

MIDLAND COUNTIES' CHESS UNION

President: Eunice Dolan

C.E.O.: Ray Dolan

General Secretary: Paul Sharratt, 10 Foley Street, Kinver DY7 6EP. Tel: 07515 688795, E-mail: JasperS270551@outlook.com

Treasurer: Paul Sharratt

Minutes of an ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held in Rolls Royce Leisure Centre Pavilion, Moor Lane, Allenton DE24 8HY at 14.00 hours on Saturday 22nd June 2024.

Present: Mike Boreham (Derbyshire); Ray Collett (Worcestershire); Eunice Dolan (Staffordshire, President); Ray Dolan (Staffordshire, CEO); Peter Evans (Staffordshire); Aiden Griffiths (Worcestershire); Paul Sharratt (Worcestershire, Treasurer); Peter Sherlock (Lincolnshire); Stephen Smithson (Staffordshire); Tim Walker (Nottinghamshire).

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Roger Brown (Warwickshire); Richard Buxton (Warwickshire); John Hoddy (Derbyshire); Chris Rudd (Nottinghamshire).

2. Minutes of the 2024 AGM

The minutes were agreed.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Reports

4.1 President's report

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked all of the officers for their work during the previous year.

4.2 Chairman's report

The Chairman expressed his ongoing concern about the lack of volunteers to help run the MCCU, and the low level of entries for the various sections of the MCCU Counties' Championship.

4.3 Chief Executive Officer's Report

The 'Generation Game' event had been held at the Ryecroft Community Hub, which had been generously made available at no cost. It had been a successful day.

4.4 Secretary's report

This post remained vacant.

4.5 Finance Director's report

Attempts to access the Santander bank account were ongoing. The responses from the bank had been less than helpful. The Treasurer had met any essential funding requirements personally, with the agreement of the CEO.

4.6 ECF Delegate's report

- (i) Gold and Silver memberships had been merged, leaving 2 categories – Gold and Bronze.
- (ii) The ECF had received Government funding for international events and for support for counties.

4.7 Rating Director's report

The use of LMS had made this process much easier.

4.8 Counties' Championship Controller's report

Lincolnshire, Staffordshire and Worcestershire had entered teams.

The Minor Counties section was won by Lincolnshire, with Worcestershire as runners-up. Lincolnshire had progressed to the national final.

The u1850 section was won by Lincolnshire, with Staffordshire as runners-up.

The u1650 section was won by Lincolnshire, with Worcestershire as runners-up.

The u1450 section was won by Staffordshire, with Worcestershire as runners-up.

Peter informed the meeting that he wished to stand down from his responsibilities. The CEO thanked him for his support in the above roles.

4.9 Safeguarding Officer's report

There was nothing to report.

4.10 Events Director's report

The 'Generation Game' match between adults and juniors had been a success.

4.11 Junior Chess Director's report

A copy of the report had been circulated via email prior to the meeting.

4.12 Public Relations and Webmaster's report

The Webmaster was happy to continue in his role, but would welcome more input and updates from the counties.

5. Election of Officers

The following officers were elected:

- (i) President – Eunice Dolan
- (ii) Chairman – Paul Sharratt
- (iii) CEO – Ray Dolan
- (iv) Secretary – Paul Sharratt
- (v) Finance Director – Paul Sharratt

- (vi) ECF Delegate – Tim Walker
- (vii) Director of Rating/Counties' Championship Controller – Stephen Smithson
- (viii) Events Director – Ray Dolan
- (ix) Director of Junior Chess – Tim Walker
- (x) Public Relations Director – Ray Dolan
- (xi) Webmaster – Ray Collett
- (xii) Non-Executive Directors – John Pattinson and Peter Evans

6. Appointment of Auditor

Vacant

7. Levy for 2024-5

This was deferred to await the reopening of the Santander bank account

8. County Championships 2024-5

It was agreed that more counties should be encouraged to participate, and that the priority sections for entries should be the Minor Counties and the u1650 competitions.

9. Proposal to change to charitable status

This was discussed, but not pursued at this time.

10. AOB

- (i) A suggestion was made that meetings in future be held via Zoom, to save the cost of the venue and the cost of travel.
- (ii) Eunice Dolan and Peter Evans were elected as trustees for the bank account

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 16:40