**DORKING CHESS CLUB**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING -5 May 2022**

# **Present**

Peter Lawrence, Robin Glynne-Jones, Andrew Chesworth, Brian Skinner, Anthony Collins, Will Davies, Kevin O’Shaughnessy

**Apologies for absence**

Steve Hooker, Julian Walker and Paul Dunican

**Minutes of the last Meeting**

The Minutes were approved subject to 2 corrections.

# **Matters Arising**

1. A membership form for new members is now available but Peter Lawrence admitted that he had overlooked using it.

# 2. The £1 discount for early payment of the ECF membership fee has stopped.

3. A blitz tournament was held in September.

4. Dorking U3A never happened due lack of interest by that organisation.

5. The club website now has photos displayed.

# **President’s Report**

Since our last AGM in 2019 we were unable to hold an AGM in 2020 or in 2021 due COVID-19.

Sadly, I have to mention that 2 long standing members, John Davis and Alan May, passed away in 2020 and 2021 respectively. I attended both of their funerals giving a eulogy on both occasions.

In the course of the past 12 months, I pleased to report 6 new members: Pablo Telford, Kevin O’Shaughnessy, Geoff Busswell, Paul Dunican, Michael McCormack and Rob Merriman. Michael McCormack, has been unable to attend the club since before Christmas due to ill health and I wish Michael a speedy recovery.

The club currently has 14 full members and in addition 4 associate members from Redhill Chess Club, who had insufficient membership to enter their own teams in SCCA competitions. Due to COVID the availability of those associate members has been very helpful and enabled the club to only default 2 boards during the course of the season. One of those defaults happened at very short notice due to COVID.

I have resumed coaching children and some adults at Dorking Library on Tuesdays 4.15 pm to 5.15 pm during school time. Those coming must be registered with the library first and for practical reasons there is a limit of 8 players. So far, this initiative is progressing well.

During 2020 and 2021, when over the board chess was not possible, the club entered teams in 4NCL online competitions. It is also entered a team in the SCCA online competition. Our teams have had varying degrees of success but it was a great and involving experience for the players involved.

The club entered 4 teams in the SCCA competitions including the Lauder Trophy.

In the Elham Trophy Dorking team are currently in bottomplace having scored 1/6. It is likely that our team will be relegated to the Centenary Trophy next season.

The Minor Trophy team have scored 1/6 and finished bottom

In the Stoneleigh Trophy our team scored 1.5/4.

We were eliminated from the Lauder Trophy in the first round by Ashtead.

Despite the lack of success for the club in the SCCA competitions recently I remain confident that with our new members and hopefully fewer problems with COVID we will do better next season.

In the Nickol Cup 1 or 2 games (there might need to be a playoff) are still to be played and any one of 3 players could still win the competition.

An away friendly against Chessington Chess Club has been arranged for Wednesday 11 May.

This year Dorking will again be a centre for the SCCA Individual Competitions with a Wernick Cup section. Pablo Telford, Geoff Busswell, Will Davies and Julian Walker will be the Dorking players who are taking part in the Wernick Cup. Andy Chesworth continues in his role of SCCA Individual Tournaments Secretary.

Anthony Collins, Robin Glynne-Jones and Peter Lawrence have also played in county matches for Surrey.

Our club website is still our best source of new members. The club also gets some publicity from Dorking Library.

This year we have considered who is the most improved player in the past season. There are 3 candidates who come to mind, Pablo Telford, Geoff Busswell and Kevin O’Shaughnessy. However, this is their first season playing in rated games of chess so there is no anchor point on which to base the improvemen therefore, we will leave over an award until next year or perhaps after the Individual Tournaments this summer before making a decision.

When there is a match night it will be helpful if any members can arrive early to assist with the setting up.

# **Financial Report**

Copies of the Financial Report were distributed to the meeting.

Brian Skinner advised that due to COVID-19 the club did not meet for over the board chess for 2019/20 and only resumed meetings in September 2021. However, insurance cover was maintained throughout that period.

The financial reports have been split into 2 periods: 2019/20 and 2020/22 with the latter report merged for the 2 years. 2019/20 had shown a surplus of £71.54 and that included £12.96 for the purchase of score sheets. 2020/22 showed a deficit of £115.68 but that did include the purchase of 2 digital clocks at a cost of £54.20. Overall, the club’s finances now are similar to what they were 2 years ago.

There were 2 action points from the 2019 Financial Report. The first concerned exploring putting some of the club funds into an easy access account to earn some interest. This did not happen as the amount of interest that could be earned was so small it was not worth the trouble. The second action point concerned removing the need for 2 signatures to approve payments to facilitate online banking and that has been done.

Peter Lawrence said that as the venue no longer employed a caretaker, he was hoping that the savings thereby generated would enable the cost of the room hire to remain unchanged despite the increase in the cost of heating.

There is not likely to be any significant increases in SCCA fees. The club income should increase naturally next year as fewer members will receive the 50% first year new member’s discount.

It was agreed that increasing the cost of associate membership for Redhill Chess Club members should be explored. **Action Point – Peter Lawrence**

On the basis of the above it was agreed unanimously to leave club membership fees unchanged.

