# MINUTES OF THE 71st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF EAST CHESHIRE CHESS CLUB, 2018

**The 71st AGM was held on Wednesday 23rd May 2018 at the Cheadle Hulme Institute, commencing at 7:30p.m.**

**Twelve members were present:** Paul Bamford, Geoff Clarke, Dave Harris, MylesHeywood, Keith Hodgson, Steve Kelly, Arnold Pease, John Reed, Tudor Rickards, Geoff Smith, David Taylor & Roy Taylor

1. **Apologies**. Apologies were received from Roger Beswick, Geoffrey Brindle, Steve McCall & Jim McKie.
2. **Minutes of the 70th AGM (17th May 2017)** were approved without change and signed by David Taylor as Chairman.
3. **Matters arising**.

None

1. **Presentation of trophies**.

The winner of the **Matchplay Trophy** for 2017-2018 was Tudor Rickards (with an astonishing 8.5 points from 9 – a 94.44% success rate!), with Geoffrey Brindle (75% from 8 games) as runner up. Tudor was warmly congratulated as he collected his trophy. Geoffrey was unable to attend the AGM; congratulations and trophy were entrusted to the safe hands of Tudor to pass on.

The winner of the **Kellett Trophy** was Roger Beswick for the second year running. As Roger was unable to attend the AGM, his trophy had been presented to him the previous week at the social evening and rapid play event. Geoff Clarke was runner-up, also for the second year running and he was congratulated warmly as he collected his trophy.

1. **Treasurer's Report**.

Steve Kelly had produced the accounts for the 2017-2018 season in advance of the meeting and they had been circulated to all members. Jim McKie had audited the accounts.

Steve reported that last year’s motion concerning signatories for the club’s account (any two from three of the Treasurer, Chairman and Secretary) had been successfully implemented and also commended members for paying their subscriptions so promptly!

The club has a surplus for the year of £3 and there are reserves of £351. In discussion it was generally agreed that while the time was approaching when subscriptions would have to be increased, the current adult subscription of £20 should be continued for another year. A motion to this effect was proposed by Geoff Smith, seconded by Geoff Clarke and carried unanimously.

The meeting conveyed its thanks to Steve and Jim for their work on the accounts. The accounts were unanimously accepted.

1. **Secretary’s Report**
   1. The meeting agreed a minor change to the Junior Membership documentation, namely that junior membership is from 10 to 17 years of age inclusive (previous documentation stated 10 to 16 years). It was pointed out by Steve Kelly and Keith Hodgson that if we were to have junior members in the club, child protection legislation would require a DBS check for supervision of children. Current Club arrangements are inadequate. It was agreed to monitor the situation and recognised that we would need to revisit the arrangements and take action if we were to have any junior members in the future.
   2. GDPR (data protection). Keith Hodgson, who attended the SDCL AGM on 16th May 2018 reported that it will be necessary in future, with immediate effect, to send members blind emails concerning chess activity. David Taylor suggested obtaining consent from members to enable sharing of email addresses and telephone numbers.
   3. The Secretary gave advance notice of possibly not being able to attend the SDCL Annual Fixtures Meeting in September. David Taylor pointed out that it was only the team captains, or a deputy nominated by them, who were required to attend. Paul Bamford pointed out that the meeting was now much simpler than in the past due to the introduction of timetabling software.
2. **Team Captains' Reports on the 2016-2017 season.**

**The B-team Captain, Paul Bamford**

The big news for the B team at the start of the season was that there was not going to be an A team this year. This of course meant that we would have no player restrictions in the B team and could play all of the “stars” who would normally be barred from the B‘s. However, this good news did not immediately show itself in terms of results as we made a slow start to the season having drawn our first match and losing our second. We then found some form though and went on a winning run and remained unbeaten for the rest of the season. This meant that we started climbing the table and pushing for top spot and actually managed to clinch the title on the last match.

So a big thank you and well done to everyone who turned out for us this season. Particular mention goes to Tudor who scored a magnificent 8.5 out of 9 and also David Taylor who was also unbeaten all season.

