Bradford & District Chess Association Annual General Meeting

The Latvian Club

21st May 2024 7:45pm

In attendance:

P Drury [PD] (President), A Arthur [AA] (Chairman), D Barlow [DB] (Hon. Treasurer), R Dennington [RD] (League Secretary), L Crawford [LC], D Adam [DA], M Rogerson [MR], J Cleland [JC], A Wainwright [AW], C Wainwright [CW], N Waite [NW], W Lilburn-Quick [WLQ], N Redmond [NR], P Watson [PW], K Marsh [KM], R Panesar [RP], L Johnson [LJ], S Harrington [SH], R Porter [RPO], P Day [PDA], D Colledge [DC], R Bowman [RB], A Walker [AW], J Holliday [JH], J Smith [JS], M Overend [MO], Dave Sykes [DS], Mike Bramson [MB]

1. Apologies

Apologies received by D Mason & I Lewyk

1. 2023 AGM minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. There was a brief discussion regarding the minuting of the spend of S Scurfield funds during the year on improvements to the Latvian Club. It was noted that this took place in the 2023/24 year and so would not form part of these minutes

1. Chairman’s Report [AA]

It was noted that the league is starting to return back to it’s pre-covid position. There appear to have been multiple instances of rules not being understood or followed. Examples of these violations include the touch-move rule and failure to write down moves. However, it is believed that most issues were sorted internally between captains.

Congratulations to all the winning teams this season. It was also fantastic to see that some results went with the underdogs both at board and team level.

Junior chess continues to be developed fantastically in the Bradford area. Thanks to Bingley & Keighley chess club, The Chess Centre and Dave Barlow at South Bradford, with juniors starting to come through to play in the main league events.

It was agreed to recognise a minute’s silence in memory of Ian Jewsbury, who sadly took his own life.

1. Treasurer’s Report [DB]

The accounts were presented to the members. Notable items included a donation to help set up the Latvian club for junior chess, the purchase of boards and sets for competitions within Bradford, the purchase of boards for schools in Bradford to help encourage grass roots chess, and the purchase of competition organising software. The closing balance held by the BDCA is £2,985.55 including funds held on behalf of the donation by S Scurfield of £310.00

[JC] - Why does the BDCA carry such a high balance of funds?

[DB] – Is a continuation of a historical balance.

[AW] – As the BDCA no longer manages a congress, there’s probably no need to retain such a high balance. Steve Mann runs a website that records player numbers. The data shows at 20% uplift year on year, mainly through rapid and blitz. This is largely due to the increase in junior players. Bradford is trailing the rest of Yorkshire, we are not back to pre-covid levels. There are currently 5 teams playing on a Saturday, whilst there is no real growth in the evening league. Even Harrogate is developing a strong youth program.

[RP] – Could AW lead a meeting to set up ideas to develop junior chess?

[WLQ] – Other forms of chess seem very popular, not just the continuation of evening league chess.

[DB] – It’s important come up with a plan to develop the league and a strategy needs to be put in place.

The use of funds to develop the room at the Latvian club was officially voted on. This was unanimously voted through.

1. League Controller’s Report [RD]

The Bradford League welcomed one new team to the league allowing three divisions of 8, 7 and 7 teams respectively. The 1st division was won by South Bradford A, the 2nd division by South Bradford B and the 3rd division by The Chess Centre Crusaders.

The Clough was won by Bingley & Keighley B, edging out Saltaire Alpacas on the sum of progressive scores calculation.

The Hepolite was won by South Bradford A, with Undercliffe A winning the Hepolite Shield and Saltaire Fannys winning the Hepolite Plate.

During the season, there were 2 re-arranged matches due to a lack of available players, 2 defaulted matches, and numerous defaulted games.

[DB] With regard to the individual tournaments, the Barnett was won jointly by Mark Crowther and Dave Barlow, the Parkinson was won by Lee Crawford, and the Bak was won by Loganigilesh Karthik.

[MB] – I would like to put on record my thanks for all of Robert’s hard work in the role.

