

# ESSEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1898

The Annual General Meeting was held on 26 June 2014 in the Aldersbrook Room (first floor) at Wanstead House, 21 The Green, Wanstead, London E11 2NT, commencing at 7.45 p.m.

## Minutes of the AGM

Present: Bryan Gaze (Chair), Tom Barton, John Chapman, Malcolm Crane, Dave Hawkins, David Millward, Mark Murrell, John Philpott, Colin Ramage, Joe Rosenberg, David Smith, Ivor Smith, Steve Wedlock,

- 1. Apologies for absence :** Apologies were received from Simon Moth, Geoff Smith, Alistair Clarke, Norman Went, Russell Fisher, Steve Abbott.
- 2. Minutes of the AGM held on 26 June 2013**

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Present – “Dave Hawk’s” should be “Dave Hawkins”.

Item 2 – should be minutes of AGM held 26 June 2012 were agreed.

Item 4 – Treasurer’s Report, should read, “ The new ECF membership scheme meant less ECA members than last year.”

Item 4 – Tournament Secretary’s Report to be reworded.

Item 6 – should include a list of officers.

Item 7 – should be Appointment of Auditor. Syd Kalinsky was retained as auditor.

A few other small wording changes were also proposed.

Bryan Gaze stated that he would approve the minutes once they had been re-drafted.

- 3. Matters arising from these minutes**

9) The issue of quorums for meetings should have been included on the agenda. The issue of non ECA members playing for the county should have also been included. Ian Hunnable suggested that an SGM should be held to address this. A suggestion was made for a postal vote. It was also

suggested that the meeting could be in early September to take place during the Individual Rapidplay event at Writtle.

No Basildon representative was at the meeting to take the Division 4 trophy therefore David Millward retained it as he was a Basildon member.

#### **4. Officers' reports**

**President (Ivor Smith):** Ivor reported that a Trophy and two medallions had been returned to the Association after being missing for 75 years. A lady in Basingstoke returned them after clearing out a family member's house.

Ivor thanked Dave Hawkins for organising various Junior Chess events around the County.

**Chairman (Bryan Gaze):** Bryan reported that the ECF had agreed that there would be no increase in membership fees for 2014 / 2015.

**General Secretary (John Chapman):** Nothing to report.

**Assistant General Secretary (Steve Wedlock):** Steve stated that he was providing active support to the General Secretary.

**Treasurer (Joe Rosenberg):** Joe had prepared the accounts and they were circulated with the minutes. He reported that the association was in a healthy state with assets of £2,916. The question was, whether we should invest in new equipment, reduce membership fees or continue to build a surplus. After some discussion it was decided to leave the funds as they were. Joe also stated that if re-elected, this would be his last as year as Treasurer. A replacement is available now, and so Malcolm Crane took over the role, and would work with Joe to ensure a smooth transition. The meeting thanked Joe for his long service over many years to the Association, where he had held a number of posts.

**Match Captain (Ivor Smith):** Ivor circulated a report. Hertfordshire Open team had left the SCCU to play in the EACU, due to very strong teams in some counties in the SCCU making it unrealistic to compete. He explained that it was difficult to get 180+ players to play for the County, as they were attracted to various other events. He thanked all in the U-180 team for providing strong support to the Open team.

**Assistant Match Captain (David Smith):** Nothing to report.

**U-180 (Mark Murrell):** Mark reported that they had had two chances to win the SCCU title, however they had not succeeded. Yorkshire had defaulted their match. Mark gave thanks to the many players who had supported the

team during the season.

**U-160 (Peter Nickals):** Peter had submitted a report which was read by Mark Murrell.

**U-140 (Simon Moth):** Simon had submitted a report which was read by Bryan Gaze. The team had won the National final!

**U-120 (Malcolm Crane):** Malcolm reported that they had had a good season, and came 2<sup>nd</sup> to Hertfordshire. The team has a new board 1 player, Niall Ali. During one of the matches there was an incident regarding board order.

**U-100 (Peter Hughes):** Peter did not attend the meeting or submit a report. David Smith reported that the team had come last out of three teams in the SCCU stage.

**Correspondence (Steve Abbott):** Steve had submitted a report which Bryan read.

**Tournament Secretary (vacant):** Ivor reported, as acting Tournament Secretary, the teams that had entered the Team Blitz this year:

3 teams from Wanstead; 2 teams each from Barking and Ilford; one team each from Writtle, Upminster and Basildon.

The event would be 9 rounds with a five minute interval between rounds.

Individual Rapidplay: Ian Hunnable did the pairings on his computer. Ivor asked how long he would have to be “acting” Tournament Secretary, as he was keen to hand this task on to somebody else.

