



British Foosball Association

Table Football ... Foosball ... Babyfoot in the UK

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Minutes of the British Foosball Association

Annual General Meeting

Sunday 15 February 2009

Axa Centre Stoke Gifford, Bristol

Present

Boris Atha, Ben Mason, Jon May, Dave Oates, Mike Amsden, Martyn Harris, Rob Davey, Dave Bareham, Steve Lyall

Apologies

Dave Morgan, Alex Shovelton, Tom Burdett, JP Thompson, Dan Gallon, Suki Jaffer, Mayya Racy, Chaz Allen, John Worthington

Meeting Opened 1428hrs

Minutes of 2008 AGM

Read through and agreed as true and accurate record

Matters Arising

None – any issues to be dealt with during agenda items

Officers Reports

Chairmans Report – Boris outlined events of previous year, noting referee accreditation scheme as major success. Noted success of GB teams at World Cup and acknowledged World Championship Doubles Title of Rob Atha and Joe Hamilton. See also AOB.

Treasurer Report – Accounts sent by JW but did not open properly, Rob D offered to audit accounts as headings. Accounts summary now prepared as appendix to minutes:

Notes – ITSF fees include payments for all 2008 membership & sanction fees and membership fees + 1x PT sanction 2009. ITSF sticker income also from 2x accounting periods (2007 and 2008). Note also UK Champ costs do not include Garlando/RS table transport costs which were covered by expert challenge expenses for Reading event. Balance includes £280 owed by members.

Secretary – No Report – Boris reported that to mid-January 2009 (pre-Liverpool Open) there were 61 full and 452 provisional members (including overseas). Query about what happens to membership forms and pre-reg forms from tournaments with member info. Incoming secretary needs to coordinate and bring membership records up to date. Note that prov membership entitles to ITSF player registration for which year of birth is mandatory. Note Box

Number postal address has been abandoned as we receive a handful of letters over the year. Official address for postal correspondence now Boris' office:
BFA C/o 100 Park Road, Hindley, Wigan, WN2 3RX

Working Group Reports

Tournament Coordination Committee Report – Since 2008 AGM the TCC has sanctioned 9x completed (5 Garlando, 3 Tornado, 1 Multitable) and 3x forthcoming Tornado tournaments.

Commercial Development – 2x Expert Challenge (O2 Reading and Atmosphere London), Letter with Newsletter Advertising rates circulated to all ITSF and prospective manufacturers and distributors, Roberto-Sport and Excel have expressed interest so far. See also AOB.

National League – League worked well until Semi-Finals but got abandoned again as teams could not agree fixture dates. Rob D – Home team must give 3x dates of which 2 are weekends, if away team does not play they forfeit – states this system has worked well in other sports.

Proposal – 2008 League finals to be held at 2009 UKC - nem con
Mase states he needs complete control of the League structure or he will resign from organising the league.

Proposal – Mase (or league organiser) to have full autonomy, league organisation committee to be abolished. Carried - 4-1 with 4 abstentions. New league has power to elect league organiser.

Computing WG – Jon M – all been going quite well, Tom K – national team website online, Discover/grassroots – nearly ready but short of content, googlemaps/venue database almost ready to launch. More people working on website than ever before. Many thanks for Tom King for gargantuan efforts. Thanks also to Jon May. Propose no nominated webmaster on committee this year. A committee member to chair CWG but no official webmaster – nem con

National Team – 2008/09 was the first year the national team competed in all WCS events and the World Cup. National Team website online. Needs more content. Once a month update. Infrastructure is there. A new committee member to have responsibility for updating.

Refereeing Commission – Boris – We have 15x qualified ITSF referees, of which 2 are currently International 1* (Boris & Rob Atha), 6x National (Amsden, Burdett, Davey, Hamilton, Shovelton A & Ziemann), 2x Regional (Russell-Gebbett, Sohi) and 5x Assistant (Boardman, Brown C, Kay R, Lyall C & Ramlee). Criteria have been set for progression through the ranks, Alex Shovelton has been nominated for International 1* status but has not yet been accepted by the ITSF Referees commission.

Youth & Grass Roots Development – Steve L – A month of high productivity but tailed off, discover website ready to launch, people to call on when things launch, about 20 involved of which about 5 contribute. Systems in place but it is a lot of work. Youth – Geoff Brice not interested in BFA, no national youth championships valid without his cooperation. Needs coherent strategy, and accountable individual. Contact Tom Curtis re use of facebook etc. to coordinate local events. See also AOB.

Sports Commission – Slight activity but no application submitted yet. More boxes ticked e.g. disabled. Need to get everything in place and all criteria met before submission but needs a club structure to stand a chance.

Womens Commission – No report – Suki Jaffer & Mayya Racy both candidate for womens rep. AGM has not power to elect, only to ratify If WWG puts forward another candidate during year can ratify at EGM.

Disciplinary Commission – 2x issues arose with no further action in either case.

Newsletter – Dan Gallon - The Newsletter has had another successful year, with 9 issues in 2008 and 2 so far in 2009. Particularly noteworthy was the Geoff Brice special in August - it is a shame that the initial enthusiasm and response that this generated seems to have dried up - hopefully the new committee will be able to take forwards the grass roots development. Other than that, some nice interviews and reports - particular thanks to DZ and Iceman for pictures and to all those who spent a lot of time being interviewed - there is clearly an awful lot of time and effort that goes into answering the questions, and it is much appreciated! Thanks to all those who supported the competitions by writing/entering them. I really can't put up prizes any more for such pathetic numbers of entrants though. One thing that I found when I finally found a few hours to knock together last months newsletter was the lack of a breakdown of the UK team's results at the World Champs anywhere that I could rip off for the newsletter. This is something we should look to embed on the main National Team site somehow, and at least hold a repository of main WC and WCS results of British players in these prestigious tournaments. Thanks to the outgoing committee for their hard work and good luck to the incoming committee.

