



Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Hull and District Chess Association, held at YPI, Chanterland Avenue, Thursday 13th February 2014.

The Committee Meeting, due notice having been given, was quorate.

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

The President opened the Meeting at 7.20pm

Present: S King (President), Stephen Greep, Roger Noble, William Wright, Dave Mills, Andrew Bettley, Steve Thrower and Derek Sheppard

1. **Apologies for absence:** John Thompson, Shaun Taylor, J Miklevicz
2. **Minutes of the last meeting(s)**
 - 2.1 Committee Meeting of 12/11/13 - unanimously voted as a true record
3. **Matters arising**
 - 3.1 **Chess in Schools and Communities** – Stephen Greep reported that progress had been slow since the last meeting. Martin Dunn (Head of Youth Development for Hull Kingston Rovers) had not managed to get schools in East Hull together, although Studio Anne Carlton had engaged Kath Lavery to work on the project and this should result in progress. The Associations role related to helping find Chess tutors for schools rather than as lead.

Malcolm Pein (Chess in Schools and Communities) had been kept informed. In addition to Mike Butt and Bill Wright who had previously indicated an interest, Steve Thrower also indicated he would like to be involved. Malcolm Pein was to inform Stephen Greep when the next training session, likely to be in Sheffield, was to be held.
4. **Treasurer's Report**

Steve Thrower's report had previously been circulated (attached). Steve Thower spoke to his report, in particular outlining a request for funding which had gone to the Ross Fund Trustees for £1537.
5. **League Secretary's Report**

Andrew Bettley reported on both six and four board leagues. Concern was expressed over the number of games postponed in Division 2 of the 4 Board league, particularly in relation to Hanna. Steve King and Roger Noble agreed to make contact and visit Hanna club for a discussion.

Concerns were also expressed regarding Willows travelling to Bridlington. Steve King agreed to write formally to Willows to ascertain their position. The committee were strongly of the view that all teams should undertake to fulfil all their fixtures

In updating the committee on progress with cup tournaments, Andrew Bettley thought several teams/individuals were struggling to make all their playing commitments. Following a discussion it was agreed to ask Andrew to produce a paper on future individual and team cup tournaments.

6. Charitable Trust Application update

A summary had previously been circulated. The minutes from the previous evenings EGM had already been distributed - the results of the vote to change the objects in line with Charity Commissions suggestion were approved. This had already been sent to our solicitors and forwarded onto the Charity Commission. The result of our Application is expected within the next three weeks.

Assuming that our application was successful the next step would be a meeting with the current Ross Fund Trustees. The approval of the strategy (item 7) would be an important step in continuing to access the Ross Fund into the future.

7. Hull and District Chess Strategy

This has been circulated to members and Club Secretaries. A number of further suggestions had been taken on Board. The strategy was formally approved, but would also go to the AGM for formal ratification.

8. Hull Congress

The President reported that the congress leaflet had now been produced and was being circulated. The event was on the ECF calendar.

9. Local League/Cup matches – proposals to change time controls

Derek Sheppard, supported by Steve King, introduced a proposal to change the general and competition rules (excluding the handicap) so that 'each player shall have 90 minutes in which to complete the game' with no intermediate time controls. Following discussion the committee voted to put the relevant rule changes to the AGM.

10. Events

10.1 Grand Master Simultaneous – Stephen Greep reported that Gawain Jones had agreed to undertake a 30 player simul. on the afternoon on November 8th at the Mecure Royal (rooms already booked). The total cost was £750, including fees, expenses and room hire. Cost per entrant would be £15 (£10 for juniors). Advertising would take place throughout Yorkshire – but with priority to local players. An application to the Ross Fund had been made for financial support.

10.2 Holy Trinity and Hull Library Open Days – Roger Noble introduced proposals for these two events. Following discussion it was agreed to proceed with a date of either 2nd or 9th of August at Holy Trinity (primarily an outside event) and end June/early July for the library event. Roger Noble to report back to the next meeting.

10.3 Beverley Library Chess Day – Dave Mills introduced the idea of a Chess Day at Beverley Library. This had the support of the committee, but due to time commitments Dave Mills was to seek someone to take responsibility for organising. Failing this it would be undertaken in the following year.

10.4 Peter Hughes Hull Championship – Roger Noble suggested that this event

was held every two years and that the final was moved to the summer months. It was further suggested that a change to 20 players (4 groups of 5) was considered so each player had two blacks and two whites. Ideas for a prize were sought. These proposals were supported by the committee. Roger Noble agreed to contact Trevor Hughes to discuss and seek approval.

10.5 Barton Chess Congress – Dave Mills introduced the idea of a rapid play tournament based in Barton. This was discussed and although broadly supported, Dave Mills was asked to come back to the next meeting with firmer proposals in regards to what the views of players and leagues on the south bank were and exactly what involvement the Association would have and what support would be required.

11. Yorkshire League matches

Following discussion it was agreed that, in line with Yorkshire Chess Association guidance it in future all players taking part in Yorkshire League matches should be expected to be ECF members. Where they were not they ECF members they would be expected to pay the £2 grading fee –except in cases of financial hardship where this would be waived. The exact wording and mechanism for payment to be agreed.

12. Any other business

12.1 Registering players – Dave Mills raised the issue of a club registering a player with no intention that that player would take part in matches (with implied benefit for substitutions). The committee felt unable to discuss this without a formal letter of complaint, although Andrew Bettley agreed to monitor the situation throughout the rest of the season.

13. Date of next meeting (Tuesday 20th May, 2014. Willows Club, 19.15.)

There being no further business the President closed the Meeting at 10.25pm

Stephen Greep

Hon. General Secretary

16.02.2014