

Linlithgow Longcroft Table Tennis Group

Secretary's Report – 2019 / 20 Season

“Some-what of a Covid theme”

1. **Annual Membership** decreased by 3 from last year to a total of 37 including 2 lady members and 4 juniors. There were 6 new Members and for various reasons 9 people did not renew.
2. **Playing Nights** – due to Covid only 30 playing nights held [40 last year] as we had to stop mid-March. Average attendance of around 17 [Max 21] There were a few visitor players during the course of the season.
3. Two “Pot Luck” Doubles KO competitions were held and these appeared to go down fairly well providing some not too serious competitive play. There was also the Fun “two-bat” singles competition organised by Ken at Christmas which proved to be interesting and entertaining.
4. **Friendly Matches** - we managed to have one home and away fixture with the Bowhouse Table Tennis Club who are based in Grangemouth and whilst the overall results were not what we hoped for the experience was an enjoyable one for the 9 players involved across the two matches.
5. **Coaching Nights** – we managed to hold one coaching session out-with our normal Wednesday night session which was attended by 10 members. The session was very ably led by Mando Notarangelo and his buddy George Risk. Mando is a qualified coach and also chair of the Stirlingshire and Midland counties Table Tennis League to which he suggested our club would be welcome to submit a team. The intention had been to hold another session before the end of our season unfortunately Covid intervened.
6. **Grant Approval** - the club received approval of a £269 grant from West Lothian Council to assist with costs of attending a Level 1 Coaching Course for one our younger members. This grant will be received only when we evidence someone has signed up for the course.
7. **Schools Engagement** - 1) Linlithgow Active Schools Cluster Summer Camp 2020 at Linlithgow Academy - a couple of taster table tennis sessions for around 40 Primary 5 -7 children 2) Linlithgow Primary Schools Cluster Multi-Sports event at the Leisure Centre in March involving 100 Primary 4 pupils Both sessions were led by Glyn Eggar supported by several of our club members. A second Multi-Sports event and the Schools Easter camp were cancelled.
8. Matthew Rodger, Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award – the family of Matthew were very appreciative of the welcome and encouragement given to Matthew as he participated in the club as part of his DofE activities.
9. **Training courses** - Jim Fingland our new Child Protection Co-ordinator attended the Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport course organised by WLC
10. Our **Community Club Accreditation** status from West Lothian Council was due for re-appraisal under the new branding “Active Assured” - however the impact of Covid has meant this will have to done at some point when normal activities resume.
11. **St. Michael's Church Christmas Tree Festival** – again we took part and decorated a tree on a Chinese Ping Pong theme - thanks to Ralph for his expertise in Chinese and making this another well received contribution to the festival.
12. **Health Benefits** – an article on ten benefits, physical and mental, of playing TT was prepared by Ken and published on our website. This will be good to use in future publicity articles.
13. A **Defibrillator** was installed in the Church Hall and 4 of our members attended the excellent training session delivered by David Booth from our local First Responders unit.
14. **First Aiders** – in addition to Ken we have another two up to date trained first aiders – Bruce Melvin and Mark Docherty.
15. The **Chatterbox Playgroup** continues to express their thanks regarding our efforts in the weekly set-up of the Shields Room and in particular to Ken for dealing with the gate.
16. The **2nd Club Singles Competition** - had an entry of 24 members – unfortunately this had to be cancelled because of the Covid situation.