

## **Chairman's Report**

I believe things have gone very smoothly this year & this is due to the large number of people in the 4 leagues across Suffolk & also at county level giving up their time for the benefit of table tennis.

The county association is sometimes only as good as the clubs, leagues & coaching that happens within the county.

The fact is we have 4 very good leagues in Ipswich, Bury, Lowestoft plus the Suffolk & Cambs Junior table tennis league which are run by volunteers. Plus plenty of coaching going on by the leagues & by various clubs.

I cannot thank everyone enough for your hard work involved running all of this.

Personally, I do find it hard to devote the time I would like to the role as Chairman due to running my own company, as well as County Cadet Coach, Secretary of the Lowestoft League & running the Lowestoft TT coaching school & running a team in the Lowestoft League & the biggest job being Kian's personal Taxi & also showing an interest in my other 4 daughters.

Therefore time is a major issue in my life.

However my belief is that whichever role you undertake at county level, league level or club level. It should not rule your life. You have a life outside of Table Tennis (Sometimes) & this is why there is committees to share the workloads.

Each individual has a role within Suffolk & they all do a very good job within their role.

However my belief is that the County should be there as the bare minimum to run the County events, county teams & oversee the leagues.

If the Leagues & Clubs are all doing the right thing then the County looks after itself.

This has been the case the past 12 months & all these objectives achieved.

We have held quarterly county meetings to discuss things such as

County ranking

Sorting County tournaments which is not easy & takes time

Looking at County finances

What is happening at National Level?

How the County teams are performing etc.

Plus are favourite lagers both past & present.

## **County Teams**

We entered 1 Vets team, 2 junior teams & 1 cadet team.

The Vets Team won Division 3B in their 1<sup>st</sup> season & will be playing at a higher level next year.

Suffolk Junior 1 came 3<sup>rd</sup> of 6 in Division 2C losing only 1 game.

Suffolk Junior 2 came 5<sup>th</sup> of 6 in Division 2C in their 1<sup>st</sup> season & gained valuable experience.

Suffolk Cadets came 4<sup>th</sup> of 10 in Division 1B winning 6 of their 9 games.

This is again an improvement on the previous years & hopes are high again for next season.

We will continue to run these 4 county teams again next year.

Big thank you to the County Team Managers

## **County Players**

Our youngsters at U13, Cadet & Junior are now appearing high in the National Rankings which is always a good sign that improvement is being made. Lots of this is due to the local coaching & also the brilliant coaching from Aad.

## **County Tournaments**

The Junior tournament was well attended & big thanks to Wayne for organising & running on the day & anyone else who helped.

Big thank you for Andy Doshier running the County Vets tournament again this year & for the 1<sup>st</sup> time for a number of years the County Senior Event was held & very well attended. It was great to see a large number from the Lowestoft area enter & perform well.

## **County School Tournaments - Team & Individual**

The Schools tournaments were well attended & well run by the volunteers.

Big thanks to Karen for all her hard work after taking over from Tony. It has been greatly appreciated.

Also thanks to Tony & his team for also helping run the tournaments on the day.

## **Thanks**

I think that is about everything from me.

I would like to finish by thanking everyone associated within Table Tennis in Suffolk for all your hard work.

Plus a final thank you to the committee as a whole for making my life as Chairman smooth & painless.

Wayne, Colin, Bob, Karen, Andy Warner, Mark Wills, Paul McGerty, Tony, Steve Branton, Richard Davies Stokes & I am sure there is a number of others which I have missed. I apologise if I have not mentioned you.

Plus Nick Sansom & Paul McGerty for running the National Cadet & National Junior League.

Holding the meetings down the Pub on a Tuesday has been a resounding success.

Plus a big thank you to Aad for his superb coaching of the youngsters in Suffolk on Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays & also his attendance supporting & coaching the youngsters across the country which has been really appreciated by the youngsters.

Plenty more hard work in the year ahead. A special well done if you represented the county during the year & an extra big thanks to Bob for continuing to umpire County matches for Suffolk & Wayne who brings everything together with the organisation of the meetings, agenda's, minute taking & Rankings etc etc.

I will shut up now & allow the rest of the meeting to continue.

Thank you & enjoy your evening.