

NATIONAL COUNCIL

PRELIMINARY LETTER AHEAD OF MEETING ON SATURDAY 27 JANUARY

To: All National Councillors

Copies (for information) to: Deputy National Councillors, The President, All directors, Staff designated by the CEO, Representatives of BPTT, BUCS and VETTS

Dear Colleagues

National Council Meeting – Saturday 27 January 2024

The next National Council meeting will be on Saturday 27 January 2023. This meeting will be online only. The meeting is scheduled to start at 9am and finish by 1pm

Those listed above are invited to attend the on-line meeting, though Deputy National Councillors only attend if the National Councillor is not available.

Papers, topics, motions and written questions are welcome from any National Councillor and from others who receive this letter. I will always try to include them on the agenda. If you can send suggested agenda items to me by Friday 29 December that will be helpful. Please send them to Sue with a copy to me. Please include at least a brief note explaining the issue which can be included with the papers to help Councillors discuss it with their members in advance. (A note is not needed for a written question)

INITIAL THOUGHTS ON ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

In addition to items that will be suggested by National Councillors, here are my current thoughts on some of the topics that we can usefully discuss at the meeting.

Update on *Table Tennis United*

As you know, I'm particularly keen that at National Council meetings we focus on the issues that really matter to clubs, leagues and counties. So I've asked Adrian Christy to provide an update on *Table Tennis United*. This is particularly important time to do so as the strategy moves firmly into the implementation phase.

Diversity & Inclusion

This is a real opportunity for table tennis which provides opportunities for people of all ages and all backgrounds. So I would like an initial discussion to share perspectives with a view to hearing more at the April meeting about how Table Tennis England are taking this forward.

Updating of the Articles of Association

There will be an update on behalf of the Articles Working Group on the thinking behind various Article changes that will be proposed at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

A More Autonomous National Council

The organisation and secretarial support for National Council has always been provided by Table Tennis England. At the last meeting, we touched briefly on whether this is still the appropriate model for National Council, and whether National Council should take clearer responsibility for managing its own affairs. I understand from Alan Ransome that the Select Committee on the Constitution has considered this issue in some detail, so this will provide an opportunity to hear and discuss their suggestions.

Reports from Select Committees

The Chairs of the Select Committees will have the opportunity to update us on recent activities.

Standing Orders Committee

Neil Le Milliere has circulated a paper on this topic which we will discuss at the meeting.

Reports

There will be the standard reports from TTE Chair, CEO and Finance.

FINAL AGENDA

Once I have received suggestions for the meeting, I will produce a formal Agenda which will be sent out (with the relevant supporting documentation) on or around Friday 5th January.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

We need to set the dates of the next two meetings. Looking at the calendar, the following two dates seem relatively free of conflicting events:

Saturday 13 April

Saturday 6 July

These will both be hybrid meetings. So you can either attend in person or on-line.

Please come to the meeting with your diaries and schedule so that if the above dates don't prove to be suitable, we can quickly identify alternative mutually convenient dates. I'm clear all Saturdays through April, May, June and the first week of July.

DATE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This has been set for Saturday 20 July 2024.

Finally, just to wish you all best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Neil Hurford
Chair
National Council