

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Durban Chess Club
held on 22 November 2012**

Venue: St. Cyprians Church Hall, Umbilo Road, Umbilo, Durban

Present: Keith Rust (Captain of Play) - acting as chairman, Bongani Mgaga (Treasurer), Jonathan Bentham (Secretary), Paul Curry (committee member), Collin Govindasamy (committee member), Hemant Nowbath (committee member), Jason Subke (committee member), Denver White (committee member), John Blackburn (the longest serving club member) and 12 ordinary members.

Apologies: Bruce Medway, Desmond Rooplal, Nashlen Govindasamy and Kavidhen Kander.

Minutes of the previous AGM:

The minutes from the previous AGM were accepted as a fair reflection of that meeting. No questions were raised.

Matters arising from the minutes:

A list of club presidents has been placed on the website. A photo of the statue of the first club president that stands opposite the city hall is also on the website.

Reports of committee members:

- Chairman's report (on behalf of Desmond Rooplal) and Captain of Play report including Prize-Giving by Keith Rust:
 - There has been an increase in the rent, however even though the rent is already rather expensive there is no problem. It is costing an extra R50 a week to pay for the car guard, since he was not being tipped frequently enough.
 - The attendance this year has been good, however numbers dropped from about the 3rd Swiss, halfway through the year.
 - The entries for KZN open were good this year with 140 players.
 - Congratulations this year to:
 - Nashlen Govindasamy who is a Candidate Master.
 - Kriti Lalla who is a Womens FIDE Master.
 - Seshni Govindasamy who is the South African Ladies u20 Champion.
 - The KZN Chess Union has organized new events, with the Spring and Winter Series. In January or February next year, Kevin Chetty will be organizing a Summer Series.
 - Several members attended the South African Open this year.
 - There will be a KZN league again next year.
- Treasurer report by Keith Rust on behalf of Bongani Mgaga:
 - The income statement this year showed a loss of about R5000. However, this was because of 2 reasons:
 - The promise of a R5 000 sponsor from the Unite program was reversed this year. There will be no sponsorship from them in the future. The club may have to increase entry fees to the KZN Open next year because of this loss.
 - The Swimline Chess Trust Fund normally pays out R5 000 towards the Natal Open every year but there has been a glitch with the transfer from their banking account, as the founder of the trust is now resident overseas. Bruce Medway will hopefully sort the problem out soon.
 - Subscription income substantially increased this year due to more members.
 - Sales of score-books have brought in good revenue.

- Expenses are much the same as the year before.
- Chess clocks were borrowed from KZN Chess Union for the KZN Open, so half the proceeds from renting the clocks were given to KZNCU and half kept by the club.
- The Durban Open held in March broke even, but the Championships and our three Swiss tournaments have always run at a loss, as members have free entry to these events.
- There is still in excess of R60 000 in the bank, so the club is currently financially sound.

It was unanimously agreed to accept the reports presented.

Election of Committee:

The meeting unanimously elected: Desmond Rooplal (chairman), Bongani Mgaga (treasurer), Keith Rust (captain of play), Paul Curry (secretary), Denver White (committee member), Nadean Gopaulsingh (committee member), Collin Govindasamy (committee member), Hemant Nowbath (committee member), Jason Subke (committee member) and Jonathan Bentham (committee member).

Membership fees:

- The membership fees will remain unchanged in 2013.
- The treasurer requested that members please make an extended effort to pay fees before the start of the Club Championships in March. Installments are accepted. This year, about 90% of the members paid their fees before March.
- It was proposed that members that have additional family join the club are entitled to get 25% discount off the club fees, for the additional member. This was unanimously accepted.

Calendar:

- It was agreed that next year there will be a Rapid tournament (rated separately) from the 20th of June to the 11th of July to replace the Fischer Random.
- The calendar for 2013 was accepted by all after the amendment mentioned above was made.

General:

- Hemant Nowbath commented on and congratulated Keith for always having the website coverage up to date almost immediately after the events.
- Thank you to Jason for doing a large majority of the setup duties.
- Cyril Danisa has become an Honorary Life member.
- This year John Blackburn has been a member for 60 years.
- Thanks to Collin Govindasamy for the box of Beacon chocolates.

The meeting was closed at 20h30.