

Minutes of a meeting held on Wed 03/07/19 at The Vale, Mansfield Rd, Arnold

Present: Nick London (league sec), Mike Naylor (records sec), Phil Morgan, Derek Padviss, Jack Litherland, Chris Holt, Andy Robins, Dave Griffiths

Absent: Chris Budd

1. Election of Chair

The Cte had not met face-to-face since July 2018, so no election had been held. Meeting convened by NL in capacity as League Sec, but also outgoing chair.

Agreed that the impending NCA AGM would elect a new Cte anyway, and following that a new chair should be appointed if necessary by email correspondence. Current meeting to be led by NL.

2. Structure and Composition of League for 2019-20 Season

All clubs had registered their intentions with regard to league entries. NL tabled proposed structure for LMC consideration. After discussion the following was **agreed**:

Div 1 – 8 teams, with promotion & relegation as standard

Div 2 - 8 teams, with promotion & relegation as standard

Div 3 – 8 teams, with promotion as standard, but relegation of 1 team. Central 1 retained in Div 3

Div 4 – 8 teams: promotion declined by Gambit 5, so replaced by West Nottm 4.

Relegation of only 1 team; Nomads 3 retained

Div 5 – 10 teams: promotion for Univ 2, West Nottm 4.

EMC2 withdrawn, new teams entered for Grantham, Nomads, Rad/Bingham, W Bridgford

Noted that this structure restores the 8-team division structure, except for div 5 which has a pleasing number of new entrants. Forward notice given that Central 3 may withdraw.

3. ECF League Management System

MN reported that no tangible progress had been made yet to test or set up for 2019-20 season.

With divisions finalised he intended to do some set up and config work, and believed the system could be ready for use next season.

Various methods of distributing workload of inputting results were considered. Noted that

- Derby & District league inputting is done by committee members.
- many local leagues around the country use it with success
- is already used for NCA matches

Agreed that:

- a. Team captains would in principle be responsible for inputting their own match results
- b. Each club to nominate a member to
 - act as local contact to ensure club results are input
 - liaise with Records Secretary on any issues
 - receive and distribute information and briefing on use of the system
- c. MN and NL to liaise on publicising its introduction and briefing of clubs.
Information to be included in League Handbook

- d. Each team captain must continue to complete, sign and retain a paper scorecard as a record of the match, in case of disputes.

4. Grading Guidelines for Matches

The advisory section in the League Handbook providing guidance on Rule C6 was reviewed. A submission from Drag Sudar was discussed; although generally supported in purpose it was felt that the guidance could be simplified. Text on the following lines was agreed:

- a) Use the most recent ECF [3 or 4 digit] standard play grade available up to the past 4 years
- b) Provide an estimated grade, adjusted by agreement with the grading officer, based on any other older or non-ECF sources including rapidplay or FIDE converted grades
- c) Provide a club estimate based on any other evidence such as performance against other club players or internet play ratings

Also agreed that for this season the existing ECF 3 digit gradings would by default be applied, notwithstanding the conversion to 4-digit gradings scheduled for January 2020. LMC would keep under review the impact of this change during the coming season

5. 'Chess in Notts' survey

Results so far and interim report (by NL) reviewed.

Survey was still open and could remain so into next season, with a view to developing proposed changes for RRM in 2020.

Clear appetite amongst some for additional competitions including summer leagues/events, but as ever these depend on a willing organiser.

6. ADDENDUM: Formal Confirmation of Disputed Decision – EMCA 2 vs Gambit 5

This matter was dealt with by email correspondence and votes between LMC members, and resolved during the season. This statement records the matter formally.

- a. Fri 5 Oct 2018: Gambit attended away match with EMCA2 but found no team to play
- b. David Levens (EMCA) claimed no prior knowledge of this fixture, which was subject to a request by EMCA to change from the draft fixture list. The fixture had been announced in a generic email sent by Mike Naylor in early Sept. 2018
- c. Gambit 5 (captain Ken Heath) agreed to play the match on condition that it took place at Gambit's home venue.
- d. Match was re-arranged between captains for 22 Jan 2019.
- e. A few days before the match EMCA decided they could not muster a viable team and that they would not play the match. Forward notice was given to Gambit 5.
- f. League Secretary imposed the standard penalties for a defaulted match, which are:
0-5 loss; + 2 additional penalty match points deduction; + £20 fine
- g. EMCA contested the decision, claiming that they had effectively "resigned" all 5 games in advance rather than defaulted the match.
- h. League Sec put the challenged decision to members of LMC:
→ Penalty match points deduction: 7 in favour, 1 against
→ £20 fine: 6 in favour, 2 against
- i. League Sec's decisions therefore upheld

Nick London, League Secretary
08/07/19