

Thanks to the National Lottery and Sport Wales

# Table Tennis Wales Annual Report

## A Sport for Everyone

Celebrating growth, achievement, and community in Welsh Table Tennis.



# Anna Hursey – Wales, Wales, Wales! – Press Play!



YouTube



**Impressive Debut 🏓 Sun Yingsha vs Anna Hursey 🔥 #tabletennis #pingpong #wtt ...**

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# Leadership Messages

## A Welcome from Our Chair



**Nicki Arthur**, Chair

As Chair of Table Tennis Wales, I am immensely proud to welcome you to our Annual Report, reflecting on a truly exceptional year. It has been a period defined by the vibrant spirit and unwavering commitment of our entire table tennis community, marked by both remarkable achievements and resilient navigation of challenges. From significant growth in grassroots participation and successful new regional development programmes to our elite athletes excelling internationally, our collective passion has shone brightly.

The heart of Welsh Table Tennis lies in its strong community ethos. It's a sport that truly transcends age and ability, fostering connections and promoting well-being in every club and community centre. The laughter, camaraderie, and friendly competition I've witnessed are powerful testaments to our sport's positive impact, extending beyond athletic achievement to build stronger, healthier, and more inclusive communities.

My heartfelt thanks go to every person who contributed to this journey: our dedicated players, from beginners to veterans; our tireless coaches and committed volunteers; the clubs and schools providing invaluable environments for growth; supportive parents; and our staff, whose hard work ensures everything runs smoothly. Your passion, energy, and dedication are the bedrock of Table Tennis Wales.

Looking ahead, we are excited to build on this incredible momentum. We will continue to invest in developing talent pathways, expanding our reach into new communities, and ensuring Table Tennis Wales remains a beacon of sporting excellence and inclusivity. Together, we will further cultivate a sport that is truly for everyone, enriching lives and inspiring future generations across Wales.

## CEO Message



**Owen Rodgers**, CEO

I reflect on what has been a truly transformative year for Table Tennis Wales with immense pride. This past year stands out not just for the milestones achieved, but for the collective spirit and unwavering dedication that made them possible. My sincere thanks extend to every individual who contributes to the vibrant tapestry of our sport here in Wales.

From our dedicated international athletes who inspire us, to our committed national squad players and seasoned veterans who lead by example; from the clubs that serve as the heartbeat of our community and all players finding joy on the court; to supportive parents, diligent umpires, inspiring coaches, invaluable volunteers, hard-working staff, and every official and supporter—each of you brings unwavering commitment, boundless energy, and deep passion. This shared belief in the power of table tennis to connect, empower, and enrich lives is the very essence of all we achieve together.

I also wish to express my sincere appreciation to our dedicated staff team and the esteemed Board of Directors at Table Tennis Wales. It is a true privilege to work alongside such dedicated, resilient, and inspiring individuals, whose collective vision guides our path forward.

The year **past year** has been particularly exhilarating, highlighted by extraordinary performances on the international stage. Anna Hursey delivered a series of truly remarkable achievements, securing impressive victories at both the European U21 Championship and the European Youth Championships. Her accomplishments are nothing short of exceptional, and as a nation, we should all feel immense pride in her outstanding talent and determination. Her success embodies the potential and spirit of Welsh table tennis.

# Table Tennis Wales Board

Our Board of Directors provides strategic leadership and ensures robust governance, guiding Table Tennis Wales towards its vision for the sport.



Nicki Arthur  
Chair



Dennis Bromage  
Vice-Chair



Andrew Thomas  
Director of Finance



Simon Evans  
Director of Partnerships



Craig Bryant  
Director of Performance



Adam Palfrey  
Commercial Director



Sophie Hancocks  
Director of Safeguarding and Equality  
Diversity and Inclusion



Megan Powell-Williams  
Director of Communications and  
Engagement



Aled Howell  
Director of Development



Steve Eades  
Board Director



Achille Versaevel  
Board Director

## Strategic Leadership

The Board sets the long-term direction, focusing on growth, sustainability, and the overall health of table tennis across Wales. They oversee major initiatives and ensure alignment with our mission.

