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Chess Scotland Annual General Meeting 2015

29th August, 2015

Novotel Hotel, Glasgow

12:00

Attendees

Liz Sams, Karen Howie, Fiona Petrie, Ken Stewart, Alan Borwell, Andrew Muir, Stephen Mannion Snr, Jim Webster, Douglas Bryson, Alastair White, Andy Howie, Alex Gillies, John McNicoll, George Murphy, Stephen Hilton, Gerald Bonner, Gary McPheator, John Henderson, Harry Marron, Gerald Lobley, Steve Sawaryn, Paul MacDonald, Walter Buchannan, Mark Sanger, Derek Howie, Ian Brownlee, Alan Jelfs, David Congalton, Jim Mearns, Richard Jennings, Norman Lindsay, Roy Smeeton, Peter Smith, Andy McCulloch, Colin Paterson

Agenda

Andy Howie made a short statement on behalf of Hamish Glen who has resigned as President of Chess Scotland, Andy proposed that Steve Mannion chair meeting – approved.

1. Apologies for absence

Hamish Glen, Linda McCusker

2. Minutes of last AGM and matters arising therefrom (The minutes are available on the CS website)

George Murphy has proposed the approval of the minutes of the last meeting, Fiona Petrie seconded. Two minor amendments had been made, spelling and person missing off attendance sheet. Approved.

3. Approval of Annual Report, including accounts for year ending 30 April 2015 (The report and accounts are available on the CS website)

President. Report as published

Executive Director Report as published



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Finance Director

Link to Accounts on CS website not working, this will be addressed. David gave an overview of the financial position and highlighted the major expenses including Olympiad and Commonwealth. Number of tournaments down and membership numbers down. Derek Howie queried deficit. Stephen Hilton suggested possibility of crowdfunding as possible source of additional income. David mentioned getting group together to look at raising additional funding. The Chair commented that the accounts should be presented to the AGM and was unhappy that the link on the website was not working. He asked that paper copies should be available at an AGM, it was an essential part of an AGM to review the finances.

Membership Secretary. Nothing to add from report.

Standards Committee

Gerald Lobley sent apologies from Chair and Vice Chair for not being able to attend AGM. Now at the end of their 3 year cycle. Needed to find 4 replacements. Gerald asked that AGM approve the new committee. Dick Heathwood has retired from chair. Offer of thanks to the Judy, John, Dick and Ken for their contributions.

Discussion on appointment of new chair. Jim Mearns brought to the AGM that we should as a membership think about their actions with regards to personally attacking members of the standards committee because they disagree with the decisions made. He also offers congratulations to those who had volunteered for the standards committee and offers thanks to those who are standing for standards committee for the next three years. Congratulations for a job very well done. Chair of AGM thanked Gerald for his report.

General discussion on whether chair of Standards Committee should be agreed by AGM. No nomination due to timing. Vote on accepting nominations for names put forward to stand on Standards Committee – Nemcom.



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Technical Director

Ken made mention that we need more qualified arbiters. Looking for people to organise a local course.

Grading Officer

Grand Prix - Everyman books have decided not to continue – Dougie has contacted Quality Chess who have agreed to provide books. Would like to thank John Shaw & Quality Chess for agreeing to sponsor. Thanks also to Everyman for their support over the past few years. Otherwise grading system running well.

International Director (Open)

Andy Muir gave brief summary on his report.

Scottish Championship Director. Report as published

Marketing Director

Fiona gave apologies for being behind due to ill health but hopes to get back on track.

Home Director. Report as published

Junior Home Director

Harry Marron Commented regarding no report and no progression. Concerns over the lack of primary team event and primary individual not taking place in the last year.

FIDE Delegate

Andy McCulloch mentioned no longer being able to look up historic grades on FIDE website without registering. General discussion on topic.



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Disability officer

Nothing much to add. Trying to get funding from FIDE for specialist equipment, Andy Muir asked for Grangemouth to be checked out. Most clubs in Glasgow area meet disability standards.

4. Elections:

President

Candidate: Ian Brownlee

Proposed by David Congalton, seconded by Karen Howie

Candidate: Jim Webster

Proposed by Alex McFarlane, seconded by Ian Robertson

Short address was given by each candidate.

