

ECA AGM 30-June-2009

The Annual General Meeting of the Essex Chess Association was held 30th June 2009 at Wanstead House.

In a largely unremarkable meeting of routine business, the standout feature was the significant increase in the ECA Game Fee, which includes the ECF Game Fee.

In presenting his report and Accounts, ECA Treasurer, Joe Rosenberg, said:

"Our subscriptions have remained unchanged for six years and it is felt that the time has come for an increase to be made. During these six years the Association has absorbed all increases in the BCF/ECF Game Fee which has risen from 36p to 50p per player per game which will be the rate for next season. Therefore, it is felt that the previous level of loading of the Game Fee for Essex League clubs should be largely restored and the charge increased from 52p to 65p per player per game for the coming season. It is intended that all other levels of fees and subscriptions should remain unchanged."

Of the six seasons since the previous increase, four produced a surplus, but we have now recorded a deficit in each of the last two seasons. The meeting recognised the need to raise fees and approved the Treasurer's proposal to increase the ECA Game Fee to 65p per player per game. Other fees remain the same.

The Officers and Executive members were re-elected as existing, with the exception of Ivor Smith who indicated that he felt it was time to stand down from his posts of Congress Secretary and Tournament Secretary. However, he recognised that it was probably not easy to find someone to take on the Congress, particularly with regard to the recent competition from the new Amersham Congress, but if a replacement could be found, he (Ivor) said he would be interested in taking on the vacant Match Captain position. This was indeed an encouragement to the meeting as we have been without an elected Match Captain since the death of Roy Heppinstall. An offer was then forthcoming regarding the Congress, but a decision was postponed pending further discussions. The Webmaster hopes to have further to report when these matters have been resolved, but this will probably not be until the Executive next meets in the second half of August.