

CORNWALL COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at Carnon Downs Village Hall Wednesday 5th
June 2019

PRESENT:

D. R. Jenkins (Chairman), H. Brown, C. Sellwood, I. George, D. King, R. Kneebone, J. Menadue, R. Nancarrow, C. Gardiner, R. Gardiner, G. Trudeau, K. Brewer, J. Constable, L. Retallick.

APOLOGIES:

J. James, A. Barkhuysen, B. Jones, R. Smith

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND REMARKS:

The president welcomed all present to the meeting. He suggested that a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) appraisal be carried out during the 2019/20 season with a view to identifying aspects of our operations which could be improved.

He noted that we do not have a junior secretary and stated his view that failure to fill this important office was to our detriment.

The decision to open the annual congress to all-comers had been a great success and, thanking organisers Colin and Rebecca Gardiner for their great contribution in bringing this about, looked forward to a repeat performance in 2020.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th June 2018 be taken as read. There were no matters arising.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Secretary (Ian George)

The secretary noted with regret the closure of the Penwith club before the start of the season.

The annual congress was the only event organised by the county in 2018/19. He hoped that in 2019/20 more full-day and evening events would be organised by clubs and small groups of individual volunteers throughout the county.

David Saqui, one of our leading players for over 45 years and Cornwall champion in 2008 and 2010, died at the beginning of the year. Shortly afterwards, we received a fine trophy from an anonymous donor with instructions that it be awarded for the best individual game over a calendar year with emphasis on the kind of imaginative play that David favoured. The 2018 inaugural competition, judged by Bob Jones from Devon, was won by Lloyd Retallick (Newquay).

The full Secretary's Report is appended to these minutes.

Treasurer (Ian George)

The Treasurer presented the accounts for the year and reported that the state of the Association's finances was satisfactory. Total funds amounted to £1,753, including £768 in the Napier Fund for junior chess. The bank balance was £288 lower at £1,678. The main factor contributing to this was the hire of a minibus for the match with Essex at Bath at a cost of £284. Together with £420 in 2017/18 the total spent on this item in the two years was £704. He noted that expenditure at this level on a single match was not sustainable and that the cost of future long-distance travel should be covered by donations or sponsorship. This was agreed.

The accounts were approved. A copy of the accounts and the full treasurer's report is appended to these minutes.

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League Secretary (Hugh Brown)

Winners of the team competitions were:

County Shield: Truro
Roberts Cup: Truro
500 League: Truro or Newquay
A W Busby Cup: Newquay
R J Grime Cup: Bude

Match Captain (Richard Smith)

The season began with the WECU Jamboree in September where we entered two teams of 12, the 'A' team scoring 4 points and the 'B' team 4.5. The WECU section of the Counties Championship is now down to just three entries: Cornwall, Devon and Somerset. Against Devon we lost the 'A' team match by a score of 11-5. The Under 160 match we went down 9-7. Against Somerset we lost by 10.5-5.5. Having entered the Under 180 section in the national competition we were drawn against Essex at Bath and lost by 10.5-5.5. An under 160 match was arranged against Devon with David Jenkins as captain. This resulted in a close win for Devon by 9-7.

Although all the matches were lost, many players, some new to county chess, obtained valuable experience. The level of commitment and enthusiasm was encouraging and we could have coped with finding players for even larger teams. My thanks to David, for organising the under 160 team, to everyone who provided transport and to all the players.

For the trip to Bath to play Essex in the national stage of the Counties Championship we hired a minibus at a cost, including petrol, of £284. In his report the Treasurer states his view that this is not sustainable and recommends that we do not enter the national stage unless the cost is covered by sponsorship or donations. I agree with this and recommend that, instead, we seek to arrange a number of graded unofficial matches at venues no further away than Exeter against other counties and town/city teams, e.g. Plymouth, Exeter, Bristol, Bournemouth/Poole.

