

**Competitions Report  
National Council Report  
January 2014**

**Events Department Staffing**

By now many of you will have heard that Diccon Gray will be leaving the Association in April after many years' service in various roles. For the last three years Diccon has been our National Events Manager and he will be missed by all. I am sure you will join me in wishing him well in his new career.

This news comes on top of the fact that our superb National Events Administrator, Vanda Jones, will also be leaving when the office moves to Milton Keynes. Vanda has been the backbone of the Events Department for almost 30 years and has always managed to deliver, even against the sometimes ridiculous timescales and workloads she has had to cope with.

With Mat Morris on long term absence it does leave the Events Department exposed. Our CE, Sara Sutcliffe, is well aware of the problem and is looking at solutions, and the Board will be discussing the situation this weekend. Whatever the future holds I will doing my best to ensure a smooth transition and minimal disruption to our Events programme.

**British League**

All formats of the British League have continued to run smoothly this season.

The British League Committee would like to recognise the retirement, at the end of the season, of Ken Eliot from the JBL and Stan Clarke from the VNL. Both of these gentlemen have given outstanding service over the years and will be missed. The search for replacements and ensured continuation of these events is ongoing.

**Calendar Working Party**

The streamlined composition of CWP has proved a success and further ideas are being discussed on how it will operate in the future under the new ETTA structure.

**County Championships**

The County Championships have reached the halfway stage, three of the 34 divisions have been completed (all senior divisions), but not without problems.

The Senior Premier has Middlesex and Sussex leading, both unbeaten, the Junior Premier Division has Lincolnshire and Sussex both with six points, Yorkshire lead the Veterans and Lancashire the Over 60s after the first weekends. The Cadet Premier took place during the weekend of 25th/26th January.

It is disappointing to report that there have been two teams withdrawing from the County Championships in the Veterans section.

It is also disappointing to report that there are still a number of counties and players who do not understand the Player Membership system despite a reminder being sent out to counties.

**English Leagues Cup Competitions**

The zonal rounds are due to take place over the weekend of 12th and 13th April 2014 (Carter Cup and Bromfield Trophy on Saturday, Wilmott Cup and JM Rose Bowl on Sunday). Forms were distributed in mid-January.

The finals are to take place once again at Westfield TTC, Wellingborough. The senior matches will take place on Saturday 7th June 2014 and the junior events on Sunday 8th June 2014. We are looking forward to enjoying the usual excellent hospitality in Wellingborough.

**Grand Prix**

The increased number of entries seen at the start of the season has continued and we are hopeful that this will continue.

Unfortunately the planned January Committee meeting, where we were due to debate ideas for the future of the series, had to be postponed. We will reconvene as soon as it can be arranged and the results put to the April Board meeting.

### Major Events

There is nothing to report other than we are still hopeful that it may be possible to arrange a tour by a non-Commonwealth country in the run-up to the Commonwealth Games in July 2014.

### National Cadet League/National Junior League

Entries are now in and we can confirm a new record of 243 teams in the NCL and 188 teams in the NJL.

### National Championships

The Cadet and Junior finals took place at a new venue, UCLAN in Preston, on 23rd/24th November 2013, and whilst this was a little too far north, the venue itself was of a very good standard.

Both the Cadet Masters and Junior Masters took place in January. The Cadet Masters was hosted by Burton Uxbridge and the champions were Tom Jarvis and Denise Payet. The Junior Masters was at Grantham College and the champions were Helshan Weerasinghe and Tin-Tin Ho.

We now turn our attention to the National Championships which once again are at the Ponds Forge International Sports Centre, Sheffield.

### Technical Officials Committee (formerly NURC)

The Technical Officials Committee nominated six individuals for the annual "Sports Officials UK" awards, and it is very pleasing to note that Tony Chatwin and Josh Reynolds were the winners in their respective categories.

It is also good to be able to inform you that two of our young umpires, Josh Reynolds and Alex Mercer, have been rewarded for their good performances on the ITTF Young Umpires scheme. Josh will be going to Portugal for the Global Youth Circuit Finals and Youth Olympic Qualifying Tournament, whilst Alex will be going to China as he has the great honour of being selected for the Youth Olympics being held in August.

Tournament Organiser Qualification - unfortunately the workload in the Events Department did not allow any time to kick-start this scheme back into life, but we intend to get it going again as soon as we can.

### Tournaments Committee

The following statistics were reported at their recent meeting:-

#### Open Tournament Entries Summary

Season	Tournaments			Players		
	Junior	Senior	Total	Junior	Senior	Total
2002/3	44	34	78	3376	4040	7416
2003/4	36	31	67	3126	4705	7831
2004/5	35	24	59	2849	3215	6064
2005/6	41	27	68	3441	2984	6425
2006/7	41	24	65	4028	3142	7170
2007/8	40	28	68	3688	4244	7932
2008/9	57	29	86	4108	3949	8057
2009/10	64	32	96	4974	1654	6628
2010/11	75	22	97	4525	2979	7504
2011/12	69	32	101	4608	2748	7356

2012/13	71	28	99	4623	2363	6986
2013/14	27	11	38	1573	1334	2907

Overall Summary of Player Misconduct Reports

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Players with 1 card	83	87	82	82	44
Players with 2 cards	22	15	29	23	12
Players with 3 cards	10	13	11	10	3
Players with 4 cards	7	2	5	3	1
Players with 5 cards	2	5	5	3	0
Players with 6 cards	2	1	1	0	0
Players with 7 or more cards	2	1	0	0	1
Number of players receiving cards	128	124	131	121	61
Total of cards in season	224	202	229	185	88

Harvey Webb  
 Vice-Chairman  
 Competitions Department