

BARROW CHESS CLUB

Minutes of the 135th AGM of the Barrow Chess Club

Held at the British Legion Club,
Holker Street, Barrow-in-Furness on 28th August 2019.

Present:

D Cole, G Horne, A Llewellyn, T Blower, M Mackenzie, D Miller, T Kirby, D Martin, F Whalley, C Underhill, J Woodburn, R Jones.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Scott Bower

Minutes of the 2018 Meeting

The Minutes of the 2018 meeting were accepted as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising

Trevor asked about the Open v South leagues match which didn't take place last season but is being planned for this season and a calling notice will go out shortly for 12-16 player teams.

Chairman's Report/Secretary's Report

The Chairman began with ECF issues on increased membership fees and the direction of travel in putting up fees with nothing back from the ECF except a grade. Also the lack of transparency in the Chess Trust run in the main by the ECF Management Board was an issue. The NCCU were also concerned over increased fees and the decline of County chess, which were not being addressed by the ECF. Monthly grading was due to commence in early 2020 following a consultation with members.

In terms of Cumbria, Barrow A won the Southern League for the fifth year in succession and Barrow won the Whitaker Trophy. George Horne won the Keswick Knight in the Cumbria Individuals. The biggest issue was the declining number of members and Cumbria had decided to set aside £250 to help clubs publicise chess if they required it. Membership in Barrow is slowly declining in numbers and it was hoped to see more members joining.

The Chairman said he would continue to try and publicise the Cumbria/Barrow chess results in the Evening Mail newspaper on a monthly basis, although last season submissions had not been printed.

There was a chance that the Cumbria Individual Championships would be held in Barrow if Kendal declined. (*post-meeting: the Individuals will be held at St Mary's, Walney 21-23rd February 2020*).

Treasurer's Report

George reported that the cash and bank balance as at the 29/8/2018 stood at £295.31 with a surplus for the year of £10.72. There were no large or unusual expenses through the year. £200 of the cash is now in the trophy contingency fund and it was agreed that this figure should be the upper limit. Fees for the season remain unchanged - £10 for Club membership and £5 to play in Cumbria. (ECF fees to be paid outside this, Bronze £18.00, Silver £27.00, Gold £39.00). (*Signed Audited 2018 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 had been five additional chess books donated by Alan and Frank: The Leningrad Dutch by J Ehlvest, 60 Memorable Games by R Fischer, The Semi-Open Game in Action by A Karpov, The French Defence by A Suetin and The Art of Attack in Chess by V Vukovic. There are 395 chess books in the library and Jim reported that the library was well used.

Webmaster's Report

Alan circulated a written report which featured an annotated screen grab of the home page showing where the news, competitions and information could be found. There had been 4000 hits on the site and is becoming more popular as players get to know it. Alan continues to update the site and will update with players information in the private section accessible by signing up and logging on.

Internal Competitions Report

Trevor reported that there were no problems in any of the competitions which ran smoothly. The Ladder competition was the best ever with a most exciting finish, resulting in a play-off. The rules for next year will be amended to include a tie breaker where the most 'win' defences count over 'draw' defences. Trevor announced the winners of each competition.

Presentation of Trophies

Major: Jim Woodburn & Matthew Mackenzie

Minor: Alan Llewellyn

KO Cup: Dave Cole

Lightning: Matthew Mackenzie

Summer League Major: Frank Whalley

Summer League Minor: Trevor Blower

Pairs: Matthew Mackenzie & Trevor Blower

Ladder: Trevor Blower

Averages: Matthew Mackenzie

The Whitaker trophy medals were presented to the winning Barrow team.

Election of Officers

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

Cumbria League & Whitaker Teams

It was agreed that two teams would enter the Southern League but that declaration of interest from players would need to be made to decide whether to enter the Cumbria Open league.

AOB

A notice would be put on the board for expressions of interest to play in the NCCU Club event.

Dave Cole

Hon. Secretary Barrow Chess Club