



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Hull and District Chess Association Charitable Trust, held at Willows Social Club, Hull, Tuesday 17th June, 2014.

The President opened the meeting at 7.15pm

Present: S King (President), Stephen Greep, Roger Noble, William Wright, Dave Mills, Andrew Bettley, Steve Thrower, John Thompson, Shaun Taylor, Jim Miklevicz, John Scotter, David Stothard, Shaun Culkin, Paul Allison, Paul Carter, Mike Butt, Peter Eggleton, Bruce Oliver, Tony Southern, Trevor Harper, Saman Khoshnaw, Lester Jones, Ted Williamson, Derek Sheppard, Stephen Brown, Charles Clayton and three others (who did not sign the attendance register).

The Annual General Meeting, due notice having been given, was quorate.

1. **Presidents Opening remarks:** The President of the Association welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked them for their time. He declared the AGM open.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Ted Stamp, Tim Barwood, Graham Chesters, Philip Tuplin.
3. **Presentation of trophies:** The President presented the Trophies for all Association Events in line with the record in the League and Cup Secretaries Report (item 8 on the Agenda).
4. **Minutes of the last meeting (2013 AGM):** Acceptance proposed by Bill Wright and seconded by Jim Miklevicz. They were unanimously voted as a true record
5. **Matters arising:** There were no matters arising
6. **President and General Secretaries Report:** This had been previously circulated. The President introduced the report. There were no questions.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Steve Thrower spoke to his report which had been previously circulated, showing good balances for the Association on both General and Congress Accounts. There were no questions.

7.1 Fees Proposal. Steve Thrower spoke to the proposal to increase fees by £1 for the forthcoming season and a further £1 the following year. In answer to a question concerning impact for clubs he indicated that on current estimates the most any club would pay in addition was approximately £14 per annum (depending on numbers of teams entered). One change was agreed to the proposal, taking the word 'matches' out of the first line. Following a discussion the votes were:
For 25: Against 0: Abstentions: 1
The proposal was therefore carried
8. **League, Cup and Summer League secretaries Report:** Andrew Bettley spoke to his report which had previously been circulated. He thanked Steve Donoghue (who stepped down after the last AGM) for all his hard work in previous years as League and cup secretary. There were no questions.

9. **Fixture secretaries Report:** Derek Sheppard introduced his report and thanked Andrew Bettley for his work as Summer League secretary last season. He outlined arrangements for next season's fixtures. There were no questions.
10. **Match Captains Report:** David Mills reported on the two teams the Association entered in the Yorkshire League. The first team finished in the bottom half, the second team mid table of their respective divisions. Around 25/6 players had taken part in the Yorkshire League matches, but more players would be welcomed for next season. We had also entered a team in the Sunderland Cup which presented an opportunity for lower graded players to play representative games. It was expected to enter the same number of teams next season. Steve Thrower, on behalf of everyone in the Association, thanked Dave for all his efforts.

At this point in the AGM the President asked for a minutes silence to remember two local chess players (Stan Gibbs and Les Navier of St Andrews CC) who had sadly died during the course of the year .

11. **Association Strategy:** The General Secretary introduced the strategy document which had previously been circulated and for which earlier versions had also been circulated to all clubs for comments. He outlined that this had been produced as a part of the requirements for the transfer of the RP Ross Fund when the current arrangements with the existing Trustees ran out in early 2015. Following a discussion the votes cast were:
For 24: Against 0: Abstentions: 3
The strategy was agreed
12. **Proposals for Rule Changes** (These minutes are to be read in association with the appendix, detailing the agreed rule changes. These are a formal part of these minutes).

12.1 League and cup time control changes: Derek Sheppard introduced this item and answered questions as to the rationale behind this move; there was a discussion on the future use of digital clocks. Following a discussion the votes were:
For 23: Against 1: Abstentions: 1
The rule change was therefore agreed.

12.2 Tie break arrangements: David Mills introduced the proposals to change the current tie break arrangements. Following a discussion the votes were:
For 3: Against 13: Abstentions: 9,
The rule change was therefore was not supported.

