

MINUTES OF WORKSOP & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE'S AGM 9TH JUNE 2015

Present:

Manton Nomads
Manton Sports
Manton Tigers
MBE
On-Line Elks
Redlands X-Youth
Redlands Roosters
Redlands Rookies
Redlands Joggers
Redlands Tarr Babies
Ryton Park Adders
Ryton Park Cougars
Ryton Park Eagles
Ryton Park Dragons
Ryton Park Falcons
Stanley Street 'A'
Stanley Street 'B'
Stanley Street 'C'
Stanley Street 'D'
Stanley Street 'E'
Stanley Street Cypriots

Absent:

Manton Misfits
Redlands Fluffy Toys
Stanley Street Rascals

Last year's minutes

Were handed out to everyone present and were proposed as a true record by Glyn Williams and seconded by Mick Bell.

Matters Arising

Andy Lee informed members present that Rob Vaughan had corrected the £10.00 fine that had previously been applied incorrectly to Redland Joggers for non attendance at the 2013 AGM. The £10.00 had been deducted from the Redlands total fines for 2014.

Andy Lee reported that the Summer League for 2014 had been a huge success and that the number of teams for the 2015 Summer League which was currently being played had also been a success and that he envisaged the Summer League will continue indefinitely based on the response so far.

Andy Lee informed the meeting that the Leagues' Presentation Evening had been moved to Worksop Masonic Hall due to the event outgrowing the previous venue at Shireoaks. He also reported that the feedback the League had received had been very positive towards the new venue. Rob Vaughan thanked Glyn Williams for initially sourcing the venue and

obtaining it for the league free of charge with just the food to pay for.

Graham Stent asked if there could be a seating plan in place for next year's Presentation Evening as some players couldn't sit with their own team mates and some people were sat with people they didn't even know. Rob Vaughan said that Nigel Stent had offered to do the seating plan and added that it was quite a faff to do as people book tickets and then cancel them at short notice etc. A discussion took place regarding the matter with Clive Eden asking how hard can it be for people to actually turn up together and sit together? Andy Lee agreed with that statement and Glyn Williams added that the Masonic Hall would do the seating plan for us. Mick Bell added that if Nigel Stent had offered to do the seating plan then he proposed that he did it with Rob Vaughan seconding the proposal and it was carried by a majority vote for Nigel Stent to undertake the task.

Andy Lee said that we had now changed the Constitution of the league and moved the League's Savings Account to Mansfield Building Society. Dave Cowburn explained that the Mansfield BS run a specific account for clubs/leagues which had a better rate of interest than Santander and much easier to run.

Questions From The Floor – Andy Lee informed members that the Worksop League had again entered a Senior team in the Wilmot Cup which is Table Tennis England's National League Cup but no Junior team due to player availability issues. Richard Element and Clive Mitchell played at the event which was held at Ponds Forge in Sheffield but Richard Element had to retire due to injury.

Andy Lee commented that since we had split the three divisions into an equal number of 8 teams in each that the running of the league had been made easier and that the two up and two down rule would be applied for next season where possible.

Andy Lee informed the meeting that the doubles set which was currently at game 5 on the score cards was being moved to game 7 for the start of the 2015/16. The reason for moving the doubles set was that at game 7 each player would have played two singles games each and this was a better balance and that new scorecards would be issued at the start of the new season. Matt Turner asked why the doubles was at game 5 or game 7 and not at the end of the match. Both Mick Bell and Rob Vaughan explained that it was to stop teams just conceding the double at the end of the night if the doubles set didn't affect the outcome of the match. All members present agreed that the doubles will be played at game 7 and not left to the end of the evening.

