

# Nottinghamshire Chess Association

## Annual General Meeting

*Glossary:* CC—Chess Club; EC—Executive Committee; ECF—English Chess Federation; LMC—League Management Committee; MCCU—Midlands Counties Chess Union; NCA—Nottinghamshire Chess Association; NCCU—Northern Counties Chess Union; NHS—Nottingham High School; RRM—Rules Revision Meeting; TBA—To Be Announced.

Meeting held at West Bridgford CC, 7:30pm, Tuesday 10th July 2012.

Present were R. J. Richmond [President, in the Chair], A. N. Walker [Secretary], S. J. Burke [Treasurer], J. G. Collins, A. Combie, D. Griffiths, S. Foster, N. Graham, B. M. Hayward, M. J. Hill, C. Holt, N. London, S. D. Luland, R. Myers, D. Sudar, J. T. Swain, T. Walker, J. K. Walters and M. Winn.

Meeting opened at 7:36pm.

### 1. Apologies, minutes, matters arising

Apologies were received from M. Barnes, D. Cronshaw, A. Kenyon, G. Ladds, D. G. Levens, D. Padvic and P. Sherlock. The minutes of the previous meeting, the RRM, were accepted without change. There were two matters arising:

The proposed new Rule C6c had been approved in principle, but LMC had been asked to re-word it to avoid double negatives. The revised wording, reproduced below, was proposed by D. Sudar, seconded by M. J. Hill, and approved *nem con*.

*From 1st March each season, only players who live, work or study in Nottinghamshire, or have previously played in the league, may be introduced by a club.*

The Treasurer had produced a document in the light of previous discussions about ECF membership. The President proposed that we should require ECF membership for participation in the County Championship. However, MCCU did not require this for county matches, and he proposed that we follow suit. The Treasurer had proposed that NCA should seek to become a Member Organisation of the ECF, and the President supported this. D. Sudar said that ECF would supply a spreadsheet, to be collated [presumably] by the Treasurer. The President said that after 31st October, new players would have to register themselves. B. M. Hayward said that it would be very helpful if members could be registered in time for the September congresses. D. Sudar asked about residual game fees; the President said that these would be collected from clubs in arrears. J. G. Collins asked about transitional arrangements for existing members; D. Sudar said that ECF would upgrade these to Gold and extend them *pro rata*. J. G. Collins asked whether clubs would pay £13 or the reduced rate of £12; the President said that invoices would be for £12. M. J. Hill asked whether we would keep existing membership numbers; D. Sudar said that there would be new ones. The President then proposed formally that NCA should apply to ECF to become a Member Organisation; this was seconded by J. G. Collins and passed *nem con*.

### 2. Reports of officers and committees

The President said that in his role as ECF and MCCU delegate, membership had been the main issue. Greater Manchester was applying to join NCCU. NCCU was proposing that county matches should be reduced from 16 boards to 12, and that they should revert to the former grading limits. In his role as Congress Director, there had been various problems, including NHS charging for the venue and difficulties over dates. But the Rapidplay entry was up, and there had been 40 entrants in the County Championship.

The Secretary had nothing to report.

In the absence of D. G. Levens, the President referred the meeting to his written reports as U180 captain, Schools Liaison Officer and Publicity Officer. T. Walker said that he had seen articles in the *Evening Post*; these had been interesting and were worth continuing.

The Treasurer referred the meeting to the accounts, in his report. T. Walker asked about the item for creditors; the Treasurer said these were mostly prizes, and had now been paid. The Treasurer proposed that we should set fees as outlined in his report. D. Sudar proposed that we should simplify the structure, and have uniform team fees, now that the board fee element had been abolished; this was seconded by B. M. Hayward and passed *nem con*. He also thought that we should seek to reduce our bank balance, for example by having no

entry fees for a period; this would cost around £500 per year. J. T. Swain said that he would prefer us to spend the money more positively, for example by having a grandmaster give a simultaneous display. N. Graham said that we should decide this at leisure, and see if any ideas surface. The Secretary proposed that we could further simplify the fee structure by making the affiliation fee equal to the team fee, so that both the cost and the number of delegates to NCA meetings would be on a 'teams plus one' basis. This was agreed *nem con*. The meeting was asked whether the fee should be £6 or £12; a vote resulted by 12 votes to 4 in favour of £12. There was some discussion about entry fees and conditions for the County Championship. T. Walker pointed out that the new Rule C6 greatly relaxed the conditions for new players to join clubs and so become eligible to play. N. Graham said this had not been a problem in practice, and if it became one, we could change the rules next season. The Secretary said that he felt that our County Championship should be for Nottinghamshire players, and that we should decide the principle of what that meant. On the President's proposal, the accounts were adopted *nem con*, including the Auditor's report.

