

NORTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION
FOUNDED 1899

Minutes of the NCCU Annual General Meeting 2018

Held on Saturday June 9th 2018 at the Grove Inn, Back Row, Leeds LS11 5PL.

PRESENT

Bryan Bainbridge (President and Durham representative)
Dave Cole (General Secretary and Cumbria representative)
George Horne (Treasurer and Cumbria representative)
Keith Smith (Durham Representative)
Paul Bielby (Northumberland representative)
Tim Wall (Northumberland representative)
Mike Barrett (Merseyside representative)
Steve Mann (Yorkshire representative)
Noel Stewart (Yorkshire representative)
Gareth Ellis (ECF representative)
Bill Metcalfe (Life Vice President)

1. Apologies for Absence

Eddie Czestochowski, Ihor Lewyk, Rupert Jones, Bill O'Rourke, Jim Moran
(Bill O'Rourke, incoming President, sent his profound apologies, as the Lancashire County team had hit a perfect storm in terms of player and transport availability....and it was Rupert's birthday...on Sunday - Happy Birthday Rupert)

A one minute silence was observed for David Milton (1945-2017) RIP who was influential in Yorkshire chess.

2. Minutes of the NCCU Council Meeting 2nd December 2017

The Minutes of the December meeting were accepted as a true and correct record, with the exception of the figure owed by Skelmersdale as being £30 not £15.

3. Matters Arising:

The Secretary went through actions from the previous meeting, where it was confirmed that Yorkshire did not enter an U100 County team and that Chris Goodall had volunteered as NCCU Grader as Stan Johnson was standing down after the 2017/18 season. Keith Smith had also volunteered to take over the NCCU website.

4. Officers Reports

a. The President reported that since the December meeting he had been in contact with other Union Presidents and officials regarding the NCCU ECF proposal on membership changes. The upshot was that some were supportive, but Southern chess tended to be against, citing the situation regarding junior chess being league rather than congress based.

b. The Secretary reported the correspondence and actions since the December meeting, with the major items being the introduction of GDPR rules on member data; a dialogue with Mike Truran (ECF CEO) on relations with the NCCU and the putting together of the NCCU membership proposal to the ECF Council. **GDPR guide for clubs and societies in the Appendix.**

c. The Treasurer reported that the balance in the bank was £1,978.00 and there are twelve chess clocks remaining for Club Championship prizes, valued at £525.60. The surplus for 2017/18 was £151.56. Engraving was higher this year as several trophies had not been engraved for the last four or five years. George confirmed that Skelmersdale still owed £30 entry fees from 2014/15. Affiliation fees were agreed to remain the same at £75. The report was accepted.

d. County Report: No report was available, but the Secretary reported that Lancashire had entered all regional sections while Yorkshire had entered all, except the U100. Cumbria had entered the U160, although the Yorkshire v Cumbria match had yet to be played.

On the day of the meeting Lancashire and Yorkshire were involved in the National stages of the County championship in many of the sections.

NCCU County Winners:

Open: Lancashire – Lancashire 7 v 5 Yorkshire

U180: Yorkshire – Yorkshire 7 v 5 Lancashire

U160: not decided – Yorkshire 6.5 v 5.5 Lancashire / Lancashire 6 v 6 Cumbria

U140: Yorkshire - Yorkshire 6.5 v 5.5 Lancashire

U120: Merseyside – Merseyside 6.5 v 5.5 Lancashire / Merseyside 8.5 v 3.5 Yorkshire

U100: Lancashire – unopposed

(Post meeting National semi-final results):

Open: Yorkshire 9 v 7 Middlesex

Lancashire 9 v 7 Sussex (Lancashire v Yorkshire Final)

U180: Yorkshire 9.5 v 6.5 Essex (Yorkshire v Warwickshire Final)

U160: Yorkshire 10 v 6 Middlesex

Lancashire 9 v 7 Essex (Lancashire v Yorkshire Final)

U140: Yorkshire 9.5 v 6.5 Worcestershire (Yorkshire v Nottingham Final)

U100: Lancashire 7 v 5 Essex (Lancashire v Leicestershire Final)

In the County finals, 7 teams are from the NCCU, 5 from the MCCU, 1 from EACU (Norfolk in U-120), and 1 from the SCCU (Surrey in "Minor").

Congratulations were given to Merseyside who entered a county team for the first time in a number of years and won the NCCU U120 Championship. A discussion ensued on trying to get North East Counties involved in the future and it was agreed to look at a Rapid Play County jamboree with 8 players per team. This would not replace any existing events but to try and encourage Counties/players to take part in County chess. Combined and junior teams are to be encouraged.

Action: Produce a Rapid Play flyer circulated to all Counties for a possible one day Rapid Play event to be held in October/November if possible.

e. Club Championship Report: Only one match was possible in the Seniors section in 2017/18 season due to the lack of entries. South Shields v Prescott & Knotty Ash is due to take place on the 30th June 2018.

