

Nottinghamshire Chess Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 5th July 2005.

Meeting held at Gambit Chess Club, starting at 7:30pm.

Present were M. Barnes [President, in the chair], A. N. Walker [Secretary], J. A. Waddingham [Treasurer], S. Burke, C. Cantrill, L. Darby, I. Fillingham, S. Foreman, N. Graham, K. Harvey, B. M. Hayward, M. J. Hill, C. Holt, I. Kingston, G. Ladds, D. G. Levens, R. Moss, B. Oldham, D. Padvic, A. Posazhennikov, M. Radford, B. Redburn, R. Richmond, D. Sudar, J. A. Tait, B. Thompson, P. Todd, J. Wagenbach and A. J. Wright.

1. Apologies; minutes

Apologies were received from D. Cronshaw, G. T. Gibson, A. E. Morrey, J. T. Swain, M. V. Taylor and J. K. Walters. The minutes of the 2004 RRM and AGM were accepted. In matters arising, J. A. Tait asked about the fine for non-attendance by clubs at the AGM; but this had not been implemented

2. Officers' Reports

(a) The **President** reported a quiet year and thanked the officers. He noted the success of the U150 team and of Nottingham High School.

(b) The **Secretary** said there had been no progress on juniors.

(c) The **Treasurer** thanked the Finance Committee, especially D. Sudar and A. J. Wright for their help with the accounts/ There had been a loss of £764, primarily from the Congress and Rapidplay. A. J. Wright, chair of the Finance Committee, said the accounts were as yet unaudited. The NCA itself made a profit, so no change in fees was proposed. The Congress needed to come into profit. The NCA had around £5600, and thanks to the Treasurer the cash flow had improved. There was discussion of the problems with the Congress. A. J. Wright said it was helpful if those asking for money from the NCA gave a little detail and submitted requests early/

(d) **Team Captains:** (i) **4NCL:** The President said there had been reports in the Bulletin. We had finished 3rd in D4. He thanked the players and said there would be two teams next year. Entry would be £275.. A. J. Wright said it was an excellent event, and the NCA should pay the equivalent of a county team in support. N. Graham said we needed sponsorship. (ii) **U175:** The team had been withdrawn, because of a clash with 4NCL. Next year could be a jamboree; if so, a team would be entered. (iii) **U150:** N. Graham referred to his written report. The team had won the National event. (iv) **U125:** The President presented D. Cronshaw's report. Getting drivers had been a problem. (v) **U100:** L. Darby said we had withdrawn the team because of problems over travel. The meeting sympathised but we couldn't continue to enter and withdraw teams. (vi) **Correspondence:** The President presented J. K. Walters' report.

(e) **League Management Committee:** The **League Secretary** reported a quiet season. There had been 14 defaults, 9 at the end of the season.

(f) **Grading Results Officer:** B. M. Hayward said results had been sent off to the BCF, and would be published on the BCF web site; there would be no MCCU list, but he hoped it would be possible to circulate a local list. There were 259 active players, compared with 279 and 307 in the two previous seasons.

(g) **BCF Representative:** A direct membership scheme was being piloted in the NCCU; no member, no grade. The BCF was to become the English Chess Federation, ECF, in October, a company limited by guarantee. Game fee would stay the same [it was actually up 1p at 44p].

(h) **MCCU Representatives:** A jamboree was to be trialled with the U175.

(i) **Bulletin Editor:** L. Darby was giving up this post. It should go electronic, but he was having difficulty getting all the e-mail addresses. M. J. Hill entered a plea for more articles. The President thanked the Editor and his wife for their work over several years.

(j) **Congress Director:** The President reported for G. T. Gibson. There was much discussion of the causes for the decline in numbers over the years and for the current losses. We needed to listen to local players, restructure prizes, and the event needed more input from the NCA.

(k) **County Championship:** A. J. Wright referred to reports in the Bulletin. It had been a successful event. There had been problems over dates. N. Graham proposed a move to the end of September.

(l) **Publicity:** D. G. Levens said his change of address had caused problems. He had had a column in the *Evening Post* until January.

(m) **Handicap Knockout:** Gambit had won the event. N. London and M. V. Taylor would not be running it next year.

(n) **Rapidplay and Blitz:** No reports had been presented to the meeting. The President had won the blitz, which attracted 36 players.

(o) **Match of the Century:** This had been a successful event, won by the Juniors.

Returning to the accounts, S. J. Burke noted that BCF insurance had disappeared. This was said not to be cost-effective. N, Graham noted that public liability insurance might be insisted on by some venues. The matter was referred to the Finance Committee. L. Darby proposed, seconded S. J. Burke, that the accounts be approved in principle, subject to audit. This was approved *nem con*.

3. Prizes

Prizes were awarded as follows: *Div 5*: Ashfield 5; *Div 4*: Gambit 4; *Div 3*: West Nottingham 2; *Div 2*: Newark 1; *Div 1*: Mansfield 1; *Knockout Competition*: Big Mat Yobs; *Blitz*: M. H. Barnes; *Best Game*: D. G. Levens.

4. Election of Officers

[See the Web site for the full list.] The incoming Bulletin Editor, I. Kingston, said that £60 would be needed annually to pay for the domain. There would be weekly bulletins. The question of electronic submission of results was referred to the LMC. The Congress Director, A. J. Wright, said he would need support. The Secretary asked whether further committees were needed; a committee of the President, Secretary, Treasurer and co-optees as needed was asked to consider the constitution, rules and running of the NCA and to report back before the end of the year,

5. Any other business.

R. J. Richmond asked about child protection policy. This was referred to the proposed new executive committee; the President said it must go through the BCF. D. G. Levens commented on declining membership. This did not apply to his own club. It was essential that clubs got involved with juniors and their parents. He pointed out that there were 72000 entries for the Basman event; and 140 for the High School's competition.

Meeting closed at 10:53pm.