

**Bradford DCA Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting held 4th December 2014 at the Central Division Club, Clayton Lane**

**Present:** C Wood, W Williams, A Bak, W Lilburn-Quick, K Marsh, D Barlow

**Apologies:** L Crawford, J Holliday

**1 Previous month’s meeting minutes**

The previous month’s meeting minutes were approved.

**2 Matters Arising**

None

**3 Secretary’s Report**

All the leagues are being very closely fought, demonstrating great competitiveness across all three divisions.

There has still only been one Yellow Card issued under rule 9a) showing that the tougher rule seems to have had the desired effect.

It was noted that there were many defaulted boards resulting in the loss of handicap points in the latest round of the Clough.

The Individual Lightning will take place on 23rd December at Central Division Working Men’s Club.

**4 Competition Controller’s Report**

The next round will take place on January 20th. WW will circulate the draw as soon as he can. WW thanked Lee Crawford in sending round the results from the previous round, although these do not appear to have been uploaded to Chessnuts yet. AB will email Paul Clarke to get them posted.

Winston indicated his intention to step down as Competition Controller after this season. AB to advertise this position for next season.

**5 Website Editor’s Report**

Nothing to report.

**6 Treasurer’s Report**

Nothing to report.

**7 Clough Trophy**

Wibsey Woodpushers were going to struggle to field a team under the grade limit for future rounds. Other clubs had spare low-rated players that Wibsey could borrow in order that no breaches occured.

Central Outcasts featured two new players in Round 2. It was established that their playing ability was weaker than Adrian Arthur. Therefore they would be given estimated grades of 50 for the Clough, but would nonetheless be allowed to play below Adrian (whose grade is 39).

**8 BDCA Presidency**

AB to advertise this position for next season.

**9 Chesstival**

It was once again agreed that running a Chesstival on the same scale as the previous two years was not a satisfactory option, the cons outweighing the pros.

However it was felt that some of the events surrounding the Chesstival that were cheaper and easier to organise could feature as stand-alone events. Chess could be taken to restaurants, bars, cafes etc for a more casual exposure of chess to the general public. The BDCA own two giant chess sets which could be set up in parks in City Park or in other outdoor venues.

Something would have to be organised to capture beginners who were not ready/not interested in playing league chess. Bradford Chess Club already run a club night on Monday nights, South Bradford might also be able to set up something similar.

These ideas will be fleshed out at the next meeting.

**10 Bradford Chess Club – Rule 22**

On 25th November, Bradford Chess Club had all four teams at home. At short notice, Bradford Knights in Division 1only had five players. Bradford Spitfires (Division 3 team) had a spare player, Chris Stead. However their captain, Wil Lilburn-Quick (WLQ) was not present that evening. Bradford Knights did not appreciate the implications of having Chris Stead substitute in on their vacant Board 6, as WLQ was not there to remind them.

As a result, due to rule 22, Chris would now be ineligible to play for Bradford Spitfires for the rest of the season as he could only drop down to Bradford Destroyers, in Division 2.

WLQ emailed AB asking for this rule to be waived in this circumstance, as there was no malice intended. AB felt unable to waive the rule unilaterally as he was a Bradford Chess Club player and it was agreed that the matter would be discussed at the next Committee Meeting.

The Committee acknowledged that Bradford Chess Club had no bad intentions when choosing to play Chris in the Bradford Knights team. Rule 22 was designed to prevent strong Division 1 players from dropping down to strengthen Division 3 teams. In this instance, Chris Stead had been a regular Spitfires player on the middle boards for the last season and a half.

Therefore the committee unanimously agreed that Rule 22 would be waived in this case and Chris would be allowed to play for Bradford Spitfires for the rest of the season.

**11 AOB**

**11.1 Frank Wigglesworth**

During the second round of the Clough, Frank Wigglesworth suffered an epileptic fit during the game. He was taken to hospital and was discharged later that night. The match was effectively abandoned as Wibsey Woodpushers agreed to draws on all four boards.

**11.2 Summer Rapidplay Competition**

Ihor has proposed that a summer team rapidplay competition be run on alternate weeks to the Bob Burns, based on the Leeds League’s format. The Committee saw no reason to

**11.3 Digital Clocks**

The Committee discussed the possibility of sharing the digital clocks around the league so that more games could be played with the digital clocks. However with the increasing number of events taking place at Bradford Chess Club (Individuals, Bob Burns, Congress), it was felt that the logistics of distributing and collecting the clocks might be too awkward to implement at this time.

Meeting Closed

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 8th January 2015 at Central Division WMC, 8pm.