**Election of Officers**

The officers below were elected nem.con.

President – Peter Lawrence. Vice President – Brian Skinner. Treasurer – Brian Skinner

Child Safeguarding Officer – Peter Lawrence. Publicity Officer – Andy Chesworth

Elham Trophy Team Captain – Peter Lawrence. Minor Trophy – Andy Chesworth

Stoneleigh Trophy – Anthony Collins. Lauder Trophy – Peter Lawrence

**Privacy Policy**

Peter Lawrence provided the background to the Privacy Notice being drafted. A player from another SCCA Club decided after playing 2 SCCA competition rated games that he wanted all records of him removed from the club, SCCA and ECF websites. The problem with complying with his request was that it involved removing his name from the Results System and also from the ECF rating system. He claimed that when he agreed to play in the team games for the club, he was unaware that the games would be rated and the results of his games recorded. The fact that the details of the Club, SCCA and ECF Privacy Policies were available on their respective websites was of no consequence. According to the Information Commissioners Office the Privacy Policy has to be specifically drawn to the players attention and he/she has to confirm acceptance. This can only really be done if each member completes and signs a form confirming acceptance.  The form will only need to be completed once for existing members and similarly for new members. The Club, SCCA and ECF had no option other than to comply with the players request but this is a situation which we wish to avoid in future.

A copy of the Dorking Chess Club Privacy Notice can be seen in the Appendix. Each member of the club is asked to complete sign and date this form. This procedure was agreed nem.con.

**Summer Chess**

8 players will play summer chess and this includes 4 who will be playing in the Wernick Cup at Dorking. It is likely that the club will receive £80 from the SCCA for being an Individual Tournaments venue. A charge of £15 for Summer Chess was agreed.

There will be an away friendly match against Chessington Chess Club on 11 May, probably over 8 boards.

# **Inter Club Competitions**

It was agreed that the club will enter teams in the Ellam Trophy (or Centenary Trophy if relegated), Minor Trophy, Stoneleigh and Lauder Trophy. The Fred Manning was considered but only if there is a car driving captain graded under 1600. Kausik Patel, who is a Redhill associate member, was offered the captaincy last year but he declined. He is not likely to want to take on this role for the new season but he will be approached,

**Internal Competitions**

Andy Chesworth will canvass members for interest in a blitz tournament on the first Thursday in September. If the event does take place Brian Skinner will be the controller.

**Action Point – Andy Chesworth**

It was felt that given the very full fixture list, a ladder competition would not be successful but a check with members will be made to see whether there is sufficient interest.

The Nickol Cup will continue on the existing basis with 5 rounds.

# **Any Other Business**

Peter Lawrence mentioned that he will be on holiday for the period 11 June – 25 June. There will therefore need to be others able to open up the club by 7pm and ensure chess sets and clocks are set up in readiness for Individual Tournament games by 7.30pm. Andy Chesworth volunteered for 1 of the Thursdays and Brian Skinner the other.

The meeting closed at 8.46 pm.

**Appendix**

DORKING CHESS CLUB PRIVACY NOTICE

Dorking Chess Club (“the Club”) is a not-for-profit unincorporated members club promoting and engaging in chess leisure activity in the district of Dorking and more widely in Surrey. The Club is managed by a committee drawn from members. It runs and enters chess events for those members. Adults and children participate in our events and teams.

The Club is affiliated to the Surrey County Chess Association (“SCCA”) and its members are entitled to be members of the SCCA. We participate in SCCA competitions and in
national competitions run by the English Chess Federation (“ECF”). From time to time we engage in team competitions run by other organizations hosted by online platforms and internal competitions for individuals run by the Club hosted by online platforms. Our members must be members of the ECF if they play in SCCA or ECF competitions and the number of games in which they play exceeds the threshold for game fee. The SCCA acts as an agent of the ECF in collating the necessary information required of chess players to have their games rated.

All of these organizations receive personal information about you from the Club in order to facilitate your memberships of these organizations. That personal information takes the
form of contact details and information to identify you as required, rating reference and membership references. These organizations, the Club and you have a legitimate interest in this processing of your information. You are referred to the data protection policies and privacy notices of these external organizations as to their processing of your personal data.

The national and international rating databases together with our results archive and the archives of organizations in whose competitions our teams participate in are kept in the wider public interest of having national and international systems to measure and record performance (including by reference to age and gender) as well as keeping a statistical historical record of chess played. Public interest also applies to the archiving of historical games and results by the organizations on whose platforms we play. Those who play in our competitions or for our teams have a legitimate interest and an expectation that:

a) their names and, if necessary for eligibility purposes, some birth information, with the names of their opponents will be passed to the ECF for rating along with the results of their chess games (and usernames for relevant online competitions) either directly or
through the organisers of the events our teams enter;

b) ECF will supply information to us and leagues about participants from their ratings database, including name, rating, ECF rating reference and membership number;

I confirm that I have read and accept the Dorking Chess Club Privacy Policy:

Name (please use capital letters):

Signature:

Date