

**Minutes of the LBHCBA's Annual General Meeting
on Monday 9th September 2019 at the Young Chelsea, Goldhawk Road**

In the Chair – Marina Channing Pearce

1. Opening by the Chairman: The Chairman, Marina Channing Pearce, thanked everyone for coming and welcomed two new teams, Summary Justices and RAC Bristol. One team Stock Exchange B has been lost from the previous season following the retirement of several players. She thanked its Captain for the long and steady support.

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

3. Approval of the minutes of the 2018 AGM: The draft minutes were proposed and approved nem. con.

4. Matters Arising from the 2018 AGM (not otherwise on the agenda): The Chairman summarized the steps taken by Chris Chambers in order to comply with the GDPR.

1. Data pertaining to Captains and Vice Captains of teams participating to season 2019-2020, encrypted, are on our website with their consent.
2. All personal and contact data referring to previous years have been removed.
3. Personal details of the present committee are on the website but details of previous officers and committee members have been removed.

Clive Freedman of Habeas Corpus offered his assistance in dealing with GDPR legal requirements if necessary.

5. Chairman's Report: The Chairman thanked Philip Watson for arranging the use of the Young Chelsea as the venue for the meeting: although this early date did not prove popular with some committee members it was chosen to allow the teams to play at least 3 league matches and the two KO matches in 2019. She then thanked Chris Chambers for his vital role in managing the website and all its deriving issues.

She was pleased to report that the 2018-19 season had been very successful with all league fixtures and matches in both Cup competitions completed on time. Throughout the season there had been no incident that required the intervention of the Committee for which she thanked the attendees.

There are now 5 full divisions with 6 teams each: an excellent situation that allows the optimum number of matches to be played during the season. Should the number of teams vary in future, the then Committee will deal with the issue, with the aim of not having more than SIX team in a division if possible.

She reported on Philips Watson's suggestion that teams belonging to the same Club should play the matches against one another first before the end of the year. This was agreed.

6. Arrangement and Cancellation of matches. The hardy annual of a) cancellations of agreed fixtures without sufficient notice and b) the difficulty in agreeing a new date when one was proposed leaving the other team holding one or more dates and unable to use them for other matches.

Peter Cogliatti stated that there should be an expectation that the Home Captain should confirm the date with the away Captain a week ahead but acknowledged that some teams had only a few players and might be compelled to cancel if someone had to drop out closer to the match date. As communication by email has proved insufficient when the cancellation is last-minute, he suggested that the defaulting Captain should telephone to ensure that the message had been received by the other side. He reminded the meeting that there had been no sanctions hitherto and suggested that the Committee should be notified of any cancellations at less than 48 hours' notice and given the discretion to penalise persistent offenders.

In the event of cancellation the team that cancelled should offer/negotiate new dates within a week.

On the issue of difficulty in arranging matches, the Chairman reported that Philip Watsons suggested that the Home Captain should offer to the opposition the 1st Monday, 2nd Tuesday, 3rd Wednesday and 4th Thursday of any given month. It was agreed that this suggestion would be difficult to manage as some teams only play or not play on specific days of the week.

7. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer said that accounts for 2018-19 had been examined and there was currently some £3,700 in the Association's account. He pointed out that there had been a slight increase in the cost of tournaments because of an increase in the Young Chelsea's charges for the Surdoc and Selfridges. Less had been spent on engraving trophies, although this would increase again in the future. A case of wine will again be presented to Chris Chambers as an appreciation of his work with the website.

He asked whether to have prizes at all in future as our previous supplier had ceased to trade. It was agreed by the meeting to discontinue them with considerable saving.

The accounts for 2018-19 were approved.

8. Election of Officers: The Chair said that most of the existing Committee members were willing to stand again for the same offices with the exception of John White. His resignation was accepted. The Chair then proposed that Mark Hutton should join the Committee and he was duly elected. The Committee was elected unanimously 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
Mark Hutton

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 Chair confirmed that the date of the Surdoc would be 3rd October 2019 at the YC. There had been a low response so far

and she reminded the meeting that there was scope for up to 13 teams. No date had yet been agreed for the Selfridges 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 April as usual.

11. Playing of League and Cup Matches:

The cut-off date for league matches for the coming season would again be 31st May but matches could be played up to 15th June, without penalty, if the agreed date was notified to the Results Secretary before the end of May. Teams should aim to play three matches before the end of the year and 2 VP penalties per match would be imposed if the team then failed to complete all its matches by 31st May. Peter Cogliatti emphasised the importance of playing first round cup matches by the 8th November deadline because of the knock-on effect of a delay at this stage.

A question was asked about how the result of a cup-match should be determined if the teams were level on imps and it was confirmed that it should be resolved by reverting to net aggregate scores. In the unlikely event that the match was still tied and time permitting, three additional hands could be played. If this is not possible or if the match is still tied thereafter, the result should be determined by the drawing of lots.

It was agreed that the cost of Cup and Plate matches should be shared among both teams. The RAC however will not share such costs as it is prepared to offer hospitality in full for its Cup and Plate matches.

The meeting was closed with the presentation of trophies.

Div 1: White Rabbits
Div 2: Stock Exchange 'A'
Div 3: RAC Morgan
Div 4: Coolhurst
Div 5: KPMG

Leslie Dodds Cup: Habeas Corpus
Gainsborough Plate: Buttons 'A'