

New Milton Table Tennis Club Annual General Meeting: Monday 12th July 2010

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT ~ "RAISING STANDARDS"

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First I'd like to say how proud and enthusiastic I am about being associated with our club at this time. I'd just like us to take a few moments to consider what we have achieved together in the past year or so.

- New Milton TTC has 6 qualified UKCC coaches and our national governing body, the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA) now contacts our club for coaches when local and regional coaching days are planned in the South. This really helps to raise our profile as a progressive club, giving us every chance of future support.
- Our Treasurer, Malcolm Floyd won the ETTA's Press Officer of the Year award which was presented at the English Open last October. The citation referred to "...his tireless work at raising the profile of table tennis across Bournemouth and district and the New Forest." This of course raises our club's profile with the national governing body.
- Brian Vibert's positive and direct approach opened the doors to our club at Arnewood School and myself, James and our other coaches and officers have helped to nurture and further that relationship which looks very positive for next season and beyond, including using the school's facilities as an additional playing venue for this coming season.
- James Lewis is Coaching Liaison Officer for the Bournemouth and District Table Tennis Association and his coaching sessions at Portchester School and other work with the ETTA is really helping to advance our sport locally and regionally.
- Our members have attended various courses: Emergency Life Support, A Club for All and Equity in your Coaching as well as our coaches attending workshops for continued professional development. In addition a number of us have CRB checks. This raising of our collective knowledge and standards is of course good news directly for the club, as well as our being further recognised by the ETTA as a club which embraces accepted best practice.
- Two new teams in the BDTTA league – measured expansion while maintaining the family club feeling.

Premier ClubMark

Just to recap, ClubMark is a Sport England accreditation, the table tennis version of which is via the ETTA's Premier Club Programme. Attaining ClubMark has many benefits to the club, including sharing best practice across the board, helping our successful expansion, being listed as an approved club and opening the door to potential funding streams. Parents may be assured that their children belong to a safer club and members can be assured that the club is a well managed club, striving to offer the best in coaching and sports development. There are three further, higher levels of accreditation (Participation, Advanced and Excellence) though really, the most important step is this first one which will cement the partnership with the ETTA and thus keeping NM TTC at the forefront of development. *Continued:*

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There has been a fair amount of work involved but the potential rewards to our club make that more than worthwhile. I've brought along this document which is our club's Record of Achievements – containing all the evidence of these achievements. It is very nearly ready to submit to the ETTA for signing off and if successful, we will have the ClubMark accreditation. You will have the opportunity and I'd encourage you to look through this after the AGM.

Evidence of Adoptions:

As part of our ClubMark accreditation we need to prove evidence of adoptions of certain items of accepted best practice. The most straightforward “evidence” is a record of a positive vote at this AGM, recorded in the minutes, following distribution to the membership.

What we need to adopt at this stage are as follows:

- Having our club's constitution based on the ETTA model.
- Adoption of Equality and Child Protection Policies.
- Roles and Responsibilities – (for ClubMark level): Club Coach
- Codes of Conduct – (for ClubMark level):
Club Officials and Volunteers.
Parents, Guardians and Carers.
- Club Duty Officer * Not specifically required at Clubmark but referred to in “Club Coach” and “Safety Guidelines” see above.
- Club Safety Guidelines / Emergency Procedures: including Accident / Incident Report form.

Other than the Equality and Child Protection policies which were previously adopted, all the above documents (except the Roles and Responsibilities: Club Duty Officer) have been e.mailed to members in June. In addition, Bev has passed out hard copies to all officers prior to this meeting to allow an opportunity to review these. There are further copies of each available if anyone would like a few additional moments to recap. We, the committee, consider that all the above items are all common sense / good practice policies.

Block Vote

Club Action Plan

Another item we need is an agreed Club Action Plan; again evidence of adoption is necessary, which may be a record in the minutes of a positive vote at this meeting.

On 24th June I sent Malcolm Floyd's draft proposal by e.mail to all officers, to give an opportunity for suggestions ions / ideas for our action plan.

Handout: (Draft) Club Action Plan.

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Please take a few moments to look at the draft action plan – any agreed changes / additions?

Vote

Security of Tenure

A further required item is Security of Tenure – a lease / agreement or similar vehicle, ideally for three years, stating that we have a “right” of access to a building / facility to be used as a club venue.

Reason: That this is principally to show the required 3 year commitment to the ETTA’s Premier Club (including ClubMark) programme – (one couldn’t expect considerable help with funding, without some sort of assurance that the club will not fold without trace) and am advised that many clubs without their own premises, cannot be granted a 3 year term certain.

With the potentially uncertain situation at Mudeford and our resultant inability to obtain such an assurance, we have to have a contingency plan and I have secured a letter from Sarah Conacher at Arnewood School stating that they can see no reason why we could not maintain and expand our relationship with them.

In addition, the following statement is designed to further reassure the ETTA on this point and I would like you to read and to let me have a show of hands to confirm agreement. The result will also be recorded in our minutes of this AGM.

"While we hope that there will not be any problems with renewing our club's annual agreement with Mudeford Wood, there is obviously a potential issue with the required Security of Tenure; having said this, we already have alternative venues at Arnewood School and Sway village Hall which could potentially be used for league games (the former of course we are going to use for that purpose this coming season).

We have of course had issues with having to find new premises before at short notice and I'm sure we all agree that New Milton Table Tennis Club would endure - and maintain the commitment to the Premier Club programme should there be a future availability concern at Mudeford Wood."

Vote

Finally I’d like to congratulate everyone on their efforts over the past year and to thank those who have contributed to our Premier ClubMark project, notably Malcolm Floyd who, due to the sheer amount of work he has contributed is worthy of particular mention.

Shaun Newcomb, Development Officer, New Milton Table Tennis Club 12.07.2010.