## Effective Governance

Committed to transparency and accountability, the Board maintains strong governance frameworks, ensuring compliance, ethical practices, and responsible financial management for the benefit of all stakeholders.

# Our Strategic Foundation

## Vision

Inspire Wales to enjoy table tennis – a sport for everyone, for life.

## Mission

Lead the growth and success of Table Tennis in Wales

As the National Governing Body, we are not merely overseeing; we are actively championing the vibrant growth of table tennis across Wales. Our unwavering commitment is to ignite passion and foster participation for every age and ability, from grassroots engagement to elite performance. Building on our solid foundations, we are propelling the sport forward, driven by ambitious goals to unleash its full potential and enrich lives throughout the nation.





# Five Strategic Pillars

## Participation

Growing grassroots engagement across all communities



## Partnerships

Building strategic relationships for sustainable growth



## Performance

Developing elite athletes and competitive excellence



## People

Supporting coaches, volunteers, and staff development



## Business Systems

Investing in technology and operational excellence



# Participation Growth

Our commitment to making table tennis a sport for all is at the heart of our strategy. This year has seen significant strides in expanding our reach, introducing more individuals to the joys and benefits of the game, and fostering a thriving community spirit across Wales.

## Community Engagement

Successful initiatives targeted at bringing table tennis into local communities, fostering new clubs and increasing membership across all age groups.

## Schools Programme

Introduction of new programmes in schools, significantly boosting junior participation and identifying emerging talent at an early stage.

## Inclusive Opportunities

Development and expansion of programmes tailored for individuals of all abilities, ensuring table tennis is truly accessible to everyone.





# Participation Growth

Regional officers have been pivotal in driving grassroots engagement, organising local tournaments, taster sessions, and establishing new clubs. This growth was significantly supported by the Be Active Wales Fund, which awarded over £50,000 in grants for club development and coaching qualifications, expanding our reach and impact.

## Officer Impact & Community Engagement

Our regional officers conducted over 130 outreach events, including volunteer training, taster sessions and food & fun. This led to the formation of new clubs and the revitalisation of existing ones, ensuring broader access to table tennis across Wales.

## Strategic Investment & Grant Outcomes

The Sport Wales Be Active Wales Fund invested £26,855 into equipment, advanced coaching for 30 new coaches, and inclusive programmes. This directly resulted in an increase in junior participation.

## Future Goals & Sustainable Growth

We plan to extend our schools programme to additional primary schools and establish regional development hubs. Our aim is to increase overall membership by another 15% next year through digital platforms and community challenges, fostering a lifelong love for the sport.



These efforts underscore our commitment to enriching lives through table tennis.

