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Chess Scotland AGM 2014

Minutes of meeting held at the Adelphi Centre at 10:30am on 23rd August, 2014

In Attendance: Steve Mannion Snr (Chair), Andy Howie, Karen Howie, Fiona Petrie, David Congalton, Jim Webster, Gerald Loble, Derek Howie, David Deary, Andy Muir, Andy McCulloch, Ken Stewart, Tom Brown, Alastair White, George Murphy, Dick Heathwood.

General

The President, Hamish Glen, had a bereavement. His mother had died and he was unable to attend. It was proposed and unanimously agreed that Steve Mannion Senior should act as chair for the meeting.

1. Apologies

Hamish Glen, Alex McFarlane, Lara Barnes, and Calum MacQueen

2. Minutes from previous meeting.

Amendments to Standards Committee report – proposed by David Deary, seconded by Jim Webster

Discussion and suggestion to remove appendix from last year's minutes. Discussion regarding procedure – motion to leave as it stands as it was true record of the previous year's AGM. Voted – unanimous retention (11 votes).

3. Annual report

President's report – approved

Executive Director's Report and Fide Report – approved

Membership Secretary – approved

Standards Committee – approved

Technical Director - approved

Discussion on printed rules book – website not updated. AH apologised as thought it had been done.

IA norms to be written, need to be submitted otherwise Chess

Scotland can be fined for lateness

Home Director – approved.

International Director – approved



Olympiad went very well. A Muir & J Grant now FIDE trainers. Now need a Title at tournaments to be captain. Various options to be looked at. Chair thanked A Muir for looking to future. Discussion on if Captain should be “elected”. Issue of Selection panel who should be “elected” and who should elect? Chair suggested it was up to Manager to select.

A White suggested it should be put to Constitution Review Group. G Lobley suggested structure should be put forward proposed and accepted by AGM. A McCulloch asked why constitution not set up – only set up after last AGM (January). G Lobley – SGM to look at constitution before next AGM. This was agreed

Grading Officer - approved

Discussion on the annual published gardings just PDF or book. General consensus for just PDF. Area Graders, CS Officials and organisers will get free copies. Some members/non members purchase if strictly PDF. Vote to move to PDF – 3 against. Small number of printed books. Agreed to sell PDF version at £1.50 – proposed DB Seconded by AH.

Richardson/Spens Cup.

Does arbiter need to be in attendance? Discussion on should they be rated. A Muir suggested higher graded players will not play and affect their grade. This would affect lower graded players who want to be FIDE rated. Discussion on rating at National League where higher graded players have turned up. Argument clear for more players to be FIDE rated. It was mentioned that Arbiters can't be Captains and vice versa. Captains need to advise players on rules. It was discussed it should be for the good of Chess Scotland against those who are higher rated. Put to vote 11 for 1 against. Agreed to be FIDE rated for this year and to be a point for the next AGM.

Hamilton Allegro

This tournament was not graded as the organiser, Michael Hanley, didn't want to pay the grading fee. Players unhappy about this as then not counted in Grand Prix. Suggested that players contact the organiser.

Scottish Championship Director

Commonwealth Championship

There was a lot of good feedback on this tournament from Tromso. Congratulations to whole team for running successful championship.

Scottish Chess Championship

Tie break – suggested we use FIDE recommended list as per Commonwealth Championships. Proposed by A Muir, Seconded A Howie. – Unanimous approval.

International Junior Director - Approved

Junior Home Director - Approved

Report given at meeting – apologies for not submitting. Thanks to North East Junior Chess, Loch Allan School & G Lobley for all their help. Primary Individual – thanks to A & K Howie,



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A & J Milton for their help and also thanks to D Heathwood, D Congalton & D Bryson for their help throughout the year. Thanks to all the parents of all the Scottish Juniors.

PVG Report - Approved

Well on course for completion next year. Contracts can be made with various regional chess organisation with CS can be PVG cleared. Stresses this is very important for CS the protection of the children and the organisers that the spirit and the letter of the law should be observed.

Tribute Paid to PVG assistant role for all his help. Thanks to Dick Heathwood for help with the migration from the old system. Intention to relinquish post in the next 7-8 months. Looking for successor to take over. Attend one day course. Must keep documents under lock and key and keep information confidential. Volunteers to phone Stephen Mannion for information. AH asked for show of appreciation for all the hard work done by Stephen.

Finance Report - Approved

Apologies firstly for the lack of up to date accounts (either audited or unaudited) for consideration by the AGM. Delay in getting present accounts to auditors. Currently a surplus of around £3,000. Confusion over the way the accounts have been presented. .

