BDCA Committee meeting 26th August 2020

Present: Adrian Arthur, Lee Crawford, Andy Wainwright, John Holiday, Wil Quick, Matt Webb, Andy Bak, David Barlow

The meeting happened online.

The committee was saddened to note the passing of two South Bradford players since our last meeting, Winston Williams, former league controller and instigator of Chesstival in the Park, and John Brooke.

Singapore Chess Club has approached BDCA about an online match, as a memorial to Winston. This is recognising that Winston had played in Singapore for a number of years and is still fondly remembered there. It has been suggested that we use Chess.com, perhaps under the existing Bradford group. Wil to contact Chris Wray who is an admin for the Bradford Group. Matt is happy to be made an admin and progress the Singapore match. It was agreed that we propose a 12 board match across various grades. BDCA can not offer prizes for this.

David is chasing up trophies from last season.

Next season:

Any play will be subject to national and local restrictions.

News from clubs where known.

Ilkley – many players are likely to be reluctant to return to OTB in the near future. Hiring the hall may be unaffordable without a large number of players.

Bradford – No news on venue or players (since the meeting, Ihor has shared that the Latvian Club is re-opening and we may be able to have access to the upstairs hall)

Central – Cue gardens in open. Some players are available and keen.

We encourage any clubs which are able to start of with a club night to do this. We encourage clubs to follow ECF guidance on reducing risk available on the ECF website. The ECF have said that they will only grade games which comply with their risk reduction guidance.

Agreed to focus on the league, individuals, Hepolite and Clough. Agree that this season, league and Clough will be 3 boards and Hepolite will remain as 3 boards.

Agreed to aim to run the individuals first for five weeks from the beginning of November to early December, then start on the other competitions in the new year. This should give players an opportunity to get used to play again. It was agreed to spread the individuals over a number of venues. This will reduce the number of players in a room, allowing for distancing, but also means if a venue is unavailable due to Covid, then other venues may have capacity.

Andy Bak will liaise with Karim to take this forward. Subject to local and national guidance, we hope to commence this on Tuesday 3rd November, playing on 10th, 17th, 24th November and 1st December. Each venue will need someone to oversee play. We will trial an online registration system. If a venue has reached its capacity and a player is not registered they will not be able to play, but if there is capacity they can join.

In order to reduce the risk, we will say mask wearing is compulsory. Each club will be asked to provide adequate cleaning materials for players to use after games are completed.

Wil to contact club secretaries to communicate this, and to find out which venues are likely to be open in November.

Annual memorial event.

It was agreed that the final game of the season will become an annual memorial event to commemorate BDCA players who had died the previous year. This will be in place of the team lightning. The Marsha Singh trophy will be awarded. The format will vary from year to year.

It was agreed that the website will add a memorial page to note all BDCA players who have died, with their names and year of death.

Tony Lighthowler archive.

Phil Drury currently has Tony’s collection of paperwork covering BDCA from the 1970s. John can turn this into electronic format.

AOB – The idea of having a BDCA historian was discussed. Enzo Calvini (???) who previously played for Bradford CC had some information on the former Anino Dominio BDCA website. Ihor has further information. David will oversee the updating of the trophy winners list.

Wil asked if anyone could help with his work online chess club.