

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the AGM held on 10 June 2015

1. Attendance

The meeting was attended by Norman Wedley (Chairman), Francis Bowers, Patrick Ribbands, Paul Kemp, John Bygrave, Kevin Clark, Marcus Connolly, Marcus Misson, Phil Turp, Chris Russell, John Dunn, Paul Hanks.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Norman Hutchinson and Stephen Pride.

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 25 June 2014

The minutes were summarised and approved. The minutes appear on the County website but any missing copies should be forwarded by the Secretary to the Administrator.

4. Matter arising

- FIDE rule changes were discussed the ECM and appropriately minuted.
- The missing Fenland Plate trophy had been found.

5. Reports of Association officers for 2014/15

League Secretary : A report for the team competitions was circulated. The season had run without disputes but a high number of defaults and difficulties in re-arranging postponed matches were noted. After discussing penalties, it was agreed to run a trial for one year in which a period of 2 weeks would be allowed for captains to agree the new date of a postponed match. Division One was won by Royston and Division Two by Spalding. Royston also won the Fenland Knock-out after a splendid performance by St Neots and Warboys took the Plate. Captains were urged to report team eligibility errors to the League Secretary as these are not routinely checked.

If the League Secretary could be advised of teams entries by mid-August, it was proposed and accepted that the CCCA should dispense with the ECM if possible and aim to issue the fixture list ahead of adjacent leagues. It was thought unlikely that Spalding would seek promotion and in this event, Peterborough B requested to play in division 1 having been runners-up to Spalding for two seasons. This was accepted and after finishing bottom of division 1, New England A were left free to decide its status at a club Special General Meeting. A division of 7 teams would be formed according to whichever level New England A wished to play.

Tournament Secretary : Ten entrants from a wide range of clubs contested the County Individual Championship and A Timosenko emerged as champion, L Burgess taking the junior prize. The event just broke even but avoidance of clashes with other local competitions on successive weekends would encourage more participation in future.

Team 550 Organiser : The Warboys White Capes and Royston won their respective local divisions and the former triumphed in the final.

Special Events Organiser : The Rapidplay at Whittlesford in October attracted a record 102 players. Prizewinners were A Merry in the Open with A Stewart retaining the Jack Taylor trophy, G Jackson and P Vakhidov in the Major and G Clayton in the Challengers' section. Thanks were given to all helpers and to P Kemp for his tournament organisation which raised £245. With cost and game fee increases, such surpluses are less likely henceforth. The event in 2015 would again be held at Whittlesford on 11th October but there was no support for reviving the event in Peterborough. Linton won the Jamboree.

Junior Organisers : Several schools around Peterborough were receiving tuition from local players. In the South, junior chess is thriving with 230 players at one event.

County Team Captains : The Open Team coped with the entry of Hertfordshire into the competition to reach a decider against Suffolk which sadly was lost. As EACU runners-up, Cambridgeshire went forward to beat Leicestershire in the Minor Counties but lost to Somerset by a single point. The U160 team were runners-up to Suffolk on game points but had problems raising a team against Middlesex and went out of the competition. The U120 and U100 teams scored some draws and would profit from a dedicated captain.

Website coordinator : A few problems with data entry had been recorded but generally, with help from P Ribbands with the EACU interface, the website was functioning. The domain had recently been renewed but the host may be moved to improve resilience.

ECF & EACU delegates : English Chess is being sponsored by Tradewise.

6. Report of the Treasurer and Adoption of the 2014/15 Accounts

The Treasurer circulated and presented the accounts to the meeting. The intention of running around break-even was successful. A deficit of £30 on County matches reduced the Rapidplay surplus and overall, the County balance increased by £226. The accounts were approved and thanks given to N Hutchinson for his speed in conducting the audit.

7. Election of Officers for 2015/16

It was proposed and accepted unanimously that the committee be re-elected en bloc :

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Chairman	Norman Wedley	F Bowers	P Ribbands
Vice-Chairman	Chris Russell		
Secretary	Paul Hanks		
Treasurer	Paul Kemp		
League Secretary	Paul Kemp		
Team 550 Organiser			
Special Events ¹			
County Championship	Francis Bowers		
Junior Organiser	Francis Bowers		
Match Captains : Open	Kevin Clark		
U160	Patrick Ribbands		
Website Co-ordinator	Phil Turp		
Grading Officers	Patrick Ribbands Chris Russell		
Auditor	Norman Hutchinson		
ECF Delegate	Marcus Misson		
EACU Delegates	Paul Hanks Francis Bowers		

¹ It was hoped that a volunteer assistant would be in place at the 2015 event to gain experience in the role.

8. Any Other Business

Trophies : The following trophies were presented :

Trophy	Winner	Received by
Division One	Royston	Paul Kemp
Division Two	Spalding	Francis Bowers
Jamboree	Linton	Paul Kemp
Fenland Trophy	Royston	Paul Kemp
Fenland Plate	Warboys	Marcus Misson
Team 550	Warboys	Marcus Misson

Playing Conditions :- St Neots were advised that other clubs were reluctant to use their venue due to the playing conditions. They were encouraged to seek a resolution for the coming season.

Obituary : – The meeting noted with sadness the passing of Ray Ferrer and Geoff Collyer.

ECM date and venue : The Chairman, Secretary and League Secretary will jointly decide if it is necessary to convene the Executive Committee Meeting depending on the state of formation of the County leagues.

Godmanchester Comrades Club were thanked for allowing their venue to be used for this meeting.

PAUL HANKS

Association Secretary