**The C-team Captain, Steve McCall**

As my second year as captain I had a great addition to the team, Steve Tatlock. The team won a few games until we met Denton, who were the runaway winners, giving us a 5 - 0 thrashing. We picked ourselves up, dusted ourselves down and then took another beating by Stockport C. Jim McKie for the second year running was our star player. I’m happy with all the chaps for making life easy for me in picking teams. We ended up finishing fifth out of eight – but it’s taking part that matters

**The Captain of the Limit League team, Keith Hodgson,**

**Captains Report**

**Limit League 2018 Season**

**East Cheshire Chess Club**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Team** | **Matches Played** | **Matches Won** | **Matches Drawn** | **Matches Lost** | **Games For** | **Games Against** | **Points** |
| Denton | 8 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 20½ | 11½ | **13** |
| Wilmslow | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 15½ | 16½ | **8** |
| East Cheshire | 8 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 15½ | 16½ | **7** |
| Macclesfield | 8position | 2 | 3 | 3 | 14½ | 17½ | **7** |
| Altrincham | 8 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 14 | 18 | **5** |

A promising start to the beginning of the season with a drawn match against Altrincham was quickly dashed when our next match resulted in a 3 – 1 defeat against Denton who ultimately became the league champions as the season unfolded. Notwithstanding this setback every match played throughout the season was hard fought by our team players with some excellent individual results. Pleasingly we fielded a full team for every match and I thank all the players for their support in what proved to be a good season of play. Five teams competed in this league and we were pipped at the post by Wilmslow into 3rd place which was a big improvement from last season’s performance where we were bottom of the league of 4 teams.

I am prepared to continue as captain for next season but am more than happy to step down in this role should anyone wish to have a go at this most enviable and privileged position I have had the pleasure of enjoying ( or do I mean endured) over these past 5 years.

Avote of thanks was given to all the captains for their work over the season. Paul, Steve and Keith have kindly agreed to continue next season as team captains.

A wide ranging discussion ensued concerning whether (a) the B-team should accept promotion from division 2 to division 1 and (b) we should have 3 or 4 teams in the Stockport League next season. There was a consensus that it was probably not under the club’s control as to which division the B-team would end up playing in. Steve Kelly proposed and Dave Harris seconded that “we enter 4 teams in the Stockport league in the 2018-2019 season”. This was carried with 8 votes for, 2 against and 2 abstentions.

As a consequence, the teams are renamed as the

A-team, captained by Paul Bamford;

B-team, captained by Steve McCall;

C-team, captained jointly by Steve Kelly and one other person;

Limit League team, captained by Keith Hodgson.

David Taylor suggested that the Secretary contact Nick Flaherty to see if he would be interested in sharing the captaincy of the new C-team.

1. **Maintenance of the web-site**

After a lengthy discussion in which it was agreed that both keeping the web-site up to date and the ability to change its structure were important issues for the club. David Taylor kindly agreed to keep it updated provided the team captains and Secretary provided the copy. A website sub-committee was set up to look into modernising and changing its structure with membership David Taylor, Tudor Rickards and Geoffrey Brindle.

1. **Sign outside the Institute**

After discussion it was agreed that the sub-committee mentioned in item 8 would also look into the possibility of replacing the sign outside the Institute.

1. **Election of Officers**.

The following officers were unanimously elected to their proposed posts:

* **Chairman: David Taylor**
* **Secretary: Dave Harris**
* **Treasurer: Steve Kelly**
* **Auditor: Jim McKie**

Publicity to continue to be dealt with by **Tudor Rickards.**

1. **Club competitions next season:** In addition, it was agreed that the club competitions and tournaments should continue in their current format next season, and would be run by the following people:

* **Kellett** **cup**: **Geoff Clarke**
* **Matchplay: Jim McKie**
* **Rapidplays at the social evenings: David Taylor** and **Steve Kelly**, with a view to Steve eventually taking over from David

1. **Summer Chess**. One team of four players will be entered in the Stockport Rapidplay Summer League organized by Peter Taylor (Stockport Chess Club). In the absence of a volunteer, the team will be captained by **Dave Harris** with some support from **Tudor Rickards**.

Geoff Smith again expressed an interest in attending the club for an alternative of friendly “patient play” games.

It was agreed that **the club would open 5 times over the summer**, as required by the schedule for the rapidplay league, with those who wish to attend paying £1 per visit to help cover the cost of the rent. The club will then reopen in the autumn on the first Wednesday in September, as in previous years.

1. **Suggested change to the Kellett Cup**

The suggested change to the maximum number of games per person (from 4 to 6) did not find favour and it was agreed that the status quo be maintained (by a vote of 7 for to 2 against).

1. **Current Rule Book**

Steve Kelly led a discussion on the importance of knowing the contents of the chess rule book and which covered (a) what to do in the case of an illegal move; (b) being aware that spectators should not intervene in a dispute; (c) how to offer a draw; (d) not using an upside down rook when queening a pawn.

1. **Any Other Business**.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

**SIGNED …………………………………………….. DATE …………………**………………..