**2024 SNCL AGM Minutes**

**Held at 21st of April at 2:30pm in Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline**

**Present**: Stephen Smith (chair), Glynis Grant (organiser), Karen Howie, John McNicoll, Donald Wilson, Ruairidh McKay (minutes) & teams and team representatives on the floor

**Apologies**: Andy Howie

Meeting brought to order and chaired by Stephen.

Chief Arbiter’s Report read by Karen Howie on behalf of Andy Howie in his absence (AH at Candidates in Toronto).

Treasurer's and Organiser’s Reports given by Glynis.

Raj Bhopal (Edinburgh): Spoke in favour of continuing with 9 rounds and 5 days, particularly in the light of it allowing for norm chances.

Ian Shields (Queen’s Park) speaking in favour of 9 rounds as well. Wondering about 3 rounds a day. Alex McFarlane pointed out that this would not be compatible with offering norms and others saw 3 rounds a day as impractical.

Duncan Campbell (Oban): To stay with 9 rounds over 5 days. Wondering whether £150 per team would allow for the chance to build up a financial surplus.

David Findlay (Dundee): Spoke in favour of moves to increase to £150 per team retaining 10 teams per Division.

Stephen asking over vote from captains. Vote was overwhelmingly carried.

**ACTION: Motion to increase team entry fee to £150 overwhelming carried to start next season**

Jonathan Grant asking whether teams could go up to 6.. He was wondering whether a study could be done to see whether it could be possible. Discussion from floor showed different views around ideal number of players in team (There was also a thought that this could be looked at once we are in the new venue. Glynis will look at some point to get in touch with teams – possibly with a questionnaire around whether to vary the number of players in each team to either 4 or 6.

Results of SNCL this year announced including Giant Killer prize.

**Elections**

Chair – Stephen proposed by Glynis seconded by Duncan Campbell. Voted in.

Treasurer and Organiser Glynis proposed by Stephen and seconded by Thor. Voted in.

Chief Arbiter Andy Howie proposed by Duncan Campbell and seconded by Stephen. Voted in.

Discussion started by Ian Robertson (Dunfermline) around proposal to use FIDE ratings as a primary measure for deciding on board order from next season. Others from Division 1 teams firmly in favour of this motion but people from lower division teams were pointing out the impracticality of this from their perspective. Andy Howie’s views on this from Chief Arbiter’s Report were read out for consideration. Ruairidh McKay pointed out that from a practical arbiter’s perspective, doing this for Division 1 could be possible but this would be difficult for lower divisions. Following further discussion, Ian Robertson made proposal around using FIDE rating in Division 1 +/- 50 point allowance for board order but keeping the rules around Divisions 2 and 3 board order the same as before with Chess Scotland using live grading. This was voted on and carried.

**ACTION:**  **Motion on proposal to use FIDE ratings for board order with a +\- 50 point allowance in Division 1 only (rules for other Division board order to remain as before using Chess Scotland live grading). This was overwhelmingly carried to start next season.**

Minutes by Ruairidh McKay

21st of April 2024