



Bradford & District Chess Association

Annual General Meeting

23rd May 2023, Q Gardens Sports Club

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Adrian Arthur (Chair), David Barlow, Phil Drury, Mike Bramson, Dave Sykes, Ihor Lewyk, Keith Marsh, Ian Jewsbury, Andrew Walker, Mark Crowther, Phil Watson, Robert Dennington, David Adam, Lee Crawford, Ian Cunningham, Gary Kent, Mick Overend, Oliver Tatlow

1. Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Richard Bowman, Andrew Wainwright, John Holliday and Les Johnson.

2. 2022 AGM Minutes

It was noted in the previous minutes that no entry fee would be collected for the individual tournaments during the 2022 / 23 season. However, this was forgotten, and payments were collected as usual for the competitions.

The minutes were approved by all members present.

3. Chairman's Report [*Adrian Arthur*]

On reflection of the season, it was seen to be an improvement over last year. The collapse of one of Bradford chess club's teams was overcome by the introduction of a third team from South Bradford.

There were a lot of competitive games of chess played across all competitions, and in a very positive spirit.

The chair thanked the contributions of Dave Barlow, Robert Dennington and Lee Crawford for their work on supporting the BDCA through the challenges it faces.

There is a welcome increase in the number of new players at various clubs across Bradford, particularly at Bingley & Keighley, Q Gardens and South Bradford.

Bingley & Keighley, the Chess Centre and South Bradford are all running junior clubs as well, which represents a positive position for getting the next generation of people involved with the association.

4. Treasurer's Report [*David Barlow*]

There have been continued issues in attempting to move the association's bank account to a bank that offers favourable bank charges. This is due to a requirement that the required number of signatories be trustees of the BDCA. Due to the resignation of Matthew Webb as

president, and issue with the association role title of Robert Dennington, there have been obstacles to agreeing new signatories. The required roles need to be Honorary Secretary, Treasurer & President.

The accounts were presented to all at the meeting. The cashflow statement showed a small surplus due to slightly increased league fees. It was noted that prize monies were still to be deducted.

At time of the meeting, only 2 players had failed to register for the ECF, so game fees of £162 have been applied. There was a £40 charge for use of Owlet Hall for the fourth round of the individual tournaments, an unexpected and newly introduced expense at the venue.

Funds left by the estate of Sam Scurfield are still available for suitable requests. The BDCA believes that the funds should be prioritised for junior chess. Andrew Wainwright has so far been the only person to request funds from the pot.

5. League Controller's Report [*Robert Dennington*]

In the league, twenty-one teams entered. During the season, Bradford Spitfires folded, but were replaced at short notice by South Bradford C.

South Bradford A were winners of division 1, Chess Centre Assassins were the division 2 victors and Bingley & Keighley B finished top of division 3. There were three defaulted league matches, and at least one board was defaulted in twelve matches.

In the Hepolite, South Bradford A won the league and the Hepolite Cup, the Chess Centre Crushers won the Hepolite Plate, Knights Of The Square Table won the Hepolite Shield, and Bradford 169 won the Earl Dowry.

The Clough was won by Bingley & Keighley A

6. Election Of Officials

President – Phil Drury

Honorary Treasurer – Dave Barlow

Honorary Secretary – Robert Dennington – *this is an agreed new title for Robert's previous role as league controller*

Chairman – Adrian Arthur

Vice Chairman – John Holliday

Competition Controller – Role removed, adopted within Honorary Secretary's role

Web Editor – Lee Crawford

Grading Officer – Lee Crawford

Press Officer – John Holliday

Trophy Secretary – Dave Barlow

7. Proposed Rule Changes

- a. 17 Each division of the League shall consist of no more than ten teams. All teams shall consist of four boards. A club shall have a maximum of **TWO** teams in any division

Rationale - This will prevent game nights just becoming club nights in all leagues and hopefully encourage some player movement to expand the strength in the league competition for the future. Thus ensuring the strength of the whole league and encouraging new clubs to set up.

For – 8, Against – 5 – **APPROVED**

- b. Matches shall commence promptly at 7:30 pm and clocks shall be started at that time. A player is automatically deemed to have lost their game by default if they have not made a move by the time their clock shows that **30 minutes** has elapsed.

