

MARTIN CLARK  
The Sidings,  
31 Rutherford Road,  
Bromsgrove,  
Worcestershire  
B60 3SA

2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2009

Dear National Councillors and League Representative Members,

### **FORTHCOMING ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE ETTA**

A notice to you has been circulated by Alan Ransome on 23<sup>rd</sup> January regarding his intention of not putting up a candidate to challenge my position of Treasurer in the event of him succeeding Alex Murdoch as Chairman, on the basis that he believes that he can work with me and gave the impression that I would continue in office.

I would therefore wish to make it clear that whilst I was flattered by his confidence in my performance and competence during a telephone conversation I had with him 4 days before his email went out, I was initially non committal to his suggestion **but within 24 hours advised him that I would not be able to continue in office under his stewardship should his election challenge be successful.**

I am dedicated to serve the ETTA under the Chairmanship of Alex who has been instrumental, together with the CEO, in convincing Sport England to provide funding, namely £9.3Million our highest ever Award, that in the next four year cycle will assist table tennis develop the whole spectrum of activity from grass roots through to performance levels. In my opinion it would be an act of betrayal and utter disloyalty to continue in office should he be deposed as Chairman. His commitment, enthusiasm, energy and expertise is second to none. Those of you who have experienced the Chairman's presence at local meetings will know what I mean. When last did a previous Chairman visit your Club or league apart from when he wanted your vote at an election? If you ask Alex, he'll find the time somehow to accommodate you, as he has done in so many cases over the past 6 years.

Alex spends countless hours either visiting members or officials from Sport England, UK Sport, ITTF, ETTU etc. etc., many visits to HQ at Hastings, as well as hour upon hour at home writing reports, dealing with matters arising from emails ,telephone calls and so on. All for no financial reward apart from the small honorarium afforded to him which in turn is subject to authorisation by National Council.

He has no pecuniary interests in any business appertaining to table tennis. That criteria falls in line with Sport England and UK Sport principles and indeed is a pre-requisite for any person wishing to be on the ITTF Executive. This is, of course, to avoid any potential conflict of interest where a Director of a National Governing Body clearly can have influence when involved with the Trade.

Don't be complacent, please use you vote and use it wisely! The funding that has been awarded is subject to conditions and I would be devastated if it was put at risk after all the hard work that gave Sport England/UK Sport the confidence to grant the awards they made to us recently.

Yours sincerely,

**Martin Clark**  
Martin Clark FCCA  
ETTA Director & Treasurer