

THE GAP CHESS CLUB.

MINUTES A.G.M. - 12th FEBRUARY 1982.

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Minutes of previous A.G.M. read and accepted.

Cobbold/Rudge

Business arising out of minutes:-

J. Guest thanked by club for his generosity in paying for club's entry in Telephone Directory.

Stowasser/Granger

Secretary's and President's reports were circulated.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

Quaresmiri/Rudge

Elections:-

\$ 4. President: D. Foster

Cobbold/Stowasser

\$ 3. Secretary: S. Wilson

Foster/Stowasser

\$ 8. Treasurer: J. Guest

Willcock/O'Sullivan

C.A.Q. Delegate: P. Miltenberg

Granger/Quaresmiri

All were elected unopposed.

\$ 7. Following the outgoing Secretary's proposal the meeting agreed that these officers should fill other posts and committee membership as and when they decided to utilize to the best, the zeal and talents of club members.

A.O.B. (ARISING OUT OF BUSINESS - SHOULD BE BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES)

\$ 52. A motion by C. Stowasser to ensure a fairer distribution of games was discussed. D. Foster objected that ratings point penalties confused the record of playing strength. B. Willcock objected that the motion's effect might aid weak players but could damage strong players. Ces accepted amendment by J. Granger/O'Sullivan that no member should be compelled to play more than 2 rating or ladder games per month. Ces's motion was put to the vote and passed.

D. Foster moved that the club competition prizes could be won only by players whose primary registration was with The Gap club. This was passed with the amendment that it should not apply to the 1982 Flood Cup.

It was agreed that new members joining from November 1st should be enrolled for the last months of the existing membership year the next year at the rate for one year's membership.

Various other items contained in the Secretary's report were discussed but it was felt that attendances were too small for those taking part to voice a decisive opinion. Ladies helping at Open thanked and in future club should present chocolates.

Reports and Stowasser's motion attached.

B. Wallace

Pres J. Granger
Sec. C. Stowasser.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

(A substitute - I suspect my kids of destroying original)

The year 1981 was not a good one for the club. In it we lost Ray Adams, Ken Bacon, Ross White, Warren Ward, Simon van Tintern the Farnbachs, Ken Holland, John Granger Jnr. and to a greater or lesser extent Bruce Petherick, Ross Hucks and Richard Hixon (the equivalent of a healthy chess club). Our hopes for an A grade team this year disappeared with them. We also lost the administrative skill and enthusiasm associated with some of them.

We were successful in running our second Gap Open but as with some other tournaments in the year the entry both in numbers (26) and quality was somewhat disappointing - no top echelon players entered (Morris and Pardow were abroad and Meyers was probably recovering from Fun in the Sun). I leave to John the question of finances.

In mid-year we suffered something of a loss of direction. There may be various reasons - end of Flood Cup together with the drop out indicated above, absence of tournament, difficulty in getting the Ladder and Ratings working again, possible over-commitment of club in the Singer Cup (inter-club comp) and increasing density of Singer Cup fixtures.

There was little enthusiasm over any arrangement to get (G.M.) Keene for a simul.

We have suffered a considerable loss of our junior contingent now at its lowest strength for some years. This must lead to some questioning.

On the other hand we have established a useful relationship with Westside News.

Issues = Organization.

We still have no constitution we can find. And I believe this may be an omission to be corrected before we could run an art union/raffle as envisaged at the last A.G.M. If we could run one SUCCESSFULLY of course it might ease our financial problems over the Open.

I am tempted to suggest there be a committee of three, Pres.,

Sec. and Treas. with power to co-opt as and where necessary - last year we had difficulty getting committees together. Some officers need not be on the committee as of right.

I would suggest there be one or two publicity officers whose prime responsibility would be to pump adverts disguised as news into the Westside News and others - Westside News is O.K. for the Gap, Ashgrove etc. but there are problems to the North and South.

I would suggest there be a permanent committee or sub-committee to deal with the Gap Open. As we have discovered, sponsorship is not easy to get and even getting a No can take months. We need to approach many potential sponsors and this year, that of the Commonwealth Games may finish them with empty pockets. Really we should have started on the task a few months ago. Sponsorship is necessary to run a top notch local tournament, let alone attract top Australian players. (While on sponsorship we would have to decide whether we exclude some approaches for moral or 'political' reasons - one promising sponsor is Dunhill).

