

GCN Council Meeting 9th April 2010

Persons present

Richard Kerry
Laurie Stewart
Steve Nolan
Dan Currey
Gareth Williams
Tony Barnes Cogs
Tony Wise Cogs
Karl Turner-Howe Bracknell Forest Gamers
Bek Hawkby GW Community
Rik Turner GW White Dwarf
Brian Aderson GW Warhammer World

Apologies from Scott Miskin.

Minutes from the 20/1/10 were read and agreed, signed by RK and LS

Matters arising from the meeting 20/1/10.

Steve Nolan-update GCN Logo usage, Document in progress.

Laurie Stewart-ISA changes, see item 7

Web team-Update of new website status. Item 8.

Dan Currey-Improving communications. Maelstrom had been experiencing problems getting in touch with Scott Miskin. Recommended that all emails be cc'd to Gareth as well as intended recipient to ensure best practise maintained.

Email addresses of the council to be changed from Castalain titles to reflect changes made at AGM, to named accounts i.e. Gareth.Williams@gamingclubnetwork.org

Darren and Ben to action.

Minutes from AGM 30/1/10

Minutes read and agreed, signed by RK and LS

Matters arising from the AGM.

Dan and Steve to action merchandising sales through the Website.

Dan to poll GCN members and email club contacts for a list of preferred GCN related merchandise suggestions.

Gareth to email the latest clubs contact list to Dan, and to send all first contact details to Dan.

Richard to form constitution working group, still to be actioned.

Dan to submit item for the five year plan with regards to his role.

Hammerhead.

Richard thanked the members of cogs for attending.

Cogs representatives presented a costs break down of putting on the Hammerhead show, and a sample show manual for GCN.

A GCN sub-committee was formed to take this forwards.

Laurie Stewart-chair

Tony Wise

Dan Currey

Steve Nolan

Steve Nolan confirmed that the GCN funds were able to cover the initial outlay required for this show.

Other GCN events

Dan reported that the south clubs had a system known as Champion of Champions event. Five clubs get together each runs a doubles event for a gaming system and the winners and runners up from each goes to the grand final the Champion of Champions event. These winners get a free entry to the final and the rest of the 24 places are made up from anyone else who wishes to participate as a paying guest. Each event runs for one day and costs about £15 a team.

Surplus from these events are donated to the GCN funds.

Any club who runs an event is welcome to donate any surplus in the same manner.

Unfortunately Scott being ill he was unable to report the progress for Konflikt.

GCN Subscriptions

The matter was discussed and it was established that funds at this time are sufficient and that there was no requirement to charge subscriptions.

Clubs are actively encouraged to continue to donate to the GCN.

Dan and Steve to write a general document about their experiences of tax and money matters for clubs.

Dan to assist Ben in setting up a downloadable spreadsheet for clubs to use for their accounting, which will act as a proforma.

The Annual Return

Gareth reported that there were now 58 returns received from clubs, with a few still outstanding the matter of how to encourage those still to reply was discussed.

The council empowered Gareth to refuse advertising for those clubs who had failed to reply, as the info held could not be guaranteed to be current or accurate.

The motion was made to rename the forms “Annual Registration Forms”, and will be sent out with the PLI notice to encourage all clubs to return the paperwork required in one go.

Failure to reply within two months will result in clubs losing their voting rights.

The motion was passed by the council.

National Organisations meeting

Gareth reported that he had sent out emails to several groups to attend this meeting at Games Expo in June, he had to date received no replies or acknowledgements of the request.

CRB/ISA

The council amended the child protection rules in order that clubs who have over 18 year old members only were not prevented from being GCN members.

A suitable disclaimer will be placed in adverts to make it clear that these clubs do not require CRB checks due to the nature of the ages attending the club.

The matter of vulnerable adults was discussed, being a difficult matter to raise at club level Laurie Stewart will research and report back with any advise for clubs.

Phoenix Gaming Club “Festival of History” show

The show was discussed, the council calendar is already full and no member is able to attend this event, regional reps are encouraged to cover this show.

South west Show/Salute

Neil Sharp will be attending the South West Show, and assisting to promote the GCN with demo tables assisted by other clubs from this area. Richard will ensure the older GCN show stand is passed to Neil to retain for this show and future use.

Richard will send a first contact form to Neil in order to facilitate communications with any club wishing to join the GCN at the show.

Salute.

Gareth and Mike Sharp from Oxford Club will be representing the GCN on a Rules of Engagement table, along with 3 Flames of War tables run by other clubs at this show.

Gamesday 2010

After Lunch Brian Aderson took the council round Warhammer World highlighting the changes that are being implemented during the next few months. A new layout inside the main hall, new layouts for the museum, with more models on show both old and new.

Brian then talked about Gamesday 2010, a brief outline of current plans for the show were discussed. Further info will be passed to the council to disseminate once these plans can be finalised.

White Dwarf

Bek and Rik discussed the planned White Dwarf issues for this year.

The May and June 2010 issues will not hold a GCN clubs list instead there will be community based articles. Again in October and January 2011 the lists will not be printed for the same reason.

Rik stated that he wanted more focus on clubs, school clubs, and library clubs and to cover the whole gaming community. Articles are required from clubs talking about events they have run, campaigns running at their clubs etc.

This is a great chance to advertise clubs and promote the hobby in general, in order to make the space the clubs lists will be dropped in favour of these articles.

