

## BUCKS COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the BCCA, Held at the Bourne End Community Centre on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2010

#### 1. Present

Nick Butland (Chairman), Jon Melsom, Roger de Coverly, David Langford, Graham Brown, Dave Turner, Andrew Hill, Brian Hicks, Ian Hall, Frank Rich, Neville Belinfante, Carl Weaver, Kevin Hawkins, Andrew Smith, Fred Day

#### 2. Apologies

Joan Gardner, Chris Stothert, Brian Lacey

#### 3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The previous minutes were approved nem con.

#### 4. Matters Arising (not covered in this agenda)

- JM had circulated note on use of digital clocks to club secretaries.
- JM referred to the untimely death of Mike Mobbs last summer. A former pupil of the RGS – HW, he had been an active Wycombe club member for over forty years, as well as representing the county, and he will be sorely missed.
- FD updated the meeting regarding the health of our President, Alex, which, sadly, had deteriorated. Sympathy with Alex and his family was expressed. FD will maintain contact with his daughter.

#### 5. Treasurer's Report and Budget for 2010/11:

CW tabled the draft accounts, which showed a small loss of £8.05 on the season, and left county holdings at the Bank and Building Society totalling £1688.55. It was noted that charges for county match room hire would increase from £20 to £33, and ECF grading fees from 50p per half board to 54p, somewhat higher than expected. (See also NB's comments re ECF finances below).

After discussion the following were unanimously agreed for next season:

- Club Subs to BCCA £20
- Club Competition Entry Fees (*was £40*) £45/team
- Club Competition prizes Div 1 £50
- Club Competition prizes Div 2 £35
- Individual Competition Entry fee (*was £7.00*) £7.50,
- Individual Divisional Prizes £30 Top section, £20 others
- The new ECF Grading fee (*was £0.50*). is £0.54/half game,
- County match board fee for adults(*was £3*), to be £4 (Juniors £2) for home games only and, because of travelling costs, will remain at zero for away games.
- Continuation of our £50 subscription to the SCCU

#### 6. Secretary's /Individual Controller's Report

FD first referred to the resignations of certain officers since the last AGM:

- For health reasons, u200 Match Captain Brian Hicks wishes to hand over the u200 team captaincy, although he will be happy to assist the new incumbent.
- Also for health reasons, Chris Stothert resigned as u150 captain at start of season, when Andrew Hill stepped in, very effectively.
- Chris also resigned from the captaincy of u125 adult/junior mixed team at end of season - Isobel Howe has kindly offered to take over the role.

- Brian Lacey, also at start of season. Brian later agreed to take up role proposed by Neville at the April Exec, which lead to a Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> May, - see JM's report below.

The Chairman expressed the thanks of the Association to the retiring officers.

As mentioned above, Alex's health has sadly deteriorated, and he could not be consulted about the President's Prize. In consequence, the Executive Committee had agreed that it should be financed through county funds.

FD was slowly compiling material on Bucks Chess History since 1982, when the late Alan Cox had published a booklet to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bucks CCCA. He would welcome contributions from anyone concerning their own clubs and developments/people of interest .

### **7. Individual Competition**

FD reviewed the Divisional winners;

- Div 1 – Herby Ferris the winner, after a play-off with Dave Turner.
- Div 2 – Darrell Watson.
- Div 3 – Richard Cranston

Some promotion and relegation issues were awaiting resolution through more play-offs, but the current league tables could be seen on the Bucks website, which DT had regularly updated with results as they came in throughout the season.

### **8. Club Championship Controller's Report**

JM reviewed the season, which had seen Aylesbury 1 win the Club Championship, bouncing back after spending the previous season in Div 2. Wycombe and Hazlemere 2 had just pipped Aylesbury 2 to the Div 2 promotion place, and Slough 1 would be relegated to Div 2. See league tables on Bucks website, from which match details can also be accessed.

Although no major disputes had been presented to JM for resolution, he was aware of a number of minor incidents settled at club level. He believed that most of these arose through lack of knowledge of the rules, and he was concerned that some involved seemingly unsporting behaviour towards juniors. In the ensuing lengthy discussion, the responsibilities of team captains and players were highlighted, and JM will consider the review and re-issue of a (rules) Guidance Note prepared three years ago by RdeC.

### **9. County Chess - Captains' Reports**

In summary:

- U200 – BH said that in the matches played , we lost all five, some by the narrowest of margins, and there had been a team default on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec v Berks, because it clashed with another event involving a number of our key players.
- U150 – AH's team had won 3 and lost two of the matches played, and there had been a team default by Berkshire, in one match, giving us 4/6, and second place - higher than for some time.
- U125 Mixed – CS's team had won one, drawn one, and, by the narrowest of margins, lost two, Chris being enthused by his juniors' performances..

Details of all of these matches can be accessed on the Chilterns League website, also see captains reports on the Bucks website.

