

SCCA 43rd AGM Minutes
Sunday 24th May 2020, 4.00pm by Skype

Present

Iain Mackintosh (Chair), Gordon Anderson, Mickey Blake, Alan Borwell, Kevin Paine, Iain Sneddon, Ian Whittaker (all Skype).

Apologies

None.

Minutes of the 42nd AGM

On the proposal of Iain Sneddon, seconded by Alan Borwell, the minute of the meeting held on 26th May 2019 was accepted as an accurate record and approved.

Matters arising from the 42nd AGM

None.

President's Remarks

Iain Mackintosh reviewed the preceding year which had sadly featured one obituary – Derek Coope.

The major story of the year concerned our bid to host the 2020 ICCF Congress in Glasgow during August. After being let down by the Glasgow Hilton Hotel, we obtained premises at the Golden Jubilee Hotel in Clydebank only to see our preparations founder under the Coronavirus restrictions. Gordon Anderson deserves a big vote of thanks for his work in getting us so close.

On the playing front, it was another busy year for the SCCA. Domestic events all ran on schedule and results are summarised below. Internationally, we gained excellent results in the European Team and Olympiad events, and were widely represented in individual and team competitions.

Our website was regularly updated with new content. Our Facebook page continues to service a worldwide following. The online magazine was produced on schedule each quarter; while subscribers to the 2019 printed magazine remained steady.

As usual, the SCCA has been indebted to its hard-working committee members and tournament directors, all of whom deserve grateful thanks for their efforts and commitment.

Secretary's Report

Kevin Paine reported that 2020 membership was 21 Annual and 77 Life/Patron members.

Kevin also summarised new title- and norm-holders:

CCM Titles: Gordon Anderson, Geoff Lloyd; CCM Norms: Colin Beveridge, Kevin Paine, Iain Sneddon.

CCE Titles: Colin Beveridge, Iain Sneddon; CCE Norms: Raymond Burrige.

Kevin reported that the 2019-20 Championship was won by Iain Mackintosh. The 2019 Premier was a 3-way tie between Jim Anderson, Ian Whittaker and Carlos Almarza Mato. Andrew Macmillen won the 2019 Open. Colin Beveridge triumphed in the 2019 Challengers. The Webserver League featured 4 divisions for the first time: In 1, Hounds of the Scheming Mind A prevailed; in 2, Hounds of the Scheming Mind C won out; in 3, White Rose B finished on top; and in 4, BCCA Amethysts bested the rest. The 7th Annual Best Game Prize was adjudicated by GM Daði Örn Jónsson and won by Iain Mackintosh.

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Treasurer's Report

Gordon Anderson presented a full set of accounts and once again expressed his thanks to Alan Hind for an comprehensive audit. We ended the year to 31st March 2020 showing a deficit of £134 (2019: £2,048 deficit) with net assets of £8,891 (2019: £9,026).

Income in the 12 month period amounted to £1,561 (2019 £1,899). Membership subscriptions fell significantly, from £296 in 2019 to £133 in 2020 (NB no Life Membership fees in 2020). Donation income decreased slightly to £128, (2019-£140), while Bank interest reduced slightly. Income from Magazine sales was also slightly lower, both for electronic and paper copies of the excellent publication. Income from the 100 club continues to decline due to either deaths or players deciding to 'retire' from making donations. Entries to domestic competitions also declined while there has been a decrease in fees paid to ICCF for entries on behalf of members. It should be noted that £1,453.50 of income was generated in respect of the cancelled 2020 Glasgow Congress, however, this is offset against refunds made to enable the figures to be netted out. The overall decline in all figures is a concern and some consideration is necessary to address why membership and competition income have dropped so dramatically in the period.

Expenditure in the year decreased to £1,696 (2019 £3,947). This results from a number of factors, the most significant being the absence of costs incurred to ICCF for setting up and running the Memorial Tournaments for our late friend George Pyrich (2019 £1,785). Domestic trophy costs reduced to normal. Costs were incurred in organising the cancelled ICCF Congress in Glasgow, but these were less than Llandudno in 2019.

It should be noted that no provision has been made in this year's accounts for the cost of trophies for winners of each section in the George Pyrich Memorial tournaments. It is still too early to determine just how many quaichs will be required, however, it is estimated that trophy costs will exceed £1,000, with additional P&P costs worldwide.

Iain Mackintosh proposed a vote of thanks to Gordon and Alan Hind which was unanimously agreed. Gordon moved adoption of the audited accounts, seconded by Kevin Paine and unanimously agreed.

International Secretary's Report

Gordon reported on excellent performances by our teams in the 11th ETC semi-finals (where we finished 3rd and qualified for the final) and 21st Olympiad prelims (where we also finished 3rd, but didn't qualify for the final). The ETC Final is likely to start in September 2020.

Our performances in In the British Tri-Nations 2017, the Esko Nuutilainen Memorial Team Tournament, the North Atlantic Team Tournament VII, and the 3rd North Sea Team Tournament didn't improve during the year.

Current Friendly matches are against Panama, Sweden, Cuba, Netherlands and England (<1800) are currently in progress. No new matches are scheduled at present.

Entries to ICCF events by Scottish players during 2019 were 77 (22 players). A further 26 entries (17 players) have been received in 2020 so far. We have also provided players to NF Invitational events (including Richard Beecham, currently in 1st place in the Max Zavanelli Lithuania B event).

The 2020 ICCF Congress will be a virtual affair due to the Coronavirus restrictions. Delegates will vote online on proposals during July.

Iain Mackintosh proposed a vote of thanks to Gordon which was unanimously agreed. Kevin Paine moved adoption of Gordon's report, seconded by Iain Sneddon and unanimously agreed.

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Election of Office Bearers

The following office-bearers were elected to office for 2020-21.

Office	Name	Proposer	Seconder
President	Iain Mackintosh	Alan Borwell	Ian Whittaker
Vice President ¹			
International Secretary	Gordon Anderson	Iain Mackintosh	Alan Borwell
Secretary ²			
Membership Officer	Iain Sneddon	Alan Borwell	Gordon Anderson
Treasurer	Gordon Anderson	Kevin Paine	Alan Borwell
Committee Members	Alan Borwell Mickey Blake Kevin Paine	Gordon Anderson Iain Mackintosh Gordon Anderson	Iain Sneddon Gordon Anderson Alan Borwell

¹ No nomination received.

² No nomination received. We will look at consolidating secretarial and membership functions during the year.

Appointment of Auditor

Alan Hind was proposed by Gordon Anderson, seconded by Iain Sneddon, and duly reappointed.

Subscriptions

Gordon Anderson proposed no change to domestic membership fees for 2020-21. This was seconded by Iain Sneddon and unanimously agreed.

AOB

The Edinburgh CC Bicentenary takes place in November 2022, and the club hopes to reproduce the famous Edinburgh-London postal match in the lead-up. SCCA is happy to provide support, but decisions are required re playing format. **(Action: AB, IW)**

Video-conferencing was proposed as a better medium than Skype voice calls. Coincidentally, the AGM was mostly conducted by video (presumably Skype reacting to Zoom's popularity during the Coronavirus lockdown). Other options are also available, but the president needs to upgrade his antiquated IT set-up first. **(Action: IM)**

A vote of thanks to the chair was proposed by Gordon Anderson and unanimously agreed.