If you wish to submit an article please do so through Dan Currey who will act as GW liaison with White Dwarf and allow a lead time of six months (this is the time it takes to publish an article allowing time to advertise an event)

Pictures are essential for a good article, you should show club members playing games at your club and make the pictures JPEG file, 300DPI minimum, 1290x1024, 5 megapixel plus for decent printing. (The games should of course only feature GW models)

All clubs should ensure that GCN contact is made through Gareth and not Bek at GW, and White Dwarf contact made through Dan Currey.

Club listings

Bek reported that the GW website had articles about starting and running a club, be it school, library or community club. There is space for a banner to advertise newly accepted clubs into the GCN to run on these pages, Bek asked for newly accepted clubs to be asked to provide a paragraph or two about their club to run in this space.

Gareth reported that most clubs had replied with the Annual Return and permissions to pass club details to third parties (this includes GW) had been noted. Some club had chosen not to permit these to be passed on, of course these wishes will be respected and they will not appear in White Dwarf, only on the GCN clubs lists.

Gareth reported that a few clubs had not replied to repeated emails or phone calls, this is an ongoing commitment.

Gareth and Laurie compiled a database of all the GCN clubs and when their CRB's falls due, this resulted in a few clubs being suspended and a few being removed from the listings as there was no up to date contact details and lapsed CRB's, again this is an ongoing commitment.

Overseas clubs

Gareth was tasked at the AGM to return contacts made from overseas persons wishing to join the GCN, this has been completed with few replies.

Gareth and Dan plan to attend the Battle of the Clubs in 2011, held in Tilburg, The Netherlands in order to meet some of the guys who have been asking to join, and assess the possibility of setting up

a GCN Netherlands.

Richard Kerry has completed and received approval of “International Membership Document”.

GCN Website

The website was discussed, the issue of the forum contents was discussed at length and the moderators empowered to police the forum for rants and any remarks which might cause offence to any parties. This will include suspending forum rights from anyone posting in this style.

The new forum is aimed to take over at the end of April, with Richard requesting a few minor changes.

The forum will only be accessed by authorised posters, who will be required to use a real name (no nicknames etc) who will then be cleared by the moderators, this is to prevent spam mail causing the site problems, and to ensure proper standards are applied throughout.

The issue of permitting advertisers on the new website was discussed.

Items to be available for sale on the website was discussed.

Dan and Steve will assess what funds are available and poll members to ascertain the best products to stock.

Steve reminded the meeting that Shirts were still available to buy.

Dan requested that all club submit a club logo to add to the new website and any pictures of their club gaming which will be added to a photos folder.

Dan will write a “rules for using the GCN forum” article for the new website.

Newsletter

Dan Currey asked for news items by the 22nd of April for inclusion in the next Castalain.

Dan will be writing an article featuring a “lost guardsmen” which will run throughout this year, hopefully other clubs will take on this character and include them in their clubs battles and report back continuing the story line.

AOB

Dan will liaise with other magazines to see if advertising the GCN is possible.

The date of the AGM was discussed after feedback from that meeting. The council concluded that there was no perfect date and the reasons to change were not compelling enough to do so.

The date for the next council meeting was set for Monday 19th July 10am at WHW.

The meeting concluded.

Action Points.

Darren Wadland to change GCN council email accounts to their name. i.e.

Gareth.Williams@gamingclubnetwork.org.

All members to CC Gareth with emails to ensure these are covered by more than one person.

Dan and Steve to action Merchandise sales through the GCN website.

Dan to poll and email all members for item suggestions

Gareth to email Dan and Laurie as well as Bek with the latest Lists

Gareth to forward all first contacts to Dan

Richard to form a Constitution working group

Dan to submit an article for the five year plan

Sub-committee for Hammerhead to report back for next meeting on any requirements/progress

Dan and Steve to write a general document about their experiences of tax and money matters for clubs.

Dan to work with Ben to place a downloadable spreadsheet for clubs to run their accounts on the

GCN website.

Gareth to send the National meeting message onto Tony Wise to pass along to other organisations and chase a reply. wiseone@tiscali.co.uk

Steve and Tony Barnes to action GCN business cards for the council.

Gareth to get the joining pack amended to include the new Annual Return

Richard to update the child protection policy with regards to adult only clubs and pass to Darren to replace on the website.

Laurie Stewart to research and report back with regards Vulnerable adults

Dan to obtain clubs logos for use on the new Website.

Richard to send a first contact form for use at South West show Neil Sharp attending.

Gareth to supply models and rules, dice etc for FOW game at Salute.

Gareth to include Brian Aderson in future GCN meetings at WHW.

Dan to write rules of using the GCN website/forum

Web guys to allow real named persons to access the new forum and grant permissions before anyone can post, i.e. Locked forum, Website open viewing

Richard to obtain club logos and pass to Rik Turner White Dwarf.

Scott to chase community for articles about their events.

Gareth will ask clubs for articles for WD, West Cornwall, Warrington, BFG, COGS, Battleforce Pompey, Squigs.

Gareth and Dan to compile a disclaimer for use by adult only clubs when advertising them.

Gareth to write an article for WD about contact GCN not GW in first instance.

Dan and Gareth plans for Holland trip in 2011

Dan to compile a profile for Forlorn Fred to be used by all clubs.

Dan to liaise with other wargaming magazines to get the GCN club lists or articles GCN related published.