﻿

**Rugeley Chess Club**

**2016 Annual General Meeting Agenda.**

**Date / Time:**  10/05/2016 at 8pm
**Chair:** Mike Page

**Attendees:**Rob Fell,Catherine Hiley**,** Tony Meakin (AM), Mike Page, Luke Sullivan,

Patrick Waller.

**Not Present:**Matt Carr,Steve Heath, Bill Hulley

**1.**                  **Apologies –** Gordon Attwell, Bob Edgar, Dave Hadley,

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

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

**4.**                  **Reports**

a.                  Chairman Report. MP welcomed everyone to the AGM, and felt that we had another successful year. He thanked Matt for running the blitz tournaments, and acknowledged the effort of Cath in running the WDCL team, fielding all 6 boards at some last moments. It was always encouraging to see new faces attending regularly, and welcomed Luke and Bob as official members.

Thanks also went out to Tony for his Treasurer commitments, keeping the club solvent. Thanks also to the management of Lea Hall, noting that Debbie was the new secretary, and thanks to the bar staff. The website is still being effectively utilised and stated that Rugeley is still one of the best value and friendliest chess clubs in the region, and long may it continue.

 b.  Secretary Report. CH reiterated that it was good to see some new faces. Bob and Luke are both a welcome and enthusiastic addition to Rugeley chess club. It has been noted that we are still not using the digital clocks for matches. Please make yourselves familiar with the settings, it should all be preset using #5. A notable mention that Patrick got into the WDCL Top 40 at #3 playing 6, winning 3 and drawing 3.

There is a vacancy for WDCL secretary is anyone is interested. No-one at the AGM volunteered for the position.

Only one league issue, and that involved one of our opponents playing an unregistered player, but we had won the game anyway, and it didn’t have any real impact on the result, and I believe it was a genuine mistake.

Everyone was informed that it is National Chess Day on Saturday, September 10th to support the mental health charity, Mind. Contact davidlevens@chesscoach.co.uk for more details if you’re interested.

WDCL AGM date is 19th May at 7:30pm. Fixture meeting on 6th June at 7:30

CDCL fixture meeting is 5th July at 7:30

 c.                  Treasurer (AM) The account has a healthy sum of £341.61 with an increase of £34.02 from last season.

 i. ECF fees. Direct membership subscriptions and game fees remain unchanged.

 ii. Subs, remain unchanged and stay at £25 adults (bronze ECF) and £14 children. The accounts and the proposal were unanimously accepted.

d.                 Captains

 i.     Wolverhampton Division 2. (CH) This year wasn’t the easiest of seasons as Mike had mentioned earlier with last minute drop outs and with Dave Amour no longer at the club, it meant that almost every member needed to be utilised. Thanks was given to the more fringe players who stepped up when asked. We ended up out of a relegation battle but struggled mid-table. Finishing in 9th place Won 3 Drew 2 Lost 5. No defaulted boards.

 ii.      Cannock Division 3.(MP) Rugeley played 7. Won 4 Drew 2 Lost 1. It was a credit to all members who played that Rugeley were the outright winners of the division 3 league. Well done to all!

**5. Club Championship Tournament-**

Patrick Waller proposed that his amended rules for the club championship tournament to be accepted at the AGM. The rules are pretty similar to the original rules drafted by PW and RF except that there is a tournament controller that oversees that the tournament is played in a timely fashion over the course of the season and is completed in sufficient time to play the final. The rules were read and accepted unanimously.

**6. Club member accolades**

Championship Trophy – Rob Fell

 Christmas Blitz tournament winner – Bob Edgar tied with Patrick Waller

 End of season Blitz tournament winner - TBA

 Player of the Season – \* Patrick Waller

**7.**                  **Season 2015 / 16 Structure** Much discussion was had about the feasibility of having a second Cannock team but with the uncertainty of the Cannock league structure (see proposals) it was agreed that we continue with div 2 team in the WDCL and div 3 team in the CDCL.

**8.**                  **Club Equipment** Matt Carr had already volunteered to get more scoresheets for the club and will be reimbursed. All other equipment was sufficient for our needs for the coming season.

**9. Rugeleychessclub.co.uk website** Not much to report, the members were thanked for their match game contributions and welcomed continued support in this area.

**10.**              **Election of Officers**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Nominee** | **Proposer** | **Seconded** | **Vote Result** |
| a.  Chairman | MP | CH | LS | unanimous |
| b.  Secretary | CH | MP | RF | unanimous |
| c.  Treasurer | AM | CH | MP | unanimous |
| d.  Captains |
|  | i.  Wolves Div 2 | CH | RF | PW | unanimous |
|  | ii. Cannock Div 3 | MP | AM | RF | unanimous |
|  | iii Chase Cup | AM | CH | MP | unanimous |
|  | iv Club champs tournament, controller | PW | MP | CH | unanimous |
|  | v Webmaster | CH | AM | LS | unanimous |

**9.**                  **Club Tournaments** Discussion was based on entering the Chase Cup, it was agreed to enter again. Voting was unanimous.

