

BARROW CHESS CLUB

Minutes of the 138th AGM of the Barrow Chess Club

Held at the British Legion Club,
Holker Street, Barrow-in-Furness on 30th August 2023

Present:

D Cole, G Horne, T Blower, M Mackenzie, F Whalley, J Duffield, J Woodburn, R Hayley, R Roy, H Beck

Apologies for Absence

A Llewellyn

Minutes of the 2022 Meeting

The Minutes of the 2022 meeting were accepted as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising

The Minutes of the 2022 meeting referred to the health of Eric Fleet, the club President. The Chairman had been in touch with Eric who now lives in the south of England with his daughter and he is well and must be aged 101. The Chairman would contact Eric and give him the club's best wishes.

Chairman's Report/Secretary's Report

The Chairman commented on the number of members in the club and compared the low number to other clubs in Cumbria. He was glad that recently a number of new players had turned up at the club and hoped it would continue into next season and become members. In Cumbria it is hoped more teams will take part in the Open Division to give more games. Three man teams will still be the default with four man teams on agreement of the captains. The County team will enter the U1850 rather than the U1650 last season. The NCCU will be celebrating its 125th Anniversary in 2024 and will be organising a Grand Prix involving Northern congress participation. It is also hoped to hold a one day four man Club team jamboree. The ECF will be presenting new membership proposals at the October AGM with either a single level of membership with Bronze level being phased out over time, or a combined Gold and Silver membership.

Treasurer's Report

George reported that the bank balance at the 31/08/2021 stood at £127.66 with a deficit of £36.75. Unless there was an increase in membership George proposed an increase in fees of £1 to £11; which was agreed. £11 for Club membership and £7 to play in Cumbria. (ECF fees to be paid outside this).
(Signed Audited 2022 a/c's were presented to the Secretary.)

Librarian's Report

Jim circulated a written report to the meeting on the Norry Kirby Snr chess library. There are 414 chess books in the library with some books out on loan using the register. 30 chess books had been donated by Eric Fleet, and a non-chess book, The Clatter of Clogs. A discussion on the age and value of books and magazines resulted in the Secretary taking an action to look at some of the older publications and finding out if they are worth anything.

Webmaster's Report

Alan sent in a written report stating that there had been around 6,000 more hits on the site this year with over 60,000 in total. Many new members stated they found the club from viewing the website. Alan continues to update the site on a regular basis with news, info and competitions pages updated highlighted in yellow.

Internal Competitions Report

Trevor reported that only Ian Travers had completed all games in the Club Championship. Attendance in the KO and the ladder competitions were sketchy and it was hoped more games were played next season. *Trevor placed the 2023-24 competition notices on the board after the meeting.*

Presentation of Trophies

Major: Matthew Mackenzie

Minor: Alan Llewellyn

KO Cup: Jon Duffield

Lightning: Matthew Mackenzie

Summer League Major: Dave Cole

Summer League Minor: Alan Llewellyn

Pairs: Alan Llewellyn and Harry Beck

Ladder: Trevor Blower

Averages: Matthew Mackenzie (*The Secretary to arrange a new trophy as the current trophy is too big*)

Election of Officers

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| Chairman: | Dave Cole |
| Secretary: | Dave Cole |
| Treasurer: | George Horne |
| Librarian: | James Woodburn |
| Internal Competitions Organiser: | Trevor Blower |
| Webmaster: | Alan Llewellyn |
| Auditor: | Russ Hayley |

Cumbria League & Whitaker Teams

It was agreed that one team would enter the Open Division, possibly two teams in the Southern division and possibly one team in the Whitaker. Matthew Mackenzie would captain the Open team and Trevor Blower one of the Southern teams. If a 2nd team in the South played, Dave Cole would captain. Whitaker captain to be decided.

AOB

Russ asked who had won Cumbria and Grading prizes at the South Lakes Congress. Russ, Jon and Rob had won prizes from the Barrow club. Russ also asked that if serious club games were being played, other players respect this with less noise. A notice to this effect would be put on the board. It was also asked that Championship games **not** be played on Lightning nights.

Dave Cole

Hon. Secretary Barrow Chess Club