

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee held at Langley Burrell Village Hall on Wednesday 27th September 2023

In attendance: R Carver (Vice-President and Acting Chairman), A Gladwell (League Secretary), R Ludlow (Secretary), A Ransom (Tournaments Secretary), P Owen and D Parsons

1. **Apologies** had been received from Messrs J Bourne, D Auld, J Comerford, P Girdlestone and S Zeidler.
2. The **minutes** of the 2022 Executive Committee meeting were accepted and duly signed by the Acting Chairman.
3. There were no **matters arising**, not otherwise on the agenda.
4. AR expressed regret that the **Blitz Tournament** held on 6th September had not been better attended. He felt that it had not been well publicised. There had been 10 entrants who had enjoyed the tournament. The winner was G Crockart and the runner up S Harding. they had both been refunded their entry fee as a prize.
5. In establishing **teams for the coming season**, it was confirmed that there was insufficient support for a **Major League**. AG mentioned that it could take place later in the season, if circumstances changed.

In the **Intermediate League** there would be six teams, as follows:

Chippenham - one team, contact PO; Devizes / Nationwide - one team, contact DP;

Swindon - two teams, A team contact G. Georgiou; B team D. O'Byrne

Trowbridge - two teams, A team contact D Weston; B team RL

Each team would play the other teams home and away, making ten matches in all

Where a club fields two teams, the contact for the A team acts as a second contact for the B team and vice-versa.

In the **Minor League** there would be four teams, as follows:

Chippenham - one team contact PO / D Auld

Swindon - two teams, A team contact O Swann; B team RC

Trowbridge - one team contact RL / AR

Each team would play the others three times, making nine matches in all

RC and AG explained the rules regarding players moving between A and B teams.

The rating boundaries would remain as for last season, ie 1850 maximum in the Intermediate League, with one player (on board one) up to 1950; and 1600 maximum in the Minor League. There could be variation of these limits with prior agreement between the two captains.

As usual, the September rating would be valid until the end of December and the January rating thereafter.

6. This proposal was accepted unanimously, so a player will be deemed **unrated** until he or she has a rating based on at least five games.

7. **Tournaments for the coming season**

AR explained that there will be no **rapidplay** tournament as Ben Ogunshola organises one in Swindon (this year 7th October). Also - the Nationwide venue is no longer available

After much discussion, it was decided to hold a **blitz** tournament on Wednesday 4th September 2024, as this year, at Chippenham Chess Club. AR asked for it to be well publicised.

Classical chess - the four club champions (or highest rated players) would be invited to play in a knock-out tournament towards the end of the season, at Chippenham Chess Club, to establish a Wiltshire champion. In the event of a draw, there would be a ten minute 'decider'.

8. In the absence of the **Treasurer**, his report was circulated and accepted. The financial situation was healthy; fees would remain the same.

9. In the event of non-payment of game fees by players not registered with the ECF, **it would be the responsibility of the club** to collect, or pay, the fees. This proposal was accepted by five votes to one.

10. There were no matters of AOB.

11. The date, time and venue of the **2024 AGM** were confirmed as Tuesday 21st May at 7.30 pm at Chippenham Chess Club

12. The date, time and venue of the **2024 Executive Committee Meeting** were agreed as Wednesday 11th September at 7.30 pm at Chippenham Chess Club

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Roy Ludlow, Secretary, Wiltshire County Chess Association,
2nd October 2023