Congress Organisers (Colin and Rebecca Gardiner)

The congress organisers reported that, following the decision to open the event to all-comers, the congress had been a great success with 77 entries, including 33 from local players. They wished to thank John Constable and Ian George in particular for acting as controller and behind the scenes assistance respectively. The feedback from both local players and visitors had been overwhelmingly positive.

They confirmed that, following a review by the executive sub-committee, the Falmouth Hotel had been booked for May 1-3, 2020 and were confident of a higher entry next year.

The trophy winners were:

Emigrant Cup: Grant Healey (Cornwall Champion)
Falmouth Cup: Anton Barkhuysen
Penwith Cup: Christine Constable and Maurice Richards (shared)

Robin Kneebone congratulated the organisers on the success of the congress and welcomed the return to the Falmouth Hotel in 2020. He wished for other venues and times of year to be considered after that, possibly the holding of a second event at a more central venue. It was pointed out that a review was carried out each year before the arrangements for the following year were decided. This gave the committee and others the opportunity to consider all relevant factors before a commitment is made.

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Publicity Officer (Robin Kneebone)

Plans were in hand to improve the profile of chess in Cornwall. Toby Willis and Boris Kostadinov had agreed to assist with social media. Clubs were urged to supply information about club activities, both for the website and for other media.

Chess in Schools and Communities, for which RK is the local co-ordinator, had begun to work in Cornwall, seeking to establish chess clubs in libraries and in schools both as curricular and after-hours activities.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The following were elected:

Executive sub-committee

President: David R. Jenkins

Secretary: Ian George

Treasurer: Ian George

League Secretary: Hugh Brown

Match Captain: Richard Smith

Junior Secretary: Vacant

Publicity Officer Robin Kneebone

Co-opted Jeremy Menadue

Others

WECU Delegate Richard Smith

Grader Ian George

MOTIONS

1. *That clause 2.05 of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:*

"The Committee may co-opt any number of additional members as it sees fit. Such appointments must be ratified by the Association in General Meeting"

Proposed: Ian George. Seconded: Robin Kneebone

IG explained that, as currently worded, clause 2.05 specifies a limit of three additional members to be co-opted in addition to the ex officio members. At present there are four co-opted members on the committee and this proposed change seeks to regularise this position and allow the ESC to recruit as many members as necessary to carry out its functions.

The motion was passed unanimously.

2. *That Rule 2.2 of the Rules applicable to the County Shield and Roberts Cup be amended to read:*

"in the Roberts Cup a club or combination of clubs may enter one or more teams of up to four players. The average grade of the four players must not exceed 130. The Executive Sub-committee shall have the power to vary this number if it considers that this would be to the benefit of the competition."

Proposed: Ian George Seconded: John Constable

IG explained that this rule change was designed to give effect to the decision made at the 2018 AGM that the Roberts Cup should be contested on an average grade basis.

The motion was passed unanimously.

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3. *That Rule 8(f) of the 500 League Rules be amended to read:*

"Colours will be decided by the toss of a coin. The winner of the toss will play White on all boards in round 1 and Black on all boards in round 2."

Proposed: Hugh Brown

Seconded: David Jenkins

The motion was passed unanimously.

4. *1) That the eligibility rules approved at the Annual General Meeting of 30th May, 1974 shall be amended to read as follows and shall apply to the award of all permanent trophies belonging to the Association:*

"a) Birth in Cornwall

b) Residence in Cornwall and for the previous 12 months

c) Seven years continuous previous residence in Cornwall

d) Attendance at a school or other educational establishment in Cornwall

e) Notwithstanding (b), current membership of a club affiliated to the Cornwall County Chess Association.

2) Trophies owned by the Cornwall County Chess Association must remain within the county boundary at all times and may not be taken beyond it."

Proposed: Ian George Seconded: Robin Kneebone

IG explained that the motion is intended to update the eligibility rules to reflect modern conditions.

