divisions to consider. Notification a week prior to the AGM allows the current committee to discuss and make recommendations.

RULE CHANGE

All Club secretaries to inform the General Secretary of their proposed teams for the forthcoming season 7 days prior to the date of the AGM.

Accepted on a proposal by Richard Pullen, seconded by John Pullen

The Committee are proposing the following Rule for the 2015/16 season until we get further information from table Tennis England.

RULE CHANGE FOR 2015/16

The Home team has the discretion to choose the type of ball (approved) including colour they wish to play with this season pending TT England directive.

Accepted on a proposal by Richard Pullen, seconded by Rob Artley

The Committee are proposing the following Rule to limit the number of players per team to avoid teams having two distinct teams at differing levels within those numbers. We are not proposing this number to go down to 5 as the bigger clubs with younger players may need the flexibility to rotate. We need to increase teams within the league and feel that if you have large numbers of players available then additional teams could be entered.

RULE CHANGE FOR 2015/16

It is proposed that teams can only consist of 6 players maximum and if a team does consist of 6 players, you cannot play a player up from a lower division to cover unavailability.

Accepted on a proposal by Derrick Hardy, seconded by John Pullen

REGISTRATION OF TEAMS—Opportunity for all teams to register

COMPOSITION OF LEAGUES BASED ON REGISTRATIONS

1	Chandlers A
2	Cranmer A
3	Ancaster TTC A
4	Links Taxis
5	Newark Wanderers A
6	BT A
7	Arbons Sports A
8	NEW CHANDLERS TEAM ACCEPTED?
9	Navenby Sports
10	Betas
11	Cranmer B
12	BTL
13	Ancaster TTC C
14	Ancaster TTC D
15	Chandlers C
16	Chandlers D
17	DVS Crowns
18	Newark Wanderers C
19	Classics
20	Ancaster TTC E
21	Deltas PMB

22	Chandlers E
23	Arbons Sports B
24	NEW CHANDLERS TEAM ACCEPTED?

The list above represents the numbers of teams from each club including new proposed teams for the coming season. 24 teams lends itself to 2 divisions of 12 giving 22 games or 3 divisions of 8 playing 3 times giving 21 games. Last season the membership gave its opinion to go for 3 divisions, so once again the AGM was opened up for a vote on the feeling for the coming season. Out of the people voting for the 11 clubs represented a majority of 2-1 in favour of 3 divisions was cast. This will be taken into consideration when the committee have their first meeting and decide on the 2015-16 set up.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

There were no changes for

President,-----Peter May

Vice President, ----Edie Hunt- Life Membership

On a Block Vote proposal from John Mapletoft and seconded by Alan Bryan the remaining League Officers were re-elected

Chairman ----- Matt Weavers.

Vice Chairman----- Mike Tedbury

Match Secretary.-----Brian Coverley

Secretary-----Simon Mableson

Treasurer-----Terry Needham

Trophies and Competition secretary---- Russ Winfield

County Representative.----Peter May, Simon Mableson

Coaching Secretary -----Russ Winfield

Umpiring Secretary-----Alex Mercer

Press Officer-----Ken Wingad

Management Committee members for the coming season in addition to the officers above are:- Adam Ellis, Alex Mercer, Terry Tresadern.

50 Years of Coaching John Mapletoft

It is 50 years since coaching first started in Grantham in the Brownlow buildings in 1965 and then moved to the Electric club in 1970. Coaching has progressed at many locations since that time and John has an idea to commemorate this milestone by arranging an exhibition match of maybe 4 top players. John has started a small committee to look into the possibility of making this happen and thanked the meeting for letting him present his vision.

PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

Presentations of the trophies to the worthy winners were awarded by a bullied Mike Tedbury (the chairman can be so authoritative sometimes)

2014-2015 LEAGUE WINNERS

1 ST DIV	CHANDLERS A
R-UP	CRANMER A
2ND DIV	BT A
R-UP	ARBONS SPORTS A
3RD DIV	ANCASTER TTC D
R-UP	CHANDLERS C

2014-2015 INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

1ST DIV PATRYK SLOKA
2ND DIV PAUL BRYAN
3RD DIV ALEX MERCER

SUMMER 2 PERSON HANDICAPPED LEAGUE

Team: CLIFFEDALE CHANDLERS

Captain: Who Knows!

Team Members: Alex Mercer, Danny Cox, Terry Willson, Benjamin Rigby, Alexandra Robinson, Russ Winfield, Frazer Winfield

Second

Team: ANCASTER TTC D

Captain: Dean Patel

Team Members: Rob Artley, Dylan Grocock

Third

Team: LINKS TAXIS

Captain: Brian Coverley

Team Members: Marilyn Bawden, Nigel Springthorpe

2014-2015 Championship Winners

Mens Challenge	NOT PLAYED,	Ladies Challenge	NOT PLAYED
Veteran Singles	NOT PLAYED,	H/C Singles	NOT PLAYED
Doubles	NOT PLAYED,	U21	NOT PLAYED

TEAM KO NOT PLAYED

The AGM concluded with the Registration of teams, The meeting closed at 20.45hrs