Ian Brownlee made brief summary of his 8 points of his manifesto. Gave background to his involvement with chess over the years.

Jim Webster summarised he has many similar aims as Ian Brownlee. Gave background to his involvement with chess over the years.

Ian Brownlee – 39 votes.

Jim Webster – 93 votes.

Jim Webster now confirmed as new President of Chess Scotland.

Ian Brownlee wants to note his congratulations to Jim Webster on becoming president.

Vote of thanks to scrutineers.

Andy Howie took the chair and thanked Steve Mannion for chairing the meeting so far.

Meeting adjourned for a short coffee break. On resumption Jim Webster took the chair



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The following posts were all carried unanimously

Executive Director

Candidate: Andy Howie

Proposed by Alex McFarlane, seconded by Ian Brownlee

Finance Director

Candidate: David Congalton

Proposed by Andy Howie, seconded by Ian Brownlee

Marketing Director

Candidate: Fiona Petrie

Proposed by Andy Howie, Seconded by Karen Howie

Scottish Championships Director

Candidate: Alex McFarlane

Proposed by Hamish Glen, seconded by Andy Howie

Technical Director

Candidate: Ken Stewart

Proposed by Andy Howie, seconded by Alex McFarlane

FIDE/ECU Delegate

Candidate: Andy Howie

Proposed by Alex McFarlane, seconded by Ian Brownlee

International Director (Open)

Jim Mearns has suggested that this position be voted on at the SGM – Chair asks if we are prepared to accept the two nominations (Andrew Burnett & Andrew Muir). Ian Brownlee suggests straight vote between the two candidates Chair proposed we deal with the issue and vote now – vote carried.

14 votes for Andrew Muir – 20 votes for Andrew Burnett – Andrew Burnett now International Director.



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Jim Webster offers vote of thanks to Andrew Muir for his work in recent years.

Home Director (Open)

Ian Brownlee Nominated from the floor and carried

Home Director (Junior)

Mark Sanger, Nominated from the floor and carried

International Director (Junior)

Peter Smith, Nominated from the floor and carried

Schools Development Director

No Candidate

Appointments are also to be made of the following representatives on Council:

Four representatives of Club Members, at least one of which must be a school

Nominated

Stewarton

Dunfermline

Pentland Hills

Lenzie Chess Academy

Smithycroft Secondary

Votes: Lenzie 16, Dunfermline 15, Stewarton 12, Pentland Hills 8

Members are Stewarton, Dunfermline, Lenzie Chess Academy and Smithycroft Secondary

Two representatives of registered congresses

Nominated Lothians and Dundee. Both carried

Four individual members, one of whom must be female and one under age 18.

Nominated: Liz Sams, Douglas Bryson, Alastair White, Dick Heathwood



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Votes: Douglas Bryson 28, Alastair White 15, Dick Heathwood 12

Liz, Douglas and Alastair will serve on Council. Management Board to find an Under 18.

Election of Standards Committee – questions raised on how standards committee selected - general discussion. Jim Webster proposes we accept Gerald's recommendations on retaining existing members and electing new members to Standards Committee. Seconded by Andy Howie - Overwhelmingly approved.

Steve Hilton wished it minuted of his objection to Pat McGovern as chair of Standards Committee.

5. Statement on SGM

At the SGM on 14th July it was intimated that the continuation of the SGM could be held on the morning of 29th August, before the AGM scheduled for later the same day.

After consideration, Chess Scotland decided this intention would be impractical. Chess Scotland will now convene a new SGM, at a later date still to be confirmed, possibly coinciding with the November Council meeting

The consequences of a new SGM are as follows:-

1 Amendments not debated and voted on at SGM of 14th July will fall.

2 Proxies intimated for 14th July are no longer valid.

3 Sections 1,3,4,6(amended),10,11 and 13 were agreed at the SGM on 14th July and as such are not subject to further amendment or discussion.

4 The CWP will be asked to prepare an updated Proposed New Constitution in which the remaining sections (i.e. those not yet approved) could take into account some of the amendments mentioned in bullet point 1



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5 The updated PNC will be posted on the CS Website after the AGM. This will allow adequate time for further consultation.

