

**Bradford DCA Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting held 1st October 2015 at the Central Division Club, Clayton Lane**

**Present:** S Scurfield, A Bak, D Barlow, K Khan, K Marsh, A Arthur, S Swire, Wil Lilburn-Quick

**Apologies:** L Crawford, C Wood

**1. Previous month’s meeting minutes**

The previous minutes were agreed by all.

**2. Matters Arising**

All the digital clocks have been delivered to the clubs.

The Boyd was won by Shipley/Undercliffe mixed team.

South Bradford’s venue has been updated on the website.

**3. Bradford Congress**

The Congress ran smoothly but we only received 86 entries, well down on previous years. All the sections saw a roughly equal proportional reduction in numbers.

SS reported that he only received 10 entries via entry forms sent out through Chess Direct, much lower than previous years. 31 entries were received from forms sent through the post and 32 received by SS by email/phone etc with the remainder coming from miscellaneous sources.

Two new events placed during the weeks immediately preceding (4NCL Bolton) and following (Hull Congress brought forward a week) the Congress has led to players picking and choosing their events, leading to lower numbers than expected at all three events.

DB reported that the congress is currently at a surplus of approx. £75 but this does not take into account the estimated £300 ECF game fee bill. However until DB liaises with the ECF about what the current pay-to-play fee is and how many players will likely become ECF members, the final total is uncertain. In the meantime, AB to research what the current pay-to-play fee is and how other congresses are dealing with it.

The refreshments provided by the Latvian Club sold very well as usual.

The location/existence of the Fattorini Cup for the best Bradford player is unknown.

SS to send the pairing cards to Jon Griffith for Chessnuts and ECF grading.

DB to send WLQ the list of prizewinners for publication in Chess Magazine.

The room has been booked for 2016 Congress, 16th-18th Sept. Peter Purland has already cleared the date in his diary so he can be Chief Arbiter once again.

For the 2016 event, KM will create an electronic entry form for the website that will automatically populate the data that SS and RS require.

The grading bands were discussed, particularly the Minor section having relatively weak players being forced to play in the same section as people graded 135. It might be worth awarding a slightly more valuable grading prize for the best U100 player to entice more lower-graded players to enter.

The entry fees and prizes will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

**4. Secretary’s Report**

The Chessnuts live grades were still not available. However on the day of the meeting, it seemed as if some calculations were being made.

Central Darkhorses received a yellow card for breaching Rule 9a which has been acknowledged.

The Malt have postponed their first two fixtures due to a lack of players. While the Committee realised that they needed to be given a little lee-way as they are a brand new club, further postponements will cause great concern.

Central Division should be back to a full amount of players for the rest of the season.

**5. Competition controller’s Report**

KK starting to collect entries. AB to ask players to inform KK of their entry beforehand, although KK will accept entries on the night.

**6. Website Editor’s Report**

KM had been on holiday but everything is now up to date. KK to send KM the final round results of the Bob Burns.

AB will be doing a weekly report for the league to be hosted on the BDCA league page.

**7. Treasurer’s Report**

Some teams did not pick up scoresheets they had requested at the Congress. AB to ask for this in emails to captains.

**8. Hepolite and Clough Draws**

Draws were made for the Hepolite Cup 2nd Round, Shield QF and Clough 1st Round.

**10. AOB**

Engraving for certain trophies needs to be completed. Dave Barlow to liaise with Ihor/Les Johnson as they might have old handbooks that will contain all the previous winners.

The ECF AGM is taking place on 17th October. The BDCA has two votes, one from the league and one from the Congress. DB has been approached by John Reyes to ask if the BDCA would award him our proxy votes. The Committee to liaise with Jon Griffith/Rupert Jones/Ihor Lewyk to ascertain how the BDCA should use our votes and/or award our proxy votes.

**11. Next meeting**

Thursday 5th November at Central Division WMC, 8pm.