

SOMERSET COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF 123rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at St. George's Parish Centre, Church Road, Wembdon, Bridgwater on 4th June 2018

Attendees : M Cooper, B Edgell (President), R Fenton, D. Graham, G Greenland, R Harris, G Jepps, C Lamming, J Parsons, G Udell, M Turner, N Senior, R Knight, A Footner, K Paine (15 members)

1. Apologies for absence : were received from G Berryman, D Wood, C Mckinley, J Fewkes, M Baker and R Morgan.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 122nd A.G.M. : these were accepted and then countersigned by the President.

3. Matters Arising from the 122nd A.G.M. : None

4. Presentation of Trophy winners 2017/2018:

Competition	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	MAY 2018
Somerset Cup	Taunton	Trowbridge	Yeovil
Div 1	Yeovil	Yeovil	Millfield School
Div 2 East	Trowbridge	Trowbridge	Trowbridge
Div 2 West	Glastonbury	Glastonbury	Sedgemoor
Div 3 East	Frome	Frome	Bath
Div 3 West	Yeovil	4 way tie between Weston super Mare, Sedgeless, Glastonbury and Yeovil	Glastonbury

5. Treasurer's Report:

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Receipts			
Affiliation Fees	105.50	182.00	147.50
Frome share of Chess Clocks	0.00	0.00	168.00
Bank interest	0.90	1.03	0.92
County Chess surplus excluding WECU fees	37.50	42.00	32.00
"Pay to play" fees	88.00	117.50	187.50
Total receipts	231.90	360.53	535.92
Payments			
Website fees	21.53	35.92	35.93
SCCS affiliation to WECU	55.00	51.00	62.00
ECF Yearbook	0.00	35.00	0.00
AGM room hire	0.00	0.00	24.00
Engraving	17.00	8.50	27.30
"Pay to play" fees	106.00	117.50	187.50
Equipment / Room Hire for County Team	272.65	37.50	30.50
Purchase of new DGT Chess Clocks	0.00	0.00	336.00
Total payments	472.18	285.42	703.73
Surplus / Deficit (minus)	-240.28	75.11	-167.81
End of Year balance	2280.08	2368.69	2200.88

Note: The bank balances are different from 2017 as £336.00 was transferred from the savings account to the current account to cover the cost of purchase of new digital clocks (half of this cost was paid by the Frome Chess Congress as they will share the clocks' use.).A reduction of last year's balances of £167.81.

2018/19 : Fees will remain unchanged

6. Other Reports. The following Officers reported to the meeting:

6.1 Match Captain: reported the following results for 2018:

Div 1	2016	2017	2018
Cornwall	W 13.5-2.5	D 8-8	W 9-7
Devon	L 7.5-8.5	L 3.5-12.5	L 7.5-8.5
Glos	W 13-3	L 6.5-9.5	W 8.5-7.5

Div 1	2016	2017	2018
Hants	W default	DNP	DNP
Position	1/2	4	2

Div 2	2016	2017	2018
Cornwall	W 13.5-2.5	Not played	Not played
Devon	L 2.5-9.5	L 1-11	L 3.5-8.5
Position	2/3	2/3	2/3

ECF Minor Counties	
2016QF	Suffolk L 1.5-14.5
2017	Did not enter
2018	Did not enter

WECU Jamboree	
2017 Open Section	Somerset 7/12
2017 Graded Section	Did not enter

6.2 League Secretaries : Final points total for Teams 2017/2018 (* denotes Champions)

Division 1: Yeovil 12, Millfield School 16*, Frome 8, Glastonbury 9, Wells 5, Wellington 10

Division 2 East: Trowbridge 8*, Norton Radstock 2, Frome 6

Division 2 West: Sedgemoor 22*, Yeovil 17, Glastonbury 9, Chard/Ilminster 18, Wellington 16, Weston-s-Mare 3, Taunton 13, Wells 14

Division 3 East: Frome 2, Wells 0, Bath 9*, Trowbridge 8, Norton Radstock 5

Division 3 West: Yeovil 14, Sedgeless 6, Weston-s-Mare 11, Glastonbury 15*, Taunton Knights 12, Chard & Ilminster 12, Wellington 14, Taunton Bishops 12

Yeovil won the Somerset Cup knock-out championship.

The League Secretaries noted some outstanding performances by players in all the Divisions and added that unfortunately 20% of matches did not complete on the scheduled evenings and had to be rearranged.

6.3 Correspondence Chess Match Captain:

Last year we won Division 3 and were promoted to Division 2. The strength of the opposition was greater than expected and is reflected in the results.

M Richardt 1/2, J Rudd 0/2, B Edgell 0/2, B Gosling 0.5/2, Darren Freeman 0/1, J Fewkes 2/2, M Baker 0/2, I Stringer 0.5/1. The total so far is 4/14 with 2 games outstanding.