Everyone in budget for this year. Improving surplus is around £4,700 over 2 years. There have been problems in securing funding through grants. Will continue to work to benefit CS and audited accounts to be available by next council meeting.

Chair said it was vital to the accounts audited or unaudited at the AGM and suggests constitutional committee look to changing financial year if that it required to get them to the AGM on time. Last year's account to May 2013 approved by Council – still to be approved by AGM. – Unanimous approval.

Accepted all said regarding accounts and to be circulated to members once audited and approved at next council – ASAP.

Thanks to the Treasurer for all his work.

Chair suggest we know in advance over any potential expenditure so can be budgeted for and keep control of finance – Seeking approval of expenditure after the event was not acceptable.

4. Elections

President – H Glen

Elected unanimously

Executive Director – A Howie

Elected unanimously

Finance – D Congalton



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Elected unanimously



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Chair suggested that the remaining candidates were unchallenged and should be voted in en bloc. This was accepted by the meeting and the remaining candidates were unanimously approved

Customer Service Director

No job description – suggest left vacant – agreed not to proceed – proposed by chair seconded AH.

Marketing Director

No candidate

Disability Officer formerly C Hampton (no longer member) Chair proposes Steven Hilton. Seconded by Dick Heathwood. Ian Brownlee expressed interest. Jim Webster proposed. Ian Brownlee Seconded by D Deary.

Put to vote – Ian Brownlee elected by majority as Disability officer.

Appointments to be made to Council

Clubs: Stewarton, East Kilbride, Pentland Hills, Smithycroft Secondary (Andy/June to contact Linda McCusker).

Regional Congress – Lothians, Dundee

Members previously Daniel Deary, Lindsay Shovlin (asked not to be re-elected), Douglas Bryson, Steven Mannion Jnr.

Now Daniel Deary, Douglas Bryson, Fiona Petrie, Karen Howie.

5. Motions from Members

Implementation of Guidelines from FIDE for Tournaments in which Disabled Players Participate

SH & AH would like to agree idea in principle – since publication of motion there has been some good discussion on the noticeboard and some better wording. JW asked if we modify guidelines would it not be better to accept “as stated by FIDE” – discussion – can only enforce if it is a CS event, can’t be enforced at club/congress level. Need to decide if requirement or guideline. K Stewart suggest modify guidelines and adopt in principle. Council to modify wording. Proposed J Murphy, Seconded by J Webster. Motion approved.

Chess Coaches Committee

Five members to be elected. Proposed S Mannion , seconded Dick Heathwood.

Should incorporate ideas from FIDE Coaching Scheme and work towards FIDE Licences



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J Webster suggest modify, take out point 1. S Mannion suggest keep 1. the model for the new Coaches Committee should be the Arbiters Committee as it currently operated. Discussion on should it be autonomous or under remit of Director. Constitution Committee to look at remit. Agreement to form committee in isolation. unanimous.

Neil Berry, David Deary, Calum McQueen, Andy Howie. Jim Webster suggested Craig Pritchard & Gerald Bonar

6. AOCB

Presentation

Dick Heathwood on behalf of the President, Hamish Glen, announced that the President had decided to make a Presidential award for over 50 years service to Chess in Scotland to Steve Mannion Senior. Steve had ran chess congresses in Glasgow and Perth, acted as arbiter at British Championships, helped greatly with the SCA Centenary celebrations and ran chess clubs. Since 2004 he has been the Lead Signatory in Child Protection and PVG matters and still holds that post. Dick presented an engraved Quaich to Steve who responded with thanks. (Note The award was paid for by the President.)

Minute Taker for meetings. AH mentioned it was hard for Chair or Executive Director to take minutes as they are involved in the meetings and a minute taker would be helpful. Karen Howie suggested – accepted.

Funding Committee – 5 people in contact – AH will be in touch. Discussion does AGM Agree with forming funding committee. approved.

Constitutional Committee – divided into sections. Put to moderators to ratify. Some sections already submitted for approval. Also included areas were not rules ie selection process. More effort to take it further.

Report for Remote Participation Group – awaiting further feedback via DGT. Still ongoing.

Council Meetings – 2 meetings set for 16/30 November in Edinburgh and 28 March in Glasgow. JW proposed 16 November. 28 March also approved.

AM – Noticeboard Re: Tromso – Opportunities for training – what budget? There is no training budget so suggest running training/run tournament. Approach Edinburgh Chess Club as a good venue.

George Murphy asked for vote of thanks to chair and this was unanimously given.

. Meeting closed 13:00