

# Calderdale Chess League

## Annual General Meeting 2009

Held at Belgrave Club 21/07/09

Attendees:

Angel Gonzales – Chairman  
Adrian Dawson – Vice Chairman  
David Patrick – Fixtures, Publicity and YCA  
Malcolm Corbett  
Ron Grandage

Lee Robinson – Treasurer  
Dave Colledge - Secretary  
Dave Milton – Committee member  
Bruce Bendall  
Dave Tooley

1. **Apologies for non-attendance:** Chris Edwards, Bill Bardelang, John Kerrane.
2. **Minutes of 2008 AGM.** These were accepted as correct and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Secretaries report:**
  - 3.1 Several committee meetings had been held during the past twelve months, mainly to discuss possibility of a one-day quickplay tournament. The Secretary said the league is ready to proceed with his but it was noted that it would require an organiser.
  - 3.2 The league is reducing in size with possibly three teams withdrawing this year, Huddersfield B, Courier C and Hebden Bridge D. Various options were discussed as to how to split the teams between two divisions and if some of these teams could be resurrected.
  - 3.3 Bill Bardelang had asked if the matter of social chess could be raised. The league schedule allows little time for this and in fact Huddersfield had dropped their B team to improve their club night rather than through lack of players. The idea of Club nights advertised in the fixtures or via the website, to be hosted by different clubs, was mentioned.
4. **Treasures report:** The Treasurer issued the accounts, currently unaudited. All of the leagues activities had produced surplus cash, particularly from YCA board fees. The bank balance now exceeds £800. It was decided to leave the YCA fees unchanged for the next season.
5. **Publicity Officers report:**
  - 5.1 The weekly chess column runs in Halifax Courier during the season. Idea of publishing games was raised but it was stated that the paper prefers 'people stories' rather than game analysis and it wasn't clear that board diagrams could be printed.
  - 5.2 The website continues as before.

5.3 Some ideas for increased publicity were given; namely a sponsored charity chess event, promotional banner shown at the British Quick play (held in Halifax) and attendance at public events, galas etc. Also it is possible to register your club team on [www.chess.com](http://www.chess.com)

6. **Fixture Secretaries Report:** The season ran smoothly. Dave Tooley has agreed to take over the fixtures for next season. Any fixture or venue restrictions should be communicated to him so that the fixtures can be arranged accordingly. It was asked that Arden home fixtures and Courier home fixtures be arranged for the same nights as they have the same venue. Arden Chess club will change its name to Belgrave Chess Club.

4.1 It was suggested that teams should be defaulted for not fielding a team, rather than allowing for rearranged fixtures. It was decided that rearrangements are acceptable provided that both team captains and the fixtures secretary are in agreement. The fixtures secretary will take into account the reason for default e.g. if the reason is bad weather. If a team has insufficient players this should not automatically be a reason for rearrangement of a fixture. Any disputes would be resolved at committee meetings.

4.2 The committee is concerned at the lack of control over the league trophies. Most were unavailable for presentation at the lightning tournament and some are missing. Dave Milton agreed to take responsibility for the trophies, keeping records of who has which ones and arranging engraving and collection for presentation next season.

7. **Yorkshire League Report.** The A team unfortunately were relegated from the first division. Credit was given to the efforts of the team, particularly team captain Dave Patrick, for keeping the team in the highest division for eight years. The strongest players had been retained and promotion back to division one is the target for next season. The B team comfortably held its place in division two while the C team gave a strong performance to finish fourth in the third division, helped by the addition of Huddersfield players. The C team could be looking for promotion next season.

8. **Trophies:** winners were:

Division one champions: Huddersfield A; Individual was Leo Keely

Division two champions: Hebden Bridge B; Individual was Martin Syrett,

Team Lightning Champions were Huddersfield.

Team Knockout was won by Huddersfield.

Individual knockout was won by Matthew Wedge Roberts

Calderdale Champion is David Wedge

9. Election of officers. The appointments were:

Chairman	Adrian Dawson	- Automatic appointment of Vice Chairman
Retiring Chairman	Angel Gonzales	- Automatic
Vice Chairman	Angel Gonzales	- Proposed by Bruce Bendall, seconded by Dave Colledge. Carried unanimously.
Secretary	Dave Colledge	- Proposed by Adrian Dawson, seconded by Dave Milton. Carried unanimously

Treasurer	Lee Robinson	- Proposed by David Patrick. Seconded by Adrian Dawson. Carried unanimously.
Fixture officer	Dave Tooley	- Proposed by David Patrick. Seconded by Adrian Dawson. Carried unanimously.
Publicity officer	David Patrick	- Proposed by Angel Gonzales. Seconded by Adrian Dawson. Carried unanimously.
Yorkshire League correspondent	David Patrick	- Proposed by Angel Gonzales. Seconded by Adrian Dawson. Carried unanimously.
Honorary Auditor	Bruce Bendall	- Proposed by Angel Gonzales. Seconded by Dave Milton. Carried unanimously.
Committee Member	Dave Milton	- Proposed by Adrian Dawson. Seconded by Angel Gonzales. Carried unanimously.

**10. Adoption of grading system.** The ECF have this season rebased the grading system in order to compress the grading range. As a consequence most grades have increased significantly. Yorkshire league grades (which are used for Calderdale competitions where grades are required) have followed a similar pattern and so this season all players on the YCA grading list have an old and a new grade. ***It was decided that we would use the new higher grades this season.***

**11. Huddersfield League.** We have been invited to enter a Calderdale team into a Huddersfield League competition. Teams are of six players and there is a handicapping system based on the grades of the players. David Patrick will captain the Calderdale team and will try to include all Calderdale players who are interested in playing. Anyone wishing to participate should contact David.

**12. Restriction on players switching between teams.** Rule 19 covers restrictions on players who play for a club's A team and then 'fill in' for the C team etc. It is thought that while this rule is important to prevent clubs strengthening lower teams for key matches, it also sometimes prevents low graded players from playing in a match where a team subsequently defaults a board. Dave Milton proposed that players below a certain agreed grade should be exempt from rule 19 – the suggested grade being 105. A grade limit of 120 was proposed by Dave Tooley and seconded by Dave Colledge. This was voted on and carried. The rule change was then proposed by Dave Milton and seconded by David Patrick; voted on and carried without objections. ***As a consequence, in the new season evening league matches, players who have a grade of 120 or below (either on the Yorkshire grading list new grade or, for players not listed, an estimated grade of 120 or less) are exempted from rule 19.*** It is hoped that this change will reduce the numbers of board defaults and perhaps help clubs to maintain more teams in the league.

### 13. Any other business.

13.1 Bruce Bendall suggested that some league funds be spent on publicity. In particular the league should purchase a large outdoor chess set to give chess demonstrations at public events such as galas. The estimated cost of such a set was given as 30 – 40 pounds. It was unanimously agreed that we would do this and Bruce was nominated to arrange purchase of the set.

13.2 Bruce asked for clarification of the rule regarding ineligible players. The example given was a match where the opposition team's board three was found after the match to have played for another team and was therefore ineligible. The ruling was that the team were awarded the board three result as a default. This was discussed and it was decided that if the situation occurs in future, ***the team with the ineligible player would default that board and all lower boards***. This does not apply where a board is defaulted because a player fails to arrive at the match. In this case only the one board is defaulted.

There being no other business, the chairman closed the meeting.

Dave Colledge  
Secretary

CC those present, club secretaries