

**Bradford DCA Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting held 2nd July 2015 at the Central Division Club, Clayton Lane**

**Present:** S Scurfield, A Bak, D Barlow, L Crawford, K Khan, K Marsh, D Mason, P Clarke, A Arthur, S Swire

**Apologies:** C Wood

**1 Previous month’s meeting minutes**

The previous minutes were agreed by all.

**2 Matters Arising**

No new matters were brought to the attention of the committee.

**3 New committee members**

S Scurfield and K Khan attended their first meeting in their new roles as President and Competition Controller. Paperwork is to be completed to add the new signatories to the banking paperwork.

**4. Bradford Congress**

S Swire noted that one entry had been received at this point. Chess direct have received 180 forms for the congress with a further 2000 forms to come.

An electronic copy has been produced for the BDCA website, and a similar one needs to be created for the ECF website.

There is currently some uncertainty about the effect of the increase in ECF fees.

Confirmation is needed on whether W Williams will be participating as an arbiter for the congress.

**5 Secretary’s report**

a. Handbook / Calendar – A Bak is to liaise with K Marsh to pull together the handbook and finalise the calendar for the upcoming season.

b. South Bradford – South Bradford will be moving to a new venue; Slackside Working Men’s Club, 98 Beacon Road, BD6 3EU. The address will be added to the website shortly.

c. Ilkley Hepolite teams – Ilkley will only be entering two teams into the hepolite this season. It was noted that it was unfortunate that Ilkley were unable to get a third team together.

**6 Competition Controller’s report**

K Khan is shadowing W Williams in his new role as competition controller. The first round of the Bob Burns’ summer tournament went according to grade in all games except one. There are twenty four participants and one of the strongest fields in recent years. D Barlow suggested that there could be grading prizes to encourage lower graded players.

Results will be sent to John Griffith for grading and to Keith Marsh to add to the website.

**7. Treasurer’s report**

D Barlow reported that Central’s cheque had been stopped. The BDCA had received a charge from the bank. K Marsh will chase up the reason why.

College have yet to pay.

**8. Ilkley C declining promotion**

As a result of the AGM, it was decided that a final decision was to be made tonight on the issue of who was to take the final spot in the first division. Prior to the final committee vote, further discussion took place. P Clarke noted that Shipley have a good venue. It would be good to have at least one season in the first divison; it would hopefully encourage stronger players to the club. A Bak noted that there had been a historical precedent of the the 7th place team staying up.

P Clarke referred to the AGM where a vote was taken on who should stay up; Shipley were voted 10-5 in favour of going up. D Barlow noted that ultimately it was the choice of the executive committee.

S Scurfield noted that Bradford do currently have one team in the first division, whereas Shipley do not. A Bak wondered what rule would be used for any future situation. D Barlow suggested that maybe there should be some freedom to look at each situation on a case by case basis.

At this point it was suggested that members of Shipley and Bradford leave the room whilst a final discussion was held by the committee. P Clarke requested that they stay to hear the conversation as he didn’t see any value in leaving. All agreed and so everyone was present.

D Barlow who initially agreed with the consensus at the prior committee meeting believed that P Clarke put some very strong arguments across at the AGM and subsequently decided that Shipley should go up.

S Scurfield suggested that the league should reward success and therefore Shipley were worthy to play in the first division. He reiterated that Bradford did already have a team in the first division.

K Khan believed that it was a very hard fought battle in the second division and that Shipley deserved to go up. He noted that Bradford had low points in division one this season.

L Crawford believed that Shipley should go up. He felt that Ilkley C had only earned a promotion spot through unusual means (such as defaults and not having a free week to play South Bradford).

It was therefore agreed that Shipley would be promoted and Bradford 161 would be relegated.

**9. New teams**

a. Burley Knights – Gary Corcoran has submitted a team to A Bak: P Redmond, G Redmond, T Young and three new players. It was decided that they would play in division three as there was not sufficient evidence that the team would be too strong. It was confirmed that College still intended to enter two teams.

b. The Malt at Harden – They are keen to enter a team, and want to play in division 3. There hadn’t been any contact for over a week; it was pointed out that we need to know quickly in order to sort out the fixtures. S Scurfield or A Bak will visit the venue. S Scurfield noted that a possible new team was a very positive move.

**10. Digital Clocks**

It was agreed at the AGM to buy digital clocks. After discussion it was suggested that the DGT 2010 model would be better to purchase, being slightly cheaper than the newer DGT 3000 model but still good quality. It was agreed that £2.5k be made available to purchase clocks and that there were 9 clubs to distribute to. A Bak is to look into the purchase.

**11. Presentation night**

D Barlow noted that there were fewer punters than last year. Maybe a different venue and style should be considered for next year. The committee will discuss nearer the time.

**12. Trophies**

Awards are to be collected.

The Totty Trophy has been reclaimed from Zana Aziz. The top of the trophy is damaged and barely attached. It is being repaired at a cost of £20.

There is uncertainty as to who won the team lightning in 2012-13.

**13. Chesstival**

VMbledon at the VM Lounge – Shipley 4th July. I Lewyk will provide leaflets. There will be a giant chess set and other events. K Marsh will add it to the website. W Lilburn-Quick will DJ there.

W Lilburn-Quick will be borrowing a giant set for the Woodcroft Folk Festival.

12th Sep – Great Horton Fair – there has been a request for the giant sets.

D Hubbort continues to play with the giant sets in Bradford on Wednesdays. He is also in talks with Costa about putting on a small event.

D Hirst is looking to set up a Yorkshire Chesstival next year.

**14. A.O.B.**

a. N Singh disupute – A Walker has dropped his appeal.

**15. Next meeting**

The next meeting will take place at the Central WMC at 8:00pm on 6th August 2015