

**Bradford DCA Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting held 6th August 2015 at the Central Division Club, Clayton Lane**

**Present:** C Wood, S Scurfield, A Bak, K Khan, K Marsh, A Arthur, S Swire, A Swire

**Apologies:** D Barlow, L Crawford, W Lilburn-Quick, I Lewyk

**1. Previous month’s meeting minutes**

The previous minutes were agreed by all.

**2. Matters Arising**

Burley Knights have not confirmed their participation in the league, so they will not be entered.

CW visited The Malt at Harden and they have confirmed that they would like to enter a team into the league next year. The premises look to be excellent. John Holliday will play for them to provide a decent top board and provide general guidance about league chess. Central Division will provide the club with sets and boards. The Committee will arrange for some clubs to loan their analogue clocks to help The Malt keep down costs in their first season.

**3. Bradford Congress**

S Swire noted that the Congress had now received three entries. This is not a concern as most people enter much closer to the time. The mailing list has gone out to all 160 names on the list. Chess Direct have also been sent all the forms to take to Congresses etc.

There are currently two entries on the ECF Calendar for the Bradford Congress, one of which has the correct email address and entry form. AB to contact ECF to ask them to remove the other entry.

Ihor Lewyk has confirmed that he is sorting out Peter Purland’s accommodation and will double-check with Winston Williams to confirm that he is OK to be an arbiter, although WW has recently indicated that he is happy to do it. It is unknown if Noel Stewart will be involved in assisting the arbiters this year.

At the recent Yorkshire AGM, it was decided that the Bradford Congress will double-up as the Yorkshire Championships. This means that the best-scoring Yorkshire player in the Open will win an additional £50 funded by the YCA.

GM Nigel Davies will likely be attending the congress with his son Sam. The committee agreed that if Nigel wanted to enter – we could allow him to enter for half price in addition to his son.

The room and the catering have been booked and sorted.

The set-up time needs to be confirmed. Last year, this took place on Friday afternoon. Thursday evening could also be a viable option. This will be arranged.

Now that we have the new digital clocks delivered, we can use these for the Congress instead of using Chess Direct’s. However we would still need their scoresheets.

**4. Secretary’s Report**

Nothing to report.

**5. Competition controller’s report**

All the results of the Bob Burns are now on Chessnuts. Mark Crowther is currently the sole leader on 3/3. All the scores, reports and draws have been updated on the Bradford Chess website.

**6. Treasurer’s Report**

Dave Barlow was not in attendance. Via email, he confirmed the purchase of 75 digital clocks agreed upon at the last meeting and they are being stored at the Latvian Club.

**7. 2015/16 League**

**a) New entries**

As alluded to in 2.Matters arising, the Malt have confirmed their entry for the 2015/16 season. Most of the players are beginners and will be entered into Division 3. Gary Corcoran’s proposed Burley Knights has fallen through and they will not be entering the league.

This left a situation with 8 teams in Div 1, 7 teams in Div 2 and 8 teams in Div 3. The committee felt that it would be better to have a structure of 8-8-7 rather than 8-7-8, which meant a decision had to be made about who was going to be given place in Division 2.

The two most obvious choices were Bradford Destroyers, who finished 6th in Division 2 last season and Undercliffe C, who finished 3rd in Division 3.

The Committee unanimously decided that Bradford Destroyers would remain in Division 2, as they finished 6th in a smaller-than-usual division. Therefore they were more deserving of retaining their place in Division 2.

**b) Calendar**

KM produced a draft calendar that was unanimously accepted. AB to circulate via email and KM to post on website.

**8. Digital Clocks**

The BDCA bought 75 DGT2010 digital clocks that were currently being stored at the Latvian Club. Three of these were acquired for private sale and the other 72 were to be distributed around the league.

It was decided that each of the nine established clubs (i.e. not including the Malt) should be loaned one “set” of six clocks each. In addition, the three biggest clubs, Central Division, Undercliffe and Ilkley will receive a second set. Although Bradford is bigger than these clubs, they already have the original 25 Chesstival clocks that will remain at their club.

As some of these clocks are going to be used at the Congress, we will be able to distribute some of the clocks at the EGM but some will have to be picked up by the clubs after the Congress.

SS enquired about how the clocks would be monitored as we were loaning these out to the clubs. It was decided that some sort of signed agreement would have to be drafted whereby the BDCA can recall the clocks if necessary for events and the clubs agree to recompense the BDCA for any missing clocks or clocks damaged beyond normal wear and tear etc.

**9. “Chesstival Events”**

Daniel Hubbort has regularly been playing with the giant chess sets with Stephen Welham on Wednesday afternoons. He has also been liasing with the Costa Coffee in Centenary Square with the possibility of holding a chess event there on the outside tables at some point. The BDCA are happy to help Daniel out with any organisation that is required.

WLQ informed the Committee that Glyde House are interested in running a chess/poker event. In addition, the new pubs on North Parade are interested in people playing chess there when Bradford City aren’t at home. The Committee will explore these possibilities further.

**10. AOB**

The principal at the “One In a Million” free school near Valley Parade is interested in introducing chess into his school. Nick Mullan and Sam Scurfield have been in touch with the school and will update the Committee on how this goes.

The Yorkshire Champions Challenge did not take place due to a lack of entries.

**11. Next meeting**

The next scheduled meeting is the EGM on Tuesday 8th September, 7.30pm at Central Division WMC. However we may need to arrange another meeting prior to then to discuss the Bradford Congress.