Proposed vote of thanks for the newsletter – nem con – charging for advertising, coinslot etc.

Garlando Table Scheme – Has been a positive development, needs more publicity to increase take-up. Storage company can deliver tables. Investigate other storage options before renewing lease in September. Note storage facility also used for 6x Roberto Sport tables donated to the BFA which can be delivered at no extra cost.

Constitution

No amendments proposed – if required must provide advance notice prior to EGM

Mandatory Motions

Quorum - Propose quorum for general meetings to remain at 6 – Nem Con

Expenditure limit – To remain at £500 per cheque – Nem Con

Membership fees - Proposal to increase of prov-membership to £2 if we can provide newsletter, stay at £1 otherwise. Suggest mailing 2x a year for printed newsletter in return for full membership. Proposal for Provisional membership reduced to zero for first tournament only, full membership required if player on ranking list.

Decision - Leave fees at £1 provisional and £5 full, but full fees must be paid by second tournament of calendar year. Full members to receive twice yearly newsletter to include digest of online newsletters, summary of tournament results and list of forthcoming tournaments.

Executive Committee Elections

Chairman – Matthew 'Boris' Atha (Unopposed)

Treasurer – John Worthington (Unopposed)

Webmaster – See above – no ratification as no candidate/volunteer – delegated to Computing Working Group with committee member to be responsible for chairing the group and directing policy.

Ratification of Womens Rep – No vote as no nomination for Womens Rep, Suki Jaffer agreed to continue but no evidence of support or nomination from WWG Mayya Racy also putting herself forward. Shovo to put motion on the WWG to hold election.

6x remaining EC positions – Elected Unopposed

Ben Mason – Vice Chair (ratified)

Stephen Lyall

Jean-Philippe Thompson

Alex Shovelton

Dave Morgan

Tom Burdett

Secretary – No volunteers for secretary post – acting secretary to be decided by Executive, to be ratified by EGM

Any Other Business

Sponsorship Deal (Fosters) – discussion of sponsorship agreement signed in past week, Jon May showed poster designs (rules, local tournament charts etc) for distribution to all S&N-supplied pubs & clubs etc, whether or not they have a table. Noted opportunities for new table sitings with big boost for grass roots foosball. Up to us to make the most of it. Selling our people. If successful it could lead to bigger and better things. Vote of thanks to Jon May for negotiation. Notes BFA must provide equivalent of 6x person days over the year for expert challenges or tournament organisation, BFA unable to accept sponsorship from any other 'Long Alcoholic Drinks' company (within market sector) for duration of agreement, but independent promoters not restricted.

ITSF – Priority to get all members in to FAST database to secure extra wild-card entries for World Championships, guesstimating dates of birth where unavailable. Argument re 1 and 3 goalie Tornado tables, noted widespread opposition to mandatory use of 1-goalie table. Query whether Master Series allowed on 3-man goalies. Noted sticker income offsets ITSF membership fees, net fees in 2009 were 44 Euros.

Club Membership Scheme – Noted a club structure to be pre-requisite for recognition as a sport. Venues database system needs tweaking to provide infrastructure but can be done relatively easily, clubs to get enhanced listing to attract active players in their area.

Decision – Club membership to be free of charge until value demonstrated, would have to pay entry fees for other events/leagues etc.

UK Championships 2009 – Noted cost of 2008 event which is unsustainable. Top 16 in chart, make open top 32. JM feels it should not be subsidised by BFA. Must not be run by committee but have a single person responsible for organising team. . League semis/finals to be held during UKC.

Decision – 2009 UKC to hold open qualifying tournament prior to main draw, top 16 in POY list get bye to final 32 chart, remaining players must qualify during the tournament.

National Team – discussed earlier – Noted the GB team had, for the first time, competed in all available national team competitions.

Table Policy – Proposal to establish list of 'BFA Approved' tables. Strong view that quality/playability more important than money, tables must meet acceptable criteria before being accepted. Need to agree policy on tables

Honorary Life Membership - Discussion re honorary life membership suspended due to lack of time

Next AGM – To be held in London (first choice Bar Kick) in Feb 2010. Noted only 1 attendee to this meeting had travelled a significant distance to attend.

Meeting closed 1840hrs

Appendix – BFA Accounts 2008-09

British Foosball Association	
Profit and Loss Account	
February 2008 - February 2009	
Revenue	
Expert Challenge	£3,150.00
ITSF Table Stickers	£823.31
Membership Fees	£313.00
Tournaments	£100.00
Clothing	£90.00
Bank Interest	£4.07
Total Revenue	£4,480.38
Expenses	
ITSF Fees	£1,496.92
Table Storage	£1,440.00
Expert Challenge	£1,164.98
UK Championships	£1,150.36
Britfoos.com and BFA Mailbox	£349.21
BFA Table Delivery	£176.80
Referees shirts	£120.31
Total Expenses	£5,898.58
Net Loss 2008-2009	-£1,418.20

British Foosball Association		
Balance Sheet		
February 2009		
	February 2008	February 2009
ASSETS		
Cash	£3,068.52	£1,370.32
Accruals	£0.00	£280.00
Total Assets	£3,068.52	£1,650.32
LIABILITIES		
Accruals	£0.00	£0.00
Total Liabilities	£0.00	£0.00
Balance	£3,068.52	£1,650.32