﻿

**Rugeley Chess Club**

**2017 Annual General Meeting Agenda.**

**Date / Time:**  09/05/2017 at 7 :45pm             
**Chair:** Mike Page

**Attendees:** Matt Carr (MC),Rob Fell (RF), Dave Hadley (DH), Catherine Hiley (CH), Bill Hulley (BH), Tony Meakin (AM), Mike Page (MP), Luke Sullivan (LS), Patrick Waller (PW)

**1.**                  **Apologies –** Gordon Attwell, Bob Edgar, James Perks

**2.**                  **Minutes of Last Meeting** Agreed to be a true and accurate record, the minutes are available on the website

**3.**                  **Matters Arising**

CH has provided a written criteria for the player of the season award. (to be discussed)

MC has provided score sheets for the foreseeable future.

**4.**                  **Reports**

a.   Chairman Report. (MP) Mike thanked everyone for turning up and contributing to another successful year. He thanked Lea Hall for providing us with premises to play in, and thanked the secretary for her work running the club. He thanked Matt for running successful quick play tournaments and felt that the newer members of the club had helped to keep the club fresh and vibrant.

b.  Secretary Report. (CH) We have moved rooms to upstairs, it has been booked until the end of this year following positive feedback. The only downside are the lights which are on a motion sensor. The club was asked if they would like the room to be booked until the end of next season. Motion carried unanimously. Members reminded to use digital clocks for matches. Rob Fell was noted to achieve top place in the WDCL Top Player of the season, with Bob at #8 and Catherine at #31. Gordon had dropped out mid-season due to medical reasons but had confirmed that he wishes to return to the club next season. There were no league issues to declare, and the WDCL secretary vacancy was announced but not met with any volunteers.

WDCL AGM date is Wednesday 24th May at 7:30pm at Bushbury.

Fixture meeting on Monday 5th June at 7:30pm at Rushall

CDCL AGM is 16th May at 7:30

Fixture meeting on Tuesday 11th July at 7:30

c. Treasurer (AM). 12 members had paid their subs and thanks to not needing to pay Cannock league fees, and WDCL waivered their fees due to substantial bank balance, the club made a small surplus of £38.02.

i. ECF fees. The ECF wish to increase fees by a £1 for Bronze members.

ii. Subs. To remain at £25

d.  Captains

i.   Wolverhampton Division 2. (CH) Although the club finished in joint 7th place with 7 point, 5th place only had 1 point more. We played 9 games won 2, drew 3 and lost 4, and although we struggled to get a point out of some matches, we gave a good account of ourselves and lost by small margins and drew with the 2nd placed club, Mercia. St Georges had withdrawn early on in the season. No boards had been defaulted this season which was a real positive. The captain was pleased with everyone’s effort and thanked for everyone’s contribution over the season.

ii.   Cannock Division 3.(MP) Another successful season and admitted it had been difficult as many of the top boards fielded a 150 graded player, and so thanked Bill and Cath for filling in the top board. Rugeley finished 2nd out of 8 teams with 16 points, winning 5 games, drawn 1 and lost 1 game to the champions, Wolverhampton.

**5. Club Championship Tournament-** (PW) *See Proposal 1.* **Carried unanimously.**

Patrick felt that it had been a success this year and most of the games had been played this season. There was discussion about the final tie, and it was decided that the current rules worked but could do with tightening up to avoid ambiguity.

**6. Club member accolades**

Championship Trophy – Catherine Hiley

Christmas Blitz tournament winner – Catherine Hiley

End of season Blitz tournament winner – Matt Carr

Player of the Season – Rob Fell

Chairman’s Cup – Bob Edgar

*See Proposal 2,(PW)* **Proposals carried unanimously for all 3 trophies**

**7.**        **Election of Officers**

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

**\***MP agreed to assist LS with the captaincy role if required

**Proposal for Honorary Life Membership (PW)**

(a) That a new category of "honorary life member" be created for longstanding members who have given exceptional service to the club over many years. And that the application of this category requires the agreement of a general meeting of the club. – **Carried unanimously**

(b) That, subject to (a) being agreed, Mike Page be elected as the first honorary life member of Rugeley Chess Club.- **Carried unanimously**

*See Proposal 3(PW)*. **Carried unanimously.**

**8.**         **Season 2017 / 18 Structure** *See Proposal from CDCL,* Rugeley to vote in favour of proposals.

Otherwise no changes to teams.

**9.**         **Club Equipment** MP and AM volunteered to do a stock take of pieces and make sure that the pieces all match, there has been quite a lot of mismatched pieces in boxes of late. AM has bought spare batteries for the clocks. AM to ask Lea Hall whether the chess cupboard could be moved into the computer room.

**10. Rugeleychessclub.co.uk website** No problems with website, everyone seems to like it, and CH thanked everyone for their contributions

**11.**       **Club Tournaments**. *See Proposal 4.* LS made some suggestions to increase the number of club championship matches, and to include a quick play tournament to be played over the summer months. MC was happy to organise the finer details and will inform the committee by the 31st May 2017 how this can be taken forward. Motion carried 5/3 in favour with 1 abstention

**12.**       **Any Other Business**

**Junior Chess (PW)** That the meeting agrees that the Committee may take steps to encourage junior chess in the area with a view to forming a section of junior members within the club. PW volunteered to take this forward.– **Carried unanimously** MC added that Tracey Whitfield may be able to assist in this matter. It was acknowledged that we may need a Safeguarding Officer and may need to adopt the ECF child protection policy .