A discussion took place on how best to promote the Club championship, to enable more teams to enter, especially if logistics in transport and finding a half way venue proved problematic. It was proposed that for next season, teams be allowed to play via a computer link (teams based at their respective home venue, with an independent overseer at each venue) if both teams agree. (Past games have been played via telephone link, but with fast computer links, moves can be made instantly and relayed to an opponent). These games could be broadcast live on Chess.com.

Action: Tim Wall and Bill Metcalfe to arrange a trial match using DGT technology Forest Hall v Darlington to test the viability of this option and publicise the event.

A fall-back position (dependant on entries) is to have a one day club jamboree at a central venue.

Action: A club flyer to be produced offering these options.

f. Grading Report: no report

Action: Chris Goodall's email address required.

g. Trophy Officer Report: Dave Cole circulated a report showing the whereabouts of the NCCU trophies. Six trophies were brought to the meeting and photographs were taken. (Three individual trophies were passed to Gareth Ellis to pass on to Heywood Congress who are hosting the NCCU Individuals. The other trophies were the Open County, the U160 County and the Open Club trophies.)

This leaves the County U140 & U120, the Club Major, Minor & Seniors trophies to be present at the next meeting.

Action: Lancashire to bring the outstanding trophies to the NCCU December meeting and South Shields or Prescott to bring the Club Seniors trophy.

h. ECF Delegates Report:

Gareth and Tim reported on the ECF April Council meeting where the main area of interest was the rejection of the NCCU Membership proposal by a wide margin (243 against – 63 for) where voting blocks were influential and it was noted that 100 votes were not used. Gareth, being a Bronze rep had put forward an amendment for a £17 rather than a £20 fee to answer the question of why Bronze

members had to pay more when everyone paid less. Gold members also felt left out of the proposal. It was also evident that the ECF had not put forward the motion under the auspices of the NCCU but rather an individual proposal, which tended to go against the motion.

There was a discussion on how the NCCU could best take this forward and it was initially proposed that an NCCU Working group be set up. After discussion it was thought appropriate to widen this group and invite the ECF and other Unions to participate, the remit being to create one membership fee for all and establish how to get there. (US Chess was cited where a one membership fee exists and if

players want more, then they pay for the add-ons). It was stated that any such changes were to get players to play more chess, not just to help congress organisers and that the split between congress and other forms of chess in terms of different membership fees was totally artificial.

Action: to contact the ECF and other Unions on setting up a Working Group

Other items of note:

A large part of ECF finances were to be taken by the Academy in pursuit of strong juniors and by International events, where Olympiad team expenses were questioned as to whether it was money well spent.

Junior membership has now been merged to £5 for both Silver and Bronze Junior members, with the retention of new juniors being free for the first year.

Membership fees for adults were to remain the same for season 2018/19.

Gold (adult) £34

Gold (junior) £17

Silver (adult) £23.50

Bronze (adult) £16

The £1 discount for on-line membership has been discontinued.

Pay-to-Play for congresses

ECF Rated adult congresses: £7.50

FIDE Rated events: £10.50

Junior only congresses: £2.00

The Secretary informed the meeting of an email from the Silver ECF rep that submission of internal club games to an organisation could increase voting rights at ECF meetings. This was noted.

It was also emphasised that NCCU reps should have greater co-ordination when attending ECF meetings and also ensure that votes are cast in proportion to wishes stated. It was noted that card

votes at ECF meetings are now published on the website giving greater transparency of who voted and for what.

5. U16 Pennine Cup 2019 – Tim Wall looking to organise in Bradford late 2018 or early in 2019. The question was raised who the Cheshire & NW contact was and it was confirmed as Pat Ridley. It was noted however that junior events in Cheshire seem to be run separately and that Tim Wall has contacts in the area regarding junior activity and will engage with them on this event.

6. Schools Awards 2018/19

BCET Award – Nomination required at December meeting – Yorkshire

NCCU Award - Nomination required at December meeting – Cumbria

7. Presentation of Trophies

The President presented the Open County Moore Trophy to Gareth Ellis on behalf of Lancashire.



8. Election of Officers

- President – Bill O’Rourke (Lancashire)
- General Secretary – Dave Cole (Cumbria)
- Treasurer – George Horne (Cumbria)
- County Championships Organiser – Jim Moran (Merseyside)
- Club Championship organiser – Keith Smith (Durham)
- Grading Officer – Chris Goodall (Northumberland)
- Trophy Officer – Dave Cole
- NCCU Webmaster – Keith Smith
- Delegates to the ECF – Gareth Ellis and Tim Wall
- Vice-Presidents to Council – Bryan Bainbridge

(The votes weren’t unanimous for the President/General Secretary with one vote against in each – the Secretary surmises this was probably due to a protest that pie and peas were not available).

9. Appointment of Auditor – Neil Foxcroft (Cumbria)

10. 2018/2019 British Championship Qualifying Congress for the NCCU Individual Champion.

- **2018 Action: Heywood to provide 2018 Champion and nomination to the ECF**
(Post meeting: Charlie Storey is the NCCU Champion)

- **2019 Action: Merseyside to nominate a congress to host. (Yorkshire: reserve)**

Tim Wall reported that he was attempting to organise an event in Merseyside, which could host the NCCU Individual Championships next season.

Action: Tim Wall to inform the Secretary by the end of September.

If this is not forthcoming, Yorkshire to nominate a congress.

Action: Secretary to inform Yorkshire in October 2018.

It was mentioned that ECF rules on eligibility from the ECF are about to change and that only FIDE rated events would be eligible in 2019. The NCCU to watch out for this when congress hosts are decided.

11. Time and date of next meeting: Saturday 1st December 2018 – Leeds.

12. Any Other Business

The new ECF Grading package was mentioned in that it was considered expensive and really not very good. On the positive side however, functionality for chess players in now seeing games that had been played on the ECF website is a step forward and considering that for most chess players grading is the only ECF benefit they see, it is to be welcomed.

The meeting closed at 3.51pm.

Dave Cole
General Secretary

Appendix

Data Protection – The New Rules

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into force on 25th May 2018.

The GDPR applies to all clubs and counties as separate organisations, regardless of their size.

Further information is available on the website of the Information Commissioner’s Office at ICO - GDPR.

Please note that the following guidance **does not constitute legal advice and if you are concerned about any of these matters you should seek advice from the ICO or other specialists.**

General information:

- All information you collect relating to your members is “personal data”.

Keep it secure and only use if for the purpose for which it was collected.

Do not pass it on to anyone unless that was explicitly part of the reason for collecting it – e.g. passing on membership details to the ECF to facilitate membership renewals or grading are both purposes for which the data was collected.

- Information relating to guests is also “personal data” and covered by the same requirements as that of members, though likely to be more limited in scope.
- If you keep paper records they should be secure – if on club premises they should be locked, with a note taken of who are key-holders.
- If you keep your records on a computer, they should only be accessible by appropriate people – the computer and/or the folders in which they are contained should be locked and/or encrypted. There is more information about this available from the ICO – see - ICO - Encryption
- Only appropriately authorised people should have access to members’ records. Passwords should be changed whenever these roles are filled by new people.

- Emails should not be sent to groups of people in a way that makes their email addresses visible. To avoid this, either use a mailshot program or blind copy (bcc) all the recipients.
- For committees where you would like them to be able to reply to all recipients to continue a discussion, it is acceptable to copy them all in the usual fashion provided they give their consent. Similarly, personal **contact details should only be displayed on websites if specific consent has been obtained**. It may be sensible for this information, if it must be available, to be in a password-protected area of the website, only available to members.

- **Clubs should not issue lists of members' contact details (telephone number and email address) to all their members without the specific consent of the members concerned.** Any clubs that currently publish such a list should contact all members on it to ask whether they wish to remain on the list. They should be asked to “opt in” to this - it is not permissible for the default to be to include them unless they opt out.

- Do not keep data in more places than necessary – not only does this weaken your security, it also increases the possibility that the data will get out of sync and will not be consistent in different places. It is however sensible to have a backup of your data providing that you have a system to ensure it is backed up regularly and kept in a secure place.

- Not all clubs and counties will need to register with the ICO but you can check on your particular circumstances at - ICO - self assessment.

Specific information relating to the GDPR

- The legal basis on which you collect most of your data is likely to be that it is in the organisation’s “legitimate interest” to do so. In order to rely on there being a “legitimate interest”, this should be supported by a “legitimate interest assessment” – for further details, refer to the ICO – see ICO - Legitimate Interests.

- You must inform everyone from whom you collect data:

- The legal basis for doing so;
- What data you collect;
- How it is stored;
- To whom you pass it on and for what purpose;
- For how long you keep the data;
- What they can do to limit how you use your data.

This will usually be achieved via a **Privacy Notice**, which may be on your club’s website, but a printed copy should also be available in the club and be sent to those who request it. Your members should be directed to this Privacy Notice on every occasion when you collect data, so it should be referred to on your membership application forms.

You need to take all reasonable measures to ensure that your members are aware of this, so you do need to contact them one way or another. While email is convenient, you should also contact those members for whom you do not have valid email addresses, if necessary by post.

- Clubs act as Data Controllers with regard to their own data. They also act as Data Processors on behalf of the ECF, to whom they send members’ data and results for grading.

- We intend to implement as much of the rest of our GDPR strategy as possible as soon as we can, rather than waiting until the ICO contracts are ready, and we advise clubs and counties to do likewise. The sooner we all start to implement this, the more time we will have to deal with unforeseen circumstances and work to resolve problems that may arise.