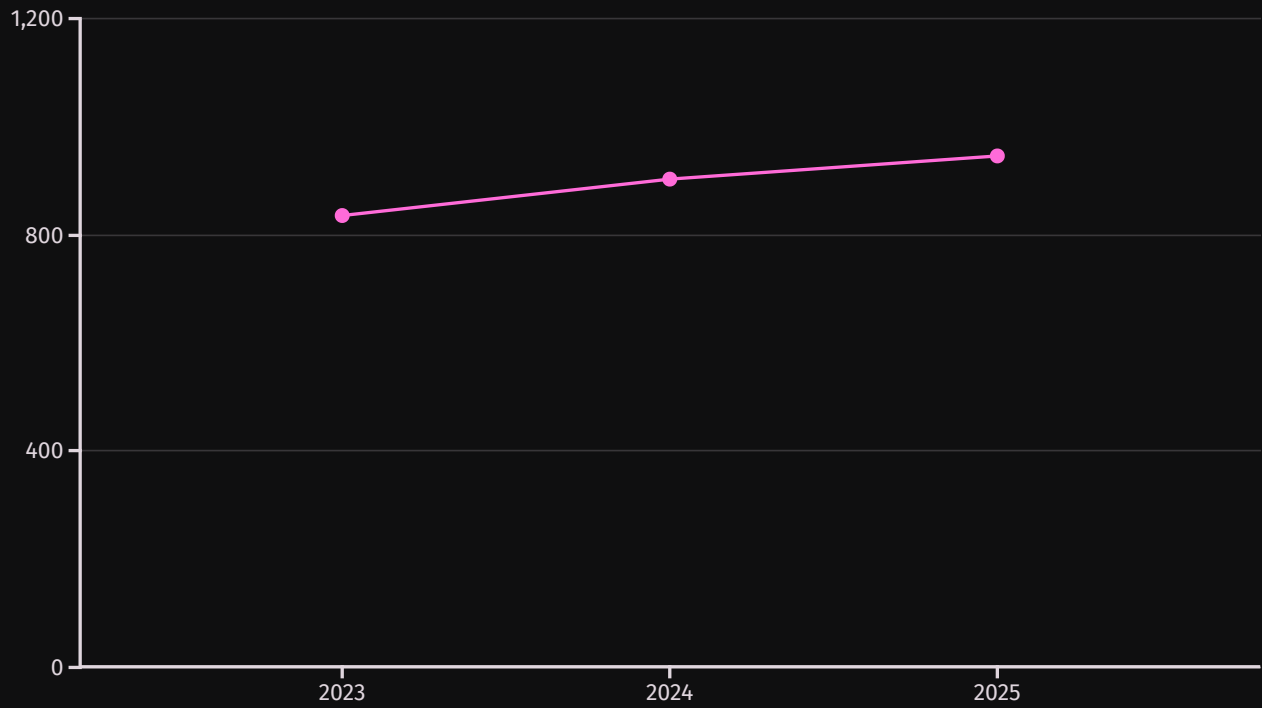


# Membership, Clubs, and Leagues Growth

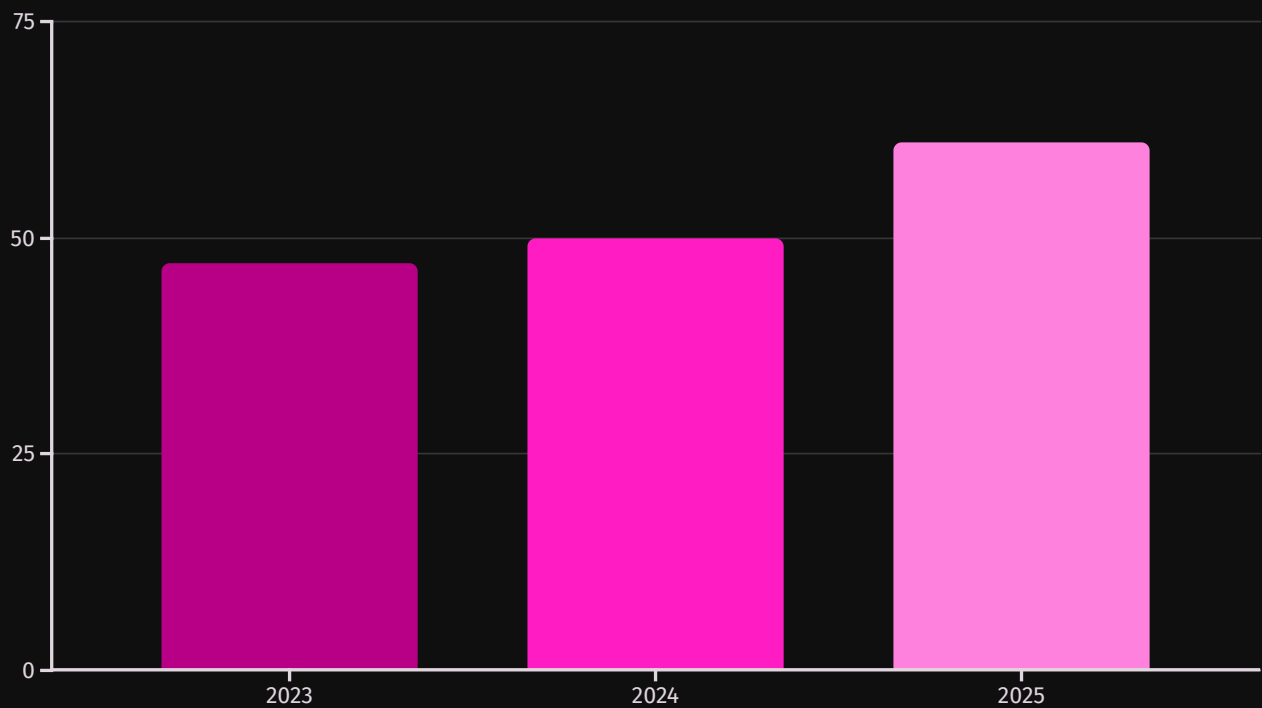
Our commitment to expanding table tennis across the region is clearly reflected in the steady growth of our membership and competition infrastructure over the past three years. The initiatives mentioned earlier, including grassroots engagement and strategic investments, have laid a strong foundation for this positive trend.

