



DTTA Newsletter ; February 2022

Issue 1

It is hoped that we can produce a Newsletter during each season, at about 3 monthly intervals

It is therefore hoped that issue 2 could be out by middle of April 2022

If you have any comments / suggestions for issue 2 please notify a committee member, by middle of March

We all hope you are keeping safe and well, and enjoying playing table tennis regularly once again.

The pandemic has significantly disrupted our daily lives over the last 18+ months, and prevented us from playing the sport we all enjoy. Hopefully we can continue to play without further interruption and complete a full season across our local leagues.

The association is keen to support our local leagues/players, and so, we shall be looking to engage further via communiqués and activities to promote and develop our sport. At present, we have in excess of 600 players registered, across a relatively small county. However, as we have seen in recent times, our numbers are diminishing, so encouraging juniors/adults to play and develop is a key activity in all leagues.

We also have several teams representing our county in regional/national events. This is a primary activity to keep our county profile and ensure players who are capable / willing have the opportunity to compete at this level.

Further information on about the association can be found at -

<https://dorsetta.org.uk>

This update will provide information for all players to review/reference;

1. Dorset County Affiliation

TTE have confirmed that if a local league did not affiliate with the county, player insurance cover would not be valid for local league matches.

This should allay concerns raised, and going the association will work more closely with local leagues to derive mutual benefits.

2. Inter League Tournament

There are four local table tennis leagues within the county ;

- Bournemouth
- Wimborne
- Weymouth
- Blackmore Vale

To date, each league operates within their own boundaries during the course of a regular table tennis season. Due to geographical limitations, some players participate in more than one league, but travelling significant distance is not easy or ideal during the winter period.

Consequently, to increase/adjoin the TT community within the county it is intended that we shall run a further Inter County Tournament towards the end of the TT season. This is scheduled to be held at a North Dorset venue (Stalbridge), but will rotate to other league venues in subsequent seasons.

The aim of this event will be to ;

- Promote "local" league engagement.
- Provide a platform for junior/young player advancement.
- Create a stepping point for players wishing to represent the county.
- Provide opportunities for TT development.
- Increase the profile of TT within the county.

Further information can be provided to league committees to progress arrangements.

3. Table Tennis England County Championship Competitions

This season we have teams representing the county as follows ;

Junior - Div 1B and Div 2B

Senior – Div 1B

Over 60s – Div 2A

Veterans – Div 2D

Cadets - Not Entered this season, due to lack of Girls under 15 y/o

Our team colours are black/green shirts and black shorts/skirts.

Matches are played over weekends, as arranged by team Captains within their Divisions.

Results can be found on the website <https://dorsetta.org.uk/>

We are already planning for next season and if anyone is interested in joining or running one of the county teams please contact anyone on the committee.

For those Junior / Cadet players not able to play in the above Championships we also run teams in the TTE National Cadet League & the National Junior League.

The Ages for these are; Cadets Under 15, Juniors Under 19. Both Girls & Boys

These can be classed as stepping stones to County & Other National Team Events

Qualifications for any Team Events you will be required to be registered with TTE or other National Bodies.

4 County Coaching

Our County Coaching Officer is Mr. Matt Ware,

Matt Coaches at various locations / Clubs throughout the County over several days / Evenings a week.

Mr Andy Millar also coaches at Various Clubs / Venues during Evenings in the Weymouth & West Dorset area.

Details for coaches can be found on the County Committee page of our Website

If you are a Qualified Coach, & are willing / available to assist with coaching either at Club or County level, Please let us know..

5 Covid-19

Dorset Table Tennis Association : Season 2021-2022

There has been some disruption to league schedules due to the pandemic, but overall it is encouraging that leagues expect to finish as planned. With infection levels easing, it is with local leagues to decide how playing should be approached. We would suggest this be with due reference to the latest guidelines provided by Table Tennis England.

<https://tabletennisengland.co.uk/news/archived/coronavirus-update/>

6 Support

The association has access to players and coaches who are keen to support and develop players. We have qualified professional coaches available, can advise on grants or equipment needs. Please refer to a member of the committee if you feel we can help you or your league.

We hope you are all enjoying playing TT now and going forward.

Chairman

Signed..... *D.J.Beverley* Chair.

Committee positions can be found on Committee page of the County Website,

Dorset Table Tennis Association Season 2021 – 2022

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