

The 108th. Annual General Meeting of the Glasgow Chess League was held on Wednesday 18th May 2016 in the Larkfield Centre G42 7AY

Apologies were received from Alistair Maxwell. In attendance were 12 delegates:

J. Johnston (East Kilbride), Malcolm Tyre (Cathcart), H. Glen (Bellshill), D. Logue (Inverclyde), Andrew Muir (Hamilton), Douglas Bryson (Stepps), A. Mc Culloch (Giffnock), J. Mc Cartan (Dalmeir), David Watt (Glasgow Polytechnic), Peter Griffin (Phones), Chris Perkin (Glasgow Montrose), Eugene Duffy (Bearsden), as well as Jeff Webb and Mel Burt (Bearsden).

Cumbernauld, Paisley and Bishopbriggs were not represented.

As Alistair Maxwell was unable to attend he had asked Mel Burt to chair the meeting in his absence.

M. B. opened the proceedings at 7.30pm.

1. Minutes of the Previous AGM and matters arising.

The minutes of the 107th. AGM were distributed and taken as read.

There being no matters arising they were accepted on a proposal by H. G. and seconded by J. J.

2. President's Address

A.M. had asked M. B. to welcome the members on his behalf to the 108th. Annual General Meeting of the Glasgow Chess League and to thank the Management Committee for their work over the past year and ended with hope that the meeting would be held in the usual good spirits.

M. B. duly fulfilled this duty

3. Secretary's Report

The Secretary J. McC. delivered his report:

Just a few observations:-

First of all I would like to apologise for the incorrect date at item 10d which is in the email I sent out. The printed copies contain the correct date of 22nd June. No real problems were encountered and so the Mancom met as usual for 4 very quick meetings throughout the season and despite working with 3 members short of the optimum 10, dealt efficiently with the GCL business. I would urge clubs to consider putting up candidates for election to the Mancom at item 7 on the Agenda to bring it up to full strength once more. You may realise from the resolutions that one of our larger clubs is asking for a reduction in the number of players constituting a team in Division 1. It is conceivable that the league is still contracting and the Mancom may look at restructuring the number of teams constituting divisions in the seasons ahead. The Mancom observed that some clubs have not had their wins recorded on the divisional shields. In beginning to rectify this 5 items were added to the Division 1 shield. With over 40 items not recorded on the Division 3 shield it would not be financially viable to have these added. I believe the shield was not provided until season 1952 so this may explain why items since 1908 were not added. The Division 2 shield will be checked later. However it should be noted that the Roll of Honour on the website is accurate and up to date for all divisions.

This concludes my report and I thank you for your forbearance.

4. Treasurer's Report and Auditor's Remarks.

Team entries decreased slightly in season 2015/16; this coupled with the fact that the Rapidplay League did not take place, meant that the money from league fees shows a decrease of £55.

The Bond Fee continued to be applied. Three clubs required to pay their Bond Fee for season 2015/16 due to defaulting a match or matches without adequate reason in season 2014/15; the remaining clubs have agreed to allow their Bond Fees to be carried over to the 2015/16 season.

No progress has yet been made in finding the best way to invest some of the money in the Treasurer's Account to generate the best return for GCL.

The Glasgow Allegro took place in November and ran at a surplus of £27.25.

On paper the season shows a surplus of £90.06

The balance shown in the accounts is now £7736.27. However the most recent bank statement shows a balance of £7797.77, a difference in GCL's favour of £61.50. The auditor and myself examined the accounts last week but were unable to identify where this amount can be attributed to and this is referred to in the Auditor's Report.

The books have been audited by David Reid and a copy of his report is available tonight.

The Glasgow Congress did not take place and the Account Balance remains at £3718.20.

*Hamish Glen* GCL Treasurer.

Hamilton asked if there was any chance that the Glasgow Congress could take place and H. G. replied that a cost of £1500 for a venue, was felt too much to subsidise without involving some form of sponsorship.

