

Blanchardstown Chess Club

AGM - Minutes

Mountivew Community Centre, 8pm, 29th June 2017

Attendees: John Delaney, Alison Green, Marie Quinn, Ana Terres, Laura Caporusso, Mariada Fidanza, John Comey, Susan Looby, Roisin Bell, Robbie McLaughlin

Apologies: Shane Grennan

Role	Date	Name	Position
Produced by	6/7/2017	Roisin Bell	Child Protection Officer
Reviewed & Approved by	6/7/2017	John Delaney	Tournament & Event Director

1. Officers' reports

Head coach's report – John Delaney

- The senior club have had an excellent year. Danny Dwyer is national U12 champion. 4-5 players have been selected to play for Ireland: Danny Dwyer, Luke Scott, Sean McLoughlin and Rudolf Tirziman.
- Five junior teams from the club played in the Leinster Leagues and performed very well.
- 20-30 junior players attended the Leinster Grand Prix series.
- The Armstrong Cup team (Division 1) were demoted as players were not available at times. Thanks to captains Luke Scott, Randalf and John Comey. This team is now looking for promotion next year.
- In the Bea Cup the second team had a great year, captained by Stefan Baczkowski.
- The division 7 team, captained by John Comey, performed well, especially considering it was a new team.
- More cohesion is needed between senior and junior groups and players to facilitate progression between teams and divisions.
- The junior club introduced a club ladder and this has been very successful. Points are awarded for attendance as well as for games won, and the ladder has succeeded in encouraging and motivating the children.
- The club achieved 95% compliance in payment of member fees thanks to new processes introduced during the year.
- In general the atmosphere in the junior club is excellent: this year has seen a good progression in arranging the logistics of the club so that the children can come along and enjoy playing chess with friends – this has been a great success. Next year the club will focus on progressing their chess skills to round off the chess playing experience for young members.
- The club has set up a new system for encouraging parents to volunteer. Many of these volunteers (numbering 16) have already received child protection training, and this knowledge is a great asset to the club.

Club Secretary's report – John Comey

- This year saw a massive upturn in numbers in the Junior club, so much so that the venue (Mountview community centre) was unable to cope with the numbers attending, A preregistration system was put in place by Ana to limit the numbers to 50.
- Club ladder software introduced to great effect at start of year. Software was modified by Shane to account for attendance and make more fair.
- Irish Junior Championship: 12 club players took part over all. Notable results were: Danny retains his under 12 Irish title; Marco Blackwell received grading Prize for top unrated player in U14 tournament. And Niamh Comey received grading prize a female runner up in under 8 section.
- Youth Squad: 10 junior players comped in LCU O'Sullivan Cup.
- LCU grand Prix: Blanchardstown Club again ran LCU grand prix event for the LCU in association with North Kildare Chess Club. Rathmines Chess Club and Malahide Chess Club and others assisted on the day. It's hoped that next year different clubs will host events as was original vision for event.
- Blanchardstown had 20+ members attending and a number of prize winners in the event.
- Mick Germaine Cup: The Club entered 8 teams in the Mick Germaine cup an unprecedented number from any club.
- Senior Club: Steffan/Robbies team win Ennis Shield to gain promoted to O'Hanlon Cup
- Armstrong team suffer from loss of player towards end of season and get relegated back to division two.
- Team changed from Corduff to the Vineyard with limited success in attracting participation on non-league nights. New venue currently being sought due to Vineyard being sold.
- Personal Note: I will not be seeking re-election to concentrate on new club in set up in north Kildare. I would like to thank everybody and for their help and friendship over the past 6 years form both myself and my family who have thoroughly enjoyed our time with Blanchardstown chess club.

Treasurer's Report – Susan Looby

2015/16 Chess Year

The final 2015/16 Chess Club Year accounts were circulated by the Chess Club Treasurer. In addition, the 2016/17 provisional accounts were also circulated. These accounts will not be finalised until July 2017.

The Treasurer noted that 2015-16 was a good year with Membership Fees up 19% on the prior year and we also received an IBM grant of Eur1,800.

The LCU Junior Grand Prix Tournament hosted by our club returned a profit of Eur600 which was retained by the club following approval by LCU. On 14th December 2016, the club received an email from Maura Osborne, LCU Junior Chess thanking the club for running the 2015/16 LCU Junior Grand Prix Tournament and advising, as agreed that any funds the club generated are to be used by Blanchardstown chess club to support the junior club, and a copy of this email is retained on file to support this.

The largest cost in 2015-16 continues to be the club premises rental from Mountview for the junior club and Corduff for the senior club, Eur1,466. In 2015/16 an amount of Eur855 was spent on much needed chess club equipment, (chess clocks, boxes and sets).

In 2015/16 Chess club insurance through O'Driscoll O'Neill was Eur367 and LCU Fees paid by the club in 2015/16 were Eur352.

Closing 2015/16 the club had about Eur2,000 in the bank account with Eur180 rent due for the senior club room rental.

The Treasurer noted that a copy of the 2015/16 accounts will be made available on the Club website for viewing.

2016/17 Chess Year

Looking at the 2016/17 year, this was also an excellent year with membership fees growing by approx. 60% with an large influx of new members in the chess club year.

The club was delighted to receive an IBM grant Eur1,800 and an etb youth grant Eur1,358 in November 2016 and the Treasurer noted that the club very much appreciated the continued support from both IBM and etb.

The club ran another very successful LCU Junior Grand Prix Tournament in 2016/17 under the excellent direction of John Comey (North Kildare Chess club) and this tournament made a profit of approx. Eur1,000

As agreed 50% Eur500 is due to North Kildare Chess club at the end of the year and the Treasurer noted this had the prior agreement of the Chess Club Committee.

The Treasurer thanked John Comey for running these events and for the great work he has done while serving on the committee over the last number of years which was very much appreciated.

The Treasurer noted that the club has also applied for another etb youth grant in 2017 and is hoping to hear back on this over the summer months.

It was also noted that the IBM grant may not be available in 2017, following the departure of Angelo Moore who was responsible for applying for this grant.

Following the 2016/17 chess year, the Treasurer estimated there would be about Eur2,500 in the club bank account, after the payment of year-end chess club accruals over the summer months, which is a good position to be in when we start back in September 2017.

2. Election of officers

The following people were elected as officers of the committee:

Chairman – Shane Grennan

Secretary – Robbie McLaughlin

Treasurer – Susan Looby

Child Protection Officer – Roisin Bell

Club Records / history – Robbie McLaughlin, Stefan Baczkowski

Lead Fundraiser – Ana Terres

Youth Captain – TBA

Senior Club Leader – Robbie McLaughlin

Junior Coaching Leader – Sean McLaughlin
Webmaster – Shane Grennan
Member and Attendance Officer – Ana Terres
Member and Attendance Assistant – Marie Quinn
LCU Delegate - Stefan Baczkowski

Two sub-committees were established/renewed:

i. Child Protection Governance

Una Martin
Susan Looby
Roisin Bell

ii. Tournaments and Events

John Delaney
Alison Green
Marie Quinn
Laura Caporusso
Mariada Fianza

3. Any other business

Fees

The fees will remain the same for next year.

Premises

Work is ongoing to find a new premises for the junior and senior clubs. Several venues were discussed, with Coolmine Community School being a lead contender largely due to its location. However, a number of other venues still require investigation. Schools are most likely to suit the junior club as they have sufficient number of tables and chairs as well as availability on a Saturday. The club will aim to have found a new venue to enable a move in September 2017.