1. Election of officers
   1. President – P Drury (unanimously re-elected)
   2. Treasurer – D Barlow (unanimously re-elected)
   3. Chairman – A Arthur (unanimously re-elected)
   4. Honorary League Secretary
      1. Contested between R Dennington and A Wainwright. R Dennington offering to continue the role in its current form of league controller, A Wainwright offering to amalgamate the roles of league controller and league secretary
         1. A Wainwright – 10 votes
         2. R Dennington – 7 votes
         3. Abstention – 6 votes
      2. A Wainwright is voted in as the new Honorary League Secretary
   5. Vice Chairman – J Holliday stepping down, R Panesar voted in unanimously
   6. Trophy Secretary – D Barlow stepping down, P Drury voted in unanimously
   7. Press Officer – J Holliday stepping down, J Smith voted in unanimously
   8. Rating Officer – L Crawford (unanimously re-elected)
   9. Web Officer – L Crawford stepping down, J Smith voted in unanimously
   10. Competition Controller – D Barlow (unanimously re-elected)
2. Proposals
   1. [M Overend] - Rule 17 {LEAGUE} – Each division of the league shall consist of no more than ten teams. All teams shall consist of **FIVE** [*currently four*] boards. A club shall have a maximum of two teams in any division.
      1. In favour – 10
      2. Against – 15
      3. Abstained – 5
   2. [A Wainwright] – Rule 17 {LEAGUE} – Each division of the league shall consist of no more than ten teams. All teams shall consist of four boards. A club shall have a maximum of **THREE** [*currently two*] teams in any division.
      1. In favour – 23
      2. Against – 3
   3. [A Wainwright] – Rule 28 {LEAGUE} – At the end of each season, the **TWO** **LOWEST TEAMS IN EACH DIVISION WILL BE RELEGATED AND THE TWO HIGHEST TEAMS WILL BE PROMOTED** [*currently the lowest team in each division shall exchange places with the highest team in the division below*], subject to the provision of Rule 17.
      1. In favour – 17
      2. Against – 5
      3. Abstained – 1
   4. [A Wainwright] – Rule 63 {CLOUGH} – Any player rated below 750 based on fewer than 10 games should be given an adjusted rating of **1000** [*currently 750*]
      1. In favour – 19
      2. Against – 1
   5. [D Barlow} – Rule 57 {CLOUGH} – **THE COMPETITION CONTROLLER WILL ALLOCATE THE HANDICAP POINTS BASED ON THE LIKELY TEAMS** [*No provision in current clough rules for how handicap points are awarded for the non-defaulting team*]
      * 1. After discussions it was agreed to amend the proposal to offer a fixed handicap value of 1.5 to the winning team.
      1. In favour – 22
      2. Against – 4
   6. [D Sykes] – New Rule - Unless there are quite exceptional circumstances, for example, a specific medical condition, then any player not prepared to record their game will forfeit that board before the commencement of the game.
      * 1. It was agreed that the above forms part of the standard E.C.F. rules and was therefore not required to be incorporated into the B.D.C.A. rulebook. The proposal was withdrawn.
   7. [A Wainwright] – Rule 22 {LEAGUE} – If a club has teams in more than one division, any player who has played above the bottom **TWO** [*currently three*] boards for a team will be eligible to play in that team’s division or a higher one only, subject to Rule 21.
      1. In favour – 3
      2. Against – 19
      3. Abstained – 3
   8. [A Wainwright] – Rule 3 {ADMINISTRATION} – **No player may play for more than one club within the league in a season unless the transfer has first been authorised by the Executive Committee. Applications for transfer shall be accompanied by a clearance from the player’s old club that he / she has left no outstanding obligations to the club** [*currently players may play for multiple clubs in the season*]
      * 1. DB offered an adjustment to the proposal: **To reduce defaults, players may be loaned to another club as long as they played on board 4. This may only occur twice in a season.**
3. In favour of AW proposal – 16
4. In favour of DB proposal – 7
5. Abstained – 1
6. Any Other Business
   1. Date of the next AGM – 20/05/2025
   2. The presentation evening will take place on 04/06/2024 at the Stansfield Arms. An email will follow providing details on the event and menu choices
   3. Date of the EGM – 03/09/2024
   4. Date of the Boyd – 10/09/2024
   5. Date of the first round of the Burns summer tournament – 18/06/2024. Entries to be sent through to D Barlow
   6. Teams to be sent through to A Wainwright as soon as possible in order to set up the leagues and produce handbooks.
   7. The Bradford Congress – Will take place at the Latvian Club. The date will be confirmed nearer to the time.
   8. The Yorkshire Blitz – Will take place at the Latvian Club in July. This is being sponsored by the B.D.C.A. and is a 3+2 event.
   9. The Yorkshire F.I.D.E. congress – This will take place on the first Sundays of September 2024, December 2024 and March 2025. This is a 6 round event taking place at the Old Swan Hotel in Harrogate.
   10. Trophy Winners 2023/24
       1. Burns 2024 – P Watson / M Crowther
       2. Boyd – Q Gardens
       3. Keith Trobridge – TBC
       4. Bak – L Karthik
       5. Hutchinson – N Redmond / E Howard
       6. Parkinson – L Crawford
       7. Barnett – M Crowther / D Barlow
       8. Clough – Bingley & Keighley B
       9. Team Lightning – South Bradford A
       10. Individual Lightning – TBC
       11. Hepolite Shield – Undercliffe A
       12. Hepolite Plate – Saltaire Fannys
       13. Dowry – Ilkley A
       14. Hepolite Cup – South Bradford A
       15. Webster Trophy – Adamjeet Singh
       16. John Smith Trophy – E Howard
       17. Cocking Trophy – C Monk
       18. Totty Trophy – M Crowther
       19. Fattorini Trophy – M Crowther
       20. Division 3 Winners – Chess Centre Crusaders
       21. Division 2 Winners – South Bradford B
       22. Division 1 Winners – South Bradford A
       23. Carey Trophy – R Dennington

Meeting closed 10:20pm