The original clause (d) read: "Residence in Cornwall by reason of attendance, as student or staff, at a school". The amendment extends eligibility to colleges, universities, etc. and removes the preferential treatment for teachers.

e) would fill the gap in clause (b) whereby, for example, a player moving to Cornwall in July and joining a club in September would, strictly speaking, be ineligible to win the Emigrant / Falmouth / Penwith Cup in May. Also, now that clubs have been established clubs at Bude and Calstock, their members living beyond the county boundary would not be penalised.

Rule 2 formalises existing policy.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Other motions

Proposals regarding team order, mobile phones and sound emitting electronic devices, start times and venue for the 500 League county final were defeated, withdrawn or ruled out of order by reason of the lack of a seconder.

FEES FOR THE 2019/20 SEASON

The meeting approved the treasurer's proposal that the entry fees for the team competitions should remain unchanged.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business, the chairman declared the meeting closed.

IAN GEORGE (SECRETARY)

8th June 2019

CORNWALL COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

2018/19 Season

Secretary's Report

Review of the 2018/19 Season

- The season did not start well with the closure of the Penwith club which had been re-established in 2015/16 after a break of seven years and operated successfully for three seasons. Most of the clubs welcomed new members and were able to increase their numbers. This was satisfactory but initiatives to increase the number of active players still further are always welcome.
- At present the only individual event organised countywide is the annual congress which runs over three days. If the postponed Kerrier Cup takes place in the early part of next season, it will be the only one-day event as things stand. It is to be hoped that three or four additional one-day events can be introduced into the calendar in various parts of the county. A number of small teams each organising a single event would make this possible.
- The Camborne and Carrick clubs organised a number of evening events which were open to all. These included four rapid-play tournaments and a gambit tournament. I would hope that other clubs around the county would organise their own events to provide more opportunities to play the game particularly for people outside the central region of the county.

David Saqui (1939-2019)

On 2nd February 2019 David Saqui of St Ives died at the age of 79 after a short illness. For a period of over 45 years he was consistently one of the top three or four players in the county, becoming Cornwall Champion for the first time in 2008 and following up with a further win two years later. A notable feature of his play was his tenacity in seemingly drawn or lost positions, in which he could be relied on to find ways of keeping his opponent under pressure, often extracting an unlikely win or draw. The chess scene in Cornwall will be a duller place without him.

David Saqui Cup

An anonymous donor has given us a fine silver trophy to be awarded for the best individual game by a Cornish player over the period of a calendar year, with an emphasis on the kind of imaginative play that David favoured. The 2018 competition, judged by Bob Jones of Devon, was won by Lloyd Retallick (Newquay). The cup will be presented to him at the AGM and the game will be demonstrated at the end of the evening.

Annual Congress

At the end of last season, the decision was taken to open the congress to people from outside the county. Thanks to organisers Colin and Rebecca Gardiner and ECF Arbiter John Constable, who acted as controller, the congress was held with great success at the Falmouth Hotel in the first weekend in May. The hotel has been booked for the same weekend next year and details of arrangements will appear shortly.

I am happy to continue as secretary and am therefore standing for re-election.

Ian George

5th June 2019

CORNWALL COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

Balance Sheet as at 5 June 2019

	2018/19		2017/18	
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Bank balance - main account	1,678		1,966	
Payments in advance	75		52	
	<u> </u>	1,753	<u> </u>	2,018
		<u>£1,753</u>		<u>£2,018</u>
 Reserves				
<u>General Reserve</u>				
Brought forward	1,128		1,655	
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	<u>(143)</u>		<u>(527)</u>	
		985		1,128
 <u>Napier Fund (junior chess)</u>				
Brought forward	890		903	
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	<u>(122)</u>		<u>(13)</u>	
		768		890
Total reserves carried forward		<u>£1,753</u>		<u>£2,018</u>

