

# ESSEX CHESS ASSOCIATION

Founded 1882

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 31 MAY 2007 AT BARDESWELL SOCIAL CLUB, BARDESWELL CLOSE, BRENTWOOD, ESSEX CM14 4TJ AT 8.00 P.M.

### **Present:**

J Rosenberg (JR) (in the chair), J Philpott (JP) – arrived late, D Smith (DS) – arrived late, I MacLachlan (IM), D J Millward (DM), J Page (JPg), R Franklin (RF), J Chapman (JC), S Wedlock (SW), A Corish (AC), D Payne (DP), M Crane (MC), G Strachan (GS), I Hunnable (IH) and N Kirby (NK).

### **1. Apologies for absence**

R Watts, I Smith, R Heppinstall, R Purse and C Ramage.

### **2. Minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2005**

These were agreed as a true record (proposed DM, seconded MC).

### **3. Matters arising – none.**

### **4. League review**

David Millward circulated a written report with league tables for 2006/7 and confirmed that there were 11 adjudications and 7 late results. DP apologised for the number of defaults by Shell chess club.

### **5. Knock-out competition**

In the absence of CR there was no written report. For 2006 Writtle were confirmed as the knockout champions, Ilford beat Chelmsford in the plate.

### **6. Tournaments**

In the absence of IS no report was available although the individual lightning, team blitz, individual rapidplay were discussed.

The Ilford Congress had 120 players, which meant that a small loss was returned, the meeting expressed its thanks for all IS's hard work.

### **7. County teams**

John Philpott reported that four teams – Open, U175, U125 and U100 teams have all reached the quarter finals of the National Stages although the Open team lost their quarter final match the other teams all won their respective matches. He also reported that the U180 won the SCCU jamboree event.

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## 8. Proposed League Rule changes

### (i) League restructuring – MC (seconded NK)

MC presented a report explaining the benefits of his proposal which would be all teams consist of 6 players this would benefit smaller clubs and also level the playing strength (i.e smaller clubs may have 6 good players but not 8 etc), this was followed by a number of people explaining their clubs respective views.

The proposal was then split into two parts, there should be 6 players in each team in every division was first on the agenda however an amendment was then proposed that divisions 1 & 2 will consist of 8 players and all other divisions will consist of 6 players (proposed by JP, seconded DM) this was voted and passed 8 for, 0 against)

The other half of the proposal was that the league should consist of 6 teams in each division playing home and away, (this was passed 7 for, 1 against) note – the LMC will decide who will be in each division for the 2007/08 season.

### (ii) Division two matches should be played over seven boards – R Purse.

The proposal was not seconded and therefore was not voted on.

### (iii) Lower leagues (division three onwards) should have a grade restriction – G Strachan

The proposal was introduced by GS however this was not seconded by anyone and therefore was voted on.

### (iv) If a player fails to produce the sealed move it will result in an automatic loss (unless there are exceptional circumstances, which is subject to the league secretary's discretion) – DM (seconded IH)

The proposal was passed (9 for, 0 against)

### (v) Mobile phones – JP

FIDE rules will be followed except that mobile phones will be allowed into the playing area. The original proposal was amended (DS seconded SW) the penalty for a phone ringing will be the loss of the game. (passed 9 for, 1 against)

The meeting also noted that it was the view of the ECF Director of Home Chess that adjudications should be discouraged, although the ECF was not currently proposing any action that would prevent adjudicated games from being graded.

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## 9. Officers for 2007/8

All current officers present were understood to be willing to continue, except for, Assistant match captain, Junior organiser, Roy Watts (officer without portfolio) and Assistant general secretary (which became vacant during the season). The meeting also noted that the match captain's (Roy Heppinstall) ability to continue would be dependent upon his health.

## 10. Adjudication discussion - removed

## 11. Any other business

**a) Summer events.** The meeting heard a reminder of the summer events that were due to be held this included the Essex league knockout, team blitz, individual lightning and the Essex rapidplay championship.

**b) Players within a team.** The meeting was asked how players should be organised in a team and was reminded by DM that players should play in order of strength not grade.

**c) Start time.** The meeting was asked what should happen when teams / players arrive late. The start time is flexible but there are rules if the start time hasn't been agreed in advance and with a good reason to change the start time.

**d) Adjudications.** A comment was made by the league secretary that one adjudication submitted by two clubs had an unclear position due to both clubs submitting different positions and then swapping what they thought was the actual position however this was eventually resolved.

**e) Algebraic notations.** It was pointed out that the FIDE Laws of Chess required algebraic notation to be used to record games, and prohibited the writing down of a move before it was played at the board.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.32 p.m.