

Glasgow Chess League AGM Minutes Held at Larkfield Centre, 29 May 2024 @ 7.30pm

Voting delegates in attendance: Alistair Maxwell (Secretary, Cathcart. AM for minute purposes), Alexander Marshall (Glv Polytechnic), Graham Dobbie (East Kilbride), Mel Burt (Bearsden), Iain Shields (Queens Park), Alex McFarlane (Paisley), Thor Saemundsson (Hamilton), Toby Knowles (Glv Montrose), Willie Hulme (Stepps), Ian Aird (Dalmuir), Shea McPherson (Bellshill), Phil Thomas (Renfrewshire)

Other Attendees: Hamish Glen (President, Bellshill. HG), Paul Cumming & Andy Chisholm (Queens Park), Jim Johnston (East Kilbride), Ian Brownlee (Stepps), David Reid & Sam Collins (Glv Montrose), Richard Menzies (Glv Polytechnic).

The meeting commenced at 7.32pm

1 Apologies for Absence and President's Remarks

Apologies were received from David Deary (Treasurer), Douglas Bryson, Harry Marron and John McIntyre. HG welcomed everyone to the meeting especially Alex McFarlane who would be making a contribution under AOCB. It had been a good season and we were back to 4 divisions and had been largely uneventful and he thanked the committee especially David Deary, AM and Willie Hulme for doing all the hard work. He also noted that sadly we had lost long serving Secretary and Committee member John McCartan as he passed away after illness.

2 Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

AM pointed out that it was noted in the 2023 minutes that we would name a Glasgow Congress tournament after the late Ken Stewart and we confirmed that would be rectified in the next congress. There were no other matters arising so the adoption of the minutes for 2024 were proposed by Mel Burt and seconded by Thor Saemundsson.

3 Secretary's Report

As usual this will be a brief report but in terms of the past season there has been very little to report. The Mancom met regularly and the main subject appeared to be the introduction of increments – a motion is before you based on the discussions of those meetings.

Correspondence was sparse and usually involved emails regarding the eligibility of players and mostly resolved in one reply.

The reporting of results to both the Secretary and the League Controller remain in the usual quite appalling category! Despite repeated reminders there are a number of issues. Firstly, the result not being reported to both the LC and Sec or by both clubs! Secondly, new players appearing with no idea of correct name, any previous grades/ratings, dates of birth. Then players names being misspelt and other dubious information re ratings etc.

I would like to thank Hamish and David particularly for keeping me right and the Mancom for their efforts throughout the year. Willie Hulme has been keeping the LMS system up to date and it has been very handy for spotting missing results! Jim Johnston again needs special mention for his efforts with the website and I can confirm that any delays or inaccuracies that exist are usually my fault and without his kind assistance I would be lost!! The Larkfield Centre should also get our thanks for providing accommodation for all our meetings without problems and at a cost unmatched elsewhere – we could not get better value for money!

If anyone else wants to join the Mancom (especially in the Secretary's post!) then let us know. We need new blood!

4 Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the Treasurer, HG advised that David Deary was still working on the accounts but had promised that they were getting audited just now as he had access to People Auditings and will circulate audited accounts at the first opportunity.

5 League Controller's Report

Division 1

Another very close fight for 1st place this year with any of 4 teams (Bellshill, Paisley, Hamilton or Stepps) able to win - right up to the last few weeks! Overall team strength continued to increase this

year with 6/10 teams able to field titled players at some point (IM and FMs). All the top teams took points from each other: Last year's champions, Paisley beat Stepps quite early on; Stepps in turn managed to beat a strong Bellshill side; Paisley lost to a strong and determined Phones team; Bellshill drew with Hamilton closing the season

So, in the end it was Stepps who ended up holding together the remainder of their match points to win the league with Bellshill as runners up. Paisley, Phones and Hamilton were all close behind – and the top half of the table dominated the bottom half with Poly and East Kilbride finished in 9th & 10th place respectively.

Division 2

Another well contested division with Queens Park, Strathclyde Uni & Bearsden all in close contention.

Just like Div.1 the top teams took points from each other: Strathclyde Uni convincingly beat Queens Park; Queens Park beating the winners Bearsden; Bearsden B holding Queens Park to a draw. So, in the end Bearsden take top place and Strathclyde Uni runners up. Bearsden B and Poly B finished in 9th & 10th place respectively.

Division 3

With both Cathcart B and Lenzie not losing a single match(!) and their individual encounter ending in a 2-2 draw, this was always going to be a very tight league. In the end, Lenzie dropped another draw to Hamilton B and Cathcart B managed to win their other matches to take the title. At the other end of the table, Poly C and Renfrewshire B took 9th and 10th places respectively.

Division 4

Cathcart C romped home winning 10/10 matches! Paisley C and Hamilton C fought for 2nd place but despite Hamilton winning their individual encounter 3-1, it was Paisley C who took 2nd place.

LMS / New Grading System

The Chief Grader has been in touch with the Programmer of the new system and there are still a few niggles to be worked out before it can go live. I have been told that it is unlikely that the new system will be ready for the 2024/5 season starting, so put on another year. We will continue to use LMS in the meantime.

