



Election Statement for Juliet Bertie

Playing Table Tennis, as a young tomboy, following my brother wherever he played, I never, for one minute would have imagined myself applying for this role. However, thanks to the Civil Service's recreation association HASSRA, it enabled me the opportunity to have a go at the sport again. It instilled a passion in me which means I have never looked back. Watching my now husband, Steve Bertie, who I met at the event playing at an exceptional standard, opened my eyes to a different level of table tennis.

I currently co-own and am Secretary for Continental Stars Table Tennis Club who were joint winners for Club of the Year at the National Pride of Table Tennis Awards for 2023. I also scooped the winner for the Level the Table Award which I am immensely proud of. These awards were an opportunity for me to showcase to local communities that anything is achievable. Currently a member of the Members Advisory Group (MAG), a committee member for Birmingham and Solihull District Table Tennis Association, Women and Girls Ambassador and a player at local league and VETTS, I feel I can say I have gained a wide range of experience and expertise.

After our club had a large involvement in the Commonwealth Games Roadshows, my ambition was to be the driving force for legacy in Birmingham. I have initiated TT Kidz within our club and inner-city schools allowing them to participate in the sport on a weekly basis, with the planned development of school clubs.

Table Tennis is now my heartbeat, and I get such joy from seeing people participate whether it be for recreation or competition. I have seen firsthand how it can connect different communities from all walks of life and make an immense difference to lives.

My club's focus and aim are to develop in both strength and depth, and we have achieved a great deal towards this in a short space of time. Gaining Premier Club status our membership continues to grow on a weekly basis, with qualified coaches who are continuously developing in different areas, which will soon include supporting young people as part of the legacy Commonwealth Games GEN22 Programme. We all do the work voluntarily at the club which role models to others to do the same which many members have become involved in.

I am a previous Civil Servant with over 36 years' experience in various areas to include Operational Delivery, Social Media, Governance and Diversity and Inclusion, one of my latter roles as departmental creator and lead for an innovative successful 100+ volunteer Advocate Programme, resulted in being awarded a Leadership Team Special Recognition Award for the positive impact on the departmental culture. My current role at Sported, which helps community groups to survive so young people can thrive, supports some of the key skills and experience for this role. One of Sported's values is to "Demonstrate Integrity" and this is a personal everyday value I uphold and links to my moral principles.

I also hold a voluntary position as Trustee at Notts County Foundation and lead on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion. This is keeping links to my Nottingham roots. I work jointly with other Trustees collectively to drive strategic decisions for the Foundation for it to achieve its vision. I accept this role is of high importance as the decisions I make cascade through to everyone involved at Notts County Foundation.

I feel I am the right person for the role, as being a Black Female I can diversify the Board with a wealth of knowledge, expertise and lived experience. I can contribute to the growth and transformation of Table Tennis England (TTE) and align to the vision which I strive to drive England into a "Table Tennis Nation." I want to be part of this exciting time for Table Tennis and show people by example that representation matters. I want to be the inspiration that connects communities to increase participation, whilst also being accountable for tackling areas that provides challenges for that to be able to happen.

If you feel like the right person for you, please encourage your Company Members to vote for me. If anyone would like to discuss my nomination and how I can assist if successful, please contact me at bertiejuliet@gmail.com