

Nottinghamshire Chess Association Annual General Meeting - Draft minutes

Held at West Notts Chess Club, 7.30pm Monday 11th July 2016

Present: A Walker (Chair), A Kenyon (Secretary), S Burke (Treasurer), S Luland, D Griffiths, P Sherlock, N Graham, J Swain, D Sudar, T Walker, B Hayward, D Padvic, M Naylor, R Willoughby, K Walters, C Budd, B Abrahart, M Taylor, S Scott, T Clegg, R Richmond.

1. Apologies: Received from C Holt

T Clegg informed the meeting of the recent death of Paul Mould who was involved in a tragic car accident. Paul was a member of West Notts Chess Club and will be sadly missed. A minute silence was observed to remember Paul. The Association passed its condolences to his wife and family. Steve Burke will be attending the funeral on behalf of the Association.

2. Minutes of previous meetings : Minutes of the previous AGM were accepted and approved. There were a small number of amendments to the minutes of the Rules Revision Meeting which were subsequently accepted.

3. Matters arising: D Sudar requested that draft minutes be available within a shorter time frame as a general aim. It was agreed that this was a desirable aim to work towards.

4. Officers Reports

1. President : the paper presented at the meeting was discussed. A Walker raised awareness of the association being a volunteer organisation and that members should reflect on this when considering standing for office or commentating on issues. Some things have been said during the past year which should not have been said, and the association needs to work together if it is to operate effectively.

2. Secretary: A Kenyon reported that there had been a small number of enquiries during the year, usually relating to the opportunities for junior players to practice and develop their chess. Parents have been made aware of local clubs and encouraged to look into these further.
3. Executive Committee: A Walker presented the report on behalf of the committee. The EC has tried to be more open during the year by releasing minutes promptly and inviting members to attend meetings. There is a need to think about Child Protection Policy/Practice which may require the creation of a responsibility post.
4. Treasurers Report: S Burke reported that the Association had broken even for the year. The Treasurers Report and Auditors Report were accepted. It was agreed that fees will remain the same next year.
5. League Secretary: the report was presented/discussed.
6. Records Secretary: D Griffiths reported that results from league matches had been received on time from captains. Photographing of scoresheets was becoming increasingly popular and was to be encouraged.
7. LMC: Withdrawal of the university first team was the main issue during the year. Members were reminded that the decisions of the LMC were published. D Sudar notified the meeting of his resignation from the LMC.
8. Congress/Rapid Play/County Championship: the report was presented. Next year fees will be higher due to an increase in High School rent. R Richmond would like more members to take the artiber examination to increase capacity within the association. The ECF are proposing that League Management Committees have an arbiter on the committee. It was proposed that the association make a formal representation against this to the ECF. This was accepted unanimously. R Richmond to compose a response and circulate to club secretaries.

9. Match Secretary: Report presented. Nottinghamshire were awarded the Midlands County Championship. There will be a rule change next year with no separate open/minor championship. Notts beat Warwickshire in the U120 final 8-4 to become National Champions. All players receive a personalised email asking if they want to play for county teams. N Graham was thanked for the time he devotes to organising the county teams.

10. Grader: The grading report was presented. WNCC club championship was graded this year. This offer was made to all future club championships in Nottinghamshire.

11a. ECF: report presented and discussed.

11b. MCCU delegates: Congress arranged for 13th August in Walsall. Details are on the website. D Sudar has offered to continue as MCCU representative next year unless anyone wished to take on the role. N Graham attended the MCCU AGM. D Sudar has stood down as non- executive director. D Levens is no longer MCCU Junior Director. Next year's meeting will be held at Rolls Royce on 17th June.

12. Publicity: no report was received. An event was held at Nottingham Train Station on National Chess Day last year but this was not well publicised. D Griffiths asked if a similar event is taking place this year. It was confirmed that it is on Saturday September 10th. This year the ECF are also supporting National Chess Day.

13. Junior chess: report presented. There was a proposal that the cost of the event was covered by the association as opposed to charging players (overall around £150). This was accepted.

14. Schools liaison: no report received.

15. Webmaster: There will be a change of host site due to increasing costs.

5. Election of Officers

The following were proposed and accepted:

President: A Walker

Secretary: TBC (A Kenyon to fill in short term).

Treasurer: S Burke

Executive Committee: R Richmond, M Hill, S Luland, B Abrahart

League Secretary: S Burke

Records Secretary: M Naylor

Congress/ Rapidplay/County Championships: R Richmond

Match Secretary: N Graham

Grader: P Sherlock

Auditor: D Griffiths

ECF Delegate: R Richmond

MCCU Delegate: D Sudar, R Richmond, T Walker, C Budd

School Liaison: D Padvic, D Levens, S Scott, J Swain

Publicity director: D Levens

Special events/blitz: TBC

Webmaster: D Coates

LMC: M Hill, C Budd, N London, C Holt, D Padvic (Reserves: J Litherland, R Myers)

6. Notices: Logo competition - there has been some expression of interest but no entries have as yet been received. The deadline is the end of July.

7. AOB:

- a) Braille chess: a letter was drafted and sent to the ECF. The ECF have responded and said that Steve Thacker is able to continue to use a braille note taker which represents a positive outcome.
- b) Donation to NCA - M Taylor/A Walker have discussed possibilities. The donation can not be regarded as charitable but other options are possible. A Walker to work with C Holt/ R Richmond to discuss further.
- c) Best game prize: All nominations received. S Burke is now looking for a neutral judge. Results will be posted on the website in due course.
- d) Tutors: J Swain has met with Malcolm Pein. Looking to recruit more tutors in the Nottingham area. Anyone interested should get in touch with John. See ECF website for more details.
- e) National Chess Day: It was confirmed that donations received on the day went to the MIND charity.
- f) League teams 2016/17: it was confirmed there will be 40 teams in the league for the coming year.
- g) Child protection: the School Liaison electees are to look into the resolution of the child protection issues and the officer(s) required for that as a matter of urgency over the Summer.

The meeting closed at 9.28pm