

CHESS ARBITERS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, August 7th 2004 at the BCF Championships in Scarborough.

Present: John Robinson, Geoff Jones, David Welch, Steve Boniface, Stewart Reuben, Neville Belinfante, Lara Barnes, Neil Graham, Sue Hale, David Sedgwick, Gerry Walsh; Wilf Arnold, Dave Thomas, Roy Heppistall, Ewan Smith.

John Robinson started the meeting as Chairman, Geoff Jones as Secretary.

1. Apologies. Apologies were received from Alex McFarlane, Peter Purland, Ian Cowen, Alec Webster, David Woodruff, Marda Dixon, Simon Woodcock, Sue Howell, Chris Howell, Francis Bowers, Tony Corfe, John Swain, Ron Powis, Cyril Johnson, John Dunleavy, Kevin Thurlow, Adrian Elwin, Phil Thomas, Alan Barton, John Richards, Tim Thurstan, Paul Bielby, Ihor Lewyk.
2. Minutes. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, July 26th, 2003 at the Edinburgh, were accepted as a true record. Proposed Lara Barnes, Seconded Gerry Walsh.
3. Matters arising. a.) Positive Vetting, The BCF application for umbrella status has been submitted to the CRB but the process is not yet completed, b.) Mobiles, This is on the Agenda for the FIDE rules review In Mallorca in October. c. Disability Discrimination Act, Guidelines on BCF Website and will apply to all clubs with membership over 24.
4. Chairman's Report. The chairman reported that it was good to see Arbiting Matters published again, but the year was dominated unfortunately with deaths. Richard Furness, Jack Spiegal, Frank Hatto, Peter Shaw, John Vassey and Barbara Lamb, a minutes silence was held.
5. Treasurer's Report. The accounts and treasurer's report for the last financial year was circulated and the treasurer reported that 21 of the new shirts had been sold that week. Lara Barnes proposed that the report be accepted, seconded by Stewart Reuben. Finally Steve's proposal that the fees remain the same for the forth-coming year was accepted.
6. Chief Arbiters Report. Dave Welch reported he was dispirited with attending BCF Management Board meetings, he had presented a paper on reviewing the BCF -rules suggesting that each BCF Director work with a Senior Arbiter in revising the rules that relate to their area but nothing had moved forward. Roy Heppistall replied that the minutes had been circulated and the timescale for comments had not expired. Dave then went to report that clear guidance from the BCF over captains rights had been established. It was suggested that the BCF board should take advice from The English Bridge Union on the formation of an "Ethics Committee" and the appointment of a "Compliance Officer". There was a lot of new BCF Arbiters but still one or two in the pipeline. One had been deferred for discussion by the BCF and needed a decision. There was a discussion on arbiters being required to be BCF members or members of their home Chess Association. FIDE rules review In Mallochia was

reviewing a lot of changes coming from the public and a lot of it was unnecessary. Arbiters discretion is better than prescription.

7. The BCF delegate gave a report of the BCF Council meeting that he had attended He reported that the BCF had agreed changing its name to English and that the motion agreed at last year's CAA AGM that all BCF arbiters should be members of their national association had been shelved through lack of time.
BCF game fee had gone up to 43p, the grading list was not on the website for legal reasons.

8. Election of Officers.'

(Office)	(Nominee)	(Proposer)	(Second)
Chairman	Lara Barnes	Geoff Jones	Steve Boniface
Secretary	Geoff Jones	Steve Boniface	John Robinson
Treasurer	Steve Boniface	Dave Thomas	Stewart Reuben
Chief Arbiter	David Welch	Gerry Walsh	Geoff Jones
Information Officer	Wilf Arnold	Steve Boniface	Neville Belinfante
Committee proposed on block		Geoff Jones	David Welch
	Alex McFarlane		
	Neville Belinfante		

Peter Dodsworth replaced with John Robinson

Auditor David Sedgwick David Welch Dave Thomas

BCF Delegate Neville Belinfante Ewart Smith Dave Thomas

At this point John Robinson was replaced in the Chair by Lara Barnes. A vote of thanks to John was recorded.

9. C.A.A. Constitution. David Sedgwick had sent in, a copy of a constitution he had found in his files to the secretary who had misplaced it in his house, move Geoff Jones to investigate and report back. -
10. Any Other Business. Stewart Reuben stated that at the last Council meeting it had been stated some congresses were falsifying their BCF Direct Members participation in order to reduce their game fee. The BCF was looking in to this and the matter was left on the table. It was proposed that once CBR had cleared the BCF that all CAA full members who are active should be CRB cleared.
There being no further matters the meeting closed at 5.35p.m.