There was no specific report from EC.

J. K. Walters spoke to his report on the U160 team. They had won the MCCU section, but Greater Manchester had become national champions.

N. Graham spoke to his report on the U140 team. They had won four matches but lost two, and for the first time in many years had not reached the national stages. He further reported that the U120 team had also not reached the national stages, and that the U120 team had won the MCCU section but had lost in the national semi-finals on board count.

S. Foster reported that the Ward-Higgs correspondence championship had not been held this year.

The League Secretary, D. Sudar, said that he had nothing to add to his written report. M. J. Hill, as chair of LMC, said that there had been some problems with gamesmanship. The Records Secretary, D. Griffiths, said that almost all results were being submitted by e-mail. Two clubs had been very slow, which meant that he was often relying on results from only one club, which created problems for the grader.

The Grading Records Officer, P. Sherlock, had submitted a written report.

### 3. Prizes

The President made the award to Newark 1, who had won Division 2 of the League; other League prizes had been distributed at the RRM. He also reported that G. Halfpenny had won the Best Game prize; the award would be made at a forthcoming match.

### 4. Election of officers and committees

Officers and committees were elected, all *nem. con.*, as noted in the following table†.

<b>Honorary Life Vice-Presidents</b>	D. Cronshaw, F. Ellis, B. M. Hayward, A. E. Morrey and R. M. Sayer—see note 1
<b>Executive Committee</b>	
<b>President</b>	R. J. Richmond
<b>Secretary</b>	<i>A. Kenyon</i> —see note 2
<b>Treasurer</b>	S. J. Burke
<b>LMC Representative</b>	<i>M. J. Hill</i> —see note 3
<b>Co-opted members</b>	<i>N. Graham, D. G. Levens</i> and <i>A. N. Walker</i> —see note 3
<b>Team Captains</b>	—see note 4
<b>U180</b>	<i>N. Graham</i>
<b>U160</b>	<i>N. Graham</i>
<b>U140</b>	<i>G. Neil</i>
<b>U120</b>	<i>M. Swanick</i>
<b>U100</b>	<i>C. Smith McGloin</i>
<b>Correspondence</b>	S. Foster
<b>League Management Committee</b>	—see note 5
<b>Chair</b>	M. J. Hill
<b>League Secretary</b>	D. Sudar

† Names in italics represent appointments by bodies other than the AGM.

<b>Records Secretary</b>	D. Griffiths
<b>Members</b>	S. J. Burke, C. Holt, N. London and T. Walker
<b>Reserves</b>	D. G. Levens and R. Myers
<b>Other Officers</b>	
<b>Grading Records Officer</b>	P. Sherlock
<b>ECF Representative</b>	R. J. Richmond
<b>MCCU Representatives</b>	R. J. Richmond, D. Sudar and T. Walker
<b>Webmaster</b>	D. Coates
<b>Congress Director</b>	R. J. Richmond
<b>County Championship</b>	R. J. Richmond
<b>Schools Liaison Officer</b>	D. G. Levens
<b>Publicity Director</b>	D. G. Levens
<b>Special Events and Blitz</b>	<i>TBA</i>
<b>Auditor</b>	D. Griffiths

Notes:

- 1: All but D. Cronshaw had been elected at a previous AGM.
- 2: Appointed subsequently by EC.
- 3: These members were not elected by the AGM but by the LMC and by the other members of EC, respectively.
- 4: The captaincies of grade-limited teams were left in abeyance by the AGM, pending the availability of grades, and were confirmed by EC.
- 5: The Chair and the EC representative were elected by LMC. D. Sudar gave notice that he would be stepping down as League Secretary in July 2013.

**5. Any other business**

The Secretary repeated the request made by D. Padvic in the papers for the meeting for any broken clocks that are about to be thrown out to be sent to him instead, to provide spares for clocks for schools.

N. Graham reported that changes to the Laws of Chess were imminent. Details would follow when they became available.

Meeting closed at 9:22pm.