

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the British Go Association

Held at: Macdonald Hotel, Manchester, 6th April 2019

Chaired by: Toby Manning (acting President)

The meeting opened at 7:00pm and those present were asked to sign the attendance sheet.

[1] Election of tellers

Jon Diamond and Richard Mullens were appointed as tellers.

[2] Minutes of the 2018 AGM

The minutes were taken as read.

[3] Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

[4] Officers, Membership Secretary and Auditor's reports

Written reports were received from the President, Secretary and Treasurer; the Membership Secretary; and the Auditor.

President's report

Toby presented his report.

Youth — Another £5000 had been received from DeepMind. A third and final tranche was expected the following year. This sponsorship had enabled sending a youth team to Kiev and was expected to be used for Croatia the following year. A successful two day event had been run at Caythorpe. The British Youth Go Championships had had its highest attendance since 2005.

Thanks to Gerry Gavigan and team, The London Go Centre had negotiated a 5-year lease with Young Chelsea Bridge Club, with financial support from the T Mark Hall Foundation.

Upgrading the website would be a priority for the coming year.

DeepMind sponsorship had also been used for badges and equipment for schools, and for team hoodies. Alison Bexfield reported that these had had a big impact, with youth players striving to obtain them. The badges had also gone down very well.

Secretary's report

Jonathan presented his report. There were no questions.

Treasurer's report

Richard presented the accounts. He thanked Tony Pritchard for doing the auditing, Gerry Gavigan and Toby for feedback, and Chris Kirkham for his handling of the membership stuff.

Jon Diamond believed that the Charity Commission recommended having no more than 1-2 years expenditure in reserves but that there appeared to be much more than that. He asked Council to look into this. Toby undertook to do so as part of the budgeting. Alison noted that, historically, a rationale for maintaining the reserves was to allow running large events such as the European Congress which had on occasion required desposits to be raised by borrowing from members. Richard expected that the removal of DeepMind sponsorship would make the figures look different in following years. Alison observed that the current focus on youth Go was having visible results. Neil Sandford thought it was important to plan for life without the DeepMind sponsorship.

The auditor Tony Pitchford commented that he was quite happy with the accounts and balances, and that they were all in good order and the finances were being well-maintained.

The Accounts were accepted nem con.

Auditor's report

Covered under Treasurer's report.

[5] 2018 accounts

Covered under Treasurer's report.

[6] Election of Officers and Auditor

position	candidate
President	Toby Manning
Treasurer	Richard Wheeldon
Secretary	Jonathan Chin
Hon. Auditor	Tony Pitchford

The candidates were elected unopposed.

[7] Election of Ordinary Council Members

Toby thanked Andrew Russell, who was standing down, for the work he had done. Joanne Leung was taking up his place on Council. The candidates who were present introduced themselves.

position	candidates
Council members	Gerry Gavigan Joanne Leung Matt Marsh Pat Ridley Neil Sandford

The candidates were elected nem con.

[8] Proposals from Members

No proposals had been received.

[9] Any other business

increase of DDK tournament entries

Alison wondered if her perception that DDK tournament entries had been increasing was correct. Gerry replied that DDK entries to the London Open had nearly doubled over previous years despite overall attendance having fallen slightly.

The meeting closed at 7:25pm.

Present

Adam Sharland; Alison Bexfield; Andrew Kay; Andrew Morris; Anthony Pitchford; CC Kirkham; Carl Roll; Gerry Gavigan; Jim Clare; Jon Diamond; Jonathan Chin; Louise Bremner; Matt Marsh; Mike Cumpstey; Neil Sandford; Pat Ridley; Peter Collins; Piers Shepperson; Richard Hunter; Richard Mullens; Richard Wheeldon; Sue Paterson; Toby Manning.

Related documents

- Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting
- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Secretary's Report
- Membership Secretary's Report
- Auditor's Report
- 2018 Accounts
- Nomination Sheet
- Attendance Sheet