**10.**             **Any Other Business**

AM mentioned that he would be discussing the club’s situation with the new Lea Hall secretary re: lighting, availability of the room, and the venue’s audited accounts. He will let us know of any response in due course.

End of Season competition – Matt will announce an available date soon

Social calendar events – Pre-season meal, there was some interest in going out socially for a curry but no date set. We agreed in principle, to go out for a Christmas meal, but again a date wasn’t set.

PW wanted to know the criteria for awarding player of the season, and felt that it had been unjustly awarded. \*An appeal was sent to the committee after the AGM and was successful. CH agreed to provide a written criteria for the player of the season award.

Time of closure of the meeting 9:45

**WDCL PROPOSALS**

A.PROPOSALS TO REDUCE THE LEAGUE’S BANK BALANCE

PROPOSAL 1:

'In order to reduce the current cash surplus, the League will offer a rebate to each club based on their contribution of league fees during the last five seasons. The rebate will be £5 per team per season for the last five seasons. i.e. if a club has entered one team for five seasons they will receive £25. During the last five seasons there have been 191 teams competing so the total rebate will be £955.'  [Pro: Rugeley]

PROPOSAL 2:

‘That a fund of between £500 and £750 be established to help develop chess in schools or to assist new community based chess initiatives, within the area covered by the  Wolverhampton & District Chess League; applications for assistance to be made to the League's management committee’ [Pro:Rugeley]

B.PROPOSALS TO AMEND RULE 13 (USE OF CLOCKS), (involving digital clocks)

PROPOSAL 3:

In rule 13.1.(1) to add, after “30 moves in the first 75 minutes, followed by a 15 minute quickplay finish.” the following sentence:

“If digital clocks are available, and the home team so chooses, then the rate of play shall be 30 moves in 70 minutes, followed by an additional 10 minutes to complete the game with 10 seconds per move added throughout (incremental)” [Against: Rugeley]

PROPOSAL 4A: Re Rule 13.Use of Clocks: after ‘1.(2) if both………….finish’:

 ADD:-              ‘OR,

                      (3). If both teams agree before the start of the match, and sufficient digital clocks are available, all moves in 75 minutes with an increment of ten seconds for each move made.’ [Pro Rugeley]

**CDCL PROPOSALS**

Proposals for changes to the Competition Rules

(a) Rule 13 on grading limits will be changed so that the words “shall not exceed the following limits” will read “shall be less than the following limits”.  Proposed by Brian Homewood (Lichfield).

(b) A 4th division is formed where the team grade of the 4 team members totals less than 370 grading points.  Thus rule 13 will have added to the “Division 4 370 ECF” and rule 14 referencing ungraded players will be added “Division 4 55 ECF”.  Proposed by Brian Homewood (Lichfield).

An amendment to this proposal from Peter Oliver (Tamworth) provides that we should retain only three divisions but amend the grading limits in rule 13 as follows: Division 1 600 ECF, Division 2 500 ECF, Division 3 400 ECF.

**Rugeley Chess Club Championship: Rules 2016-7**

1. The competition will be held annually starting as soon as possible after the A.G.M. and finishing by 30th April. The A.G.M. will appoint a tournament controller. The winner shall be awarded the Club Championship trophy at the A.G.M.

2. The tournament controller has the authority to determine any matter relating to the conduct of the championship and may vary these rules if there is good reason. If he wishes, he may also refer any matter arising during the season to the Committee for their decision. If he has a personal interest in or might be seen to gain from such a decision, or it is potentially controversial, he is expected to make such a referral. Any dispute arising during a game should, after stopping the clocks, be referred to the tournament controller. In his absence the highest graded player available and not involved in the game should arbitrate as far as is needed to allow the game to continue.

3. Assuming there are sufficient entrants, there will be two pools and the two highest graded entrants will be placed into different pools. Otherwise the division of the pools shall be made by chance or at the discretion of the controller so as to maximise the possibility of all members playing each other over the years. The winner final shall be determined by a final played between the pool winners.

4. All games will be played in accordance with the generally accepted rules of chess and submitted to the ECF for grading. Games must be completed in a single session but need not necessarily be played at the club. The normal timings will be one hour for 30 moves followed by a 15 minute rapidplay finish but, if both players agree, this may be varied, provided that the total duration of the match is not less than one hour for each player. On evenings during which these matches are played, other members are expected to maintain silence within the vicinity of the board.

5. Within the pools, each player will play against each pool member twice - once with each colour, the order to be determined by lots. Three points are awarded for a win and one for a draw. Pool games must be completed by 31st March. A player who has failed to play a single game by 30th November shall be disqualified. New members may join the competition providing they can play at least one game before that date.

6. In the event that there is a tie in the pools, the lower graded player will progress to the final. The final shall be played over two games during April, with the order being determined by lots. In the event of a tie at 1-1, there would be a third game with colours decided by lots. If that was drawn, the players would play as many 30 minute rapidplay games as necessary to break the tie, alternating colours.