

DRAFT

WILTSHIRE COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held at Chippenham Chess Club on Tuesday 24th May 2022

In attendance: Messrs R Carver (Vice-President), R Ludlow (Secretary), A Gladwell (League Secretary), A Ransom (Tournament Secretary), P Owen (Grading Officer), S Zeidler (Treasurer), D Auld, A Cooper, J Comerford

1. Apologies had been received from J Bourne (Chairman) and P Girdlestone (Junior Chess Liaison Officer). In the absence of JB, SZ took the chair.

2. Minutes of the combined AGM and Executive Committee Meeting held on 6th October 2021 were accepted (and duly signed by the Chairman) with the following addendum: Item 6 Future Meetings - Anthony Ransom had sent his apologies in advance for the AGM.

3. There were no matters arising, not otherwise on the agenda

4. After much discussion, the **change to Rule 11**, proposed by Adrian Gladwell and seconded by David Parsons, to bring the wording in line with the new ECF rating system, was agreed, with one addition, namely: after ELO (line 2) the wording "or equivalent".

Gary Loyden's proposed amendment to increase the upper grade limits to 1900 (Intermediate League) and 1600 (Minor League) would be considered at the Executive Committee Meeting in September, when grade limits were always reconsidered anyway. The need for flexibility was accepted.

Adrian Champion's proposed changes had not met the deadline for agenda items and so were not considered; they would, in any case, be automatically incorporated into the discussion in September.

5. RC: There was no interest in the Swindon Club of using a **neutral mid-way venue** for Trowbridge v. Swindon matches. this was mainly for logistical reasons (cost, provision of sets, etc.), so the matter was dropped. The start time and/or the time limit could be changed on an ad hoc basis, but this would require the mutual consent of the affected players.

6. Reports from Officers:

a. The President was not present - no report

b. The Chairman, in a written report. expressed warm thanks to all officers of the Association for their hard work, especially the Secretary; they rendered his job easy and straightforward.

c. The Secretary - no report

d. The Treasurer distributed copies of the Summary of Accounts, explaining that the financial situation remained healthy, with a projected balance of £792.69.

AG - this balance is at the right level.

AR - the County still had analogue clocks; there might be a need to purchase digital clocks. RL would enquire of ECF whether they still had a supply of cut price digital clocks. (RL has enquired: these clocks have now all been sold).

e. The Grading Officer: all was proceeding well; the monthly updates were presenting no problems.

f. The Junior Chess Liaison Officer was not present, but had presented a report which was read out: the level of interest shown in the game by young people was encouraging,

g. (Incorporating agenda item 13) The Tournament Secretary: there had been a successful online rapidplay tournament in March. It was won by Ellis Fretwell, with Simon Redmill coming second. Ellis had won £15 and Simon £10. AR thanked Mark Leonard of the Trowbridge club for giving invaluable technical support.

h. (Incorporating agenda item 11) The League Secretary: there had been no Major League this season.

The Intermediate League, for which an upper grade of 1850 had been established, had had five teams; results had been close; no matches had been defaulted; Devizes Nationwide had defaulted on one board in three matches; winners were Swindon A and runners up Trowbridge or Devizes Nationwide; one match was still to be played.

The Minor League, for which an upper grade limit of 1500 had been established, had had only three teams; each team played the others home and away twice; results had been close; the fourth round of matches had all been defaulted; Swindon A were the winners.

The Meeting proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Treasurer, Grading Officer, Junior Chess Liaison Officer, Tournaments Secretary and League Secretary for their hard work/ AG was also congratulated and thanked for his excellent work for the WCCA website, which was detailed and always up to date.

i. Vice-President - no report.

It was noted that the position of County Match Captain remained unfilled.

7. The Chairman **presented the Intermediate and Minor League trophies** to RC, who was representing Swindon A in both competitions.

8. All **officers** expressed their willingness to stand again; they were all duly proposed, seconded and re-elected unopposed.

9. It was agreed that there was no need for an **auditor** to be appointed.

10. The **subscription rates** would be unchanged.

(11. Please see item 6 h above).

12. AG hoped that all three leagues would operate in the **2022 / 2023 season**, so that as much chess as possible could be played; he hoped that Brown Jack would compete in the Major League and Chippenham in the Minor; there was a need for flexibility, eg the possibility for a combined team across two clubs; it would be good for the County to run a Major League.

(13. Please see item 6 g above).

14. The **2022 Executive Committee Meeting** would take place on Wednesday 14th September at 7.30 pm at Langley Burrell Village Hall.

15. The **Annual General Meeting for 2023** would take place on Tuesday 23rd May at 7.30 pm at Langley Burrell village Hall.

(RL - both dates have been booked.)

16. AOB

I AR - Chris Lamming and Mark Leonard of the Trowbridge club would organise a **rapidplay congress** in November at the Trowbridge Club. it would be open to all; there would not be another rapidplay tournament.

11 By means of a vote, it was decided that we would not show anything for the missed year (2020/2021) on the Intermediate and Minor League trophies. Thus we would not incur unnecessary expense.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.14 pm.

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