

CAMBORNE CHESS CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Lowenac Hotel, Camborne on
Wednesday 24th May 2023

PRESENT

P. Williams (Chairman), I. George, J. Morgan, J. Nicholas, R. Smith, A. Jones, R. Humpleby, C. Sellwood, R. Anthony, I. Anthony, B. Jones, P. Gill

APOLOGIES

R. Kneebone, J. James, P. Spargo, C. Gardiner, R. Gardiner.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Secretary (Ian George)

i) Review of the season

The secretary reported that the club had started to meet regularly for the first time since the end of the Covid restrictions. The Lowenac hotel had proved to be an excellent venue and there had been a good attendance at the fortnightly meetings. The varied programme had proved popular. The fortnightly junior coaching organised by Robin Kneebone, had well received. He was confident that the club would continue to build on this satisfactory start.

ii) Club Championship

The new club champion on 4 points was Jamie Morgan who defeated Robin Kneebone in the final round. The secretary undertook to collect the Trevor Johns Cup from the holder, James Hooker and present it to privately to Janie. The chairman presented the Philip Williams Cup for players rated under 1600 to Richard Humpleby who won with 4 ½ points.

On the proposal of the secretary, it was decided that the 2023/24 championship should be contested as a single-section Swiss.

iii) Camborne Grand Prix

This competition, linking a number events, including the club championship, at various rates of play, was won by Philip Williams.

The final standings of both competitions are appended to these minutes.

Treasurer (Ian George)

i) Accounts

The Treasurer presented the accounts for the 2022/23 season. Subscriptions totalling £479 were received from 28 members. The total cost of hiring the venue at the Lowenac Hotel was £830. There was a net deficit of £379 for which application would be made to the Cornwall Chess Trust for payment in full. The accounts were approved.

i) Budget for 2023/24

The treasurer presented the budget for 2023/24 showing a deficit of £393 for which application would be made the Cornwall Chess Trust for payment in full.

The accounts and budget are appended to these minutes.

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VENUE, MEETING NIGHT AND FREQUENCY

- 1) It was agreed that the club should continue to meet fortnightly at 7.15 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Lowenac Hotel, Camborne commencing on 13th September 2023.
- 2) It was agreed that Robin Kneebone and his colleagues should decide on the starting time for the junior coaching.
- 3) It was agreed that the secretary should approach the committee of the club's previous venue, the Bickford Smith Bowling Club, with a view to holding home matches in the Cornwall County Chess Association team competitions there on Fridays, Camborne Community Centre would be retained as a back-up option.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION AND FEES

- 1) It was agreed that there should be no change in the membership subscription (£25) and session fees (£3)
- 2) In view of the resumption of team competitions in the county, it was agreed that a board fee of £3 per player be levied for home matches only, to be collected by the treasurer in December and May.

COUNTY TEAM COMPETITIONS 2023/24

- 1) It was agreed that one team should be entered in each of the competitions: County Shield, Roberts Cup, Quickplay League, AW Busby Cup and Roger Grime Cup.
- 2) It was agreed to defer a decision on whether or not to enter a second team in any of the league competitions until the availability of players and drivers was known. The decision would be made by the committee on the advice of the team captains. The secretary undertook to write to the members immediately.

ELECTION OF CLUB COMMITTEE

The following were elected:

President:	Philip Williams
Secretary:	Ian George
Treasurer:	Ian George
Coaching organiser:	Robin Kneebone
Co-opted	John James

Team captains

County Shield 1 st team:	Jeff Nicholas
County Shield 2 nd team:	Percy Gill
Roberts Cup:	Colin Sellwood
County Quickplay league	Richard Smith
AW Busby Cup	Jeff Nicholas
Roger Grime Cup	Colin Sellwood

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CONSTITUTION

The secretary presented a draft constitution which he had drawn up for consideration by the members. He explained that the advantages of becoming an unincorporated association under a formal constitution were twofold. Firstly, it would allow the club to open a bank account in the club's name so that the club's funds would no longer be held personally by the treasurer. Secondly, it would make it a straightforward process to appoint new committee members on the retirement of existing ones.

It was agreed that the document be adopted as the constitution of the club. A copy is appended to these minutes.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Percy Gill, a trustee of the Cornwall Chess Trust, stated that in his view one of the barriers to team chess was the cost of travel to away venues, especially when the driver is unable to collect contributions from other team members. Although it was not something that could be actioned at this meeting, for the information of members, he was going to propose to the other trustees that the trust should support this financially, using the HMRC approved mileage rate of 45p per mile.

The secretary, a fellow trustee, welcomed this suggestion and said that an efficient mechanism for this would be for club officials to apply to the county association and for the county association to pay the clubs and apply to the trust for reimbursement.

The approval of the trustees would be sought without delay with a view to being in a position to announce a scheme at the county AGM on 15th June.

There being no other business, the chairman declared the meeting closed.

IAN GEORGE (SECRETARY)

25 May 2023