Although it can be ignored for this year with Sec. and Treas. standing down, I would suggest that no office may be filled continuously by the same person for more than one or two years. This would spare all parties the problems that may occur if sitting officers are opposed. There would of course be nothing to prevent a sitting Pres. standing for Treas. or vice versa.

Current Committee posts as voted by last A.G.M. :-

President
Secretary
Treasurer
Librarian
Catering Officer
Publicity Officer
C.A.Q. Delegates (presently 2 but probably 1)

Inter-Club Summer Chess.

We took no positive steps with regard to this proposal. As it might interfere with a healthy period for us and even with the Flood Cup I would argue for passivity or even hostility towards the idea.

S.T.D. Chess.

Townsville has tried to get clubs into phone chess. As a player would have to pay \$5-00 a game and a team of I believe 10 is necessary the idea seems non viable for the Gap.

Bidding for tournaments.

A Miltenberg Workers Party ethos seems to suffuse the C.A.Q. which is attempting to tender out tournaments. I have assumed we cannot afford to run more than the Gap. What do members think?

Chess Night Choices.

Are we losing people by playing Fridays (we also lose on tournaments which often grab our members on Fridays)? Should we choose another night? Should we, as some other clubs do, meet on more than one night - which might lessen the drain on our other activities during the Singer Cup.

Singer Cup Commitment.

Do we field as many teams as reasonably possible or, holding that this may weaken routine club activities and spirit, limit our representation to two teams? Or do we offer a non-binding opinion to the Committee - it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that we could field two B grade teams and have too many keen or ambitious players to field only one?

I might note that there should be someone to decide on who is nominated for the various teams and that should be someone with experience of the range of players. All players chosen must be approached to ensure that they are available for play. Last year saw confusion over these matters. Of course the 'selector' should liaise with the committee and pay some attention to club ratings etc. To leave things to the committee when the committee meets once a month or two can create problems

Junior Policy.

We have followed a policy of encouraging juniors both for their sakes and for ours (it strengthens our claims on the school and offers the chance of securing good players - look at John Nothdurft). In spite of our efforts which include books

for the school library, donation of boards to the school club, and a special prize in the Gap Open for a school player, the supply of juniors has almost dried up.

Do we ignore the junior question now and let them join or no as they wish leaving positive encouragement etc. to Ross White and Nerida Powell's push? Or do we try to find out what is wrong, or not being done, and continue trying to develop Gap junior chess. My attempts to sound out the juniors by letter or speech have led nowhere (is the very existence of a school club where players can be big fishes in little ponds a disincentive for them to be, for a couple of years, little fishes in a big pond?).

'August' New Members.

Should new members have to pay full subscription whenever they join - this is a problem created last year by our more manageable membership system. Some clubs reduce membership for significantly late entrants. Membership does tie a person more to the club and \$4 or \$5 (perhaps without C.A.Q. affiliation) instead of \$10 might lead to greater commitment and eligibility to play in our competitions.

Motion moved by C. Stowasser.

Any member choosing to play on any performance ladder must be prepared to play any legitimate challenger on the night of the challenge or by the next club night at the latest. Challenges can only be made on a club night.

If more than one challenge is made to a specific member, he must give preference to the challengers against whom he has previously played the fewest number of games. If several challengers have equal claims the member challenged can choose his opponent from amongst these.

Grid records shall be kept in the games record book for all games played on all ladders so that at a glance, the number of games played by any player against any other player can be revealed. If a challenge commitment is not met, then the defaulter shall be penalised as follows :-

Rating ladder :- a drop of 25 points.

Limited challenge ladder :- a drop of one place.

Allegro ladder :- ?

Lighting ladder :- ?

Any member not attending for four successive club nights will be placed to the bottom of all ladders with which he is involved.

In the case of the rating ladder, on his reappearance at the club, he will be placed in the position warranted by his extant points. In the case of the other ladders he will be returned to his former rank order position. For this purpose the member's rank order position will be noted on his name strip when his strips are placed at the bottom of the ladders. A weekly attendance register will be kept to implement the above policies.

Part of President's Report.

....and that is a hardworking core of stalwarts led by Brian Wilcock (in my experience the best secretary the club has had) more representation on the C.A.Q. than ever before with John Guest to the front in the role of secretary. I'm sure nobody would suggest our open tournament was a failure, even though only run over one weekend. We also fielded three Singer Cup teams.

Possibly it wasn't a vintage year, but neither was it a failure. While not the strongest in terms of playing strength, we are still the best club in Brisbane and will go on to greater heights in the years ahead.

Doug Foster.