DARWIN TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD: Marrara Indoor Stadium 24 November 2012 at 5:15 pm

Attended: Thong Teck Lee, Stewart Cobb, Wing Chan, Dr Bo Remenyi, Viqar Ali Khan, Robert Ho, Tim Garrad, Khalid Khan, Radeep Thapa, Eric Vo, Donny Shao, Jonathon Tong, Betty Mill, Chris Depasquale, Toong Yeen Lee, Alex Kotrancz, Marius Scappini, Elfrida Kalich, Dennis Evans, Anhtai Lee.

NB Others attended the function but only after the AGM had been completed.

Apologies: If I missed anyone

1. President’s Report (T Y Lee)

Thank you to our hard working committee, we have held regular monthly meetings throughout the year to improve and increase the profile of table tennis in Darwin. I would like to personally thank the Alex Kotrancz and Chris Depasquale for their excellent work as secretary, Alan Bruhn as treasurer and Dennis Evans taking over from Alan. My thanks also go to Anhtai Lee for convening the A Grade and setting the NT Table Tennis web page and to Andrew Barton taking over the duties from Ted Field for the junior training on Monday.

Throughout the past year some of our successful accomplishments have included:

1. Securing sponsorship from Cazalys Palmerston Club and Palmerston Golf Club
2. Darwin Close Competition during the off season
3. Darwin Table Tennis Open day
4. Secure table tennis as a Corporate Challenge sports
5. Successful in securing Sports grant to purchase equipment for the club
6. Delivering training for Active After School program, Red Cross After School Care, Essington School and Northern Suburb Cluster School table tennis program
7. New constitution to replace the out of date constitution
8. Conducted professional development program for PE teachers
9. Commenced 10 weeks skills training program

In the coming year we hope to continue our commitment to increase table tennis profile and maintain our current fee charges for 2013. The committee is happy to receive comments form members and encourage members to attend monthly meeting which is advertised on the notice board.

1. Treasurer’s Report (Dennis Evans)

A financial report was presented comprising a balance sheet, income and expenditure for the period 1/1/12 to 23/11/12 and bank reconciliation at 23/11/12. It was explained that the financial year of the DTTA runs on the calendar year, and this was merely an interim, up-to-the-minute snapshot, and that the final financial report for the 2012 calendar year would be prepared, audited and filed with the Department in accordance with procedure and practice. It was noted that from the bank balance of $24,000 allowance was to be made for our affiliation fee from the Northern Territory Table Tennis Association (NTTTA) which has yet to be invoiced, but is expected to be about $8,000.

1. Election of Office Bearers

The chair was taken by Betty Mill for the election of office bearers. T Y Lee was elected unopposed as President. Elfrida Kalich was elected unopposed as Treasurer. Chris Depasquale was elected unopposed as Secretary. Alex Kotrancz was elected as a general member of the committee. Anhtai Lee was elected as a general member of the committee. Andrew Barton was elected a general member of the committee. (NB Andrew Barton was not present at the meeting, but had been formally nominated in writing beforehand in the prescribed manner, and had accepted the nomination in writing.) Robert Ho was nominated from the floor as a general member of the committee and accepted the nomination.

1. New Constitution

Chris Depasquale explained that the existing Constitution of the DTTA, which was compiled in 1963, did not comply with existing NT law for Incorporated Associations, and that the Committee had drafted a new Constitution that complied with the law. A copy of the new draft Constitution had been made available on the notice board during the season.

The simplest way for an Incorporated Association to comply with the NT Law is to adopt the Government’s “Model Constitution” which has the same basic rules for all Incorporated Associations together with a schedule of items specific to our Association. The main “Association-specific” items are the name of the Association and the Objects and Purposes of the Association. In the new Constitution drafted these remain identical to those of the original 1963 Constitution. For clarity, Chris Depasquale read out the Objects and Purposes as follows:

The objects and purposes of the Association are as follows:

 (a) The encouragement and advancement of the game of table tennis, the arrangement and control of inter-club, inter-member and inter-association matches and tournaments and all matters incidental thereto.

 (b) To purchase material, to hire, lease or purchase halls or any other property for the furtherance of the objectives of the Association

 (c) To decide all matters relating to table tennis which may arise between any registered clubs or registered members or which may be referred to it by any registered club or registered member.

 (d) To establish and maintain uniformity in the laws under which the game of table tennis is played in the Association.

 (e) To arrange for the affiliation of the Association with such other body or bodies as may be determined from time to time at the Annual General Meeting.

 (f) To promote and conduct other forms of recreation and amusement for the members of the Association.

There was a question from the floor about the relationship between the NTTTA and the DTTA, and whether that should be mentioned in the Constitution. It was explained that the NTTTA came into existence at the behest of Government, which wanted to deal with one Territory-wide body for each sport rather than deal with applications for funding, grants, etc from a Darwin Table Tennis Association and an Alice Springs Table Tennis Association and a Katherine Table Tennis Association, etc. While the NTTTA has a role, it is the function of the DTTA to make the playing of table tennis happen in Darwin.

It was pointed out that both the old and new Constitutions refer to affiliating with organisations such as the NTTTA in point (e) above.

On a show of hands the new Constitution was adopted unanimously.

The remainder of the process is to have the Public Officer sign a statutory declaration to the effect that the new Constitution was adopted and file the documents with the Department of Justice. The Secretary has carriage of that task.

The meeting closed at 5:40 pm and was followed by the presentation of trophies from the season just completed, a barbecue dinner, general merry-making, and, of course, some games of table tennis.