

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Horfield and Redland Chess Club held at the Kings Arms, Whiteladies Road, Bristol, at 7:30 on 7 June 2022

Present were Judd Chidwick, Steve Dilleigh, Alex Dunn, Mike Levene, Peter Marks, Phil Nendick, Nigel Pollett, Derek Pugh.

Apologies had been received from Mike Jennings.

1. Minutes of the AGM on 7 September 2021

The minutes from the previous AGM were not formally approved on account of the Club Secretary unaccountably not circulating them before the meeting.

2. Presentation of Accounts

The Treasurer presented the accounts. The financial position was healthy with £1,869 in the bank. It was noted we made a small loss during the season but entirely manageable. Collection of membership fees was at a high level. It was flagged the weekly cost of hiring our current venue is likely to increase next season from £30 to £35 (the first rise since 2018). This was considered manageable.

The accounts were approved.

It was agreed fees will remain unchanged at £60, or £36 for the unwaged. It was noted this includes players attending the club who do not play competitive chess.

3. Review of 2021-22 season

A summary of the season was presented by the Secretary

Main points:

- 29 players played league chess the most active being Piotr (P16), James (P15), and Mikey (P14).
- 11 new players represented the club during the season
- **A team:** Finished 3rd in division 1. We lost both fixtures to the top two teams, otherwise our playing record was W7, D2, L1. 15 players were used with Derek Pugh, Peter Kirby, and Phil Nendick being the most active players. By the end of the season, with the return to action of Steve Dilleigh and Mike Harris, with Matais Candelario returning from the Home Counties, and Callum Brewer joining us, the team took on a formidable look.
- **Teams in Division 2:** We started with two teams and then added a third in the second half of the season. All three of our teams finished with a 50% record or better. 22 players were used (10 of which were new to the club and in most cases to competitive chess). It was noted the lack of restrictions allowed us to match players to opposition strength and take account of other factors such as non-drivers, non-travellers etc. Both our participation and the division 2 structure were viewed as successes.
- **Cups:** We drew Downend in the first round; the only club strong enough to beat us over 8 boards and they did. Although it felt like a match we should have won. In the MKO we entered two teams, and both went out on board count (to Thornbury in round 1 and Grendel in round 2). In particular it felt as if we should have won through against Grendel.

- **Internal:**
 - We had a total of 38 new players over the season, 14 turned up at least 8 times to play friendly chess; the peak of interest being in November when 12-15 new players came every week in the month. The club ran an internal competition of matches over 45m to prepare new players for league chess. A total of 34 games were played. The winning player was Judd Chidwick with 5 out of 7.
 - Phil Nendick ran a teaching session and also we had a blitz and curry night before Christmas.
 - Club Cup: 18 members took part with Derek Pugh winning the title with a score of 5.5 out of 6. Peter Marks won the grading cup.
 - Trophies were presented to Derek, Peter, and Judd then taken back for engraving...

4. Outline of 2022-23 season

- Likely to be 3 divisions of six-board teams; 14 matches per division. Then a four-board Swiss division 4 for development and new players. Confirmation over the summer once all clubs in the league confirm no. of teams they wish to enter (probably early July).
- Cups likely to be integrated into the season rather than at the end.
- It was considered appropriate against our likely playing resources to propose to the league we enter one team in each division (with scope to add more to Division 4 if appropriate). During the summer the Secretary shall request responses from members re: likely participation. It is noted team registration is not required until immediately before the start of next season.
- Three proposals being taken to the League AGM were discussed: 1) Changes to the grading thresholds/restrictions; 2) changes to the MKO; 3) changes to defaults. No formal club position on any of these was agreed. **Note:** Amended versions of proposals 1) and 2) were passed with 3) being rejected at the League AGM on 15 June.

5. Election of Officers

Chair: Alex Dunn

Secretary: Peter Marks

Treasurer: Alex Dunn

Child Protection Officer: tbc

Captains: Provisional and to be confirmed: A Nigel Pollett, B Judd Chidwick, C, Peter Marks, D, Alex Dunn.

6. Any Other Business

- Website: Nigel confirmed he will try again to gain editorial access and update the website to remove out of date content
- Summer tournament/events: There was no particular appetite to open the club or endeavour to organise summer events. However, the Secretary will inform club members in the event other clubs are running events in which we may participate.

END