

MIDLAND COUNTIES CHESS UNION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

Held at the Rolls Royce Leisure Centre Pavilion, Moor Lane, Allenton, Derby, DE24 9HY on Saturday 25th June 2016 at 2.25pm.

MINUTES

Attending: Neil Graham (Notts), John Grasham (Lincs), John Pattinson (Leics), Peter Sherlock (Lincs), David Levens (Notts), Andrew Toothill (Derbys), Andrew Davies (Staffs), Matthew Carr (Staffs), Jon Lonsdale (Manchester), Ray Collett (Worcs), Roger Brown (Shrops), Mike Boreham (Derbys), Eunice Dolan (Staffs), Andrew Leadbetter (Staffs), Ray Dolan (Staffs)

Before the meeting a minutes silence was held in memory of Cyril Johnson of Leicestershire and Jim Friar of Worcestershire.

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Kevin Gallagher (Derbys), Peter Gibbs (Leics), Glyn Pugh (Shrops), Alex Holowczak (Warks), Alan Leary (Herefords), Richard Collett (Worcs), John Wrench (Worcs), Drag Sudar (Notts), John Pakenham (Warks), Paul Sharratt (Worcs), Robert Milner (Staffs), Simon Gilmore (Derbys)

Due to John Pakenham being unable to attend the meeting, Neil Graham was voted in to stand in as chairman.

2) MINUTES OF THE 2015 AGM

2.1) Accuracy

Apart from a couple of minor spelling errors, the 2015 minutes were approved as being accurate.

2.2) Matters Arising.

Under matters arising NG mentioned the yearbook. PS mentioned the county nominations under section 7 that AL reported could be done later and NG said the discussion paper under section 8 was never heard at the ECF meeting.

3) REPORTS

3.1) President (Peter Gibbs)

PG reported the sad news of Cyril Johnson's passing.

Report accepted

3.2) Chairman (John Pakenham)

There was no report from the chair.

3.3) ECF Delegate (Andrew Davies and Andrew Leadbetter)

AL reported that he had attended the finance meeting in April. He reported there would be no increase in membership fees. There would be facility to upgrade to Gold from Silver membership. There is a proposal to join with Go to have a premises in London. There were changes to how the board is elected and to the County Championships.

Report accepted

3.4) Chief Executive Officer (Ray Dolan)

RD reported on the arbiter's course in Bloxwich, National Chess Day and the ECF Junior Academy. He also made everyone aware of the upcoming MCCU congress at Bloxwich in August.

Report accepted

3.5) Secretary (John Grasham)

JG reported that the 2016 yearbook had not been published.

Report accepted.

3.6) Finance Director (Andrew Leadbetter)

AL reported that there were no major items of expenditure because the MCCU Congress did not fall in the last financial year. He also reported an issue with Santander not crediting cheques but this had now been resolved. He clarified that CJ stood for Cyril Johnson and reported that the accounts had not yet been audited. RC asked if Congress entries could be paid for online. AL said this was possible. RB said that Shropshire already do this.

AL reported that the accounts had not yet been audited and the accounts were approved subject to being audited.

Report accepted

3.7) Director of Junior Chess (David Levens)

DL added to his report that there were now academies for chess around the country and the accredited coach title was meaningless. AD reported that ECF was developing a coaching scheme to develop skills and asked how we encourage more individuals. RC asked if we have any indemnity insurance or a designated Child Protection Officer as we have junior players at the congress. AL reported that we do not but it would be looked into and put in place by the MCCU Congress in August.

Report accepted

3.8) Grading Director (Peter Sherlock)

PS reported that he had submitted all the MCCU preliminary stage results for grading. He noted there was another decrease in activity from last year. He said that some players were still not members of the ECF and their names were available from him on request. JL asked the process for invoicing for game fees. PS explained that the ECF invoices the MCCU then the MCCU invoices the individual counties. It is up to the county how they will collect this money.

Report accepted

3.9) Controller of Inter Counties Teams' Competitions (Peter Sherlock)

PS reported the details of the sections in qualifying. NG said that Staffordshire defaulted their match in the open section at a cost of £100 to both the county and the MCCU. AL said that Staffordshire would be liable for all fines incurred by this.

Report accepted

3.10) Public Relations Director (Ray Collett)

RC provided a combined report for Public Relations Director and Webmaster. He said he was willing to continue with the role that he was doing at the minute but unwilling to take on any new responsibility such as an online payments system for the MCCU Congress.

Report accepted

3.11) Webmaster (Ray Collett)

Report accepted

3.12) Non Executive Directors (Matthew Carr and Drag Sudar)

Both Non Executive Directors told the meeting they had nothing to report.