12.3 Promotion Arrangements for four and six board leagues: Shaun Taylor introduced this item. Changes to six board promotion were being suggested due to the relative difference in strength between the two divisions. Following a discussion votes were cast:
For 25: Against 2: Abstentions: 0
The rule change was therefore agreed.

A separate vote was taken on the application of this rule change to the new winter season
For 18: Against 8: Abstentions: 0
The rule change will therefore take effect from the start of the new season and only one team will be promoted and relegated from the positions at the end of last season.

12.4 Changes to the four board league and cup handicap: Andrew Bettley introduced changes which were designed to eliminate half point handicaps in the four board league so that all league matches can end in a draw and to ensure what happens in the event of a draw in the cup was clarified. Following a discussion votes were cast:
For 14: Against 8: Abstentions: 2
The rule change was therefore agreed.

12.5 Changes to the Fenner Trophy: Andrew Bettley introduced changes that were designed to make the trophy open to more teams, and to ensure that there were sufficient teams to make the tournament worthwhile. Following a discussion votes were cast:

For 21: Against 3: Abstentions: 2

The rule change was therefore agreed.

12.6 Changes to the U125 and 165 Cups: Andrew Bettley introduced these proposals which were to ensure there were sufficient players to make running the tournaments worthwhile. Following a brief discussion the votes were:

For 25: Against 0: Abstentions: 0

The rule change was therefore agreed.

12.7 Changes to the Handicap Cup: Andrew Bettley introduced these proposals which were to ensure there were sufficient players to make running the tournaments worthwhile. Following a brief discussion the votes were:

For 20: Against 5: Abstentions: 0

The rule change was therefore agreed.

12.8 Changes to the Jubilee Cup: Andrew Bettley introduced these proposals. Following a detailed discussion amendments were made, to make this a five rather than six board team event and to leave the maximum grade per team at 800. The maximum handicap was to be 4.5. It was agreed to put the amended proposal to the vote. Votes cast were:

For 21: Against 2: Abstentions: 1

The amended rule change was therefore agreed.

12.9 Changes to the Peter Hughes Hull and District Chess Championship: Roger Noble introduced this item, designed to make the tournament more appealing to players. There was a long debate on the structure of the tournament - an amendment was agreed and put to the vote. It was agreed to vote on each of the four elements of the proposal in turn:

(1) That the final of the championship be held every two years instead of one

For 19: Against 5: Abstentions: 4

The amended rule change was therefore agreed.

(2) That the tournament became a straightforward 16 player knock-out. The 16 players being the 16 highest graded players who accepted the invitation to play

For 24: Against 3: Abstentions: 1

The amended rule change was therefore agreed.

(3) If the first game is drawn a second game will be rapid play (30 minutes each player) colours reversed. If this is still a draw sudden death rapid play, five minutes per player will be played.

For 20: Against 2: Abstentions: 3

The amended rule change was therefore agreed.

(4) The trustees were to introduce an incentive scheme for the champion and runner –up.

For 22: Against 4: Abstentions: 1

The amended rule change was therefore agreed.

13. Election of Officers and Trustees

The following nominations had been received and all were duly elected as officers of the Association and Trustees unanimously.

President	Steve King
Vice President	Andrew Bettley
General Secretary	Stephen Greep
Treasurer	Steve Thrower

League Secretary
Cup Controller
Summer League Controller
Fixture Secretary
Publicity Officer
Congress Organiser
Youth Development Officer
Match Captain

Andrew Bettley
Andrew Bettley
Derek Sheppard
Derek Sheppard
Roger Noble
Steve King
Steve King
Dave Mills

Trustees (without Office):

Graham Chesters
Jim Miklevicz
Shaun Taylor
John Thomson
Bill Wright

14. Any other notified business

There being no further business the President closed the Meeting at 21.45

Other matters

David Mills informed the AGM of potential matches v York and Scunthorpe next season
The President asked for a good attendance at the Chess Open Day at Hull library on July 19th
David Stothard asked for a resurrection of a presentation evening and lightening event in future years.

