

Cumbria Chess Association

Minutes of the 130th Annual General Meeting

Held on Saturday 9th July 2022 at the Crown Hotel, Eamont Bridge at 2pm

In attendance

J Rashleigh (Secretary), G Horne (Treasurer), D Shaw (League Controller), J Lydon (Junior Organiser), A McAtear (Match Captain/Rating), P Hanks, N Foxcroft (Ulverston), G Sharkey, R Hart (Maryport), W Hardwick (Carlisle).

Apologies for absence.

D Cole (President), P Caulfield (Ulverston/Windermere)

Chairman

The President, Dave Cole, was unable to attend as he was recovering from Covid. In his absence the Secretary assumed the Chair.

Presidents Report

In his absence, the President had submitted a written report. The Secretary read this out to the meeting and it is appended to these Minutes.

Andy McAtear commented on the fact that there had been no Cumbria Individual Championships in the year. Nor had there been any rapidplay event. The meeting agreed that both were desirable now that Covid was less of a threat. It was suggested that efforts be made to organise a team rapidplay event in the first part of the season and the Cumbria Individuals in the new year. Andy McAtear would research the availability of the Shap hall and the Crown to establish the venue and a suitable date. Peter Hanks would run the events.

Minutes. of the 129th AGM held on 28th August 2021

These had been circulated to clubs and were approved as a true record.

Accounts for the two years to 31st May 2022

The Treasurer circulated these to the meeting. No accounts had been produced for the year to 31st May 2021 because of Covid so these accounts covered a two year period. They showed a small surplus of £34.02 for the period. There was £978.16 in the bank.

The previous accounts to 31st May 2020 had been satisfactorily audited.

It was noted that there was to be no increase in the ECF charges in the coming year. The Treasurer therefore proposed that there could be a reduction in the County fee from £6 to £5. After discussion, the meeting agreed to leave the fees unchanged at £6 for adults and £1 for juniors.

There had been a request from the organisers of the South Lakes Congress to increase the contribution from the County towards prize money for the event. The proposal was for an increase from £150 to £250. After discussion, the meeting agreed to this proposal.

Correspondence

None

Reports

Secretary – nothing to report

Membership – In the absence of the Membership Secretary, the numbers were not known.

League Controller - Dave Shaw reported that reducing the team sizes to 3 had been a success and had definitely enabled some teams to continue which would otherwise not have done.

The League Controller had allowed considerable latitude with regard to the fixing of dates for matches to accommodate the problems created by Covid. It was disappointing that, despite this, a number of matches never got played. This did not affect the result of the Open League where Maryport were the clear winners. The Southern League had been disrupted by Ulverston losing their playing venue as well as Covid issues with the result that the season was never finished. He and the President had concluded that Kendal should be declared the winners on the basis of Windermere and Ulverston results being declared void and their having beaten Barrow in their home match and drawn with them away. It was noted that the final of the Whitaker Cup was being played at the same time as the AGM was taking place.

It was not clear whether either Windermere or Keswick would be in a position to enter teams in the leagues in the coming season.

Rating Officer – Andy McAtear reported that the transition from the old Grading system to the new Rating system had gone smoothly and had not caused him any problems.

Junior Organiser – John Lydon referred to the recent junior tournament at the Long Marton Community School which he had attended. There was a photo and details on the website. He was hoping to get a junior tournament up and running after the school holidays.

Match Captain - Andy McAtear reported on the two county matches that had been held in the under 1650 section. Cumbria had sadly been 3 boards short for the match against Lancashire recording a 9.5 – 2.5 loss. The match against Yorkshire had also been lost 8 – 4.

Andy noted that the new rating bands did not suit Cumbria that well as the majority of keen players were rated above 1650. After discussion, the meeting agreed that next year the county should enter a team in the U1850 section rather than the U1650.

ECF & NCCU Delegates – These had been included in the President's report previously covered.

Website Organiser – Nothing to report.

Presentation of Trophies

The Secretary presented the Open Division trophy to Gary Sharkey the Maryport captain.

The Treasurer presented the South Division trophy to Jonathan Rashleigh the Kendal captain.

The destination of the Whitaker Cup awaited the outcome of the match being played between Barrow and Carlisle 'B' and the County Individual trophies had not been played for because of Covid.

Discussion and Voting on the Proposals previously notified (proposals attached)

Proposal 1 was supported. In future all match arrangements should be carried out via email to provide a documented trail for the League Controller in the event of disagreement between captains or him being required to default a team.

Proposal 2 was rejected. The meeting agreed to retain the existing wording with matches being played within 4 weeks and 2 days of the stated fixture date.

Proposal 3 was supported. The League Controller is empowered to remove teams from the League if they default on two matches using the definition of default used in the Proposal.

Election of Officers.

The following officers were all re-elected unanimously:

President: Dave Cole
Secretary: Jonathan Rashleigh
Treasurer: George Horne
League Controller: Dave Shaw
Membership Secretary: Dave Cole
Rating Officer: Andy McAtear
Match Captain: Andy McAtear
Junior Organiser: John Lydon
ECF Delegate: Dave Cole
NCCU Delegates: Dave Cole and George Horne
Website Organiser: Dave Shaw
Hon. Auditor: Neil Foxcroft.

Any Other Business. – None

Date of Next AGM. - To be agreed.