

CORNWALL COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at the Victoria Inn, Roche on Thursday 15th June
2023

PRESENT:

R. Smith (Chair), I. George (Secretary), J. Menadue, P. Williams, J. Morgan, J. Constable, C. Constable, M. Hill., Lloyd Retallick

APOLOGIES:

H. Brown, B. Smith, D. King, R. Kneebone, C. Gardiner, R. Gardiner, N. Kirkman, P. Nunn, L. Russell, I. Renshaw, D. Jenkins, J. Fernley, K. Brewer

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2022 be taken as read.

Matters arising

The trophy in honour of the late president, Professor David Jenkin, had not yet been purchased. This would be done during the 2023/24 season for presentation to the winner of one of the rapid play events to be held during the season.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Secretary (Ian George)

The secretary welcomed the newly formed North Cornwall club to the association. A successful club had been started up in Newquay attracting strong support. Otherwise, he had no other matters to report that would not be dealt with elsewhere.

Treasurer (Ian George)

The Treasurer presented the accounts for the period from 1 June 2022 to 31 May 2023 and reported that the state of the Association's finances was satisfactory. Total funds amounted to £2,257, including £768 in the Napier Fund for junior chess. The bank balance at 20/10/2022 was £1,993. Grants approved by the trust but not yet paid amounted to £429 (Spring congress £500, Autumn congress 2022 £71 overpaid). With trust support, all congresses have broken even.

The accounts were approved.

League Secretary (Hugh Brown)

The County Shield and Quickplay League were played from January to May as reduced competitions. They were both won by Camborne. He was pleased that all the team competitions would resume as normal in September.

Match Captain (Jamie Morgan)

3 matches were played in the 2022/23 season: losses to Devon by 4½-11½ in both the open and under 1900 matches and a loss by 5-9 to Somerset. He thanked all those who made themselves available and provided transport.

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Congress Organisers (Colin and Rebecca Gardiner)

"We returned to the Falmouth Hotel for the 3rd Cornwall Spring Congress and the top section became an open. There were 64 entries. Ten-year old Rami Taleb (Syria and Truro) became the youngest ever Cornwall champion. We have provisionally booked the Falmouth Hotel for the 4th Spring Congress for the weekend of Friday 3rd May 2024.

The 1st Autumn Congress was held at the Queens Hotel, Penzance. Although there was good feedback from players who enjoyed the congress and the venue, the entry of 50 spread over 4 sections was disappointing.

The 2nd Autumn Congress will be in September at the same venue. There will be 3 sections.

We suggest that if the Autumn congress is low on numbers this year, the association should consider holding one or more rapid play events and to hold those in the North Cornwall area so players in that part of the county can benefit from some chess a little closer to home. If a 3rd Autumn congress is thought viable, alternative venues further East, e. g. Newquay, will be considered."

Grader (Ian George)

The grader reported that everything was up to date. Online leagues and tournaments were now being rated for the appropriate ECF lists.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The following were elected:

Executive sub-committee

President: Richard Smith

Secretary: Ian George

Treasurer: Ian George

League Secretary: Hugh Brown

Match Captain: Jamie Morgan

Junior Secretary: Vacant

Co-opted Robin Kneebone

Colin Gardiner

Rebecca Gardiner

Mick Hill

John Constable

Christine Constable

Others

WECU Delegate Jamie Morgan (replaces Richard Smith who did not seek re-election)

Grader Ian George

Petra Nunn did not seek re-election as a co-opted member. All the above were unanimously re-elected.

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Cornwall Chess Trust

The trust secretary, Ian George, reported that to date the trust had paid grants of £4,381, with a further £879 awaiting approval. These grants included support for the Falmouth and Penzance congresses, and assistance to clubs including the purchase of 24 digital clocks for loan to four clubs.

For the forthcoming season the trustees intended to initiate a scheme for assisting clubs with travelling expenses for away matches. They wished to extend this to cover county matches, all of which involved travel to venues outside the county. The trustees would meet shortly to discuss the details of this scheme which would be published when they become available.

The trustees were anxious to support junior chess and clubs and would consider all applications in respect of viable projects contributing to the development of chess in Cornwall.

FEES 2023/24

The treasurer's recommendation that no fees should be charged to affiliated clubs for the 2023/24 season was approved.

