

Agenda for the
Bury Area Chess League
Annual General Meeting 2022

Date and Time: 7:30pm Tuesday 2nd August
Venue: Linton Chess Club

- 1. Welcome**
 - a. Present
 - b. Apologies
- 2. Minutes of the previous AGM, 20th July 2021**
 - a. Adoption of minutes subject to any corrections
 - b. Matters arising from those minutes
- 3. Officers' Reports – any prepared will be circulated but with the exception of the Treasurer's Report only arising questions will be discussed.**
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Treasurer
 - i. Report and Proposed fees for next season
 - ii. Whether a slimmer version of the league handbook would be more desirable
 - c. Fixture Secretary and Roger Goldsmith Organiser
change from game of the season based on division it was played to game of the season based on ratings of the player
 - d. Grading Officer
 - e. Internet Officer
 - f. Congress Organiser
- 4. Further Matters for the Consideration of the Meeting**
 - a. Proposed changes to rules 8 for rearranged fixtures
 - b. Proposed change to rating limit for RG to encourage/enable greater participation by clubs' lower-rated players with less risk of a mismatch
- 5. Election of Officers**
- 6. League and RGT Entries**
- 7. Upcoming Events**
- 8. Any other Business**

**Minutes of the
Bury Area Chess League
Annual General Meeting**
Held 20th July 2021 online @ 7:30pm on Zoom

1.
 - a) Present:
Oliver Lenton(OL), Steve Lovell(SL), Alan Richardson(AR), Paul Kemp(PK), Norman Hutchinson (NH), Bob Jones(BJ), Mark Szymanski(MS), Stephen Pride(SP), John Daugman (JD), Phillip Fallon (PF), Michael Osborn (M)
 - b) Apologies: None received
2.
 - a) Minutes from last AGM:
Were accepted as a true record of the meeting. With respect to the actions
Trophies – OL yet to collect them, will ensure its done by Jamboree.
Committee for the restarting of the league – weren't able to consider restarting yet before next autumn.
Redrafting of rule 1.4 – 1.6 which will be rediscussed later.
Honors for best games of the season winners:
Div 1 – Aarnav Trivedi
Div 2 – Giulio Sahinoz
Div 3 – William Gu
Bury congress – SL preparing a smaller event at Moreton Hall, 23 and 24th October with a final decision to be made before committal of the bulk of costs mid September.
3.
 - a) Officers reports:
Finance: (PK) The league has a balance of just under £1500 and the congress has a balance just over £1500.
Proposal to waive all league fees this coming season (ECF fines and purchasing of handbook costs still to be passed onto clubs) – Agreed
No other officer reports.
4.
 - a) Resumption of play:
Proposal to restart league in mid-September with the pre-season Jamboree at Bury:
The Cambridgeshire leagues 11 point plan for commencing their league was not liked or desired and most was common sense. It was highlighted that captains may need to communicate prior to the match date.
Proposal for a rule change to allow postponement of matches due to players becoming unavailable at short notice through illness. Teams to substitute players at short notice where possible, and if not for a more flexible postponing and rescheduling of fixtures – Agreed – Rules to be redrafted to facilitate this.
Rules of venues / requirements / what refreshments available to be posted on the league website so that visiting teams are aware beforehand – Agreed – SL to gather information.
Mask: A proposal that if a player wishes, then they and their opponent must wear masks was debated followed by three votes:
If one player wishes then the whole venue must wear masked – 0 votes
If one player wishes then the both teams must wear masked – 0 votes
If one player wishes then the they and their opponent must wear masks (unless a screen is available or the player is medically exempt) – 5 yes, 2 no – Passed

It was highlighted that board order can be flexible (within the current rules if both captains agree) so that a player that wishes to wear a mask is not paired with a player that doesn't wish too.
The proposed teams for the coming season:

Linton – Div 1 x 2, Div 2 x 2, Div 3 x 1, RG1 x 1, RG2 x 2

Sudbury – Not present but thoughts were that a div 3 team will be fielded – OL to double check

Bury - Div 1 x 2, Div 2 x 1, Div 3 x 2, RG x ? (Bury originally proposed 1 Div 1 plus 2 Div 2 which would unbalance divisions 1 and 2; Bob Joes to confirm that Bury can do two division 1 teams)

Cambridge - Div 1 x 2, Div 2 x 2

Ely - Div 2 x 1, Div 3 x 1, RG x 1

Stowmarket – Not fielding teams this season

The final list of teams to be entered to MS by August 1st – Agreed

Start deferred to first week in October with the Jamboree on the 30th September – Agreed

b) Ratings:

(BJ) All rules wording regarding 'grading' have been changed to 'ratings', but the rules themselves not changed.

Rule 5.4, regarding nominations: the July date to be replaced by August – Agreed

The tolerance (for board order) to be set at 100 ranking points – Agreed

The thresholds for Roger Goldsmiths as outlined in the draft rules – Agreed

c) Rule changes 1.5 and 1.6:

The meeting were happy with the draft proposal – Agreed

5) Election of officers:

All current post holders are willing to stand again – Yes, with no objections

The vacancy for Vice Chairmen was once again not filled.

6) Date for Bury Congress:

The confirmed dates are October 23/24th at Moreton Hall (the whole venue will be hired), with the final decision as to go ahead on the 15th September.

7) Patrick Ribbands:

Sadly Patrick passed away last year, there is a full obituary on the league website, as well as one that ran in the ECF newsletter. Other comments were made regarding Patrick; how he helped young players, he was president of the Cambridge City Club, his services to the English opening, and how he was full of great ideas – from a unique pairing system, to recently starting the online ICENI league.

8) AOB

None

League rule 8: Rearranged Matches

The League Executive proposes the replacement of the current rule 8 with the following. The objectives are: 1. To enable and encourage captains to resolve fixture issues between themselves wherever possible. 2. To allow the Match Secretary better to monitor any rearrangement of fixtures and to enforce requirements to rearrange and play such fixtures within the specified timescales. 3. To clarify that captains should make every effort to play fixtures even if members of their usual squad are unavailable, and to discourage captains requesting rearrangement of fixtures on grounds of player availability.

8.1 Matches must be played on the date specified in the League Handbook, unless rearranged in accordance with the remaining paragraphs of this rule. However if a match is to be held within one month of the circulation of the fixture list either captain may request a postponement.

8.2 If a match has to be postponed because of bad weather, disruption to the transport system or unavailability of the venue the two captains shall co-operate in rearranging the fixture. It is not acceptable to seek postponement of a fixture because a team's regular or strongest players are not available: rather reserves should be brought in from elsewhere in the club or a board defaulted. Should it nevertheless be impossible to field a team (for lack of a driver, for example) the captain may request a postponement, and if granted the other captain shall have primacy in rearranging the fixture on a date convenient to his team.

8.3 Fixtures postponed for any reason should be rearranged within two weeks of the postponement, and should be played within six weeks of the original date, and in any event by 30 April.

8.4 Team captains may agree to play a match earlier than scheduled or (with good reason) up to six weeks later than scheduled.

8.5 The Match Secretary may extend the deadlines in rules 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4 in exceptional circumstances where it is requested by both captains and the match cannot reasonably be played within the normal timescale.

8.6 Team captains shall notify the Match Secretary and Internet Officer immediately a match is postponed and when it is rearranged.

8.7 The Match Secretary will oversee the observance of these rules. In the event of breaches he may impose an appropriate penalty, ranging from a warning to defaulting a match.