CORNWALL COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

Income and Expenditure Account for the period from 26 June 2018 to 5 June 2019

	2018/19		2017/18	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Income</u>				
Entry fees (team competitions)	650		615	
Annual congress	2,100		383	
Miscellaneous income	7		15	
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
		2,757		1,013
<u>Expenditure</u>				
County match expenses (net)	292		268	
Annual congress	2,092		430	
Other competitions	52		0	
Website and IT costs	23		23	
Stationery, printing and postage	0		31	
Insurance	116		102	
Trophies and engraving	25		0	
Miscellaneous expenses	16		28	
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
		2,616		882
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		141		131
Travel expenses for county team (national stage)	(284)		(420)	
Purchase of equipment	0		(238)	
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
		(284)		(658)
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		<u>(£143)</u>		<u>(£527)</u>

Napier Fund movement for the year ended 5 June 2019

<u>Expenditure</u>				
Trophies and engraving	0		13	
Grants and donations	122		0	
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
		122		13
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		<u>(£122)</u>		<u>(£13)</u>

CORNWALL COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

Notes to the accounts for the period from 26 June 2018 to 5 June 2019

Surplus / (deficit) on competitions

	2018/19		2017/18	
	Congress £	Others £	Congress £	Others £
<u>Income</u>				
Entry fees	1,505	0	370	0
Donations	285	0	0	0
Sponsors' contribution	290	0	0	0
Other income	20	0	13	0
	<u>2,100</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>383</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Prizes	1,325	0	142	0
Room hire	565	52	274	0
Printing and stationery	105	0	0	0
Hire of equipment	50	0	0	0
Bank charges	46	0	0	0
Other expenses	0	0	14	0
	<u>2,091</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>430</u>	<u>0</u>
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	<u>£9</u>	<u>(£52)</u>	<u>(£47)</u>	<u>£0</u>

County match expenses

	2018/19	2017/18
Room hire	74	208
Travel costs	125	0
Refreshments	0	21
WECU entry fees	55	94
Other expenses	38	0
	<u>292</u>	<u>323</u>
Opponents' contributions	<u>0</u>	<u>55</u>
	<u>£292</u>	<u>£268</u>

CORNWALL COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

2018/19 Season

Treasurer's Report

Accounts for the period ended 5th June 2019

The accounts are appended to this report. They show that the association's finances are in a satisfactory state with reserves totalling £1,753, including £768 in the Napier Fund for junior chess. The bank balance, which stood at £2,589 at the end of the 2016/17 is down from £1,966 at the end of last season to £1,678, a fall of £911 over two years and £265 for 2018/19.

Two significant items of expenditure contributed to the two-year reduction of £895:

- In 2017/18 we took advantage of a FIDE initiative to purchase 8 digital clocks for a total of £208, a discount of 57%. This is a non-recurring item.
- Following our qualification for the national stage of the ECF Counties Championship a minibus was hired for transport to the venues. The cost of this was £420 in 2017/18 and £284 in 2018/19, a total of £704 for both years. As this sum represents over 35% of our total funds at the end of 2016/17 (54% of our general fund), this is not sustainable and is in my view is not a productive use of the association's funds. I therefore repeat my recommendation in last year's report that we should not enter the national stage of the ECF Counties Championship unless we succeed in obtaining sponsorship and/or donations covering the associated costs.

There was an operating surplus on the General Fund for the year of £141 (2017/18: £131) with income from club fees increased by £35, representing one entry.

Annual Congress

The decision to open the congress to players from outside Cornwall resulted in an entry of 77, including 33 from local players. This, the very generous level of donations and the promise by two sponsors, who wished to remain anonymous, to cover any deficit incurred, allowed us to offer significantly increased prizes. The sponsors' contribution was £290, resulting in a surplus of £9. (2018: £52 deficit).

A total of £122 was paid out of the Napier Fund, consisting of a grant of £50 to the Carrick club towards the additional cost of hiring premises for their junior sessions., and a payment of £72 to the Calstock club, being the entry fees for six juniors who took part in the simultaneous display by Andrew Greet.