## Growth Trends (2023-2025)

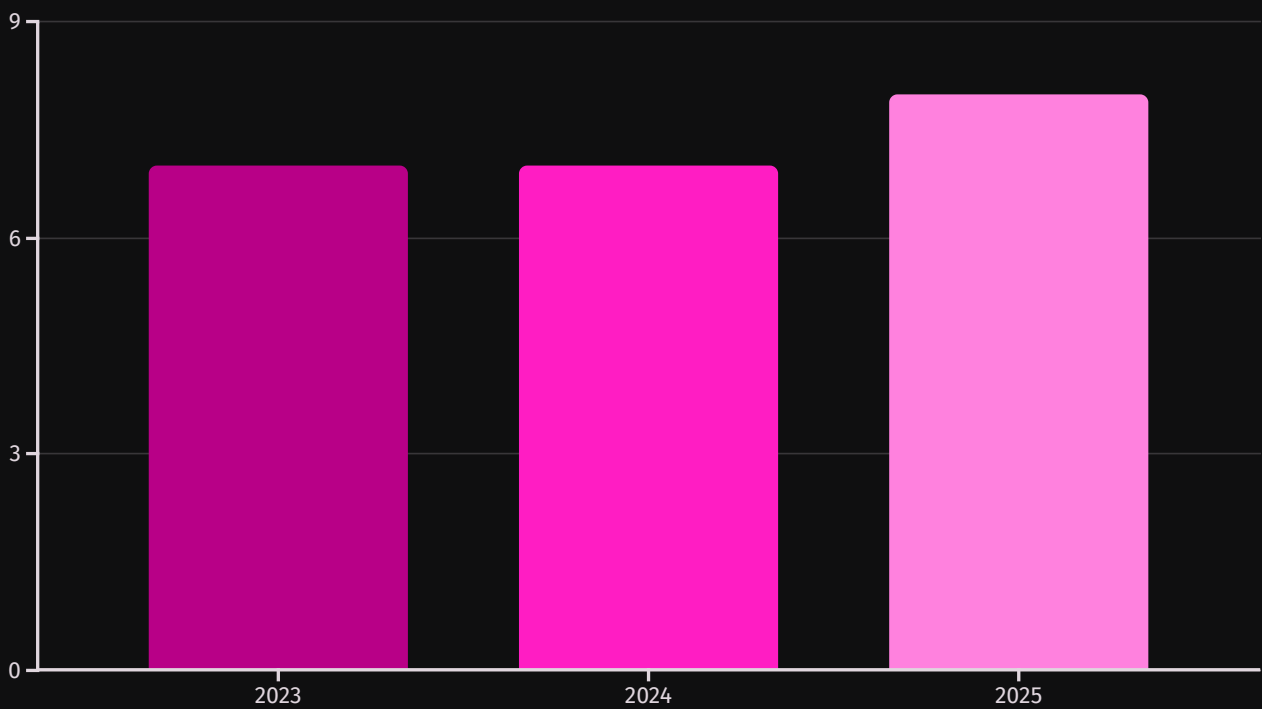
Members Growth



Clubs Growth



Leagues Growth



As the charts illustrate, we have seen consistent growth across all key metrics. Our total membership has increased, demonstrating wider participation in the sport. Similarly, the number of affiliated clubs has grown, indicating our success in establishing and revitalising local table tennis communities. The number of active leagues has also steadily risen, providing more competitive opportunities for our members. This sustained growth underscores the effectiveness of our current strategies and our expanding reach within the community.

