

Newsletter 5: ETTA Chair | New Directors | National Championships

To: Members of the English Table Tennis Association

From: Sandra Deaton, Chair, ETTA

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New Chair of ETTA

I am pleased to be able to write to you as the new Chair of the ETTA. I was appointed to the position as the only nominated person, after the sudden death of Andy Seward in January 2014. The ETTA and table tennis are undergoing a period of massive change - I know it will be change for the better. I will be using these regular newsletters to keep you, the members of ETTA, up-to-date with events and developments.

One of my first duties as Chair was to attend the Senior National Championships at Sheffield last weekend (Feb 28-March 2). I have been there many times before as a volunteer, regional representative, a member of the management team, a National Councillor, an organiser, – and also, as the proud parent of a several-times National

Champion. I was so pleased to be there on this occasion as Chair of our national governing body and I intend to work with our Board, senior management team, staff, players and volunteers to make table tennis a sport for the future. I have set out more details in this message on the eve of the National Championships.

<http://etta.co.uk/news/message-from-the-chair-at-the-senior-nationals/>

Appointments of New Non-Executive Directors

Part of these changes is the actual governance the ETTA, that is the way the ETTA has run itself to date and the way we will do so in the future. We have already recruited a new senior management team to take over a more focused, structured and dynamic organisation. Now we look to ourselves. In keeping with the recommendations of an independent review and supported by our financial backers, Sport England, our next phase of change will be the creation of a newly structured Board of Directors.

It is proposed that the new Board will comprise the three Elected Directors (Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Treasurer), the Chief Executive Officer and up to another eight Directors.

The Directors will have a wide variety of skills, experience and expertise between them. If you feel you have the right qualities to help direct and shape table tennis for the future, please consider applying. More details are available here: <http://etta.co.uk/news/etta-recruiting-for-non-executive-directors/>

Closing date for applications March 19 2014.

Senior National Championships

The Senior National Championships 2013/14 had its fair share of thrills, spills and great table tennis, which was enjoyed not only by the spectators in the arena but the many viewers around the world on our 'live feed' streaming.

Congratulations to Liam Pitchford and Joanna Drinkhall on taking the Men's and Women's Singles after closely contested finals. Our dedicated National Championship website provides detailed results and tournament reports, plus a chance to watch those key matches on our film reports and commentary.

<http://etta.co.uk/nationals/>

Women's British League

The final weekend of this season's Women's British League was a silver-studded occasion as the League marked its 25th anniversary. As well as two days of intense competition, the players, volunteers, organisers and special guests took part in a celebration to mark the milestone.

Among those present were the pioneers of the League, Jose Ransome and Christine Lewis, who also doubled as MC for the 25th anniversary celebrations. There were two special presentations: the Silver Jubilee Players Award to Rosemary Rainton, who has played in 23 out of the 25 years of the WBL - and in all divisions; and an award in recognition of exceptional voluntary services to the League went to Gill Smith.

Back at the business end of the weekend. Congratulations to Ormesby who retained the Premier Division

Championship dropping only one point throughout the competition.

<http://etta.co.uk/news/ormesby-seal-wbl-title-on-25th-anniversary/>

Congratulations to.....

The GB Para Table Tennis Team's head coach Greg Baker, who has been chosen to be part of the second intake of UK Sport's World Class Coaching Elite Programme. The ETTA's new Director of Coaching and Performance, Simon Mills, is just completing the same course for elite coaches as a part of the first intake on the programme.

<http://etta.co.uk/news/head-coach-baker-selected-for-elite-coaching-programme/>

The winners of our volunteer awards who came to Sheffield to receive the special recognition for the contribution they - and our many, many volunteers, - make to the sport.

<http://etta.co.uk/news/etta-volunteer-club-and-coach-awards-2014/>

Staff and address change

The ETTA will be relocating from Hastings to Milton Keynes as part of the continuing changes taking place. Eventually, we will move to a purpose built head office where we will share facilities and common services with the sport of badminton. In the meantime, from March 17, 2014, our new address and phone number will be:

English Table Tennis Association

Norfolk House
88 Saxon Gate West
Central Milton Keynes
MK9 2DL

W: www.etta.co.uk (website and satellite sites are unchanged)

E: admin@etta.co.uk (individual email addresses are unchanged)

T: 0844 417 0900, please note this is NOT free from landlines, but it will cost no more than an exchange line – between 2-5p per minute depending on the caller's telecom provider.

<http://etta.co.uk/news/etta-office-relocation-to-milton-keynes/>

The staff restructuring will be completed shortly and we will make the details available. Some members of ETТА staff will be moving to Milton Keynes with us. Others will be leaving. I would like to thank all of staff members for the support they have given to us during the past nine months. About 25 ETТА staff will remain with us and about 20 have left recently or will be leaving soon. To those who are moving on, we wish you all the best for the future.

The ETТА publishes, and regularly updates, a calendar of tournaments and events through to June 2015.

<http://etta.co.uk/news/latest-etta-calendar/>