4) ELECTIONS

4.1) President	Peter Gibbs	Re-elected unopposed
4.2) Chairman	John Pakenham	Re-elected unopposed
4.3) Chief Executive Officer	Ray Dolan	Re-elected unopposed
4.4) Secretary	John Grasham	Re-elected unopposed
4.5) Finance Director	Andrew Leadbetter	Re-elected unopposed
4.6) Director for Junior Chess	Contested	
4.7) Grading Director	Peter Sherlock	Re-elected unopposed
4.8) Events Director	Ray Dolan	Elected unopposed
4.9) Public Relations Director	Ray Collett	Re-elected unopposed
4.10) Webmaster	Ray Collett	Re-elected unopposed
4.11) ECF Delegate	Andrew Leadbetter	Elected unopposed
4.12) Non Executives (Max. 2)	Matthew Carr	Re-elected unopposed
	Eunice Dolan	Elected unopposed
4.13) County Championship Controller	Peter Sherlock	Elected unopposed
4.14) Correspondence Director	Ray Dolan	Elected unopposed

4.6) Director of Junior Chess

David Levens was nominated by John Pattinson and seconded by Andrew Toothill. Andrew Davies was nominated by Andrew Leadbetter and seconded by Matthew Carr. On a vote by members present, Andrew Davies was elected Director of Junior Chess by 7 votes to 6.

RD was asked whether the same person could hold two different directorships. This has happened in the past and there was nothing in the constitution to prevent this.

5) APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR

R. V. H. Butters was re-appointed.

6) LEVY FOR 2016-2017 (ANDREW LEADBETTER)

The levy was kept at £7 per point for the following year. This was accepted without the need for further discussion from delegates.

RC proposed that the union is insured using the ECF policy for indemnity insurance to be in place before the MCCU Congress. This was passed unanimously. AL said the MCCU does not need trophy insurance. JP said a child protection officer needs to be elected. RC said in junior only events directors can appoint a safeguarding officer. RD said that safeguarding courses would be paid for by the MCCU. RC proposed that the MCCU adopts the ECF safeguarding procedures and code of conduct. This was carried unanimously.

7) REVISION OF COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

The full details on the proposed changes can be found under AGM Reports

7.1) Derbyshire proposal: To have white on odd boards for away teams.

Proposal rejected by 12 votes to 1.

7.2) Nottinghamshire proposal: Qualification for a player to be in line with the ECF rulings full stop.

Proposal passed unanimously.

7.3) Nottinghamshire proposal: Default time is one hour after the start of play not time due for play to start.

Proposal passed by 12 votes to 1.

7.4) Nottinghamshire proposal: Neutral arbiters may be present for playoffs instead of shall be present.

Proposal passed unanimously.

7.5) Nottinghamshire proposal: Changing financial penalties when defaults occur on the day.

JP suggested may rather than shall. NG said fines should be collected at the end of the season. RC proposed that notice of defaults should be made in advance via email with the controller cced in.

Proposal for fines to counties: Carried unanimously.

Proposal for levies of fines to be £5 to home team and £10 to away team: Carried unanimously

Amendment from RC: Carried unanimously.

Proposal for fines to be at the discretion of the controller: Carried unanimously.

7.6) Nottinghamshire proposal: Defaults.

Proposal passed unanimously.

7.7) Nottinghamshire proposal: January grades supersede controller's discretion.

JP asked about F grades and RC clarified that August grades are used.

Proposal passed unanimously.

7.8) Nottinghamshire proposal: Have a competition for all MCCU counties in a combined minor and open section.

Staffordshire's decision not to play in the MCCU stages of the competition and their subsequent default of their place in the national stages of the open competition was discussed. It was suggested that counties who qualified would have the choice of whether to be nominated for the open or the minor section nationally.

Proposal passed unanimously.

8) MCCU RECRUITMENT DRIVE

RD said there should be a page on the MCCU website that says if you want to join a chess club, then you can contact the MCCU and one of the officers will get back to you with the details.

9) UNDER 11 TOURNAMENT

This was not discussed as David Levens was not present.

10) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- RD said the mayor of Walsall would be opening the MCCU Congress at Walsall and JG and MC would be there to greet her.
- RD thanked the Rolls Royce Club and Mike Boreham for hosting us and Neil Graham for chairing the meeting at the last minute.

11) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next MCCU AGM would take place on Saturday 17th June 2017 at 2pm to be held again at the Rolls Royce Leisure Centre Pavilion at Derby.

There being no further business the meeting was concluded at 5.42pm.