Northop TTC



A thriving community engaged in competitive and social play.

Capel Hendre TTC



Focus on new clubs and initiatives.

Bridgend TTC



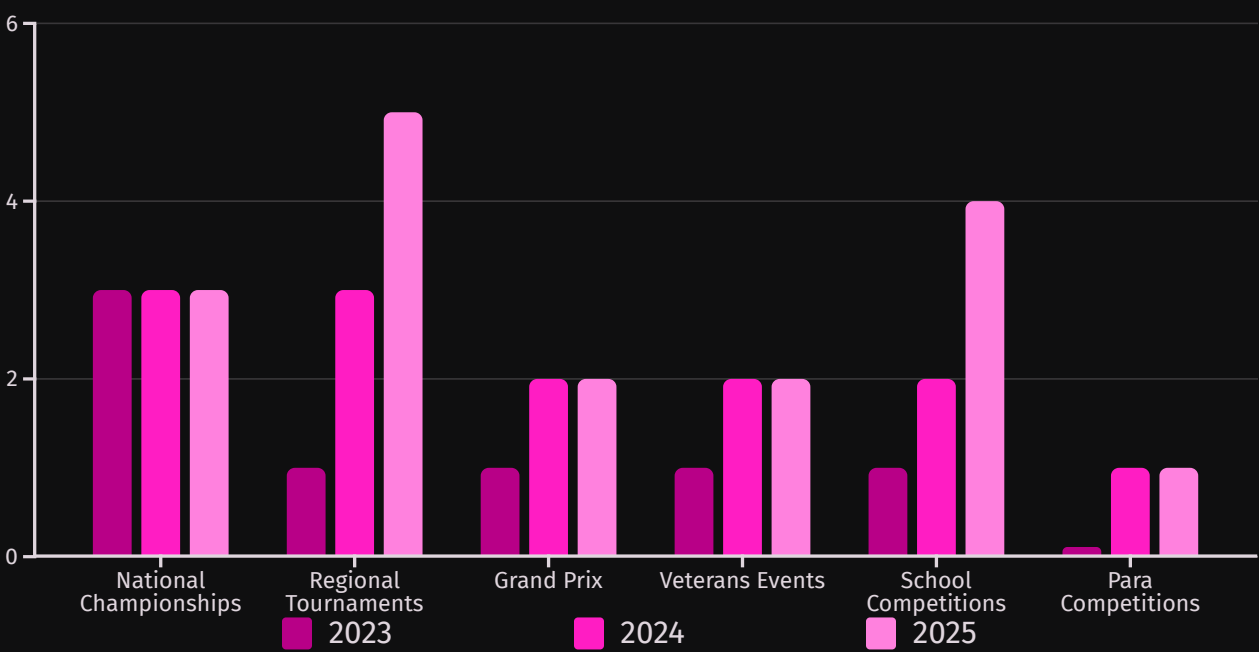
Dedicated to Parkinson's Table Tennis programs.



# TTW Competitions

The sustained increase in membership and club formation has directly fueled the expansion of our competitive calendar. Our focus has been on providing structured and accessible opportunities for players of all ages and abilities, resulting in notable growth across all competition tiers from 2023 to 2025.

## Growth in Competitive Events (2023-2025)



The chart demonstrates consistent annual increases across all competition categories, mirroring the overall growth in participation. Regional Tournaments remain the backbone of our competitive structure, providing frequent local opportunities, while the significant rise in Youth and School Competitions underscores the success of our grassroots engagement strategies.



TTW's competitive calendar is designed to foster talent development from the beginner level (School Competitions) through to the elite level (National Championships). This tiered structure ensures a clear pathway for athletes and maximises competitive engagement across the community.

- Key Success Factor: Ensuring high-quality officiating and accessible venue standards for all officially sanctioned TTW events.