6 Motions

Resolution 1 - proposed by Management Committee

RULES OF PLAY

Change:

5.2 The rate of play shall be all moves in 75 minutes in all divisions.

To:

5.2 The rate of play shall be 60 minutes plus 10 second increment per move (from move 1) in all divisions. Clubs will indicate the start and finishing time at the start of the season and games unfinished at the finishing time will stop and clubs should try to agree a result. If the clubs fail to agree then the position, indicating who is to move and indicating clock times, should be sent by both clubs, following the Disputes Procedure, to the League Controller who will decide the result. The playing session will be a maximum of 2 hours 40 minutes (which is enough for a 120-move game).

NB If Resolution 1 is carried then 5.3 and the Appendix for Quickplay Finish Rules will be deleted entirely.

An amendment was proposed to add after “will be a” the words “minimum of 2 hours 30 mins and”. The amendment was carried 6 – 4 with 2 abstentions and the amended motion was carried 11 – 0 with 1 abstention.

Resolution 2 - proposed by Management Committee

RULES OF PLAY

DISPUTES PROCEDURE

Change:

4. A fee of £20.00 per team per position is applicable for disputed draw claims. The Management Committee may, at its discretion, levy a fee of £20.00 on one or both parties in any other dispute. Where a fee is levied, the fee will be returned to the successful claimant.

To:

4. A fee of £20.00 is applicable for all disputes.

Where a fee is levied, the fee will be returned to the successful claimant and can be waived for both parties at the discretion of the Management Committee.

The motion was carried unanimously.

7 Presentation of Prizes

Div 1: Stepps A

Div 2: Bearsden A

Div 3: Cathcart B

Div 4: Cathcart D

8 Election of Office Bearers

President: Hamish Glen

Prop: AM

Sec: Thor Saemundsson

Secretary: Alistair Maxwell

Prop: Hamish Glen

Sec: Graham Dobbie

Treasurer: David Deary

Prop: Thor Saemundsson

Sec: Graham Dobbie

The secretary proposed Thor Saemundsson, Douglas Bryson, Mel Burt, Phil Thomas, Alex Marshall and Ian Brownlee en bloc which was accepted unanimously by the meeting. Anyone else wanting to get involved could do so by contacting the secretary.

9 Appointment of Auditor

HG confirmed that David Deary had his own auditor and the report would be circulated when available as advised in the Treasurer's report section.

10 AOCB

- 1) The meeting agreed a vote of thanks to David Reid for all his efforts in auditing the accounts over the years.
- 2) FIDE 100 – Alex McFarlane advised that Chess Scotland were going to participate with FIDE to set a new Guinness World Record for the most people playing chess on the same day. It would be held at Xcite in Braehead and there would be at least a simultaneous exhibition which would be open to the public. Clubs were invited to produce an A4 poster advertising their own clubs. The idea was to promote chess and hopefully we would see an upsurge in people playing. He also said that they were considering a meeting of clubs hosted by Chess Scotland to promote good practice in clubs (publicity etc.).
- 3) Glasgow Congress. Everyone would be aware of the last event in the Campanile Hotel and we were looking at alternative venues. The intention was definitely to run it again but at present we may have to consider returning to the Campanile although this restricted numbers and required hiring tables etc.

The meeting ended at 9.46pm

GCL Div 1 League Table

Pos	Team Name	P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Stepps A	9	8	0	1	16
2	Paisley A	9	7	1	1	15
3	Cathcart A	9	6	1	2	13
4	Phones A	9	5	1	3	11
5	Strathclyde Univ	9	4	2	3	10
6	Bellshill A	9	3	1	5	7
7	Bearsden A	9	3	1	5	7
8	Hamilton A	9	3	1	5	6
9	Renfrewshire A	9	0	2	7	2
10	Dalmuir	9	1	0	8	1

Hamilton and Dalmuir both had 1 point deducted for defaults

GCL Div 2 League Table

Pos	Team Name	P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Lenzie	8	7	0	1	14
2	Glw Polytechnic A	8	6	1	1	13
3	Queens Park A	8	5	1	2	11
4	Paisley B	8	2	3	3	7
5	Stepps B	8	3	1	4	7
6	Glw Montrose	8	2	3	3	7
7	East Kilbride	8	2	1	5	5
8	Cathcart B	8	2	1	5	5
9	Phones B	8	1	1	6	3

GCL Div 3 League Table

Pos	Team Name	P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Glw Polytechnic B	8	7	0	1	14
2	Glw University	8	6	0	2	12
3	Cathcart C	8	4	2	2	10
4	Bearsden B	8	4	1	3	9
5	Hamilton B	8	3	2	3	8
6	Stepps C	8	3	2	3	8
7	Bellshill B	8	3	1	4	7
8	Queens Park B	8	2	0	6	4
9	Phones C	8	0	0	8	0

GCL Div 4 League Table

Pos	Team Name	P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Queens Park C	10	6	3	1	15
2	Bearsden C	10	5	4	1	14
3	Cathcart D	10	5	2	3	12
4	Glw Polytechnic C	10	2	5	3	9
5	Hamilton C	10	2	4	4	8
6	Renfrewshire B	10	1	0	9	2