**Celebrating 50 years of Rugeley Chess Club in 2018** This was met with general agreement that our 50th anniversary should be acknowledged and celebrated. Ideas included taking part in the Rugeley Charter Fair 2018, a social event, a chess event with MC as arbiter, newspaper article about the history of RCC. MP and AM to come up with historical members and event for the website. MP volunteered to look into attracting new members at a local venue ie Wolseley Garden Centre to appeal to other chess players.

General discussion of what might be organised to then be taken forward by the Committee. – **Carried unanimously**

MC announced that the ECF have published some new rules, one is that in a rapid tournament if you don’t play a move and press the clock it is now considered illegal.

PW offered to organise a social event at his home date TBC

Time of closure of the meeting 10:05 by PW.

**Proposals for AGM**

**1) Club Tournament Controller (PW)**

That the post of Club Championship controller be expanded (and renamed) so that it includes the responsibility for overseeing all internal club tournaments.

**2) Rugeley Chess Club Trophies (PW)**

From 2017, three trophies will be awarded at each AGM on the following basis:

**i) Club Championship**

This will be a competition which takes place over the whole season and is open to all members of the club. The format and rules may vary from year to year but will be agreed at the AGM and published on the website. It will be overseen by a tournament controller appointed at the AGM.

**ii) Player of the Season**

This shall be awarded to the player who has performed most strongly in matches representing Rugeley Chess Club over the whole season. The award shall be decided by the Committee on the basis of % score in all matches played, provided it is considered that sufficient matches have been played (at least half of the available matches in one league being an absolute minimum). When two or more players have the same scores the Committee may take into account other factors as they see fit ,eg. absolute grading performance, and their reasons will be explained at the AGM. When a member of the Committee is a contender for the trophy, they shall not take part in the decision.

**iii) Chairman's Cup**

A new trophy known as the Chairman's cup is being instituted. This shall be awarded annually at the AGM, on a proposal from the Chairman which has been agreed by the Committee, to the member considered most deserving of it based on chess performance who is not in receipt of either of the other trophies during the season. Once awarded, the winner will not be considered eligible for this trophy during the following two seasons.

**3) Constitution of the Club Committee (PW)**

That the club Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Club Tournament controller only. Team Captains shall not automatically be Committee members but will be consulted on any matters to be discussed relating to the club teams.

**4) Rapid Club Championship (LS)**

That the club has a rapid champ tournament whether it be a series of classical games or rapid which I think is the more popular choice. Something like a 15+10 incremental. Time to be determined by vote.

**ECF Council Meeting 22nd April 2017**

**2  The Board wish to increase membership fees from September  as follows**

**i. Platinum (adult and junior): £70  increase of £10**

**ii. Gold (adult): £34     increase of £2**

**iii. Gold (junior): £27.50**

**iv. Silver (adult): £23.50  increase of £1.50**

**v. Silver (junior): £17**

**vi. Bronze (adult): £16  increase of  £1**

**vii. Bronze (junior): £9.50**

(c) Minimum membership fees for Member Organisations

£60 (unchanged)

(d) Pay to play fees  (upgrading membership)

i. ECF graded congresses: £7.50   Increase of £0.50  bronze to silver

ii. FIDE rated events: £10.50     Increase of £0.50  silver to gold

**WDCL PROPOSALS**

**A. CHILD PROTECTION POLICY** [Ref: 2016 AGM Minutes-Item 4C]

PROPOSAL 1:

(B) The WDCL recommends that for each Club:

1. It shall have a Child Protection Policy, based on the ECF Child Protection Policy (ECFCPP)\* as far as it is practicable; but which also takes account of the policies of the management of the premises in which it meets*\*[www.englishchess.org.uk/about/ecfdocuments/safeguardingchildrenpolicy]*

2. It shall appoint and have on its Committee a Safeguarding Officer (SO). He/she shall read and be familiar with the ECFCPP.

**B**. **POSSIBLE RULE CHANGES:**

PROPOSAL 4 [Rule 4a]: That the Wolverhampton & District Chess League Divisions 3 and 4 are merged and then also regionalised to create a Wolverhampton & District Chess League Division 3 North, and a Wolverhampton & District Chess League Division 3 South. The Wolverhampton & District Chess League Divisions 1 and 2 would be kept as they are.

[Pro: D Blower (Brewood)]

PROPOSAL 5:Consideration of Amendments to Competition Rule 15(b) *[This has not been discussed by the Committee]*

This meeting proposes that the Rules Committee be asked to examine whether rule 15(b) needs to be changed to reflect the development of mobile devices and, should the committee consider it necessary, to make rule change recommendations to the 2018 AGM.

Specifically, the Rules Committee should consider:

1) Extending the current rule to cover all devices with internet connectivity.

2) Whether there should be a requirement for all such devices brought into the playing area to be switched off and placed in plain sight for the duration of games.

3) How such a requirement as set out in 2) above could be enforced.

4) What penalties should be imposed in the event of a device being activated during the game.

5) Other issues which may arise from the Committee’s deliberations. [Pro: Halesowen Chess Club]

**CDCL PROPOSALS**

Proposals for changes to the Competition Rules

(a) Des Green (Coleshill) proposes that in Division 4 no player should be graded higher than 100.  If approved, existing rule 13 would be renumbered 13(a), and a new rule 13(b) would be inserted to read as follows: “In Division 4, the grading of each player shall be less than 101 ECF”

(b) John Grant (Rushall) is concerned about the small number of teams in Divisions 1 and 2.  He proposes that the League revert to 3 divisions, with the grading limit for Division 1 set at less than 551.  This would effectively combine the present Divisions 1 and 2 with the existing Divisions 3 and 4 being renumbered 2 and 3.