ECF Membership

I would remind club organisers that the ECF will not accept membership applications for 2018/19 after 30th June 2019. In the invoices I raise to the clubs early next season I will include any game fees paid to the ECF for games played by non-ECF members in their clubs' team matches. Whether the clubs absorb the cost or recover it from the relevant members will be for the clubs to decide. Game fee is now a fixed fee of £16 (£5 for juniors) for any non-member who plays more than 3 games in our competitions during the year to 31st August 2019. Please note that it is the player's responsibility, not that of the association or his/her club, to ensure that his/her ECF membership is up to date.

Fees for the 2018/19 Season

As I do not anticipate any significant changes in income or expenditure to justify an increase, I recommend that the fees chargeable to the clubs for entry to the 2018/19 team competitions should remain at £35 per team for the County Shield and Roberts Cup and £20 per team for the 500 League.

I am happy to continue as treasurer and am therefore standing for re-election.

Ian George
5th June 2019

CORNWALL COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

2018/19 Season

Match Captain's Report

The season began with the WECU Jamboree in September where we entered two teams of 12, the 'A' team scoring 4 points and the 'B' team 4.5. The WECU section of the Counties Championship is now down to just three entries: Cornwall, Devon and Somerset. Against Devon we lost the 'A' team match by a score of 11-5. The Under 160 match we went down 9-7. Against Somerset we lost by 10.5-5.5. Having entered the Under 180 section in the national competition we were drawn against Essex at Bath and lost by 10.5-5.5. An under 160 match was arranged against Devon with David Jenkins as captain. This resulted in a close win for Devon by 9-7.

Although all the matches were lost, many players, some new to county chess, obtained valuable experience. The level of commitment and enthusiasm was encouraging and we could have coped with finding players for even larger teams. My thanks to David, for organising the under 160 team, to everyone who provided transport and to all the players.

For the trip to Bath to play Essex in the national stage of the Counties Championship we hired a minibus at a cost, including petrol, of £284. In the previous year the hire cost was £420, making a total of £704 for the two years. In his report the Treasurer states his view that this is not sustainable and recommends that we do not enter the national stage unless the cost is covered by sponsorship or donations. I agree with this and recommend that, instead, we seek to arrange a number of graded unofficial matches at venues no further away than Exeter against other counties and town/city teams, e.g. Plymouth, Exeter, Bristol, Bournemouth/Poole.

Richard Smith
5th June 2019

Final League Tables – 2018/19 Season

County Shield

	P	W	D	L	Def	Pts
1 Truro	10	8	0	2	0	34
2 Camborne	10	6	0	4	0	28
3 Newquay	10	5	0	5	0	25
4 Falmouth	10	4	2	4	0	24
5 Calstock	10	3	1	5	0	19
6 Liskeard	10	2	1	7	0	17

Roberts Cup

	P	W	D	L	Def	Pts
1 Truro	10	8	1	1	0	35
2 Newquay	10	7	2	1	0	33
3 Bude	10	5	1	4	0	26
4 Falmouth	10	3	5	2	0	24
5 Calstock	10	3	2	5	0	21
6 Camborne	10	3	2	5	0	21
7 Redruth	10	3	0	7	0	19
8 Liskeard	10	1	1	8	0	14

500 League - West

	P	W	D	L	Def	Pts
1 Truro	6	4	0	2	0	18
2 Redruth	6	3	2	1	0	17
3 Falmouth	6	2	1	3	0	13
4 Camborne	6	1	1	4	0	10

500 League - East

	P	W	D	L	Def	Pts
1 Liskeard	6	3	1	2	0	16
2 Bude	6	2	2	2	0	14
3 Lerryn	6	2	2	2	0	14
4 Calstock	6	1	3	2	0	12

500 League Play-off

Truro 6 - 2 Liskeard

Knock-out Cup Competitions

A. W. Busby Cup

Carrick 2 – 3 Newquay

Roger Grime Cup (U135)

Camborne 0.5 – 3.5 Bude