



KĀPITI CHESS CLUB

2022 AGM Minutes

Tuesday 22 February 2022

MEETING STARTED:

7:45 pm

PRESENT:

David Scott, Geoffrey Gunawan, Gordon Lyall, John Whibley, Lars Dobbartin-King, Ross Jackson, Stewart Holdaway.

APOLOGIES:

None received

**MINUTES OF LAST
YEAR'S MEETING:**

Confirmed. These can be found on the Club's website at
<http://kapitichess.club/about-the-club/governance/>.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Tabled and read. The full report can be found on the Club's website at the link above.

There was acknowledgment of the ongoing challenges in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including extended periods of no over-the-board play, and the requirements for mask wearing, which have impacted significantly on membership and attendance (see Club Captain's report for further details). The sad passing in October of long-time member Rick Lowe was also acknowledged. There were, however, several positives for the year including:

- A very successful establishment and first-year running of the Junior Club.
- Another well-attended and successful Kāpiti Rapid.
- Another successful grant of \$500 from KCC, which was used for the purchase of additional sets to support the Junior Club and our open tournaments.
- A strong improvement in the Club's financial position.
- Good developments with our website (see Club Captain's report below).

REPORT ON FINANCES:

The Statement of Accounts for 2021 was tabled and read. It can be found on the Club's website at the link above.

Key highlights (with all dollars rounded here to nearest \$5):

- Spent \$4,010, got \$5,045, a surplus of \$1,035.
- Bank balance up from \$1,430 at year start to \$2,460 at year end.
- Profits of \$720 from the Kāpiti Open
- \$500 Grant from KCC for purchase of additional equipment.

Despite the reduction in income from senior membership, the Club's financial position is at its strongest level since the early 1990's when membership levels were at their peak. This was helped to a large extent by a successful Junior Club and Kāpiti Open in 2021.

See further discussion under the fees item below.

**CLUB CAPTAIN'S
& SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

Tabled and discussed. The full report can be found on the Club's website here: <https://kapitichess.club/about-the-club/governance/>

Main points:

- Another year significantly impacted by COVID-19. Just 25 nights of over-the-board (OTB) tournament play until the mid-August change in COVID Alert Levels. The balance of the year made up of 15 nights of online Club play, and 8 nights of casual OTB play.
- Noticeable impact on membership and attendance. Membership was down from 18 in 2020 to 13 in 2021 (not counting those in the new Junior Club). Average attendance was down from 12 to 9 (11 before the mid-August Alert Level change, around 6 after).
- The Club's scheduled calendar of events also significantly impacted. The Club Champs and Kāpiti Junior Open & Schools Championship were also cancelled. Other internal tournaments were either completed or decided based on part-series played.
- But another very successful Kāpiti Rapid was run in May, with the second highest attendance over its 30-year history.
- The establishment of the new Junior Chess Programme was also very successful, with around 10 or 11 regular attendees - the highest level of junior participation in the Club's history.
- And good further progress was made on content and technical running of the Club's website. We completed the scanning and uploading of all historical photos and known Club news clippings and articles, as well as historical governance documents. There was a major technical overhaul of the site in September, shifting the site to a secure https protocol, and adding significant speed efficiencies. Big thanks to Lars Dobbertin-King for his help with this. Club website and Facebook engagement grew significantly in 2021. Club Facebook followers increased from less than 200 in 2020 to over 570 in 2021, one of the highest for any NZ Chess Club Facebook site.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The following officers were unanimously elected for 2022:

President & Treasurer:	Gordon Lyall
Club Captain:	Geoffrey Gunawan
Secretary:	David Scott
Committee:	Ross Jackson:

FEES:

Our current financial position will have some challenges for 2022, including reduced income from Senior Club membership, and a likely 33% increase in hall rental from \$45 to \$60 per week. On the positive side, the Club's balance is at one of its highest ever levels so can provide a buffer for potential losses this year. Ongoing growth in Junior Club membership and expected profits from the Kāpiti Open and Junior Open, assuming these can be run this year, will also help to mitigate potential losses. On this basis, members agreed to support the proposal to keep 2022 fees at the same level as in 2021.

There was a discussion on the level of the casual fee for adults. At \$10 per night, it was suggested that this might be a barrier for some, particularly tertiary students. It was further suggested that there might be an opportunity to tap into interest from juniors and students by promoting attendance in our internal tournaments on a casual basis. For students over the age of 20, this could be supported by a reduction from \$10 a night to \$5. It was noted that with current COVID-related capacity limits affecting how many can play at the Wellington Club, there may be some interest from members there to travel up to play in our Club tournaments. There was further discussion on whether fees for such visitors should be on a per-tournament or per night basis, and on what benefits they had.

After some discussion it was agreed:

- to extend the \$5 casual rate for juniors to students (of any age).
- to reduce the number of nights visitors can attend free from three to two.
- that a simple per night (rather than per tournament) charge would apply for all visitors and casuals.
- to promote this option amongst Wellington Club members.
- that paying on a casual basis will not convey any membership benefits. such players may win tournaments, but the winner of internal tournament trophies remains only available to members. Visitors who are registered with the NZCF as members at other clubs remain eligible for rating points.

Fee Schedule for 2022

Adults	\$150 pa
Unwaged	\$100 pa
Juniors (under 20 as at 1/1/2022)	\$90 pa
Casuals & Visitors Adult	\$10 per night
Juniors & Students (including tertiary)	\$5 per night
Junior Club	\$30 per school term \$90 per year

The first two, rather than three, nights are free, and fees remain pro-rated for those joining part way through the year.

2022 CALENDAR:

It was noted that a provisional future calendar will be prepared by incoming Club Captain and posted on the Club's website.

The Club will continue with a flexible and adaptive approach to the calendar of events given the ongoing uncertainty of COVID impacts. This will be guided by government, as well as NZCF, policy and advice, as well as majority-member preferences, where relevant. We will continue to provide events via our online Club for any nights we are unable to meet over the board.

Last year saw a shift towards more rapid-time-format events aimed at providing a broader appeal to prospective visitors and members. In line with this, it was decided to proceed directly into the Leo Eichholtz tournament for the week following the AGM, a rapid 25m + 5s time format event, instead of the longer-format Kingston Memorial traditionally played at this time of the year.

The issue of whether to run a 2021 Club Championship in early 2022 was discussed. It was agreed that with the current reduced levels of active membership, and the ongoing uncertain situation with COVID, we would not run a delayed 2021 competition in 2022.

KĀPITI RAPID & JUNIOR SCHOOL CHESS TOURNAMENTS:

It was agreed to continue to aim to hold the Club's two open annual tournaments, the Kāpiti Rapid, and the Kāpiti Junior & Schools Chess tournament. Both, of course subject to the COVID situation. Currently, "NZCF Council advises approval of NZCF official tournaments and Open tournaments only if CVC compliant and in regions designated by Government as 'Orange' or 'Green' (but not 'Red') under the Covid-19 Protection Framework."

So contingent on this, the annual Kāpiti Rapid is set for its agreed usual date in the last weekend in May, i.e. 28 May 2022. The Kāpiti Junior & Schools Chess tournament will run later in the year at a date to be confirmed.

MEETING CLOSED:

9:15 pm.