# Performance Excellence

## Anna Hursey's Remarkable Achievements

2024-25 has been particularly exciting, with Anna Hursey delivering extraordinary performances and securing victories at both the European U21 Championship and the European Youth Championships. Her achievements showcase Welsh talent on the international stage. She is currently ranked **54th in the world**.

European U21 Champion

European Youth Champion



# Performance Excellence

## Performance Pathway & Coaching Structure Update

Table Tennis Wales has restructured its performance pathway team. Effective October 18, the new interim Head of Performance Pathway is **Nathan Thomas**. Nathan brings advanced coaching qualifications and a strong track record focusing on modern training methodologies and individualized athlete programs.

### Competitions

Players show commitment through participation in national and international events. Recent highlights include several players reaching quarterfinals in European youth events and consistent top-tier performances in national championships.

### Support Coaches

The coaching team includes Callum Evans, Cerys Evans, Aaron Beech, Sally Yeh, David Webber, Sam Slater, and Lloyd Gregory. Their collective expertise ensures a holistic approach to athlete growth.

### Our Coaching Goals

- 1

**Maintain High Standards:**  
Continuously enhance coaching quality and athlete feedback.
- 2

**Increase Coaching Hours:**  
Target a 20% increase in individual coaching for pathway players.
- 3

**Expand Competition Exposure:**  
Ensure national squad members attend more events annually.
- 4

**Enhance Training Camps:**  
Offer diverse, strategically planned camps, including international exchanges.
- 5

**Qualify for World Championships:**  
Aim for a Girls' Team qualification for the 2026 World Team Championships.
- 6

**Improve School Rankings:**  
Target a higher finish place at international Primary & Secondary School Championships.
- 7

**Build a Commonwealth Team:**  
Develop a competitive team for the 2030 Commonwealth Games, with talent identification starting in 2025.

### Athlete Monitoring System (AMS)

Launching in August/September 2025, the **Athlete Monitoring System (AMS)** will centralize performance data, allowing players and coaches to log results, track training, and monitor feedback for real-time insights and dynamic training adjustments.





# Home Nations Veterans Championship Success

Table Tennis Wales proudly announces outstanding success at the recent Home Nations Table Tennis Championships held at Nottingham Trent University. Our dedicated Wales Veterans team delivered exceptional performances across multiple categories, securing a remarkable haul of medals and demonstrating the enduring talent and commitment within our veteran ranks. These achievements underscore the depth of experience and competitive spirit present in Welsh table tennis, bringing significant recognition to our national program.

## Individual Medal Winners

The individual events saw fierce competition, with several Welsh athletes battling their way to the podium:

- **Lesley Keast – Silver**, Over 60s Ladies Singles. Lesley showcased incredible tenacity throughout the tournament, navigating a challenging draw to reach a well-deserved final. Her strategic play and consistent form were a highlight.
- **Bhanureka Sabaratnam – Bronze**, Over 40s Ladies Singles.
- **Cath Jones – Bronze**, Over 40s Ladies Singles. The strong showing by both Bhanureka and Cath in this highly competitive category highlights the formidable presence of Welsh women in veteran table tennis.
- **Gavin Jones – Bronze**, Over 40s Men's Singles. Gavin's powerful attacks and controlled defense proved a winning combination, securing him a place among the top players.
- **John Hook & Jeff Rigby – Silver**, Over 60s Men's Doubles. A fantastic partnership that saw them overcome several strong pairings with excellent teamwork and tactical awareness.
- **Cath Jones & Delyth North – Silver**, Over 40s Ladies Doubles. This duo demonstrated brilliant communication and seamless coordination, earning them a commendable silver.
- **Lesley Keast & Jane Reeks – Silver**, Over 60s Ladies Doubles. Another impressive silver for Lesley, partnering with Jane to form a resilient and effective doubles team.

## Team Success

Our teams also excelled, demonstrating collective strength and spirit:

- **Over 60s Men's Team – Silver**. A testament to their consistent performance and deep understanding of team dynamics, securing a top-tier finish.
- **Over 40s Ladies Team (Wales A) – Bronze**. This team displayed exceptional cohesion and fought valiantly through tough matches to claim their bronze medal.
- **Over 75s Team – Bronze**. The enduring skill and passion of our most experienced players shone through, proving that age is truly just a number.