Clive Eden mentioned that in one match this season he wasn't allowed to play the Doubles set due to time restraints at Redlands and asked what the leagues stance was on this? Rick Harris added that on that particular night there was actually 5 matches scheduled to be played at Redlands on 6 tables which obviously caused the matches to go past their usual 9.15pm finish. Rob Vaughan explained that due to the requests of many teams to play on the same night or opposite weeks etc. that it's just impossible to cater for everyone's needs and that he did make Steve Walker aware that there would be two occasions throughout the league season where there would be 5 matches on one night at Redlands and that he was letting him know so he could make other plans if required but it looked as if this didn't happen. Rob Vaughan also added that if any team wanted to start at 6.30pm or 6.45pm then there was no reason why they couldn't. Dave Lee added that a lot of matches didn't

even start on time which can sometimes be an issue to which RV replied that there was a rule in the handbook covering this topic and that if a team aren't present at 7.00pm to start the match then the team present could claim the first set but it was up to teams to do this. Rob Vaughan added that he would send a message out through the usual channels reminding teams of the rule and encouraging them to be on time.

Andy Lee informed the meeting that Jack Tarr who couldn't attend the meeting due to holidays had e-mailed in suggesting that the number of handicap points given to team be restricted a maximum of 250 points. After a very quick discussion among the members present it was decided against doing this. Peter Eyre and Ralph Rodda both added that whilst we were on the subject of handicaps shouldn't there be a Handicap Committee rather than just two people doing it Andy Lee replied that the league were currently looking at a handicapping system similar to the one currently being used in the Summer League which will cut out the need for anyone to apply their own thoughts etc. Andy Lee then went on to explain how the handicapping system worked in the Summer League and that Rob Vaughan had been looking at it and it was a work in progress.

Dave Bowns asked if the number of teams for next season would increase or decrease to which Andy Lee replied he was only aware of Stanley Street Rascals dropping out so far due to them all going to University but that he might be having another team.

Dave Bowns also asked if there was anything the League could do to encourage teams from other Leagues' to join the Worksop League and Andy Lee replied that we do encourage players from other League's to join our League and that in fact we had the same number of divisions as Rotherham and more than Mansfield, Retford and Gainsborough so we were in a healthy place at the moment.

Glyn Williams asked whether the decision to start the 2015/16 season using the new plastic balls could be reversed and be deferred to 2016/17 as Table Tennis England had given local leagues the option to start using the balls by 2016/17 season. Glyn Williams had asked this question as he still had quite a number of the old style balls left. Andy Lee replied that nearly all the other local leagues in and around Worksop were also starting to use the new balls from the start of the 2015/16 season such as Chesterfield, Mansfield, Rotherham, Sheffield and probably Gainsborough would be following suit and because many of the players in Worksop played in those leagues as well then it made sense to also start next season with the new ball. Andy Lee also added that all Junior Tournaments including Schools Tournaments would also be using the new ball so again it would benefit those players within our league. Andy Lee also added that the new ball was currently being used in the Summer League which meant that nearly half the leagues' players were already playing with them. And Lee also added that the league had done some research into which was the best make of the new balls and had purchased what is widely regarded s the best one currently on the market which would cost around the same price as the old style ball. He also added that only two balls had so far broken in the Summer League which allayed any fears that 3 and 4 balls a night would break. No further issues were raised.

Richard Robinson brought up the subject of time spent between each set and that some players were going over the one minute time allowed as per the ITTF rules and that some players were obtaining an unfair advantage from doing so and should players that umpire

the games be timing them with a stopwatch? A lengthy discussion took place and most of the members present said no and that the opponent of anyone abusing the one minute rule should mention it to them. Rob Vaughan added that if a persistent offender was brought to his attention then he would write an official letter to them reminding them of the rule. On the subject of rules Mick Bell brought up the part of rule 6 in the leagues handbook which states 'No player is allowed to play in the Worksop League until they have received confirmation in writing from the Match Play Secretary in writing'. This was on the agenda under rules amendment however Andy Lee agreed that a full review of the handbook rules would be undertaken to ensure they still applied and if not would recommend a rule change at the next AGM.