Stephen Greep,
Hon. General Secretary
19/06/14

Appendix : Rules Changes agreed at the 2014 HDCA AGM

CHANGES TO THE LEAGUE AND CUP TIME CONTROL

General rules:

6.1 To read 'each player shall have 90 minutes in which to complete the game'

Six Board Cup Tournament Rules:

3.2 Second sentence to read 'When the match starts, such time that has elapsed will be deducted from the absent team's players clocks.'

3.3 To read 'Each player shall have 90 minutes in which to complete the game'

RP Ross Four Board League and Cup Rules:

3rd paragraph to read 'Each player shall have 90 minutes in which to complete the game'

Individual Knockout Tournament Rules:

(2) to read 'Each player shall have 90 minutes in which to complete the game'

Peter Hughes Tournament Rules:

(2) to read 'Each player shall have 90 minutes in which to complete the game'

CHANGES TO PROMOTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FOUR AND SIX BOARD LEAGUES

General Rules:

8.1 To read 'In the Four Board league promotion shall be for teams finishing 1st and second in their divisions. Teams will not be able to avoid promotion....'

8.2 To read 'In the six board league promotion shall be for the team finishing top of their respective divisions. Teams will not be able to avoid promotion. Subsequently, teams finishing bottom of a higher division will not have the opportunity to avoid relegation'

(Current 8.2 to become 8.3)

CHANGES TO THE FOUR BOARD LEAGUE AND CUP HANDICAP

To change the team grading handicaps. Will require new table as per page 15 of the current handbook

League

41-90 - 1 point

91-140 - 2 points

140+ - 3 points

Cup

In the event of a draw in the four board handicap cup the lower graded team will progress. If both teams are equal on grades. Then the away team will progress.

This will require removal of the changes made at the EGM in October 2013 'in the event of a draw paragraph 4.7 of the six board rules will apply' to the end of paragraph 4 of the RP Ross Four Board League and Cup Rules).

The words 'In the event of a draw in the four board handicap cup the lower graded team will progress. If both teams are equal on grades then the away team will progress' will be inserted at page 15.

CHANGES TO THE FENNER TROPHY

The format of the Fenner Trophy will change, be open to all six Board teams, with teams playing two rapid play games (two 30 minutes games one of each colour).

A minimum of 8 teams will be required to enter for the Fenner Trophy to go ahead.

YCA rapid play grades will be used or where no rapid grade exists, normal play grades will apply.

CHANGES TO THE U125 AND 165 CUPS

A Minimum of 8 players will be required for the tournament to go ahead.

CHANGES TO THE HANDICAP CUP

A Minimum of 8 players will be required for the tournament to go ahead.

Change rule 3 - lower grade player has white to first name drawn has white

Change rule 4 - if drawn then play with reversed colours, if second draw then lower grade goes through

CHANGES TO THE JUBILEE CUP

The Jubilee Cup will consist of teams of **FIVE** players. Current maximum grading of 800 per team and handicap arrangements to remain the same, excepting the maximum handicap will be 4.5. Away team to have white on odd boards (3 whites).

A Minimum of 8 teams will be required for the tournament to go ahead.

CHANGES TO THE PETER HUGHES HULL & DISTRICT CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

1. That the final of the championship be held every two years instead of one.
2. That the format of Peter Hughes Hull & District Chess Championship be changed into a sixteen player knock out tournament. Initial invitations shall be made to the sixteen highest graded players (grades will be assessed as those in place at the start of the season in which the Peter Hughes Chess championship is played). Should players not accept the invitation the next highest graded player will be invited and so on until there are sixteen acceptances. The draw will be 'seeded' – the strongest player as 'seed' 1, the weakest as 'seed' 16. The tournament organiser's decisions regarding seeding and the draw will be final.
3. If the first game in the final is drawn, the second game will be rapid play (30 minutes each player) colours reversed. If this is still a draw sudden death rapid play, five minutes per player will be played.
4. To give the title of Hull Chess Champion more significance the Trustees are asked to introduce an incentive scheme for the champion and runner up in the final).