These results are a direct reflection of the rigorous preparation and unwavering commitment of our veteran athletes. Many dedicated countless hours to training sessions, focusing on physical conditioning, technical refinement, and strategic game planning. The camaraderie and mutual support within the squad also played a crucial role, creating a positive and competitive environment conducive to success. Coaches worked closely with individuals and teams to fine-tune their skills and mental approach, ensuring they were well-prepared for the intensity of the championships.

"The dedication from our veterans is truly inspiring. Their commitment to training, even while balancing other responsibilities, shows their passion for the sport. Seeing them achieve these results on a national stage fills us with immense pride and serves as a fantastic example for all our aspiring players." - Steve Eades, TTW Director.

Looking ahead, Table Tennis Wales aims to build on this momentum. The success at the Home Nations Veterans Championship reinforces the importance of a strong veterans program and inspires further investment in coaching and development opportunities. Future plans include expanding training camps, increasing participation in international veterans events, and fostering a new generation of veteran players to ensure continued success and enjoyment of table tennis for years to come.

# People Development



## Coaching Qualifications

Level 1 coaches and Level 2 coaches **have** increased. A new agreement with Table Tennis England enables course delivery in Wales.



## Safeguarding Excellence

Building on CPSU Level 2 achievement, we are working towards Level 3. The MyVoice app and monthly courses ensure safe environments.



## Staff Training

We developed a structured staff training system with Cobalt **HR**.

In 2025, a new Table Tennis Wales Activators course was launched, supporting school teachers, young leaders, and club volunteers with engaging techniques for youth participation.



# Making Our Sport Safe

In 2024–25, Table Tennis Wales (TTW) significantly strengthened its member protection efforts. We introduced the **MyVoice system** for anonymous reporting, updated all safety policies, and ensured every club agreed to these new rules. We provided free training and thorough background checks (DBS) for all Club Safeguarding Officers (SGOs). While serious concerns remain rare, we've observed an increase in non-compliance with behavioral guidelines, which TTW is actively addressing. We are committed to achieving **CPSU Level 3 certification** by April 2026, demonstrating our dedication to the highest safety standards.

## Safeguarding Progress & Key Achievements

- Appointed and trained a Deputy Safeguarding Lead.
- Reviewed and updated all safety policies and Codes of Conduct, requiring mandatory agreement from all members, clubs, leagues, and SGOs for 2025–26.
- Established a forum for Safeguarding Officers to share best practices.
- Confirmed all clubs and SGOs possess current DBS checks and training.
- Supported CPSU’s "Keeping Your Child Safe in Sport" Week and regularly updated our governance calendar.

## Challenges & Future Improvements

- Improving parent and club participation remains a challenge; we plan to expand the Parents' Forum and create a new forum for young members.
- Seeking further guidance and support to achieve CPSU Level 3 certification.
- Addressing low attendance at training sessions through earlier advertising and better coordination to prevent duplicate training and increase cost-effectiveness.

## Comprehensive Safety Training Plan (2025–26)

Our goal is to ensure all TTW personnel—board members, staff, coaches, and SGOs—receive appropriate safety training aligned with national standards.

- **Targeted Training:** Board members complete CPSU/ACT training; all paid staff receive child and adult protection training (adult training by Ann Craft Trust); Club SGOs complete Level 1 UK Coaching Safeguarding Training and enhanced DBS checks; all coaches working with TTW complete UK Coaching safety training.
- **Delivery:** We will utilize internal quarterly sessions, in-house trainers, and online modules meeting UK Coaching, Ann Craft Trust, or bespoke TTW standards.

## Governance & Policy Development

We have drafted child-friendly safety policies and a minor concerns policy for feedback. Our equality, diversity, and inclusion (ED&I) policy is now integrated into our safety framework, and TTW's core values are under review to align with our updated strategy.

