

**Minutes of the LBHCBA's Annual General Meeting  
on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at Church House, Westminster**

**In the Chair – Marina Channing Pearce**

**1. Opening by the Chairman:** The chairman, Marina Channing Pearce, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She said that the Committee had heard with great sadness shortly before the meeting that Jeff Gill, captain of the Home Office team and the Association's Honorary Auditor, had died. She thanked Peter Wagon for arranging the use of Church House as a venue and providing refreshments.

**2. Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Andrew Kisiel, Chris Chambers, Audrey Hartley, John White, Philip Watson, Peter Langford and Arlette Shenken.

**3. Approval of the minutes of the 2015 AGM:** The minutes were approved nem con.

**4. Matters Arising from the 2015 AGM (not otherwise on the agenda):** There were none.

**5. Chairman's Report:** The Chairman reported that the 2015-16 season had gone exceptionally smoothly. Both Cup competitions and all league fixtures had been completed by the official end of the season. Consequently no adjudication of results by the Committee had been necessary. Only one disagreement had arisen during the season and the EBU ruling had been accepted by both teams, albeit with differing degrees of grace.

She reported that Peter Cogliatti had donated a cup, which would be known as the Cogliatti Cup for the Selfridges Pairs event which currently had no formal trophy and she thanked him for his generous gift.

In response to a question about the engraving of trophies Peter Cogliatti explained that he took responsibility for this to keep a consistency in format. However, he did not always have possession of the trophies for long enough between seasons to arrange engraving, the Division 3 Trophy for example had not been updated since 2012-13.

The Chairman said that three teams, GLC and LSE and Lavender Green had dropped out of the league for the new season and London Underground had asked to take a year out as one of their team would be absent on a sabbatical. Livesey, who had hitherto only played in the Cup had replaced Lavender Green, with some of the same players and Roehampton had entered a second team which, as an unknown quantity, had been placed in Division 5.

Nicole Cooke of the Young Chelsea had agreed to be available as a Tournament Director and, subject to her agreement her contact details would be added to the website

**6. Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer tabled the accounts for 2015-16. The death of Jeff Gill meant that they had not been audited and he asked for a volunteer to take over as Honorary Auditor.

The figures showed a small surplus for the year but this concealed a real loss of about £200, which was in line with recent years and which for the moment the Committee was willing to meet from reserves. The reasons for the nominal surplus were that two years' worth of prizes had been purchased in 2014/15 and therefore none had been bought in 2015/16 and that ECATS had not submitted bills for provision of the website for two years. Chris Chambers had advised that the ECATS charge was reasonable and that there was no need to switch unless there was an unexpected increase in their charges.

The accounts were approved subject to auditing.

**7. Election of Officers:** The chairman said that John White had volunteered to join the Committee and all the other members were willing to stand again for their existing offices. There were no nominations from the floor and the Committee was elected as follows:

- Chairman: Marina Chaning Pearce
- Vice Chairman: Andrew Kisiel
- Secretary: Peter Wagon
- Treasurer: Peter Cogliatti
- Results Secretary: Chris Chambers
- Tournament Organiser: Philip Watson
- Committee Member: Audrey Hartley.  
John White

**8. Appointment of Auditor:** Mike Bull volunteered to be the Honorary Auditor and his appointment was confirmed by the meeting.

**9. Dates for Surdoc and Selfridges:** The Chairman confirmed that the date of the Surdoc was 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at the YC and the 2017 event would be on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Entries were limited to one team per club but a second might be allowed if numbers permitted. No date had yet been agreed for the Selfridge Pairs as the Tournament Organiser was not sure when he would be available. The date would be advertised on the website in due course. Pairs could be from any member club but numbers were limited.

#### **10. Playing of League and Cup Matches:**

The cut-off date for league matches for the coming season would again be 31<sup>st</sup> May but matches could be played in June if the agreed date was notified to the Results Secretary before the end of May. There would be a 2 vp penalty for matches played up to or on 15<sup>th</sup> June and a 4 vp penalty for those played in the second half of June which could be imposed on one or both teams depending on whether one was deemed primarily responsible for the late playing of the match.

The Committee proposed to introduce a rule that teams were not allowed to field a new player in their last match of the season, except with the agreement of the opposing captain, to address concerns that some teams may have been drafting in a stronger player for their last match, as a one-off, when knowing the result they needed to secure promotion or avoid relegation. The view was expressed from the floor that this would

not prevent teams doing the same thing in an earlier match to target a team perceived as their main rival but after discussion the proposal was agreed.

**11. Any Other Business:** There was none.

The Chairman closed the meeting with the presentation of trophies.