

Minutes of TAFCA AGM held on Thursday 1st June 2023 in the Chaplaincy at 7.30 pm.

Present: Mrs J Chalmers, R Noble, A Borwell, D Coleman, J Ophoff, A Dawson, D Findlay,

Apologies: K Rose, P Selbie, J Anderson, S Blyth, B Wallace

Approval of Minutes: Proposed by D Coleman. Seconded by A Borwell

Matters Arising: None

President's Report: Alastair opened the meeting at 7.45 pm. He said this is one occasion when we had had glittering successes. TAFCA is at the forefront of Scottish Chess. Individual chess club memberships were booming. The film the Queen's Gambit had brought a lot of people into chess. A lot of Ukrainians had been joining clubs. The Pandemic led to a lot of people taking up chess online and then wanting to do over the board chess. There was particularly an upsurge in children attending Perth, Dundee and Castlehill clubs. We have never had so many juniors joining. Perth and Kirkcaldy had changed venues.

In Competitions Dundee A won Division 1 for the 10th year running. Perth A won the Knockout and Division 2.

There had been a very successful Allegro tournament run by Ray Noble with support from Jim Anderson. Newport's event was cancelled as there had been a storm and the bridge was closed. There were successes for the SNCL Dundee City teams. There were 4 teams, The A team won division one. In Division 2 the B team came 3rd and in Division 3 the C team was 5th from 8. Dundee D relegated. The team was used as a springboard for the not so strong players to gain experience. They were now in Division 4. The online competitions were organized by David Findlay with support from team captains. There were 7 teams of 4 in the 4NCL. Dundee City A won the division one title, the first Scottish team to do so; Dundee C won the division three title.

Andrew Burnett had contacted Alastair Dawson to do an article about Dundee City chess. We are hitting national levels. Thanks to Ray Noble for organizing the TAFCA Online Championship. Also the website was fantastic.

Treasurer's Report Subhayu could not be present due to work commitments. He is happy to continue as Treasurer but would step aside if anyone else wanted to take over. There had been a loss of £391.15 due to the expense of engraving 3 years trophies. Subhayu had suggested a £10 increase to fees, to £40. David Findlay proposed this and it was seconded by Daniel Coleman. There were no votes for the status quo. The counter proposal of £40 for fees was agreed.

Tournament Organiser: Ray Noble said it had been his first year as fixture secretary. There had only been a few minor problems which he had let go but it would be no more, Mr Nice Guy next year! The winner of Division 1 was Dundee A for the 10th time in a row and Division 2, Perth A. The Knockout was won by Perth A. The most improved junior was once again Rishi Vijayakumar from Castlehill. There were only 3 players eligible but with the big influx of juniors there will be more competition next year. There were 3 new online competitions this year: Team Battles, Allegro, TAFCA singles (22 players). The website was being updated regularly. David gave a vote of thanks to Ray Noble for all his hard work. Alastair said you can now go to the fixture list and see right away who is playing who, where and when. Alan Borwell said that Chess Scotland had undergone a lot of changes and hopefully they will be organized again soon. TAFCA is a member.

C.S. Delegate: Pete Selbie is on holiday and there was no report.

Election of Office Bearers:

President:	A Dawson	Proposed by J Chalmers	Seconded by D Findlay
Vice President:	P Selbie	Proposed by A Borwell	Seconded by D Coleman
League Secretary:	R Noble	Proposed by J Chalmers	Seconded by J Ophoff
General Secretary:	Mrs J Chalmers	Proposed by D Coleman	Seconded by J Ophoff
Treasurer:	D Coleman	Proposed R Noble	Seconded by J Ophoff
C S Delegate:	P Selbie	Proposed by A Borwell	Seconded by D Coleman
Tournament Organiser:	R Noble	Proposed by D Coleman.	Seconded by D Coleman
Auditor:	J Anderson		
Ordinary Members:	K Rose, D Findlay, J Ophoff, A Borwell		

Jean is to contact other Clubs to see if they can put forward someone as an Ordinary member so that all Clubs can be represented on the Committee.

Proposals:

Proposal One: Rule 7.6:

Ray said that as the chess calendar is very busy these days it would be better to amend the end of the league season from 31st March to 30th April so that we can fit everything in.

Proposed D Findlay; Seconded D Coleman.

Passed!

Proposal Two: Rule 8.2:

Due to a very busy calendar, and the difficulty of re-arranging postponed matches quickly, Ray Noble proposed that matches between teams of the same club, should have the same deadline to rearrange the match as other teams, 4 weeks, rather than the current 7 days.

Proposed D Coleman: Seconded A Borwell.

Passed!

Proposal Three: Rule 26 - Trophies:

(a) To stay the same

(b) delete "Team Battle"

(c) To stay the same

(d) Team Battle (team) – only the top 4 players in the winning team:

Team Battle (individual) – One medal to each winning individual:

Proposed by R Noble: Seconded by D Findlay

Passed!

Proposal Four: TAFCA Competitions

All current OTB TAFCA competitions out with the league have been updated, and formats standardized

Proposed by R Noble. Seconded by D Findlay

Passed!

Three new online competition rules were presented by Ray Noble for voting on:

- 1) TAFCA Team Battle
- 2) TAFCA Online Singles Championship
- 3) TAFCA Online Allegro Championship Series

Jacques Ophoff proposed to accept them, with one amendment:

Under General, rule 1 "Take out the name of the platform, Lichess.org".

This was agreed by the body of the hall.

Proposed by R Noble: Seconded by D Findlay

Passed!

Proposal Five: Online Fair-Play Guideline/Rules

Current Online Fair-Play guidelines/Rule updated for season 2023-24

Proposed R Noble: Seconded by D Findlay

Passed!

AOCB

Alastair said that due to the large number of children coming into chess we should have a 1 day TAFCA tournament on a weekend. This would be a great way to stimulate chess in the area. Perhaps we could get sponsorship. David Findlay commended the idea. Maybe it could be run alongside the TAFCA Individual giving the junior event priority. Discussion followed. It might be worthwhile considering a TAFCA junior tournament. This was agreed in principle and there will be further discussions at committee meetings.

Presentation of Trophies

Online Team Battle	Team: Castlehill A
George Pyrich OTB Allegro Dundee	David Findlay & Jacques Ophoff (Dundee)
TAFCA Online Singles Champion	David Findlay (Dundee)
J.R.Chlamers Grand Prix Winner	Alastair Dawson (Dundee)
Division One Champions	Dundee A

The rest of the trophy winners (*not at meeting*) will be handed their trophies ASAP.

Jean proposed a vote of thanks to the chair. The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.