

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Ladle on 11.06.01

Present

Gerry Walsh (*President*), Keith Smith (*Secretary*), Steve Dauber (*Treasurer*), Ray Pallister (*League Organiser*), Brian Myers (*Individual Championship Organiser*), Frank Boagey (*Hartlepool*), Les Boxx (*Hartlepool*), Jeremy Burnett (*Synthonia*), Norman Cole (*Stokesley*), John Cowle (*Redcar*), Graham Edwards (*Synthonia*), G. Foster (*Guisborough*), Jason Gentle (*Redcar*), Tony Kiddle (*Middlesbrough*), S. MacCormack (*Teesside Hungs.*), Graham Matthews (*Hartlepool*), C. Maxwell (*Whitby*), Bill M^cGregor (*Peterlee*), Trevor Middleton (*Whitby*), Richard Moore (*Redcar*), Stuart Morgan (*Guisborough*), Mike Mossom (*Redcar*), Steve Place (*Redcar*), David Richardson (*Middlesbrough*), A. Watts (*Guisborough*).

Before the AGM started the President announced the deaths during the season of Phil Thompson and Bob Hammond and asked those present to pay their respects with a moment's silence.

Apologies for absence

R. Killick, B.M^cKie, Jim Rogers and Phil Whittingham.

Minutes of the last meeting

These had been circulated before the meeting and were accepted as a true record.

Proposed *Mr. T. Kiddle* Seconded *Mr. G. Matthews*

Matters Arising

Mr Walsh commented that a new Minister of Sport had been appointed today after Labour's win in the election and it would be interesting to see if the new Minister was more sympathetic to The Chess As A Sport campaign which had fallen on deaf ears under the previous Minister. He also said that the Secretary of the Braille Chess Assoc. had moved to Redcar recently.

Reports of Officers

NCCU affairs

Mr Walsh, the Association's NCCU delegate, spoke on the NCCU AGM which had been held last week in Leeds. The NCCU supported the new membership categories brought in by the BCF (£12 for ordinary members and £10 for juniors). He said that there were moves to put proposals before the BCF to the effect that all officers must have some category of membership and that people who received a financial subsidy from the BCF should also be Members. At the moment only players who wanted international ratings were actually required to be BCF Members.

There was comment on how much game fee would be given back to the Association if it made membership of the BCF mandatory for its members. Mr Walsh replied that he had brought this up with the Federation but they had been non-committal – this might be brought up at a later Management Board meeting for clarification.

Mr Walsh reported on the grading situation which had improved due to structural changes at national level. He was confident that the new list, to be published at the beginning of August at the British Championships (Scarborough), would be 96% correct. He confirmed that Dave Richards would send off Cleveland's data as soon as possible.

Finally he brought to the meeting's attention the Ampleforth Junior Masters to be held at Ampleforth College in North Yorkshire on 25-28 October 2001 which is one of the richest junior tournaments in Britain.

there should be a meeting in September to discuss the future of the trophy and to vote on what to do with it. Mr Kiddle said it should be sold rather than just being kept in the bank incurring storage charges of £40 a year for the Association. Mr Moore said he would like to see a plan on what the Association intends to do with the money if it was sold. Mr Walsh said that the issue genuinely splits Cleveland members 50:50 over whether to sell or keep it.

Eventually it was agreed that a meeting would discuss the matter, probably an EGM in September, and there would more than likely be two votes – one to decide on whether to sell and one to decide how to sell and what the minimum price should be. Voting would be for registered members of the CCA as of this year, to take into account that at the start of the season fees could be paid as late as the end of October. Postal votes might also be allowed but it was to be hoped that there was a good turnout when the meeting was called to discuss the issue and that the trophy would be on display at the meeting for members to inspect.

Finally Mr Walsh said that the engraving on the box should be brought up-to-date and that the whole set should be photographed and recorded for the Cleveland records.

Discussion on the new voluntary membership scheme recently announced by the BCF.

This had been discussed under **NCCU affairs** by Mr Walsh.

Discussion on the future of the County team and its financing.

Unfortunately Mr Whittingham was not able to attend the AGM but there was discussion on the onerous nature of the job as well as the costs of travelling to matches during the later stages.

Any Other Business

Mr Pallister reminded everyone about the Presentation evening on 28th June when there would be a Raffle, Quiz, Disco and the Presentation of trophies. More prizes were needed for the raffle. Tickets have been distributed to the clubs and they cost only 50p more than last year.

Mr Walsh brought up an item concerning the BCF – they had sold some shares given to them by David Norwood which had realised £85,000 – this was for the benefit of the Junior Trust.

The meeting closed at around 9.05pm