

**Bradford DCA Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting held 1st August 2013 at the Central Division Club, Clayton Lane**

**Present:** C Wood, L Crawford, W Williams, A Bak, W Lilburn-Quick, K Marsh, K Khan, I Lewyk

**Apologies:** J Holliday, D Barlow

**1 Previous month’s meeting minutes**

The previous month’s meeting minutes were approved.

**2 Treasurer’s Report**

D Barlow reported in his absence that there was nothing significant t o report

**3 Secretary’s Report**

Andy Bak noted that all clubs had replied on their status for next season. Polish have withdrawn from the league, and a new team, Keighley B are entering. The withdrawal of a 1st division team required discussion on the amended league participants. It was agreed that the 7th place teams from last season would stay up in the 1st and 2nd divisions to maintain the 8 team leagues.

Andy also reaffirmed that Bradford & Idle have merged with the Idle Knights becoming the Bradford Knights. It was also reported that Shipley and Enigma have merged.

8 teams have so far entered the Clough tournament. The draw was agreed to be held in mid-October with a firm date being decided closer to the time.

**4 ECF Grading**

Invitations were sent out to all clubs to participate in the discussion on the first division of the Bradford league becoming graded by the English Chess Federation for the forthcoming season, potentially expanding to all three divisions in future seasons. Representatives from four 1st division teams were present: Bradford 160, South Bradford A, Bingley Bees A and Ilkley A.

Ihor Lewyk noted that other leagues in the area are already ECF graded with positive results in terms of the level of players attending. It was noted that 61% of people playing in Bradford’s 1st division last season were ECF members already, with no additional costs. Game fees for non-ECF members would be £2 per player per match and were initially worked out at a combined cost of £468 for the previous season. It was noted that joining would help support the ECF, would strengthen the status of the league and allow for league games to be ECF graded. Concerns were raised over the potential cost to clubs and individual members who were less interested in chess outside of the Bradford league, and that clubs who called lower league players up to fill 1st division spots would have to fund board fees.

After discussions, it was decided that proposals should be raised for the upcoming EGM to discuss the possibility of 1st division teams participating, or the entire league participating.

**5 A.O.B.**

 **5.1 – Chesstival**

Will Lilburn-Quick confirmed that the bid had been submitted and that an answer was due back around the 6th August. A push on advertising was going to start as soon as the bid had been accepted.

Winston Williams confirmed that the Deputy Lord Mayor would be attending. A photo was taken for the council’s autumn brochure. WL-Q agreed to send photos and text to Keith Marsh for the website.

The committee and Charles Wood in particular noted how pleased they were with progress on the event.

**5.2 – EGM**

Expected to take place on the 10th September. Andy Bak will circulate the date and agenda to the club secretaries.

**11 Next meeting**

Thursday 5th September 2013 at 8pm at the Central Division Club.