Rationale - 30 minutes is the norm in other standard time control competitions.

Amendment - Matches shall commence promptly at 7:30 pm and clocks shall be started at that time. A player is automatically deemed to have lost their game by default if they have not made a move by the time their clock shows that 30 minutes has elapsed unless captains agree otherwise.

Original: For – 0, Against – 18 - **REJECTED**

Amendment: For – 6, Against – 11 – **REJECTED**

- c. Clough - The winner will be the team which has the highest aggregate of game points and handicap points.

Rationale – *Never explicitly stated in previous rules*

For – 18, Against – 0 – **APPROVED**

- d. Hepolite – Each match will be played over two mini-matches. Both captains will list their players according to the Latest Official Revised Monthly Rapid Rating list for the two mini-matches. No player should play on a higher board than a player with a rating that is greater by 75 or more points. If a player has no rapid rating, then their standard rating should be used.

For – 18, Against – 0 – **APPROVED**

- e. The Hepolite Trophy shall be awarded to the team that finishes in 1st place in the League subject to rule 42. The Hepolite Erl Dowry shall be awarded to the team that finishes in 2nd place. The Hepolite Plate and Shield shall be awarded to teams that field teams below an average rating as determined by the BDCA Competition Controller. ~~no later than before Round 3. This may be decided after Round 5.~~

For – 18, Against – 0 – **APPROVED**

- ~~f. A player may only hold one of these (Totty, Cocking, John Smith and Webster) awards. A player may only win one of Totty, Cocking, John Smith.~~

For – 18, Against – 0 – **APPROVED**

- g. Individuals - The Competition Controller oversees these competitions and their decision on any of these points shall be final. Unfinished or drawn games shall be completed or replayed on or before a date decided by the Competition Controller. REMOVE?

For – 18, Against – 0 – **APPROVED**

- ~~h. Prior to the first event of the season, The produced by the ECF latest ECF Official Revised Monthly Rating will be used for all competitions. As and when the ECF publish updated lists, the Committee will inform all Clubs of when the updated ratings will come into force.~~

For – 18, Against – 0 – **APPROVED**

Updated laws since 1 January 2023 can be found at:

http://rcc.fide.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Laws_of_chess-2023.pdf

8. Any Other Business

- a. Presentation evening – will take place on 6th June at Q Gardens. There was some small demand for a sit down meal. There will be a buffet offering at the cost of £4 per head. There will be a team blitz tournament taking place on the night as well. Teams will be agreed on the night, but will be 5 minute matches. Numbers are to be provided to Adrian Arthue, Dave Barlow or Phil Drury.

- b. The Burns summer tournament - will take place at Q Gardens and starts on 20th June, with rounds every 2 weeks.
- c. AGM 2023/24 – is pencilled in for 21st May 2024. The presentation evening will take place 2 weeks afterwards.
- d. Ilkley Open – This is taking place at Ilkley Grammar School over the 17th-18th June 2023. Details on Ilkley Chess Centre's website.
- e. Potential 2024 congress – Richard Bowman has offered to sponsor prize money if the BDCA decides to run a congress in 2024. Richard proposes for the congress to be named the Bradford & Bingley Chess Congress.
- f. Handbooks – Richard Bowman has requested that handbooks be produced again this season.
- g. Junior Chess – To be updated on the website. Richard Bowman has donated 20 sets to St Joseph's School. 20 further sets have been donated to 3 secondary schools and 53 sets are available to donate in the future.
- h. Advertising – Looking to run an informal club on Saturdays at Bradford Central Library. Volunteers welcome. Food festival taking place at Odsal Stadium on 10/06/2023. Adrian Arthur looking to take a large set and is looking for help.
- i. City Of Culture – Andrew Wainwright filed a request for seeding, which was unfortunately rejected.
- j. League Entries – All entries to be submitted by 1st September. Suggestions that Shipley may only have one team next season.
- k. Carey Trophy – The Carey Trophy was awarded to David Adam for his continued dedication and contributions to both the BDCA and Ilkley Chess Club.
- l. EGM – To take place on 05/09/2023. The venue to be confirmed but expected to be Q Gardens
- m. Boyd – The Boyd to take place on 12/09/2023. The venue to be confirmed.

MEETING CLOSED