Rick Harris questioned part of Rule 7f that states that a team who only turn out two players in a league match can only obtain a 5-5 draw at best. Rick gave an example of when his own team could only field two players, actually won the match 6-4 but only got a 5-5 result. A discussion took place and RV explained that this rule was brought in to stop teams turning up with two players against 'lesser' teams in their division and winning 6-4/7-3. RV also mentioned that Rick's team did have the option of choosing from 20 or so other players to field a full strength team from either Division Two or Three but chose not to.

Rick also asked why teams that had postponed a match still got the points if the match wasn't played - RV explained that this scenario hadn't actually happened and explained the rule in full.

Treasurers Report – Copies of the financial report were handed out for all those in attendance to view and Dave Cowburn gave an overview of the income, expenditure and balance sheet. Dave went on to explain that some of the expenditure on equipment this season related to income that had been secured in the previous year, so that taken together both seasons had been run at a slight surplus.

Mick Bell asked why the cost of trophies was so high and Andy Lee explained that the League had been replacing or upgrading a number of main trophies over the last few seasons.

Matt Turner asked what the Secretaries Honorarium was and Dave Cowburn explained that it was what the League paid the General & Match Play Secretary each year for the amount of work that the role required.

Dave Lee proposed that the accounts be accepted by the league and this was seconded by Phil Hall.

Rule Amendments –

Rule 9 Addition:

'J' - Failing to notify Match Play Secretary of a postponed fixture within 48 hours of the scheduled match - £2.00

A majority vote was obtained for the addition to Rule 9 'J'

Rule 7a Amendment:

The postponing team must notify the Match Play Secretary by e-mail giving details of the postponement and details of the re-arrangement within 48 hours after the scheduled match was due to be played. Failure to do so will incur a £2 fine

This was discussed and it was decided to word the rule as follows:

The postponing team must notify the Match Play Secretary either in writing, via e-mail or text message giving details of the postponement within 48 hours after the scheduled match was to be played. Failure to do so will incur a £2 fine.

A majority vote was obtained for the above amendment.

Registration Fees:

£21.00 Seniors

£11.00 Juniors & Senior Citizens

Andy Lee explained the reason for the change was to fall in line with Table Tennis England as they had the same structure and didn't discount for the unemployed and also because it's hard to actually prove whether someone is actually unemployed or not.

A majority vote was obtained for the amendment.

Election Of Officers

Andy Lee thanked the members of Committee for all their work over the last 12 months and included both Mick Bell and Glyn Williams who had resigned part way through the season.

Andy Lee also thanked Dave Cowburn who was stepping down as Treasurer for all his help.

Andy read out the list of current Committee members and informed the meeting that all of them were willing to stand again unless there was someone else who wanted to stand for a certain position. No one put themselves forward so all members were re-elected.

Andy Lee informed the meeting that Ben Swain who plays in the Mansfield League had contacted Rob Vaughan and was willing to be Treasurer of our League. Mick Bell commented that Ben doesn't actually play in our league and Andy Lee replied to say that it didn't matter. Ben wasn't present at the meeting and Rick Harris said that if Ben had in fact changed his mind then he would step in as Treasurer. It was proposed Ben Swain as Treasurer with Rick Harris as replacement if Ben no longer wanted to be Treasurer and a majority vote was carried for the proposal. Whilst the meeting was still in progress Rob Vaughan had contacted Ben and he confirmed he still wanted the position so Ben Swain was therefore voted in as Treasurer.

Rick Harris said he would still like to join the Committee to help and again a majority vote was returned for Rick to join the Committee.

Nigel Stent who wasn't at the meeting due to being on holiday had also volunteered to be on the Committee so Glyn Williams proposed Nigel and Ralph Rodda seconded it and a majority vote was returned for Nigel to join the Committee.

Andy Lee also reminded everyone of the leagues request for volunteers to help out at events such as the setting up of Presentation Night, Finals Nights, Cup Final nights etc.

Any Other Business

There was none

Next AGM Meeting Tuesday 7th of June 2016