His report was accepted on a proposal by M. T. (Cathcart and seconded by A. McC. (Giffnock).

5. League Controller's Report.

J. J. proceeded to give his report thanking the Secretary for printing out the League tables for the meeting. He confirmed that Hamilton had won division 1 with Inverclyde victorious in division 2 and Bellshill seeing off all others in division 3. He informed the meeting that Bishopbriggs (1) and Hamilton (2) had defaulted matches over the season and would forfeit their Bond Fees. He also noted that having been given a change of fixture date involving incorrect team designations "B" and "C" the captains of the 2 teams in question had not spotted the error and could have resulted in a catastrophic mix up which should have been picked up earlier than it was had they checked the fixture change was accurate. The Controller urged captains and other club officials when asking for changes to be made, that they check the information given has been accurately relayed online. He then stated that several players continue to play up more than the 3 times allowed and would appreciate if in future they could keep track of the number of times they play up/across to avoid any results having to be processed as graded friendlies.

In conclusion it was brought to the meeting's attention that Jim is undoubtedly the fastest grader in Scotland. The Controller's Report was accepted without further comment.

6. Presentation of Prizes and Trophies.

M.B. then presented the Divisional shields, clocks and memento trophies to:-

Bellshill (Hamish Glen) as division 3 winners. Inverclyde (David Logue) for division 2 and Hamilton (Andrew Muir) as division 1 victors.

All winners were congratulated on their achievements by the assembled company.

The Secretary received the Division 1 Rapidplay Shield which had been returned by Cathcart.

He would keep it at his home along with the Rapidplay Division 2 shield already in his possession.

7. Election of Office Bearers and Management Committee

No nominations were received from those present and so the incumbent Management Committee Mel Burt, Jim Johnston, Chris Perkin, Hamish Glen, Alistair Maxwell, John Mc Cartan and Douglas Bryson was returned unopposed. The meeting was urged to return to their clubs with a view to seeking suitable candidates to fill the 3 spots still vacant. All Office Bearers had elected to continue fulfilling those duties assigned and this was accepted unreservedly.

8. Appointment of an Auditor:

David Reid was proposed by H. G. and seconded by M. B.

David Reid was then elected as no other nominations were received.

9. Proposed Changes to the Rules:

David Watt was invited to speak on behalf of the Polytechnic proposal at 1A.

Quite a few discussions took place for and against.

An amendment to the proposal at 1A

“That the number of players in division 2 should be 5”

fell as no seconder was found.

The Polytechnic proposal was then voted on and fell with 5 votes for and 7 against.

Hamish Glen then spoke on behalf of the Bellshill proposal at 1B.

Discussions took place at great length for and against until Bellshill withdrew their motion.

10. Next Season:

Competitions:

- a) The League will go ahead and it was hoped that the Rapidplay would also proceed, dependent upon receipt of an adequate number of entries. Andrew Muir of Hamilton asked if the AK Miller could be included as he was willing to run it if so.

The Management Committee would look into this at their next meeting.

b) Fees and Subscriptions:

There was no proposal to increase fees or subscriptions for 2016/2017.

These remain at £15 Subscription with Team Fees as follows :-

Division 1 £30.00 : Division 2 £25.00 : Division 3 £20.00

- c) H. G. felt that September 7th was too early a date to hold the Fixtures meeting. It was pointed out however that this date directly affects the Dumbarton Fixtures on the 14th and the Lanarkshire on the 21st and with the following week encompassing the September holiday the GCL Fixture meeting would be held on September 7th as proposed

- d) The Mancom on the 22nd June would certainly look into the AK Miller viability.

11. Any Other Competent business:

David Watt enquired as to why notification of the AGM was late this year.

The secretary replied that he had given out the date along with notification of the proposal as to when resolutions could be made in time for the AGM Agenda.

There being no further competent business Mr Burt closed the meeting at 8.45pm.