At the end of season Chilterns meeting, it had apparently been agreed to accept, although opposed by Bucks reps, an optional change of move rate from "36 moves in one and a half hours, plus 30 minutes for all remaining moves" to "all moves in two hours". RdeC thought this might result in more disputes over

the application of the FIDE Laws, Rule 10.2 concerning rapid play finishes. BH will seek confirmation of his understanding of the change.

Provisional Chilterns League fixture dates had been agreed at the meeting. RdeC pointed out a possible clash with the London International Classic, and that dates range to avoid was Dec 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> 2010. BH will seek amendment of one affected fixture.

## **10. Junior Chess**

JM (detailed report on Bucks website) summarised his efforts to assist the BYCA in setting up a new committee structure and organisation, the main problems being lack of volunteers, and poor communications and co-ordination of initiatives. However at a meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May, there were indications that a committee might be in place for next season, though it had not been possible to formalise this on the night. He referred to the separate needs of primary schools and secondary school youth chess, the success of the recent Mega-finals at WHS (organised for 150 juniors by Paul Basham), and also the achievements of county juniors, the latter elaborated on by NB as under:

- James Foster (Aylesbury) - Represented England at last year's European Youth Championships. Been selected to represent England at the Under 16 Olympiad later this year.
- Sam Walker (W & H) - Represented England at last year's Under 16 Olympiad  
William Claridge-Hansen (Aylesbury) - Joint winner of the British Under 10s last summer. Winner of the London Junior Under 10s with 7/7. Qualified for the England Under 11 team. Selected to represent England at the European Union Under 10 Championships later this year.
- Oscar Needham (Hamilton School) - Played for Wales Under 11 team
- Matthew Saunders (W & H) - Played for England Under 14s in matches against Scotland, Ireland and Wales last summer
- Elliot & Harvey Klyne (both W & H) - playing for South West England this weekend against Wales at U10 and U14 level..

With only Aylesbury and W&H showing active interest in promoting Junior chess, Neville B urged other clubs to be represented at events such as the mega-finals, so that juniors would know where to progress after school.

**(Secretary's Note:** Since the meeting JM has resigned, and a Steering Committee, with Hans Hansen as acting chairman, has been formed to ensure that Bucks is in a position to compete in English Primary Schools Chess Association (EPSCA) championships)

## **11. ECF/SCCU Matters**

Neville B referred to the financial plight of the ECF, following the reduction of government grant from £60K to £45K, and explained how they had been cutting expenditure as well as increasing income through grading fees, and they may also leave the Battle office for cheaper accommodation. He had supported the grading fee increase, but would vote in accordance with county wishes, if and when so delegated. His full report is on the Bucks Website.

## 12. Presentation of the Presentation of Trophies/Prizes

The Chairman presented trophies and prizes as under:

- President's Prize :Hans Hansen (for playing performance and services to junior chess)
- Club Championship Shield Winners (Aylesbury 1)
- Club Championship Div 2 Winners (Wycombe & Hazlemere 2))
- Individual Competition Cup Winner (Herby Ferris, after play-off with Dave Turner)
- Individual Div 2 Winner ( Darrel Watson)
- Individual Div 3 Winner ( Richard Cranston)
- Best Game Prize: Nick Butland

## 13. Congresses and Other Events

- Bucks and Berks Congress - 46<sup>th</sup> Berks & Bucks Chess Congress  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2010 at

Polehampton C.of E. Junior School  
Kibblewhite Crescent, Twyford  
Berkshire RG10 9AX

Entry Forms can be downloaded from the Bucks Website.

- Bourne End Rapid-play – next planned for Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2011

## 14. Consideration of proposed amendments to the Constitution

The following minor addition to Schedule 1, Rule 42 , was agreed nem con, and will bring Schedule 1 into line with the corresponding clause in Schedule 2

“Each player. *unless physically handicapped*, shall keep a game score up-to-date unless less than FIVE minutes remains on his/her clock, but a draw by repetition of moves cannot be claimed unless an up-to-date score has been kept.”

## 15. Election Of Officers

- a) Chairman : Nick Butland
- b) Secretary: Fred Day
- c) Treasurer: Carl Weaver
- d) Match Captains
  - Chilterns u-200: Brian Hicks (pro tem, other nominees declined – volunteers? )
  - u-150 : Andrew Hill
  - u-125: Isabel Howe
- e) Club Championship Controller: Jon Melsom
- f) Individual Competition Controller: Fred Day
- g) Grading Officer/Webmaster: Dave Turner
- h) Junior Chairman: Jon Melsom
- i) BCF Representative: Neville Belinfante

**NOTE: If any elected officer does not want their details published in the ECF Yearbook or the internet, as has been done previously, please advise Dave Turner and the Secretary immediately.**

## 2. Any other business

- Best Game Prize – the chairman asked that clubs request their members to submit entries to him as soon as possible.
- In the absence of other business, he Chairman thanked members for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at approximately 10.30pm