

**Minutes of the LBHCBA's Annual General Meeting  
on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at Church House, Westminster**

**In the Chair – Andrew Kisiel**

**1. Opening by the Chairman:** The Vice-Chairman, Andrew Kisiel, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Peter Wagon for arranging the use of Church House as a venue and providing refreshments. He explained that he was chairing the meeting as the Chairman, Marina Channing Pearce, was unwell.

**2. Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Marina Channing Pearce, Chris Chambers, Audrey Hartley, John White, Philip Watson, Peter Langford and John Gibbons.

**3. Approval of the minutes of the 2016 AGM:** The minutes were approved nem con.

**4. Matters Arising from the 2016 AGM (not otherwise on the agenda):** There were none.

**5. Chairman's Report:** The Vice-Chairman read the Chairman's report. The Chairman was pleased to report that the 2016-17 season had been very successful and almost trouble-free. All league fixtures and the matches in both Cup competitions had been completed within their respective time limits and therefore no adjudications had been necessary. Only one disagreement had arisen during the season, which had been referred to an EBU director whose ruling had been accepted by both teams.

A new team, Canary Wharf, had discovered the LBA after the start of the season but the ever-efficient Chris Chambers had inserted them flawlessly into the league.

The Chairman reminded those present that since the change from East and West divisions to a single set of centralised divisions it had been expected that participating teams would have a central London venue for home matches. The Committee had generally expected that this would be within Zones 1 and 2 but there were now some teams with venues in Zone 3. The Committee did not wish to make the Zone 1 or 2 expectation a firm ruling as much depended on accessibility and they did not wish to discourage new teams from joining but it encouraged captains to find a suitable and amicable arrangement where a Zone 3 venue caused difficulties for an opposing team.

She reported that the London Trophy event had ceased to exist and Andrew Kisiel had approached the former organisers explaining the LBH's interest in inviting their teams to join us for the coming season.

She stressed that teams should have more than four players to ensure they were able to fulfil arranged matches and that they should avoid cancelling matches with only one day's notice.

**6. Invitation to London Trophy teams**

The Vice-Chairman said that he now had the contact details for the London Trophy teams and would be emailing them shortly. If this produced a number of new entries they would be placed in a separate division for this season and allocated to the main

divisions for the 2018/19 season. If only a few responded they would be slotted in to the existing divisions. Additional teams would be incorporated into the Cup draw in the second round. In response to his question the meeting indicated a preference to have no more than six teams in a division.

**7. Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer presented the audited accounts for 2016-17 and said that the figures again showed a small surplus for the year, but this concealed a real loss when the cost of outstanding prizes was added in. The loss was in line with recent years and for the moment the Committee was still willing to meet this from reserves. He reported that the 2015-16 accounts, which had been approved subject to auditing, had since been audited without amendment.

The Committee had been asked to make a donation to help the Young Chelsea which was in financial difficulties but had decided against doing so as the amount suggested would not make a significant difference to the Young Chelsea's position.

The accounts for 2016-17 were approved.

**8. Election of Officers:** The Vice Chairman said that all the existing Committee members were willing to stand again for the same offices. Chris Chambers and Philip Watson were unable to attend Committee meetings, being based in Ipswich and the Isle of Wight respectively, but their services in their roles were invaluable to the working of the competitions. Most of the Committee business was now conducted by email. 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

**9. Appointment of Auditor:** Mike Bull confirmed that he was willing to continue as Honorary Auditor and his appointment was confirmed by the meeting.

**10. Dates for Surdoc and Selfridges:** The Vice-Chairman confirmed that the date of the Surdoc was 24<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at the YC. 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, but would probably be in mid-April. Pairs could be from any member club, but numbers were limited.

#### **11. 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.

**12. Any Other Business:** Mike Bull asked whether it was in order to seek a ruling from a Tournament Director in mid-match. The Vice-Chairman replied that the default position was to report the situation to the Committee which would make a ruling after the match, but, if both captains agreed, a ruling during the match could be obtained from the Tournament Director at the YC.

The Vice-Chairman closed the meeting with the presentation of trophies.