

ESSEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

Founded 1898

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT
BARDESWELL SOCIAL CLUB, BARDESWELL CLOSE, BRENTWOOD, ESSEX
CM14 4TJ ON 28 JUNE 2007 at 8.00 pm.

Present: J A Philpott (in the chair) (JP), J Rosenberg (JR), I MacLachlan (IM), I D Hunnable (IH), D J Millward (DM), I B N Smith (IS), A Trent (AT), A Corish (AC), J Chapman (JC), A Haydon (AH), G Strachan (GS) and G Benger (GB).

1. Apologies for absence

R Heppinstall (RH), S Abbott (SA), D Smith (DS), S Wedlock, B Hammond, C Ramage & N Kirby.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 29 June 2006 and SGM held on 21 September 2006 and matters arising.

The minutes were agreed as a true record proposed by DM and seconded by IS and carried nem con. JP reported that the ECA Executive met to discuss the Shell Club & J Goldberg situation and JP confirmed that both had been written to but was not aware of either apologising.

3. Officers' Reports

The following officers presented reports.

President

JP indicated that he was delighted to have been President in a year in which Essex had won both the over the board and the correspondence county championships, although neither title had been retained. The President's team had beaten Writtle 6 – 4 and was hoping for a further challenge from Writtle in September 2007. JP also reported to the meeting the news that he had learned earlier in the day of the death of Graham Brown, the Wanstead 2nd team member captain.

Chairman

DS had not provided a report.

General Secretary

IM gave a brief summary of the league, knockout and county results (to date).

Treasurer

The audited accounts showed a surplus of £82 which took reserves to over £3,000. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by David Millward, seconded Ian Hunnable and carried nem con.

Match Captain

In the absence of RH, JP reminded the meeting that Essex had beaten Kent 8.5 – 7.5 at the County finals in July 06. The 2006/7 open team had been weaker and over-reliant on players eligible for the U175s, but still qualified for the national stages and had been unlucky to lose on board count to Lancashire in the quarter final.

Under 175 Match Captain

JP had circulated a written report as U175 captain and confirmed to the meeting that he was to stand down after 11 seasons. In the absence of the other captains he also gave an overview of how the other county teams (U150, U125 & U100) did this year, and congratulated Simon Moth on winning the SCCU title and reaching the National final (to be played in Leicester on 7 July) in his first season as U125 captain..

Correspondence Match Captain

A written report had been provided by SA with final results for 2005/6 (where Essex had won the Ward Higgs and came 2nd in the Sinclair & Brown Pond) and the current state of play for 2006/7 (where although the Ward Higgs had not been retained there were still good chances of success for the teams in the Sinclair (Div 2) & Brown Pond (Div 3B).

Congress & Tournament Secretary

IS reported that entries were down to 120 (140) although 123 paid. The definition of eligibility for the Essex titles was queried although minutes from 1907 provided criteria that the Executive would need to consider.

League Secretary

DM presented his written report. Division 1 was retained by Writtle, division 2 was won by Bishop's Stortford and division 3 was won by Barking despite a number of defaults. There were 11 adjudications and a few late result fines. Restructuring of the League had been discussed at the GPC and a new structure of double round 6 team divisions would be implemented for the coming season. The fixtures meeting would be arranged later.

Grader

DM presented a written report outlining which games had been graded and that the game fee was increasing to 46p.

Junior Organiser

Arnold Lutton was not present but the meeting noted that the newly reformed EJCA seemed keen to promote junior chess. Dave Hawkins in particular was being very enthusiastic towards new events.

Publicity Officer & Webmaster

IH reported that the printed Chessex was behind publishing schedule but the new on-line magazine was being developed. The website was also continually being improved.

The meeting showed its appreciation of the work of the officers by a round of applause.

4. Presentation of Trophies.

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

The Division 2 Trophy was not available for presentation, but this item gave Alan Trent the opportunity to unveil the new team slogan the “Stortford stranglers” and team colours.

The Division 3 Trophy was not presented as there was no representative from Barking Chess club at the meeting.

The Knockout trophy was presented to Writtle.

5. Election of Officers, other members of the Executive, Vice Presidents for 2007/8 and appointment of Honorary Life Members.

JP relinquished the chair to JR, who invited nominations for the post of President. JP, who indicated that this was the last year in which he would be standing for the post was proposed by AC, seconded by DM and re-elected nem con.

JP proposed from the chair the re-election of DS as Chairman and this was carried nem con.

The following were elected (in the case of Gavin Strachan who volunteered from the floor) or re-elected unopposed, proposed by Aidan Corish and seconded by Dave Millward.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Name</i>
General Secretary	Ian MacLachlan
Assistant General Secretary	Gavin Strachan
Treasurer	Joe Rosenberg
League Secretary	David Millward
Congress Secretary	Ivor Smith
Grader	David Millward
Correspondence Match Captain	Steve Abbott
Match Captain	Roy Heppinstall
Publicity Officer and Webmaster	Ian Hunnable
Tournament Secretary	Ivor Smith
Executive	Colin Ramage

The following were left vacant:

Assistant Match Captain

Junior Organiser (as Arnold Lutton was understood to wish to stand down and the most appropriate successor from the EJCA had not yet been ascertained)

Executive (a second officer is required)

The following were re-elected as VPs, proposed Gavin Strachan and seconded by Ashley Haydon.

S.J. Abbott, S.M. Kalinsky, R.D. Manning, 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 and N. Went.

The appointment of Ivor Smith as an honorary Life Member was carried by acclamation.

6. The appointment of the Auditor

The reappointment of Sid Kalinsky was proposed by David Millward, seconded by Gavin Strachan and carried unanimously.

7. Subscriptions, Game Fee and surcharges for 2007/8.

Joe Rosenberg proposed the following (changes in bold):

- (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 ECF **46p**(45p) and ECA **6p**(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.

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

8. Any Other Business.

The absence of the division 2 trophy (which Barking had won in 2005/06) was commented upon adversely. The Executive should consider whether an automatic fine should be imposed for future transgressions of this nature by any club..

A review of Barking player registrations should be considered as a number of players seem to play for both the 2nd and 3rd teams.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm.