

WEST NOTTINGHAM CHESS CLUB

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 27th June 2023

The meeting began at 7.30 pm.

Present: Simon Scott (minutes), Robert Willoughby, Ed Jones, Nigel Marshall, Jonathan Ellinsfield (Chair)

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Mike Herbert, Ross Murphy
2. **Minutes of previous meeting (June 2022)** – agreed this was a correct record of the meeting.
3. **Committee Member and Captain Report**
 - a. **Club and Membership Secretary's Report**

The year has run smoothly, with 3 league teams and 2 Minor league teams sharing the space with Beeston for their home games. There has been a large uptick in Junior session attendance, which reflects more chess activity in schools. This has led to a good number of new junior club members. We are still low on adults though, which is an issue both for volunteers and league players. Membership numbers have been good, with 50 members signed up, mostly boosted by a big uptake in juniors attending the coaching sessions, thanks to Ed for running these with Pat and promoting membership!
 - b. **Junior coach report**

The sessions ran well, with a large uptick in interest across both sessions. The structure works well so we shall continue in the same vein.
 - c. **Safeguarding Officer**

No issues reported. It was discussed that it would be better if our club had its own DBS scheme rather than rely on NPSCA, and we can then improve our cover for running sessions when Ed is away.
Action: Ed to investigate how to implement this
 - d. **Treasurer**

The club was forced to close our longstanding account with Nationwide due to the bank no longer supporting club accounts. Robert eventually found a bank which would accept us. This has the advantage of allowing online banking for paying memberships. There is an issue with the second nominee not having access, this to be resolved. Overall the account is £400 down from last year. Although we have reserves, we discussed the need to increase fees.
Action: Robert and Simon to arrange to meet the bank for sorting access

e. **West Nottingham 1 Team Captain's Reports:**

WN1: This season was a struggle for our first team, as we lost our best players from last season and nobody scored more than 50% (Mike, Alexandra and Eldars were our top performers). We finished bottom of Div 2 and so expect to play in Div 3 next season, with just one win and two draws from our 12 games. We can expect to do better in Div 3, though losing the valuable services of Vidura, who helped a lot playing board 1. Thanks also to Ross, Robert, Jonathan, Francis and Stephen.

WN2: The team secured safety in Div 3, and had no defaults.

Player stats: Ross played 10 scored 7; Robert played 8 scored 5; Mike played 8 scored 1.5; Nigel played 7 scored 1; Andrew played 6 scored 4; Ed played 6 scored 2.5; Jonathan played 2 scored 1; Simon played 1 scored 0.
Results: Won 3 Drawn 4 Lost 5

WN3: Performed well in Div 5, finished 3rd with 7 wins, 1 draw, 4 losses.

West Nottingham Rookies: Having lost our first fixture 7-1 (the one win by a default), we were rather surprised to win the following five fixtures, leading to us finishing top of the Minor League. Robert Dowling achieved 9 points from 10, and Jonathan Ellinsfield 9.5 from 11, both usually backed up by Mike Payne and myself. It was an enjoyable season for players experiencing their first season playing in the league.

4. **Membership and subs:** In the light of the Treasurer's report, it was decided to increase the annual membership for juniors and unwaged to £30 per annum. Additionally, it was agreed to increase junior subs to £2 a night to align with subs for everyone else.

Action: Club Sec to update membership form

5. **Changes to constitution**

Simon noticed that the equal ops policy was out of date, as it didn't cover protected characteristics adequately. It was agreed to update this line of the constitution.

Action: Update the Constitution on the website.

6. **Report on Rules Revisions Meeting**

At the recent RRM it was decided to revert to pre-covid rules now clubs are operating normally. There were some minor tweaks to allow alternative start times and to the rating system. It was also decided to retain the time control of 65+10 (or 75), and for team to remain 4-player squads except for Division 1, which reverts to 5-players.

7. Team entries for 2023-24: divisions and captains

Teams and captains are:

WN1	Mike Herbert
WN2	Ed Jones
WN3	Simon Scott

8. Election of Officers

Club Secretary	Simon Scott
Treasurer	Robert Willoughby
Junior Representative	Vacancy
Safeguarding Officer	Ed Jones

9. Any Other Business

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Simon Scott

27th June 2023