



Queens Park CHESS CLUB

Summary of Committee Meeting

4 April 2024 | 64 Walton St, Glasgow G41 3LS

Present: Paul Cumming, Rhys McCrosson, Caitlin McCulloch (meeting chair), Jordan McNaught, Derek Rankine

Action Points

2023/24 Club Championship

1. **Derek** to send an email and WhatsApp to all members taking part in the Club Championship, covering three points: (i) those who choose to play their final game in another public place, and who need a clock and scoresheets, are to collect what they need from the Club, and to return the clock; (ii) those who wish to play their game in the Thursday Group, are to seek permission from Marianne; (iii) those who wish to withdraw from the final round in the context of holiday plans or otherwise poor availability, are to notify Jordan or Derek before the 16 April draw date.

Banking

2. **Paul** to contact the Bank of Scotland, to verify that former Committee Members Graeme and Harvey have been removed from the mandate, and to check whether an application has been received for Paul and Caitlin to be added to the mandate and provided with debit cards and online banking authorisation.

Advice for Team Captains

3. **Caitlin** to update the Club's guidance document, with two suggestions: (i) that Captains appoint deputies for each match, so that if the Captain leaves when their game has finished but others are ongoing, the deputy can act as Captain for the remainder of the match; (ii) that team scoresheets are made accessible to team-mates during the match, so game results can be recorded and viewed by all while the match is in play.

Arrangements for IM Greet Simultaneous Match

4. **Derek** to issue on 17 April a call for 22 players, plus 3 substitutes who can swap in for those who are first to lose on the night, and 3 reserves. There will be one week for registration. If there is excess demand, priority will be given to those who did not play in last year's event, and if required, a randomised draw will be used for remaining places.
5. **Paul** to order three performance award trophies, for IM Greet to present on the night (Tue 14 May) to his selection of the three best performing players.

6. **Derek** to check in with IM Greet and ensure he is happy with agreed arrangements.
7. Decision – the Committee will consider offering a further simul event(s) next season, depending upon the popularity of this event, the outcomes of a member survey (see no. 23 below), and space in the Club calendar. Pavlos Bozinakis from Phones, and Scottish Champion Ed Spencer, were identified as potential invitees.

Annual General Meeting

8. **Caitlin** to share AGM invitations and a call for Committee nominations, Team Captain interests and Member motions by the end of April. The AGM will start at 7pm on Tue 28 May. No chess activity will be offered that night.
9. **Caitlin, Derek** and **Paul** to respectively prepare President's, Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the AGM. Reports are to be delivered verbally and kept short, with a suggested length of one minute each.

5th Anniversary Allegro

10. Decision – the 12 May 2024 Allegro event will start at noon and conclude at 7pm, with setup around 11:30am and a lunch break around 2pm.
11. **Paul** to contact the Bungo and ask about potential use of an upstairs room for analysis, and any restrictions on players bringing food and drink from outside, communicating the outcomes to those playing in the event accordingly. Players will also be asked to dispose of their rubbish at the end of the event.
12. **Jordan** to make a decision on how many awards to arrange following the event, given the potential for tied placings. Jordan to liaise with **Paul** on award descriptors, so an order can be put in for presentation of Allegro awards at the AGM.

Storage

13. Following the receipt of expensive storage quotes, **Derek** to explore options for storing club equipment over the summer break with selected Club Members who may have available free space.

Bungo in the Lanes

14. Decision – following the success of last year's event, the Club will again support outdoor chess stalls at Bungo in the Lanes, led by Craig Thomson.
15. **Rhys** to promote the event to Club members in mid/late May, a month prior to the 22 June event date.
16. **Derek** to liaise with Craig on the provision of chess sets for the event, either from Club resources, or via permission from the Thursday Group.

2024/25 Club Championship

17. **Jordan** to draft a short and clear tournament ruleset, highlighting a new opportunity for players to take a half point bye, and clarifying arrangements around rescheduling and defaults, for Committee approval ahead of the 2024/25 tournament. The purpose is to enable quick decision-making in the event of problems, avoid inconsistencies, and reduce the need for mid-tournament discussion on rules and procedures.

18. Decision - the Competitions Manager will take over responsibilities from the Secretary, on producing and updating tournament round webpages, communicating draws to players via email and WhatsApp, and dealing with players who report difficulties in arranging their games. This will involve creating website and email login access for the Competitions Manager next season, and providing initial guidance on webpage creation.
19. Decision – Members will be surveyed on their chess activity priorities, to inform a potential change to the number of rounds.

Venue

20. Decision – Members will be surveyed on the features important to them in a venue, to inform the Committee’s selection of a long-term home.
21. **Paul** and **Rhys** to visit prospective alternative venues prior to the AGM.
22. Derek to enquire with the **Bungo**, on whether they would be happy in principle to host the Club again in 2024/25.

Membership Survey

23. **Paul** to draft a short member survey seeking views in three areas ahead of the AGM: (i) venue preferences; (ii) chess activity priorities; and (iii) the balance of competitive and casual chess. The survey will be purposefully short to enable quick production and encourage a high number of responses before the AGM. It will also allow space for Member comments.

Membership Cap

24. Decision – the 2024/25 membership cap will be raised from 54 to 60; those last to join, up to 15 players, may have access to regional league teams removed from their membership package with a 20% compensatory discount, depending upon how many teams the Club operates next season, how many fixtures Queens Park teams are given, and how many members express a desire to play in league teams regularly.

Note by Derek | 5 April 2024