

ESSEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

Founded 1898

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT St. ETHELBURGA'S CATHOLIC CLUB, BARKING on 29 JUNE 2006 at 8.00 pm.

Present: J A Philpott, D Smith (in the chair), M Crane, J A Goldberg, I D Hunnable, D J Millward, A F O'Regan, J Page, C R Ramage, J Rosenberg, I B N Smith, R Watts and S L Wedlock.

The numbers present were insufficient to achieve a quorum.

The minutes were taken by John Philpott.

1. Apologies for absence

S J Abbott, R Heppinstall, J A Lutton and I MacLachlan.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 30 June 2005 and matters arising

The minutes were agreed as a true record save that the proposer and seconder indicated under item 6 in respect of the "other" members of the Executive only related to Roy Watts, and their adoption was proposed Colin Ramage, seconded David Millward and carried nem con.

The following matters arising were noted.

- The President's team had soundly won its match against Wanstead & Woodford (item 3).
- Arnold Lutton had accepted the position of Junior Organiser (item 6).
- Sid Kalinsky had accepted the position of Auditor (item 7).

3. Officers' Reports

President

John Philpott had nothing to report.

Chairman

David Smith had nothing to report.

General Secretary

Ian MacLachlan had apologised for not producing a written report.

Assistant General Secretary

Jeff Goldberg had not joined the meeting at this stage, but was understood to have nothing to report.

Treasurer

The unaudited accounts had been circulated 3 weeks previously, and the figures had not changed as a result of the audit. Joe Rosenberg drew attention to the good surplus arising from the 2005 Ilford Congress: the healthy bottom line result meant that the reserves were now close to £3,000. He thanked Sid Kalinsky for auditing the accounts.

The adoption of the accounts was proposed by David Millward, seconded Malcolm Crane and carried nem con.

Match Captain

The meeting was advised that Roy Heppinstall was responding well to treatment and hoped to be present at the County finals.

Assistant Match Captain

In the absence of the Match Captain, David Smith had run the Open team during the National Stages. By beating Shropshire and Sussex, the team had qualified for the final against Kent.

Under 175 Match Captain

John Philpott had provided a written report, which he briefly talked to. The team had won the SCCU Championship for the 9th time in 10 seasons but had lost to Sussex on board count in the National semi-final.

Under 150 Match Captain

David Payne had submitted a written report. There was some discussion concerning the ungraded Warwickshire top board who had played in the quarter final which Essex had narrowly lost. It was agreed that the President would make suggestions for strengthening the rules to the Controller.

Under 125 Match Captain

David Smith had provided a written report as acting captain. It was confirmed, in response to a question from David Millward, that the final match against Surrey had been lost.

U100 Match Captain

Fin O'Regan gave a verbal report, and indicated that the team had won the SCCU Championship, but had lost in the National quarter final on board count. There was some discussion of a quickplay finish claim in the match against Surrey.

David Smith commented that the Essex County teams had enjoyed an excellent season with four qualifiers for the National Stages and 3 SCCU Champions. He offered his congratulations to all concerned.

Correspondence Match Captain

A written report had been provided by Steve Abbott with final results for 2004/5 (where Essex had won the Sinclair) and the current state of play for 2005/6 (where there were still chances of success for all three teams).

Congress & Tournament Secretary

Ivor Smith reported an increased entry of 140 (33 Open, 52 Major and 55 Minor) in the Ilford Congress. Nearly 20 late entries had turned the event into profit, and the result had been helped by Tony Corfe being persuaded not to charge for equipment hire. Costs would rise for next year, so the level of entry fees may need to be reconsidered.

It was agreed that the Executive should consider eligibility for the Essex titles with a view to producing a byelaw.

10 teams had entered the team blitz, which was a little down on previous years. There had only been 12 entries for the individual lightning. The 2006 events would take place in the Hall at Wanstead House on 16 July.

Steve Murray had suggested the establishment of a Committee to consider reviving the Weekend League. However, the meeting considered that after the considerable efforts made to organise a 2005/6 competition, there was no immediate prospect of a revival.

The first Essex individual rapidplay championship would be held at Writtle on 23 July, combined with the North Essex event previously organised by Roger Sharman.

League Secretary.

David Millward talked to his written report. The League had gained Thurrock 2 for the 2005/6 season, but expected to lose Waltham Forest and Powdermill for next season. He indicated, in response to a question, that there had been no known incidents concerning mobile phones.