6.4 Tournament Secretary:

A detailed written report of the 29th Frome Congress held from 18th to 20th May 2018 was circulated. The Somerset Trophies were won as follows:

Tournament	2016	2017	2018
Entries	179	188	183
Denys Bonner Trophy (Open)	David Buckley	Andrew Gregory	Tim Headlong
Leon York Memorial (Major)	Tim Woodward	Tim Woodward	Dave Marshall
Roy Hossell (Intermediate)	Hugo Fowler	David MCGeeney	Jamie Beviss
Cyril Chapman (Minor)	Alastair Drummond	Jack Opie	Martin Archbold
Jean Mackreth	Robert Skeen	Jack Opie	James Grover

Trowbridge B won the team competition

Special mention was made that this was the third time Tim Headlong had won. The team of Controllers - Kevin Paine, Chris Lamming, and Chris Purry had all attended an ECF arbiters course and successfully qualified. After the next Congress Gerry Jepps and Gerry Udell are to take a back seat. There would be a change of caterers and more space for the Open is to be made available. Thanks go to Millfield for providing 40 digital clocks.

6.5 Results Secretary:

The new ECF League Results Management system was working successfully and had greatly simplified the Results Officer's job. Thanks are due to the League Secretaries for inputting match results. Future developments are planned that will include automatic capture of game results for grading via the Web.

6.6 ECF Delegate:

The ECF appeared to have an aggressive spending policy with a core of directors keen to implement some ambitious plans but under a sound footing. There was a collective South West vote available with the latest single basket of votes cast by **Ben Edgell**. **Gerry Jepps** pointed out there were some anomalies with the membership structure that he had encountered when he had conducted the Congress administration. There had been a proposal to merge Bronze and Silver membership but this had been voted down as it meant a price increase for non- congress playing Bronze members.

6.7 WECU Executive Delegate: The next WECU Jamboree will be held organised by Cornwall and is to be 15th September 2018.

7. SCCA rules change: "change to Somerset League rules on Clocks and time controls" This was passed and the outcome to the changes are summarised as follows- **a)** the proposal to change the the rules to state that quick-play finishes are no longer mandatory and clubs may agree an alternative time control, eg. 80 minutes plus 10 second increments - as used by the Bristol League.**b)** the default time control is changed from a 15 minute quick-play finish to a 90 minute per game 'guillotine' finish. **c)** the default time ie. the elapsed time before a game may be declared lost by default in the event of a player not turning up, was set to 30 minutes.

8. SCCA Rules change - this became an amendment as item 7 was passed (see above)

9. SCCA Rules change - this proposal was passed to change the rules as follows:

In Divisions 2 and 3 the restriction that a player may not play for more than one team in the same Division was changed to ' no player may play for more than one club" (the purpose of the latter is to help clubs field teams where otherwise they may have difficulties through a shortage of players)

10. Election of Officers:

The names of Officers for the past year were as follows and all were re-elected (en bloc) except where indicated:

President: B Edgell

Vice-Presidents: A Bamford, C F Barratt, G T Berryman, B J Francis, G N Jepps, R Maishman, C Winch

Secretary: G. Greenland

Treasurer: C McKinley

League Secretary East & Fixture Secretary: G Udell.(Wishes to step down within 1 year of the Meeting)

League Secretary West: R Fenton

Match Captain: Vacant, but the Management Committee to appoint a new Captain as soon as possible

Correspondence Match Captain: J E Fewkes

Senior Tournament Secretary: G N Jepps

Results Secretary: G N Jepps.

Junior Organiser: C Strong

ECF Delegate: B Edgell.

WECU Executive Delegate: B Edgell

WECU Council Delegate: G N Jepps

11. Appointment of Accounts Examiner & Arbiters:

- Accounts examiner - N Senior
- Arbiters - N Belinfante, G N Jepps, A T Mordue, J Rudd, Kevin Paine, Chris Lamming, Chris Purry and Matt Turner

12. Any Other Business:

12.1 Matthew Turner stated that Millfield School had over 80 digital chess clocks that could be lent to the SCCA if an event organiser was ever needing to borrow them.

12.2 Roger Fenton requested that clubs meet their obligations to fulfil their fixtures and that failure to do so could mean the introduction of a penalty points system and possible expulsion - he invited a discussion. **Chris Lamming** stated that clubs should however be supported and the SCCA not to take punitive action - there is an underlying need to attract new players. **Gerry Jepps** pointed out that some clubs 'ignored' the fixture list to avoid clashes with other teams (and selection issues within their club) and that a pile up of fixtures needed to be faced if a 'sloppy attitude' was taken. **Ben Edgell** commented by saying that he thought this should be at the discretion of the League Club secretaries (by deciding whether to accept the teams back in future years if there is a problem) but he felt there was a need to encourage and support clubs (unless they were simply not bothering when they could be punished).

13. Date of next A.G.M.: Monday 3rd June 2019. Venue: to be advised