

MINUTES OF 2010 AGM

Updated Monday 10 June 2013

Held on Thursday 10 June 2010 at The Fingerpost, Offerton. Teams represented: Alexandra, Crown, HMRUFC, Pack Horse, Park, Printers, Tiviot and Wright's Arms. Apologies were received from The Star and Traveller's Call. The other teams couldn't be bothered.

1. Minutes

The [minutes of the 2009 AGM](#), held on 14 May 2009, were agreed.

2. Results of 2009-10 competitions

The final results of the 2009-10 season were agreed:

	Winners	Runners Up
A Division	Chunky	Traveller's Call
B Division	Star	Navigation
Cup	HMRUFC	Pack Horse
Plate	Park	Wright's Arms
WIST Champions Cup	SPW (Withington)	Alexandra

It was noted that The Tame Valley and Railway Fliers will be relegated to the B Division for season 2010-11. They will be replaced in the A Division by The Star and Navigation.

3. Election of committee

The [committee](#) was re-elected for the 2010-11 season.

4. Report from Bob Taylor

Bob Taylor presented a report on the promotional campaign to increase awareness of the quiz league and attract new teams. A summary of Bob's report is [here](#). As a result of the campaign at least one new team ([The Star and Garter on Hillgate](#)) will join the league next season.

5. Number of teams/format for 2010-11 season

- a) Last year's decision to increase the number of league games was 're-visited' and this proposal from The Crown was considered:

The Crown voted against the proposal for an extended season in 2009/10 and will do so again if there is another vote on the matter. We therefore propose that if there is the same or similar number of teams next season as there has been this, then the Cup and Plate competitions are reconfigured to include a Mini-League format in the opening games, or some other way to provide a season equivalent in number of games and season length to those in years previous to 2009/10. This reconfiguration must ensure continuity of competition without too many 'bye weeks' but also keep the season to a reasonable length.

It was agreed that no absolute decision can be made on league format for 2010-11 until the number of teams is known, i.e. at the registration meeting. It was also agreed that 2009-10 represented the acceptable limit in terms of length of season.

The fact that we will have a new team for 2010-11 (see item 4) means we will have no choice but to revert to the 'play each other twice' format (assuming no other team drops out). It is likely that next season will see one league of nine teams and another of ten, so we will once again have the problem of too many byes (which was one of the principal reasons for the change in format). Assuming the number of league games is reduced, it was suggested that one of several devices could be used to fill out the calendar: extended format for early Cup/Plate rounds; new, separate Cup competitions for A and B Divisions; teams to play a 'friendly' on bye weeks. It was agreed that details of these potential new competitions will be circulated for consideration during the summer.

- b) It was agreed that new teams joining the league will enter the B Division and the committee may, at their discretion, change the number of teams promoted and/or relegated to maintain a balance in the number of teams in both divisions.
- c) A proposal to agree a date by which new teams must register their intention to join the league for the 2010-11 season was considered. It was decided that teams will be able to join the league up until the close of the pre-season registration meeting.
- d) Teams were reminded that any change of team name should be communicated to the webmaster before the start of the new season.

In 2010-11 the team formerly known as The Pack Horse will be called The Little Jack Horner.

6. Minor rule amendment

It was agreed to amend the wording of the rule regarding play-offs in the event of teams finishing the season level on points. The amended rule includes relegation and WIST qualification places, which were not covered by the previous rule.

Previous rule:

If teams finish the League season level on points and this affects the first or second places there will be a play-off between the relevant teams. Average scores will not be used to decide these placings.

New rule:

If teams finish the League season level on points and this affects first or second places, relegation or qualification for the WIST Champions Cup, there will be a play-off between the relevant teams. Average scores will not be used to decide these placings.

7. Withington Quiz League

- a) It was agreed that the pre-season friendly (WIST Trophy) and WIST Champions Cup will be continued during the 2010-11 season.
- b) It was noted that Stockport's representatives in the 2010-11 WIST Champions Cup will be: Chunky, Travellers Call, Tiviot and HMRUFC.
- c) Volunteers to set questions for the 2010–11 WIST Champions Cup were sought.
The Alexandra agreed to set questions for the first round in December 2010.
A request for setters for subsequent rounds (in March and May 2011) will be placed on the website.
- d) It was agreed that the following teams will be invited (via e-mail) to provide members of the Stockport team for a friendly against a representative team from the Withington Quiz League in September: Chunky, Travellers Call, Tiviot, Star, Navigation and Park.
- e) A volunteer to set the Stockport share of the questions for the pre-season friendly was sought, but none was forthcoming. A request will be placed on the website.

8. Start time

The following proposal was considered:

Why do the matches start at 9pm? Most other evening activities start at 8pm or even, in the case of theatre or concerts, 7.30pm. It's not an appealing thought, particularly as a woman, going out on a dark, cold November night at 8.30pm and arriving at a pub, often on my own, at that time of night. By the time I get home it's usually midnight. Would it not be possible to start a bit earlier so it doesn't make such a late night for everyone?

It was agreed that the majority of teams wish to leave the start time at 9 p.m. The Chairman will use the website to remind teams that matches should start at 9 p.m. prompt and that matches will finish earlier if teams answer questions as quickly as possible.

9. Questions

The following was considered:

Why does nobody read the [question setting guidelines](#)? They are clear and helpful and if followed would eliminate the sort of questions to which most of us neither know the answer, nor care what it is. I thought this was supposed to be a fun, general knowledge quiz, not a demonstration of how clever the question setter is. I appreciate some taxing questions are needed in order to separate the sheep from the goats, but not 80 of them. Do question setters look at the scores when their match has been played and use them as feedback for the next time? If teams scored in the 20s and 30s then patently the questions were too hard and a re-think is needed. Why did those teams (The Devonshire and The Davenport – Ed) leave the league last year? Was it because members were no longer enjoying the quizzes and were voting with their feet? Certainly some Thursday nights I've sat in the pub thinking "What am I doing here? I could be elsewhere doing something more enjoyable or even at home with my feet up." I too will be voting with my feet if I have to spend as many boring evenings in the next season as I have in this. How many teams have to leave the league

before it becomes non-viable?

Whilst those at the meeting shared the concerns on the standard of questions, it was agreed that there is very little that can be done in practical terms to enforce the following of the question setting guidelines. Teams are reminded that it is essential they read (and comply with) the guidelines when setting questions, particularly the idea that a quiz is meant to be fun! Copies of the guidelines will be circulated at the pre-season registration meeting and with the questions in week 1 of the new season. It was also agreed that setters should reflect upon any low scores on their questions. Teams were also reminded that the quiz league website may be used to publicly criticise (or praise) questions.

10. Accounts for 2008/09

The [accounts for the season 2008-09](#) were approved.

It was also noted that a) if additional competitions are introduced in the 2010-11 season new trophies would be required and b) a way to avoid this expense would be to ask members to donate to the quiz league any unwanted trophies they may own.

11. Date of registration meeting and arrangements for 2010-11 season

The following arrangements for the 2010-11 season were agreed:

- Registration meeting: 2 September 2010
- Pre-season friendly v Withington: week beginning 6 September 2010
- First league matches: 16 September 2010
- Christmas Quiz: 16 December 2010
- Re-start after Christmas: 6 January 2011
- No quiz on 21 April 2010 (Maundy Thursday)

The dates of Knockout Finals, Presentation Night and AGM will not be agreed until the number of league games/length of season has been decided at the registration meeting (see item 5 a).

12. Any other business

There was no other business.