**Rugeley Chess Club**

**2015 Annual General Meeting.**

**Date / Time:**  Tuesday 12th May, called to order at 19:50
**Chair:**             Mike Page / Catherine Hiley took the chair until Mike arrived

**Attendees:**Gordon Attwell, Matt Carr, Rob Fell, David Hadley, Steve Heath, Catherine Hiley, Tony Meakin, Mike Page, Patrick Waller,.

**1.**                  **Apologies for Absence** Karl Blanks, Craig Walker

**2.**                  **Minutes of Last Meeting** Agreed to be a true and accurate record.

**3.**                  **Matters Arising** None

**4.**                  **Reports**

a.                  Chairman.

MP was unavailable at the time, but later thanked Lea Hall for the use of their premises and said who would send a letter of thanks. He also thanked CH for her contribution in running the club and the website.

b.                  Secretary

CH reported that it was good to see some new faces at the club, namely Karl, and Craig.

Still not using the digital clocks for matches, there had been a few issues with digital clocks in the WDCL, mainly Mercia objecting to the use of an unfamiliar DGT3000 taking the literal written rule of winding clocks back after the 30th move as a means of objection. Please note it is everyone’s responsibility to ensure that the clock and board are correctly set. There has been an incident where the fischer timing had been inadvertently used.

Steve was the winner of the WDCL Xmas quiz, it’s a good website and has some useful and fun info on there. Speaking of which Catherine sneaked on to the top 40 board in 36th position.

Matt Carr has volunteered to be Vice President in the WDCL at the next AGM, which is good news for the club. He is also the Grading Officer for the WDCL and our own internal competition and I’d like to thank him on behalf of the club for taking on such an important role. He took it on at very short notice, after the role had been abandoned.

WDCL proposals

Re Rule 13. Use of Clocks (1.1), changes to read:- Delete 1st part and replace with:-‘30 moves in the first 75 min’, - RCC majority voted against

Re Rule 6a):-With reference to ‘\*playing strength’ (line 2), ADD \* & at the end:- ‘[\*For this purpose a grading difference of up to 10 points will be regarded as acceptable]’ Voted in favour.

Dave Amour has decided to leave the club

Sadly, we learned relatively recently, the news of a former member Alan Dobson died last year. A small tribute had been placed on the website.

c.                  Treasurer

AM confirmed that club funds were currently £307.59 in credit. Lea Hall membership was still £4. Cannock league fees were £4 per team.

 i. ECF fees

These are to increase for the coming season to £15, amount TBC.

 ii. Subs

AM felt that subs should increase to £25 adults (bronze ECF) and £14 children, in accordance with the ECF fees. The accounts and the proposal were unanimously accepted.

d.                 Captains

 i.     Wolverhampton Division 2

CH reported that we finished in 7th place, with 10 points, having won 4, drawn 2 and lost 4. It was a close contest only 2 points off 3rd place. CH felt that we struggled with DA not playing in the last 3 games, but we beat Mercia A without DA and so felt that we were able to continue in the division.

The majority of the club played at least 1 game, (11/14) and thanked all the players for their support.

No defaulted boards

 ii.     Cannock Division 2

DA didn’t produce a report so an ad-hoc report was given by CH, everyone in RCC played in the Cannock league except CH, there were no defaulted boards. Notable wins were DH beating R. Marks (122) of Sutton Coldfield. GA beat J. Staniforth (161) and Tony frew against M Sozynski (156) twice, and another player graded 150. Thanks were extended to SH who deputised for DA in the last 3 games.

 iii.     Summer League

In MP’s absence, CH stated that it had been tough to get a team over the summer which meant that we didn’t field a team for 2015, we finished a disappointing bottom position. RF felt that we should field a team in 2016 if at all feasible, and this was agreed unanimously.

**5. Club Championship Tournament**

CH reported that this season’s tournament was a struggle to complete, finishing with a one game final, and unfinished pools. GA suggested that we could have a designated championship match day each month, after much discussion there was general agreement that there should be a dedicated Club Championship day each month, (to be worked around league fixtures) and that a Championship match could take place on another week if desired, but the game is less likely to be played in the ideal environment. There was agreement for the tournament to be played with the same format. The rules should be adhered to and asked that these were readily available.

**6. Club member accolades**

Championship Trophy Catherine Hiley

 Christmas Blitz tournament winner Not held

 End of season Blitz tournament winner TBA

 Player of the Season Mike Page

**7.**     **Season 2014 / 15 Structure**

CH proposed to continue in the WDCL div 2 and to drop down a division in the Cannock league, to allow members who weren’t getting regular WDCL matches some competitive games. There was general surprise at the general playing strength of the div 2 opponents. It was felt that in order to compete, there was a need to drop down a division as long as the grading limits meant that a team could be logistically fielded. This was unanimously accepted by the club.

**8.**     **Club Equipment**

We now have 6 digital clocks, and sufficient boards and pieces.

**9. Rugeleychessclub.co.uk website**

No issues reported with website, MC suggested that we could nominate ourselves on the ECF website, CH to look into this. Voted unanimously.

**10.**     **Election of Officers**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Nominee** | **Proposer** | **Seconded** | **Vote Result** |
| a.  Chairman | MP | CH | SH | unanimous |
| b.  Secretary | CH | PW | AM | unanimous |
| c.  Treasurer | AM | MC | CH | unanimous |
| d.  Captains |
|  | i.  Wolves Div 2 | CH | RF | MC | unanimous |
|  | iii Cannock Div 3 | MP | CH | PW | unanimous |
|  | iv Summer League ‘16 | RF | CH | AM | unanimous |
|  | v Webmaster | CH | GA | SH | unanimous |

**11.**      **Club Tournaments**

CH had paired the Club Championships so that no-one played more than 2 people played last season, no objections noted.

**12.**      **Any Other Business**

PW kindly offered to host the End of Season meal at his house. On Sat 11th July.

CH to look into re-submitting an advert for the club in the Rugeley Advertiser.

RF suggested that we consider The Horns at Slitting Mill for Xmas meal, 15th Dec

Draw for the club championship took place.

Pool A= MC, GA, PW, MP, DH

Pool B = RF, CH, SH, AM, KB

Time of closure of the meeting 21:40