

South Shields Chess Club
Minutes of A G M 13th September 2018
Held at New Ship Cleadon

1. Apologies

Dave Patterson Chris Sayers

2. Minutes of last meeting.

In the absence of the secretary there were no minutes available. Eddie had spoken to Chris who confirmed there was nothing of significance from last time.

Reports

3. Secretary's report

Chris also said he would step down if anybody wanted to take on the role, although he still wanted to play an active role in the club. There were no takers for the post...

Members were reminded that they needed to be members of the ECF if they wished to play league chess or play in congresses. For members wishing to play league chess only bronze membership was required, but if they wished to play congresses as well silver membership was better. Membership can be done by phoning ECF office or on line. If any member wants help they can speak to Eddie or Stan.

Penalties can be applied if a player plays in a league or congress and who is not registered with the ECF

4 Treasurers report.

It was reported that the clubs finances were quite healthy. There was £170 in hand and £350 on deposit at the bank. The £350 was left over from the congresses held over the past 2 years. It was agreed that the subscription would remain at £6 for next season.

5 Report competitions organiser.

2 main competitions were held over the year viz Club Championship and Friends Bowl.

18 players participated in the former and 20 in the latter. Brian Towers became club champion for the 3rd year in a row and Ian Maughan won the Friends Bowl

The competitions ran fairly smoothly although deadlines for completion of some games had to be extended which delayed things a little.

6 Team Captains- reports

Northumberland League

Division 1 (Ian Maughan) a difficult season in a very competitive league. Finished 7 out of 11.

Division 2 (Kevin Rowden) a slow start up to Christmas, but finished 6 out of 11, a little disappointing.

Division 3c (Colin Campbell) a solid season finished in the top half of the table.

Division 3d (Stan Johnson) not too bad considering the team contained some new members finished 3 from bottom.

Durham League division 1 (Eddie Czestochowski) a good season finishing 2nd to Durham Abbots.

Northern Counties Championship (Paul Bielby) the team reached the final only 2 teams entered, South Shields lost a tight match to a team from Liverpool.

7 Web Site editor. (Eddie Czestochowski) the editor was now being assisted by Brian Towers

Eddie was primarily responsible for facebook page.

8 Election of officers

Chairman Eddie Czestochowski
Vice Chairman Brian Towers
Secretary Chris Sayers
Treasurer Stan Johnson
Competitions organiser Mike Savin
League Captains Northumberland League
Div1 Ian Maughan
Div 2 Kevin Rowden
Div 3c Colin Campbell
Div3d Jay Steel
Div 3e Stan Johnson
Durham league Chris Sayers

It was decided to enter an extra team in the Northumberland League making 5 in total.
A discussion took place as to whether the club had sufficient numbers to run 3 teams in div3.
Stan Johnson didn't think it would be a problem as players can interchange between teams
A more likely problem was transport for away matches.

9 Internal competitions

It was agreed to organise the 2 main club competitions i.e. club championship and friends bowl in the same way next year.
One member asked if it were possible to run a separate competition for lower graded and ungraded players. After some discussion it was decided to run a knockout competition for these players in the coming season. The competition will be for players graded 100 or below and ungraded.

10 Presentation of trophies

Brian Towers was presented with the club championship. Unfortunately the trophy for the Friends bowl had not been returned by last year's winner.

11 Any other business

- (a) Stan Johnson reported the club had reached the final of the summer plate but were beaten by Jesmond who out graded them by a considerable margin.
- (b) Northumberland Congress—Paul Bielby reminded members that the congress would take place in 2 weeks time at Park Leisure Centre North Shields. In addition to the normal sections there is a foundation section which Paul advised would be beneficial to players new to competitive chess. There is a link on the club web site.(ECF membership required)
- (c) Themed blitz evenings (summer months)
It was generally agreed that the idea had worked well, with more members turning up to play. A player could play up to 8 games in the evening and this benefitted new members in particular in that they got to know other members of the club. However one member not keen on blitz play pointed out that if all members on a particular evening played in the blitz a lone player could be left without a game, this happened on one occasion to him and he left early. One solution would be to play a blitz every other week. After discussion this idea was dismissed but several members offered to play "ordinary chess with anyone not wishing to play in the blitz rather than leave them without a game.
- (d) Chess taster sessions
The chairman advised that South Tyneside Council had agreed to 3 free sessions at The Word, Cleadon Park Library, and Hebburn...Only the first venue .was remotely successful. However the Council have agreed to six further sessions at the Word to be held on Saturdays. The chairman (Eddie) asks if anyone has a free hour to help out it would be much appreciated, contact Eddie for further details

The chairman thanked all for attending

The meeting closed at 8.30