

Nottinghamshire Chess Association - General Meeting

Minutes of the General Meeting held at **Bramcote Memorial Hall** on **Tuesday 29th May** at 7:30pm.

Attendees: A N Walker, S Burke, J T Swain, D Padvic, R Dyce, R Richmond, B M Hayward, B T Redburn, N London, C Sargeant, J Litherland, C Holt, C Cumbers, C Hill, M J Hill, P Morgan, S Scott, N Graham, G Jennings, D Sudar, A Robins, M Naylor.

Apologies received from: D Levens, B Abrahart, G Ladds, T Walker.

- 1) A memorial silence was held for Stan Cranmer, who had passed away since the last GM.
- 2) Minutes of the 2017 AGM were formally passed.
- 3) Matters Arising:
 - a. Beeston had taken their place in the association.
 - b. LMC reported that had been no recurrence of abuse.
 - c. Due to the demise of Yorkshire Grades, there will be more ECF members in Yorkshire now.
 - d. LMC had dealt with temporary grade setting process.
 - e. There is no NCA Facebook page.
 - f. The website revamp has been partially achieved and is ongoing.
 - g. The "Food for Thought" question had been considered by LMC without any definite conclusion and was deferred to the AGM.
- 4) A large number of proposals affecting the League Rules, LMCSO, ECSO and Constitution were debated and voted on. The Association Secretary has circulated the revised documents "for comment" prior to publishing them on the website.
A proposal about adding GDPR into the League Rules was officially deferred to the AGM.
- 5) It was decided that, after the 2017/18 season, digital clocks should no longer be given as prizes for Divisional winners of the League. The members were invited to suggest at the AGM what, if anything, should replace this.
- 6) There was a debate on the pros and cons of increasing the top prize in the Congress Open section to £1,000. Basically this would increase the prestige of the event, potentially attracting more titled players who our local players might get to play and, possibly, might increase the number of entries. The downside being that we might simply give away more money for no discernible benefit. The meeting voted to increase the prize for next season.
- 7) The new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which has already come into law on 25 May, was discussed. Ahead of that the secretary had drawn up a policy and a plan for implementation, which the EC had endorsed ahead of that. Individuals details had been removed from the website, pending implementation of the plan. He had also got consent from NCA officers and club representatives to use of email for NCA communications and discussions.

There was a lengthy discussion and several divergent views were expressed on what is actually required, mostly arguing that the plan was doing more than required. No firm conclusion could be reached, so the status quo remains. The secretary along with A Robins, Chris Holt and Simon Scott were delegated to try to sort out what is needed and bring proposals to the AGM.

8) Any Other Business

- a. P Morgan reported that we were going to win promotion from Division 3 after a successful return to Correspondence Chess.
- b. M Hill queried the precedent set by the addition of the new Gambit X team to the second division. There was some discussion that concluded it was an LMC decision to make.
- c. S Scott reported that a Fernwood U19 Girls team had won their ECF championship.
- d. S Scott also mentioned the ECF League Management System. Whether to use this is effectively an LMC decision.
- e. The secretary advised that the date for the AGM had been set for 31st July. It was acknowledged that this is during the ECF Congress, but avoids other date clashes.
- f. The secretary reminded people that there are just a couple of days left for Best Game/Swindle entries.
- g. The secretary advised that he had queried the ECF Council decision to remove the £1 discount for ECF memberships arranged through the NCA, and the ECF Board had reversed that decision for the coming season.
- h. The secretary announced that the following NCA posts would be falling vacant at the AGM (President, Association Secretary, League Secretary, EC Members and the County Team Secretary next year). It is essential that people step forward to fill these posts or the Association will be in serious difficulty.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10:15pm.

S Burke

Association Secretary

30th May 2018