6 New amendments can be submitted and proxies can be nominated only after publication of any amendments on the CS Website

7 At the new SGM, sections 8,9,5,7,2,12,14 and 15 will be discussed and voted upon on a section by section basis.

8 Please note that Section 16 is deleted and moved to OP.

9 Assuming all sections are voted through (possibly with amendments) then a vote will be taken on the PNC as a whole.

10 The PNC will come into effect for the AGM of August 2016

At some point prior to the SGM, an exemplar of a Job Description and an Operating Procedure will be placed on the CS Website to illustrate what is meant by them, in order to dispel some of the previous misconceptions.

6. PVG Update (Steve Mannion Snr)

Presentation given by Steven Mannion Snr on PVG Scheme.

7. Matters raised by members (see separate list on CS Website)

7.1 Maclsaac Cup Proposed by Gary McPheator and Seconded by Jack C Parkes

Maclsaac has been struggling in recent years. Last year didn't run – hoping to have it as part of Largs Congress. Discussion on rules. Jim Webster suggests a re-write of rules before Cup would take place and setting up a working party to revive the cup and to find ways to revitalise it. Ian Brownlee suggests he and Gary will set up a working party reporting to president and council meeting in November? Agreed postponed until council meeting.



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7.2 AGM Proposal on eligibility - Proposed by Walter Buchannan and Seconded by George Moutrie

Walter gave a brief statement

Andy Muir would like to make a proposal requisite number of years be increased from 2 years.

Derek Howie also would like to amend excluding primary schools to excluding all junior events) seconded by Gerald Lobley

Remove future from the amendment – agreed.

Peter Smith suggests we create a working party to look at this proposal.

Vote on the amended motion – 11 for the motion – 22 against.

Current eligibility rules remain.

7.3 AGM Proposal on the 'grandparent rule' - Proposed by Walter Buchannan and Seconded by Jim Webster

Steve Mannion supported amendment – general discussion – 19 against motion – 10 for. Motion has failed.

7.4 SGM notice periods and running of SGM meetings - Proposed Walter Buchannan and Seconded by Stephen Hilton

General discussion on proposals. Discussion on proxy votes being published beforehand – not the law of the land to publish any proxy votes as can impact on voting at the meeting.

Put to vote – overwhelmingly against.

8 Any other business

ACC Update (Andy)



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Andy hopes next year to bring in proposal for Anti Cheating Committee next year's AGM.

Dates for Council Meetings

Proposed Nov 15th and March 19th

Ian Brownlee mentioned Disability office – should he keep both roles. Will continue until Council meeting in November.

CS Noticeboard.

Ian gave short statement. Had to warn people regarding the attitude and taken appropriate action – Forum members seem to behave themselves better than CS members.

Steven Mannion suggests that Council debate that CS Noticeboard be open only to CS members – asked for discussion at future meeting. Out of time – needs to be brought up at next meeting.

Vote of thanks for the Chair.

End of meeting 16:00.



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Appendix 1 – List of Proxy Votes received

J. Armour, R. McCormick, R. Moore, C. Moore, I. Robertson, D. Heathwood, E. Spencer, V. Zamar, A. Dawson, D. Will, C. Donkin, K. McGeoch, P. Girdwood, S. McKinney, D. Burke, B. Volland, J. Durno, P. Statham, B. Teaz, R. Bhopal, G. Pyrich, SNCL, G. Grant, S. Sarawyn, Pentland Hills, T. Purkins, D. Begg, D. Reid, S. Milton, J. Milton, C. Milton, A. Milton, D. McKerracher, Troon CC, T. Davies, A. Clarke, J. Murray, D. Rew, A. Grant, E. Frew, S. Mannion, N. Abdullazada, M. Abdulla, H. Glen, E. Bamber, S. Smith, R. Guilian, P. Guilan, B. Smith, C. Pritchett, R. Jennings, Lanarkshire Chess League, Lanark CC, Stewarton CC, J. Montgomery, A. Campbell, M. Burt, A. Armstrong, I. Fraser, B. Forbes, J. Mitchell, D. Camble, N. Lindsay, B. Airlie, A. Pollock, M. Abdullayev



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Post AGM notes

1. Council meeting has been moved to 28th November, will take place in Glasgow
2. Declan Shafi has been approached and has accepted the role of U18 member on Council
3. Dunfermline Chess Club have declined their position on Council, place has gone to Pentland Hills