﻿

**Rugeley Chess Club**

**2021 Annual General Meeting Agenda.**

**Date / Time:**  07/09/2021 at 7 :30pm             
**Chair:** Patrick Waller (standing down) Replaced by Bob Edgar

**Attendees:** Patrick Waller, Matt Carr, Bob Edgar, Rob Fell, Catherine Hiley, Jonathon Hunt, Tony Meakin, James Perks, Luke Sullivan, Steve Whatmore.

**Not Present:**

**1.**                  **Apologies –** Bill Hulley, Rory Melough

**2.**                  **Minutes of Last Meeting** Online, taken as a true and accurate record.

**3.**                  **Matters Arising** PW has stepped down as Chairman. Bob Edgar was proposed as Chairman by CH, seconded by SW, unanimously voted in. Bob took over chair

**4.**                  **Reports**

a.   Chairman Report. Nothing to report

b.  Secretary Report. (CH) it was noted that the season 2019-20 had not yet been finalised, we are contenders to win CDCL leagues 2 & 3, WDCL have not yet got plans to restart the league and Covid-19 pandemic has had severe repercussions to over the board chess. The online game has been a success for those wanting to participate. Notable deaths have been Andrew Davies (Brewood), Frank Wood (Wolverhampton), Ken Francis (Mercia) sad losses to the chess community.

WDCL AGM not taken place

CDCL AGM is at Bridgtown Social Club. SW LS & CH to attend 14/09/21

Fixture meeting to be arranged directly after AGM

c. Treasurer (AM) Lea Hall membership has been extended to Dec 31st 2021. We remain solvent however in order to increase funds for the club it was felt that a small increase was required, for replacement sets etc.

i. ECF fees. £18 bronze £27 silver £39 gold

ii. Subs Proposal increasing subs to £30 unanimously accepted Please pay ASAP

**5. Club Championship Tournament- (MC)** Discussion was had between SW and BE re fairness of who the winner should be. BE said that in the true spirit of the Cup the winner should be a decider between the winner of each pool. Rather than the overall winner on points. SW felt that he should win the cup as he had won the most number of games overall and had played statistically a harder pool and although he had initially offered to play Bill in a decider in which he wasn’t the winner of Pool B had to cancel and so Steve felt frustrated that a winner hadn’t been decided on 18 months after the last game was played. The view at the AGM was that a winner should be declared and Steve won on match points. The next Club Champs should be held as before and any alterations to the format should be presented for the next AGM.

**6. Club member accolades**

Summer Rapidplay Tournament – Not held

Christmas Blitz tournament winner – Steve Whatmore (for drawing against D. Howell)

Championship Trophy – Steve Whatmore

U 100 competition – Luke Sullivan

Player of the Season – Ryan Wood

Chairmans Cup – Not held

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

All other officers happy to stand for the 2021-22 season.

CDCL (div 3) captain vacancy – Luke Sullivan

**8.**         **Season 2021 / 22 Structure** *See Proposal 1 (SW)*

There was a general consensus that we wanted to field 2 teams despite Ryan Wood no longer available, there was enough interest to field 2 teams adequately (RF leaves the meeting). Proposal accepted and agreed to field 2 teams captained by LS

**9. Grading system** (MC)

Matt explained that the 4 figure ratings now adopted by the ECF would be updated on the 1st of every month and the club unanimously accepted the proposal.

**10.**       **Club Equipment**

BE said that as MC had donated 6 club sets that the Match sets should be numbered 1 – 6 and be kept separately downstairs to be used as Match Sets only and that each player is responsible for putting their set away at the end of the night ensuring a complete set. All club sets can be played with and will be kept upstairs locked away in the cupboard. TM offered to get the bags numbered. MC has supplied sanitiser to spray the sets and supply batteries for the clocks TM happy to reimburse MC out of club funds.

**11. Rugeleychessclub.co.uk website (CH)**

Been a difficult year for chess but was thankful for the contributors to the website especially Matt on his online tournaments. Felt that the website is still a useful tool in bringing in new interest and felt that people are still reading the website. The last season has not been finalised but will be updated as soon as possible.

**12.**       **Club Tournaments**. MC proposed that we hold a Christmas tournament on 21/12/2021. Unanimous agreement.

**13.**       **Any Other Business.** BE thanked PW as his predecessor adding that his contribution as Chairman had been great, with notable successes as the 50th anniversary tournament and the youth tutoring. BE continued to add that the library group is awaiting for the Covid-19 situation to ease before anything there can be restarted so is happy to take on tutoring sessions before club nights at 6:30 pm for anyone interested.

Time of closure of the meeting 21:05 by Bob Edgar

**Proposals for AGM**

1. **Cannock league format (SW)**

Autumn 2021

We recognise that there are likely to fewer teams, but wish to try to cater for all levels. Accordingly, there will be 2 divisions, and we anticipate that each team will play between 4 and 6 matches between the beginning of October and Christmas. The levels for the divisions are set approximately half way between the levels of the previous divisions. (The figures which follow are the new ratings, with the approximate old gradings in brackets, and the September ratings list will apply throughout).

Division 1: Total rating limit less than 7200

Division 2: Total rating limit less than 6501 (495), unrated player 1275 (77)

Division 3: Total rating limit less than 5801 (401), unrated player 1150 (60)

The Chase Trophy and the Individual tournaments will not run during this period but there will be an opportunity to complete the 2019/20 competitions for those clubs / individuals who wish to do so.

1. **WDCL format**

It is clear that among the 13 clubs few are in a position to definitely confirm their intention to enter the league in 2021-22, so we are not yet in a position to propose a restart of WDCL OTB chess.

We will the arrange for an AGM in October to agree the format of league chess to potentially start in November.

We are open to discussing suspending the WDCL rules for a season and changes to the rules to accommodate the circumstances we find ourselves in.

1. **Grading system (MC)**

With the ECF moving to 4 figure ratings and updating the ratings every month I would like permission to use the ECF LMS to record and rate the games played within the Rugeley Chess Club.

This has the advantage of automatic monthly submissions so the games will always go in on time even if I am away, and given the Cannock League (may) be looking at using it for next season give the club some practice with that system before we have to use it for the league.