

Glasgow University Table Tennis Club EGM Minutes | 16-10-2021 | 14:00

Present:

Richard Menzies
Alireza Haghighat
Finlay Zanna
Elis Gilkes

Apologies:

Vit Horacek
Yaser Razouk
Fraser Dempster
Alisa Khalid
Jay Chithresh

Agenda:

- Ratify AGM Minutes
- Proposal to add Covid Officer role
- Proposal to add Table Tennis Scotland Liaison role
- Proposal to add Alumni Officer role
- Elect vacant roles on the committee (Recreational Convenor, Team Events Convenor, Publicity Officer, Equipment Manager, Ordinary Committee Member)
- Club Table Tennis Balls & Table Tennis Ball Use
- Running the BUCS Team Trials
- Costs for the BUCS Championship, including travel and accommodation
- Team Training organisation, including coaching
- Discussion of GUSA affiliation
- Any Other Business

Motion: Add Covid Officer role

Richard Stated the motion to add the Covid Officer role to the committee.

This role is for the purpose of informing the committee of any changes in covid legislation as they relate to table tennis and any covid advice of Table Tennis Scotland, the national governing body of the sport.

No Objections.

Passed unanimously.

Motion: Add Table Tennis Scotland Liaison Officer role

Richard Stated the motion to add the Table Tennis Scotland Liaison Officer role to the committee.

This role can only be held by co-option of a member of the committee, and so it cannot be held alone.

No Objections.

Passed unanimously.

Motion: Add Alumni Officer role

Richard Stated the motion to add the Alumni Officer role to the committee.

No Objections.

Passed unanimously.

Election of Vacant Committee Roles

After a detailed introduction to each role and their corresponding responsibilities, the president ran down the list of vacant roles and asked whether anyone wished to nominate themselves.

Recreational Convenor

Elis Gilkes nominated himself

No objections were raised

Elis Gilkes elected as new Recreational Convenor.

Team Events Convenor

Finlay Zanna nominated himself

No objections were raised

Finlay Zanna elected as new Team Events Convenor.

Covid Officer

Finlay Zanna nominated himself

No objections were raised

Finlay Zanna elected as new Covid Officer.

Publicity Officer

Vit Horacek nominated himself in writing beforehand

No objections were raised

Vit Horacek elected as new Publicity Officer.

Motion: Ratify AGM minutes

Richard stated the motion to formally ratify AGM minutes

No objections

Passed Unanimously.

Table Tennis Balls

The current state of the inventory of Table Tennis balls was discussed. The secretary proposed that he carry out further research in the area and a rough budget of between £60-70 was agreed unanimously to be an appropriate investment. The president brought up the fact of ball allocation between team training sessions and recreational training sessions. It was suggested by the secretary that ITTF Approved (3 star) competition balls would be provided for the team training sessions and 'training' (1 star) balls for the recreational training sessions. It was agreed unanimously that purchasing decisions should be based solely on price-quality ratio. It was also suggested that balls be purchased in bulk as to save money and to be stored in the inventory for supplementation as wear and tear takes its natural toll on used balls over time.

BUCS Team Trials Organisation

The President proposed scheduling the team trials on Saturday 23/10/2021 from 15:30 till 17:30. Due to time constraints, it was proposed that the finals take place on Saturday 30/10/2021. The proposal was popular and received positive feedback. The dates and time were deemed as suitable by unanimous decision and thus officially agreed upon. The maximum number of places to be allocated on the day are to be 32 on a first come, first serve basis. Multiple structures for the allocation of places on the team were discussed, with the most popular being the distribution of players into groups of four, whereby all group contenders play other players within their group and are then assigned into two groups based on their ranking in the group stages - 1st and 2nd place are assigned to GROUP 1, while 3rd and 4th are assigned to GROUP 2. It was discussed and unanimously agreed upon, that places on the team would be allocated based on ranking and GROUP allocation. Although no exact numbers were discussed, it was agreed upon that a large proportion of players would be chosen from GROUP 1, while a relatively smaller proportion would be chosen from GROUP 2. The proposal to allocate a number of places to those in Group 2 was due mainly to the club's dedication to making sure that we act in an inclusive manner and encourage healthy competition between all members, regardless of skill level. Regarding travel and accommodation to the competition, there are still discussions and planning that need to occur. Determination of BUCS singles and doubles player allocations will still need to be discussed and agreed upon.

Costs for the BUCS tournament, including travel and accommodation

Although discussions were had, no major conclusion was essentially reached. There were proposals of a possible call for an EGM with GUSA to discuss affiliation, in a timely manner that leaves enough time for possible funding and support by GUSA. There was the question of whether the Table Tennis club's budget would allow for a major funding of travel and accommodation for the tournament, and it was suggested by the president that this would be a major drain of resources for the club and possibly not in the club's interest as a collective entity. Therefore it was agreed upon without objection that students who qualify for the tournament attempt to fund the majority of their own travel and accommodation costs, with the club helping minimally (this is only the case should the club not have access to funding

through GUSA affiliation in time to use such resources before the necessary deadline for organising travel and accommodation for the tournament - should the opposite be true and should the club access funding through its GUSA affiliation in due time, then funding and support will be re-discussed).

There were also mentions of fundraising by the president and ideas were contributed by all, however none of these were popular enough to be considered directly. It was agreed upon that fundraising would be a good source of income for the funding of club activities, although a wider source of contribution of ideas would be essential, along with the administration of those ideas for ultimate effect and do-ability.

Team Training and Coaching

The president had previously proposed holding team training sessions on a weekly basis every Saturday between 15:30 and 17:30. This was popular and unanimously agreed upon. Furthermore, it was discussed that team training be advertised as suitable for 'advanced' players only, with beginners being guided to the other available sessions during the week. An attendance limit of 16 attendees was set for the team training sessions. The secretary had also previously expressed his approval of being responsible for a number of coaching sessions per week for those players who wish to develop further in this sport during a purposeful and goal-orientated session. The exact details of such a proposal were not mentioned, however the proposal was popular and will most likely be an issue on future agendas.

GUSA affiliation

GUSA affiliation was also discussed and was as always a major issue for the club, especially since it acts as a barrier to club development. The president's research had yielded an important piece of information that may be crucial to timely affiliation. His research found that a EGM could be called for by a club, should fifteen members sign a plea for a meeting to be held. It was also discussed that a 'GOLD membership' would be our goal when presenting our case for affiliation. It was also unanimously agreed upon that such a meeting should take place in a timely manner that takes the BUCS tournament into consideration (affiliation would help with funding and support from GUSA for qualifying players who wish to attend the tournament). Should a motion be passed to request an EGM with GUSA, then a club EGM would be necessary in advance to prepare to present our case with a strong argument and thus make the best of our opportunity.

Kit availability

Glasgow University Table Tennis Club kit should be available from the university website within roughly 7 working days.

Ratifying the Club Constitution, the Code of Conduct and the Risk Assessment

To be carried out electronically by all necessary committee members ASAP.

Meeting adjourned by the club president (Richard) at 15:35