PROPOSAL (Ian George, seconded: David Jenkins)

That the following be added to the Rules applying to the Emigrant, Falmouth and Penwith Cups as Rule 2:

- a) In a tournament open only to players meeting the criteria in rule 1, ties will be broken using the "sum of progressive scores" method. If this fails to break the tie, the trophy will be shared.*
- b) In a tournament open to both eligible and ineligible players, the Emigrant, Falmouth or Penwith Cups will be awarded to the highest-ranking eligible player or players.*

Approved.

PROPOSAL (David Jenkins, seconded: Ian George)

That the following be added as Rule 2(c) to the Rules applying to the Emigrant, Falmouth and Penwith Cups:

For the purposes of rule 2(a) and 2(b), byes shall be deducted for the purposes of all relevant calculations.

Not approved.

PROPOSAL (Hugh Brown, seconded: Ian George)

That the Rules applicable to all team matches be amended as follows:

- a) That the requirement to notify the league secretary of a change in the start time of a match be deleted from rule 1.
- b) That rules 5 and 7 be deleted and subsequent rules renumbered accordingly.
- c) That the following be added as rule 13: *"Where a match is at a neutral venue or involves two teams from the same club, the team listed first on the fixture list will be considered the home team"*

All these amendments were approved.

d) That rule 4 be amended to read as follows: *"Where there is a difference of more than 100 rating points between two players in the same team, the higher rated player must play on a higher board than the lower rated player. If a team list is submitted in breach of this rule, then the submitted team will be amended to play in descending rating order."*

Christine Constable proposed that this be amended to: *"Teams will be arranged in order of current player ratings. The ratings to be used will be taken from the most recent E. C. F. list as published on its website."*

The amendment was approved.

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PROPOSAL (Hugh Brown, seconded: Ian George)

That the League rules be amended as follows:

- a) That teams shall consist of four players in both the County Shield and Roberts Cup (rule 2.1)
- b) That the average rating of players in Roberts Cup teams is not to exceed 1675 (rule 2.2)
- c) That no eligibility restrictions be applied to any junior with an ECF rating of 1225 or lower (rule 2.2b)
- d) That in the absence of information on which to base an estimate, the rating of players with no ECF rating be deemed to be 1200. (rule 2.2d)
- e) That rule 5 be amended to read: *“If two or more teams finish level on match points, the tie shall be broken on the basis of game points difference. If this fails to break the tie, the trophy shall be shared.”* (rule 2.2e)

The proposal was approved.

PROPOSAL (Hugh Brown, seconded: Ian George)

That the Quickplay League rules be amended as follows:

- a) That teams shall consist of four players in both the County Shield and Roberts Cup (rule 2.1)
- b) That the average rating of the players in a team is not to exceed 1675 (rule 8c)
- c) That no eligibility restrictions be applied to any junior with an ECF rating of 1225 or lower (rule 8e)
- d) That in the absence of information on which to base an estimate, the rating of players with no ECF rating be deemed to be 1200. (rule 6b)
- e) That rule 5 be amended to read:
 - “a) *Ties in the divisional rounds will be broken in favour of the team scoring the highest number of game points. If this fails to break the tie, the team qualifying for the county final will be decided by the toss of a coin.*
 - b) *If the final is a tie, the tie will be broken in favour of the team scoring the higher number of game points. If this fails to break the tie, the teams will share the trophy.”*
- f) That the rate of play be 30 minutes for all the moves with 15 second increments from move 1
- g) That the following be added as rule 7(f): *“Where a club, or combination of clubs, fields more than one team, it must nominate its three highest rated players. All such players may play for one team only.”*
- h) Teams to be arranged in order of current player ratings using the ratings from the most recent E. C. F. list as published on its website.
- i) Colours to be decided by the toss of a coin. The winner of the toss to have the White pieces on the odd-numbered boards in the first round of games

The proposal was approved.

13. PROPOSAL: (Christine Constable. Seconder: Lloyd Russell)

That a new competition, to be called the Cornwall Minor League, commence in the 2023/24 season to be played in teams of four with an average rating not exceeding 1450. Two games to be played on each board at a rate of 30 minutes for all the moves with 15 second increments from move 1.

The proposal was approved

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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

IAN GEORGE (SECRETARY)

15 June 2023