Restructuring of the League had been discussed at the GPC. What could be achieved for 2006/7 was dependant upon the agreement of clubs. Bishop's Stortford had indicated a wish to enter a team (which would most appropriately play in Division 2), and this was welcomed by the meeting.

The fixtures meeting would be arranged for somewhat later than previously.

Grader

David Millward presented a written report.

Essex Knockout controller

Colin Ramage reported an enjoyable 2005 event, won by Writtle with the Plate going to Wanstead I. He thanked Upminster for providing the venue for both finals. 2006 entries were one fewer (Basildon).

Junior Organiser

Arnold Lutton had provided a written report which was noted.

Publicity Officer & Webmaster

Ian Hunnable had provided a written report..

4. Presentation of Trophies.

The Division 1 Trophy was presented to Writtle (Ivor Smith).

The Division 2 Trophy was presented to Barking II (Colin Ramage).

The Division 3 Trophy was presented to Thurrock I (Malcolm Crane).

The Essex Minor Trophy was presented to Colin Ramage.

5. Election of Officers, other members of the Executive, Vice Presidents for 2006/7 and appointment of Honorary Life Members.

The following were re-elected unopposed. It was noted that although Roy Heppinstall expected, health permitting, to be able to organise the Open team, he may need a deputy to act as captain on the day of a match.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Proposed</i>	<i>Seconded</i>
President	John Philpott	D Smith (from the chair)	
Chairman	David Smith	J Philpott	C Ramage
General Secretary	Ian MacLachlan	J Goldberg	J Rosenberg
Assistant General Secretary	Jeff Goldberg	C Ramage	D Millward
Treasurer	Joe Rosenberg	D Smith (from the chair)	
League Secretary	David Millward	S Wedlock	R Watts
Congress Secretary	Ivor Smith	R Watts	D Millward
Grader	David Millward	S Wedlock	M Crane
Correspondence Match Captain	Steve Abbott	J Philpott	C Ramage
Match Captain	Roy Heppinstall	I Smith	D Millward
Assistant Match Captain	David Smith	C Ramage	D Millward

Publicity Officer and Webmaster	Ian Hunnable	C Ramage	D Millward
Tournament Secretary	Ivor Smith	D Millward	R Watts
Junior Organiser	Arnold Lutton	D Smith	S Wedlock
Executive	Colin Ramage Roy Watts	D Millward	F O'Regan

The following were re-elected as VPs, proposed David Smith seconded Jeff Goldberg:

S.J. Abbott, S.M. Kalinsky, G. Kenworthy, R.D. Manning, R. Heppinstall, I. Hunnable, R. Joyce, D. Millward, C. Ramage J.A. Philpott, J.M. Sargent, D. Smith, I.B.N. Smith, P Walker, S.L. Wedlock, N. Went and A. Martin (subject to a final approach by the President/Chairman to obtain a subscription).

The appointment of Roy Heppinstall as an Honorary Life Member was proposed by Jeff Goldberg, seconded by John Philpott and carried unanimously.

6. The appointment of the Auditor

The reappointment of Sid Kalinsky was proposed by Jeff Goldberg, seconded by Jeff Page and carried unanimously.

7. Subscriptions, Game Fee and surcharges for 2006/7.

Joe Rosenberg proposed no changes to the existing level of subscriptions and Game Fee which comprised.

- (a) a club affiliation fee of £15.00;
- (b) a fee for affiliated leagues and other affiliated organisations of £20.00;
- (c) Game Fee of 52p per player per game in the Essex League (made up of BCF 45p and ECA 7p);
- (d) Individual subscriptions of £2.00 for adults and £1.00 for juniors; and
- (e) Vice-President's subscription of £12.00 (minimum).

He also proposed to retain the existing level of surcharges for late payment. In response to a question from Colin Ramage he indicated that one club had paid a surcharge in the 2005/6 season.

The Treasurer's proposals were seconded by David Millward and carried nem com.

8. Request by Shell Chess Club that the Executive Committee form a committee to review the current adjudications and appeals procedure

A motion of next business from Colin Ramage did not attract a seconder.

Shell were not represented at the meeting, and it was not clear what the club's substantive concerns were. It was agreed that the League Management Committee was the right body to consider this issue, and that the League Secretary should write to Shell, requesting that a formal submission be made for consideration by LMC by the date of the next Executive meeting.

9. Any Other Business.

Martin Crane drew attention to an ungraded summer competition that he had started. If this was successful, the concept could be applied more widely in a future year.

In response to a question from Ivor Smith, the President confirmed that he envisaged a pre-season challenge match between the President's team and Writtle.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.