# Technology & Partnerships

## Technology Investments

- Sport 80 membership platform
- TT Leagues for results and rankings
- Welsh Sport Association - Social Media Support & Finance Plus



## Strategic Partnerships

Partnerships with Disability Sport Wales, Merthyr College, Merthyr Council, Coleg Cambria, Cardiff University, and Bangor University have provided growth opportunities and enhanced facilities.

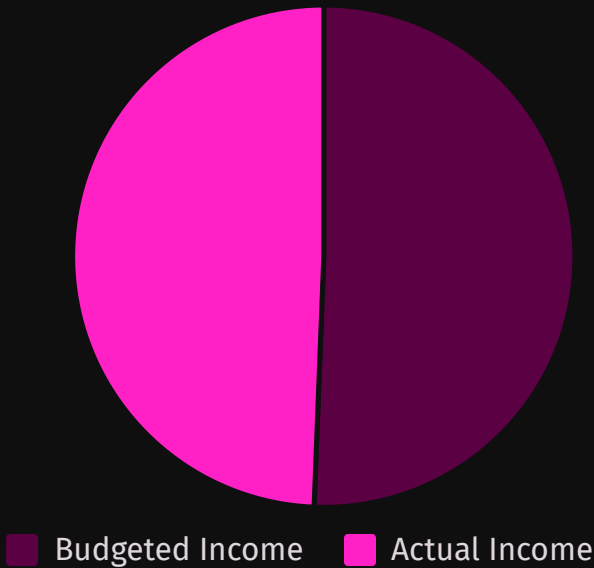
These relationships support inclusive sessions, regional development centres, and high-quality competitive events.

New VX3 supporters kit shop.

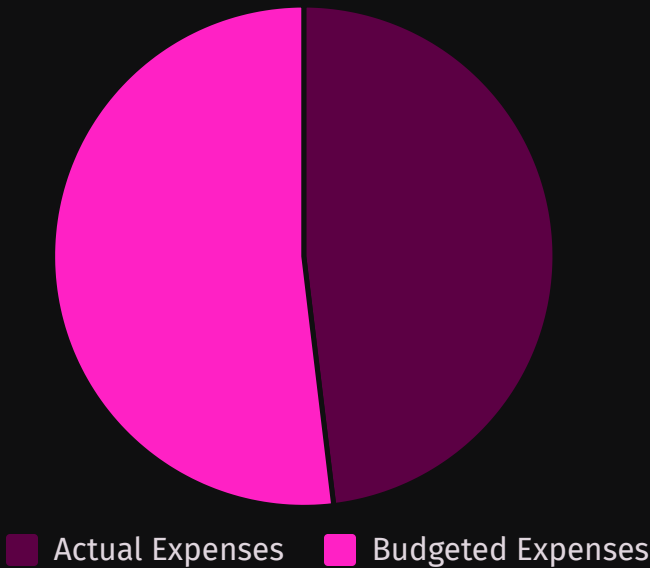


# Financial Summary & Future Focus

## Income Performance



## Expense Performance



**Income:** Overall income for 2024/2025 increased due to growth in grants and commercial activities.

**Expenses:** Overall expenses for 2024/2025 were reduced, reflecting improved operational efficiencies.

**Reserves:** The organisation retains self-generated funds as working capital to manage financial risks and facilitate future reinvestment in our sport. These retained funds are held as cash in interest-bearing bank accounts, ensuring their availability at short notice with no risk to capital.

**Collaborative Engagement:** We continued to engage with Sport Wales to explore enhanced collaboration within the sports sector, aiming to build financial resilience through effective and efficient operational strategies.

### Forward-Looking Summary:

01	02	03
<b>Support for Regional Staffing</b>	<b>Improved Governance</b>	<b>Commercial Growth Initiatives</b>
Continued investment in regional development is a priority.	Focus on securing and increasing grant funding opportunities.	Efforts to increase commercial opportunities and membership.

### Financial Statement Prepared By:

Owen Rodgers, CEO TTW

Andrew Thomas, Chair of Financial Sub-Group, Director of Finance

# Thanks to our Table Tennis Wales Partners



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# Year in Pictures

