

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held on the 31st May 2016 at the Central Division Club

**Meeting opened at 19.35**

Present: Lee Crawford (Vice-Chair), Andrew Bak (Secretary), Karim Khan (Competition Controller) Keith Marsh (Website Editor), Julian Toothill (Bingley), Ihor Lewyk (Bradford), Les Johnson, AJ Lightowler (Central Division), Nigel Redmond (College), Stuart Johnson (Ilkley), Daniel Dufton (Keighley), Derrick Mason (Shipley), Paul Clarke, Sam Scurfield, Karim Khan, Phil Watson (South Bradford), Andy Walker, Ian Jewsbury, Paul Kadzionis, Mike Bramson, Mike Round (Undercliffe)

1. **Apologies**

Dave Barlow, Adrian Arthur, Geoff Briggs, Wil Lilburn-Quick, David Adam, Charles Wood

1. **Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters arising**

The minutes of the last AGM were accepted unanimously with no matters arising.

1. **Chairman’s Report**

Lee Crawford chaired the meeting in Charles Wood’s absence.

* The leagues were exciting although the withdrawal of The Malt was regrettable.
* It was noted that Legion of the Damned achieved the rare feat of being promoted twice in two seasons.
* The Clough was once again very successful.
1. **Secretary’s Report**

The withdrawal of the Malt from Division 3 at the beginning of the season led to an undesirable 8-8-6 structure, meaning teams in Division 3 only played 10 games. The Committee decided that next year would revert back to an 8-7-7 structure, meaning only one team would be promoted from Division 3.

6 yellow cards were awarded this season for breaches of Rule 9a, two higher than last season.

Over the summer, the BDCA invested in 72 digital clocks which have proved popular and have been well utilised throughout the league.

The Clough saw 15 entries – down from 18 last year. However there were no defaulted matches and fewer defaulted boards. The competition was decided on the final board of the final round with the lowest graded team winning the competition.

The Hepolite reverted to the 2013-14 format of a straight knockout. There were 7 defaulted matches and Ilkley C reached the Semi-Finals of the Cup without having played a match. Two of the semi-finals were defaulted. Two of the finals went to replay with there being no obvious replay date – this will be reviewed when constructing the Calendar over the summer. College Grads and Keighley A have agreed to share the Hepolite Plate while the Hepolite Cup will be replayed next season.

1. **Competition Controller’s Report**

Winners:

Barnett – Phil Watson

Parkinson – Kevin Winter

Hutchinson Trophy – Derek Ludlam

Bak Trophy – Paul Budahazi and Dave Young – shared.

In total – 40 entries. Barnett – 10, Parkinson 10, Hutchinson 7, Bak 13.

Although the Latvian Club was a big enough venue, problems with parking particularly on Bradford City nights might have deterred people from entering. Serious consideration to be given to hosting the events at Central Division WMC next season, although it is important not have everything be hosted at one venue.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Andrew Bak reported Dave Barlow’s observations of the finances to the meeting:

* We’re projecting a year-end balance of £2,556.90 compared with £5,479.15 in 2015
* Most of this loss was due to purchasing DGT clocks of £2,600.00
* The Congress was significantly down on entries on last year and approximately 6 below break-even, losing £126. Next year’s increase to non-ECF members entry fees to fall in line with the updated ECF game fees will go some away to addressing this for next year.
* The finances were down to pre-Chesstival numbers which were considered to be healthy.
1. **Election of officers**

**Chairman** No nomination

**Vice Chairman** Adrian Arthur was nominated for the role by Andrew Bak, seconded by Keith Marsh. Elected Unanimously

**President** Sam Scurfield was re-elected unanimously

**Secretary**  Andy Bak was re-elected unanimously

**Treasurer** David Barlow was re-elected unanimously

**Competition Controller** Karim Khan was re-elected unanimously

**Grading Officer**  Paul Clarke was re-elected unanimously

**Press Officer** Wil Lilburn-Quick was re-elected unanimously

**Web Master**  Keith Marsh was re-elected unanimously

**Trophy Secretary** Karim Khan was re-elected unanimously

The lack of nomination of a Chairman was a serious issue that would be discussed over the

summer prior to the Pre-Season Meeting.