**Essex Knockout Controller (Ian Hunnable):** Ian distributed and read a report. There were fewer clubs entering in 2014 although the same number of teams, as 2 clubs had 2 teams.

**League Secretary (David Millward):** David presented his report; there are new FIDE Laws coming into force on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 and these would need to be reviewed.

**Grader (David Millward):** David presented his report and stated that the new grades were due out in the last week of July.

**Junior Organiser (Dave Hawkins):** Dave distributed and presented his report. There were two new Junior clubs, namely the Knights of Gidea Park and the Knights of Leigh-on Sea. There was also activity in Clacton.

**Publicity / Webmaster (Ian Hunnable):** Ian had been preparing information for the British Championships in Aberystwyth. Essex entries were now on the Association website.

**5. Presentation of Trophies:** Ivor (as President) presented the following:

|                          |               |                      |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Division | Upminster III | Bryan Gaze           |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Division | Upminster II  | Trophy not available |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Division | Upminster I   | Bryan Gaze           |

Bryan Gaze, as Chair, presented the following:

|                          |         |            |
|--------------------------|---------|------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Division | Writtle | Ivor Smith |
|--------------------------|---------|------------|

Ivor added that an Essex Grammar Schools League Trophy exists, however it is not presented. This tournament stopped running in the 1980's. Ivor ran this during the 1960's and 1970's. There was no decision as to what to do with the trophy, as the Association has no display cabinet for such items.

**6. Election of Officers:**

The following officers were elected:

|                             |   |               |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------|
| President                   | - | Ivor Smith    |
| Chairman                    | - | Bryan Gaze    |
| General Secretary           | - | John Chapman  |
| Assistant General Secretary | - | Steve Wedlock |
| Treasurer                   | - | Malcolm Crane |
| Match Captain               | - | Ivor Smith    |
| Assistant Match Captain     | - | David Smith   |

|                              |   |                            |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Correspondence Match Captain | - | Steve Abbott               |
| League Secretary             | - | David Millward             |
| Tournament Secretary         | - | Ian Hunnable               |
| Grader                       | - | David Millward             |
| Publicity Officer            | - | Ian Hunnable               |
| Junior Organiser             | - | Dave Hawkins               |
| Webmaster                    | - | Ian Hunnable               |
| Additional Committee Members | - | Colin Ramage<br>Tom Barton |

Ivor Smith stated he would agree to continue as Match Captain but wanted to approach the SCCU to run a Minor / Average 180 tournament so that the current "Open" team could compete competitively. David Smith agreed to raise this at the SCCU meeting on Saturday 28 June 2014.

David Smith proposed the above nominations and Colin Ramage seconded them. The election of all Officers was carried unanimously.

Malcolm Crane was elected to the Executive Committee as Treasurer. As outgoing Treasurer, Joe Rosenberg declined to be on the Executive Committee.

**7. Appointment of the Auditor:** Colin Ramage proposed that Syd Kalinsky be retained as Auditor, and Philip Staniland seconded the motion. This was accepted unanimously.

**8. Subscriptions, Game Fee and Surcharges for 2014/15:** Colin Ramage proposed a vote of thanks to Joe Rosenberg for all his support for the Association over many years. The meeting extended their thanks to Joe. Colin also suggested that the game fee remain unchanged. Philip Staniland suggested that we keep sufficient funds to cover expensive equipment. Mark Murrell proposed to abolish County match board fees. This was discussed but was pointed out that it would cost the Association several hundred pounds and this was thought by some to be too much to lose on a permanent basis. A discussion ensued and eventually the meeting agreed to keep the fees unchanged.

## **9. Any Other Business:**

The changes to the FIDE Laws was briefly discussed by Ian Hunnable who said he would forward the lengthy document on to Bryan Gaze and anyone else on the committee who wanted to see it.

John Philpott would be asked to update the Rules Compendium.

David Sands would play in the Olympiad in Tromso, Norway. He would represent Wales, the land of his Mother's birth.

John Philpott and John Chapman would attend the SCCU meeting the following Saturday. David Smith would be there in his SCCU capacity.

Ivor related in some detail the story of the trophy that had been missing for 75 years. It was presented to Alan Croft in 1936. It was then presented to Alan Duff who won the British Under 18 Championship for three consecutive years from 1937 to 1939.

Ivor, Philip Staniland and Dave Hawkins would organise a method of awarding this newly discovered trophy with a focus on juniors. They would form a sub committee to decide upon this.

The meeting closed at 10.01 p.m.

*John Chapman*

*General Secretary*

*October 2014*