1. **Silent Defaults**

Mike Round identified that there was significant inconvenience caused by teams failing to inform captains if there was going to be a defaulted board.

Although silent defaults were not going to be eradicated fully, it was decided that the following plan was to be implemented:

* Ensure all contact details are up to date prior to the handbook’s release and that any updates in contact details be reported on the website and circulated around the captains.
* A reminder to captains at the Pre-Season Meeting that all efforts should be made to communicate known shortages of players to the opposing captain in good time prior to the match.
* The committee will look out for frequent offenders and will take action as appropriate.
1. **Proposals**

**Rule 9**

Current Rule:

*Before a match starts the captains shall write their players in order of playing strength, on their match cards. Any team who fields a player in the wrong position according to current playing strength shall forfeit that board and all the boards below it.*

Proposed Rule:

*The BDCA Secretary will produce a grading list in August and also in the Christmas break. Before a match starts the captains shall write their players in order of grades according to the latest grading list. No player should play on a higher board than a player with a grade that is greater than 10 or more points. For ungraded players and players not on the latest grading list the club must request a grade to be assigned by the BDCA Secretary. Any team who fields a player in the wrong position shall forfeit that board and all the boards below it.*

Proposed by Daniel Dufton

After much discussion, this proposal was amended unanimously to read as follows:

*The BDCA Secretary will produce a grading list on 31st August and 31st December. Before a match starts the captains shall write their players in order of grades according to the latest grading list. No player should play on a higher board than a player with a grade that is greater by 10 or more points. For ungraded players and players not on the latest grading list the club must request a grade to be assigned by the BDCA Secretary. Any team who fields a player in the wrong position shall forfeit that board and all the boards below it.*

**Amended Proposal Carried: 10 For, 7 Against**

**Rule 46**

Current Rule:

*Once a player has played for a team in any Hepolite Competition, they shall be ineligible to play for another team in any of that season’s Hepolite competitions.*

Proposed Rule:

*Once a player has played for a team in any Hepolite Competition, they shall be ineligible to play for another team in any of that season’s Hepolite competitions. Apart from a player who has played on Board 6 for a team, this player will be allowed to play for another team within the same club.*

Proposed by Daniel Dufton

Proposal amended to read “has played **only** on Board 6…” – agreed unanimously.

**Amended proposal carried by a large majority**

**Rule 45a**

Proposed Rule:

Any team who defaults, or fields 3 or fewer players in any match of any of the Hepolite competition will be deemed to be knocked out and therefore eliminated from all Hepolite competitions that year.

Proposed by Daniel Dufton

There was discussion as to whether this rule should read “3 or fewer players” or “2 or fewer players”. A vote was taken on which version of this rule should be considered for a vote. “3 or fewer players” – 6 votes. “2 or fewer players” – 11 votes.

**Amended proposal (“2 or fewer players”) carried – 17 for, 2 against**

**Rule 42**

Add:

*The Hepolite Trophy shall consist of teams of five boards*

Proposed by Andrew Bak

**Rejected – 5 for, 15 against**

1. **AOB**
2. Prior to the meeting, Peter from the charity Happy Memories spoke about their charity – assisting families with ill relatives to cope. The BDCA had agreed to plan to run an event and assist the charity in any way it could. The main events to fundraise for the charity take place on the weekend of Bank Holiday 26th-29th August.
3. Bradford DCA’s 4NCL team has been promoted into Division 2 for the third time. They currently also have two other teams competing in Division 3 North.
4. The Bradford Congress will be taking place 16th-18th September. This has been advertised since January on the internet – paper forms will be circulated round in due course.
5. The Bob Burns will be taking place at the Latvian Club starting 21st June fortnightly. On alternate weeks, light hearted events will be hosted by Bradford Chess Club.
6. Presentation Evening taking place on 7th June 2016 at the Stansfield Arms.
7. Keith Trobridge trophy currently being repaired and will not be ready in time for Presentation Evening.
8. The fixtures threw up anomalous long sequences of home/away matches. This will be looked at for next season, although the fixtures are not trivial to produce with many competing venue requirements.

**Meeting closed at 21.45**