



Minutes of AGM - Hertfordshire Chess Association (HCA)

Friday 14th July 2017

Salisbury Arms Hotel, Fore Street, Hertford, SG14 1BZ

Present

Barnet	Malcolm Harding (MH) (President)
Enfield	Stephen Banks
Hemel Hempstead	Steve Law (SL)
Hertford	Alan Brewis (AB) (Secretary)
Little Heath	Stephen Dicks (SD)
Royston	Brian Judkins (BJ), Simon Cage, Keith Woodhouse
St Albans	Peter Baker (PB), Ray Claret (RC), Michael Flatt (MF) Jeremy Fraser-Mitchell (JFM)
Stevenage	Chris Majer, Mike Price (MP) (Treasurer), Graham Williams (GW)
Watford	Sanjay Kumar
Welwyn Hatfield	Mir Wali John Rhodes

1 Apologies for absence

Ian Cross, Ian Jenkins.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting

These were accepted subject to the SCCU's anniversary being corrected to 125 years (not 120).

3 Matters arising

None.

4 Treasurer's Report – Mike Price

The Detailed Financial Report, Balance Sheet, etc, are included at the end of these minutes (pages 5 – 7).

- 4.1 Overall a deficit for the year of £575.80. Whilst our overall bank balances remain healthy enough, an increasing proportion of this is designated as the Congress Fund. Our General Fund continues to decline at an alarming rate which must be arrested.
- 4.2 Administration costs for the year included £300 paid to Mark Harris in support of a new website server. Whilst we would not expect to be paying this sort of sum on technology every year, there is a price to be paid for the excellent fixtures and results service we have become accustomed to. On the income side, our income from vice presidents and their associated donations continues to decline. To offset this, we might need to consider raising the club affiliation fee. In addition, I am not convinced we are justified in spending on room hire for executive meetings attended by less than 10 people. If this is going to be the level of support for executive meetings, we should hold them at a private residence instead.
- 4.3 Barnet have not paid their game fees, nor their affiliation and entry fees for this season, and will be deemed a debtor club barred from future HCA competitions whilst their debts continue to be unpaid. Under the present ECF membership system, it is all too easy for

clubs to incur bad debts from players who have played for them in previous seasons without taking out ECF membership, and then disappearing from the club. As an association, we are not immune to clubs who fold or withdraw from the Herts League, leaving us with a bad debt.

- 4.4 Although it was good to see our three county teams all qualify for the ECF national stages, the deficit on county chess remains considerable, and we may need to look again at our decision not to collect board fees at the national stage. I am mindful that a number of players made two trips to the Midlands on successive May weekends, and we do not wish cost to become a deterrent to playing, but our ability to underwrite our county chess is diminishing.
- 4.5 On the surface, the HCA Congress has made a healthy profit again, but this is mainly due to County Hall not banking any of our venue payments. They are still in possession of a cheque for £200 issued in May 2016, but I do not expect this to be cashed now. The health of our Congress Fund does enable us to be prepared for a loss on a 2017 Congress as we seek to establish the Congress at a new venue.

A proposal from the Treasurer to increase the club affiliation fee from £10 to £20 was approved.

The Vice Presidents' fee was increased to £10 (from £7.50). 4 of the 16 VP's fees from last season are still outstanding. The desire remains to provide VPs with some benefit in return. A discount on HCA events was one suggestion.

The county teams will be provided with guidance on board fees next season. One proposal was to estimate the costs for all our competing county teams and arrive at a board fee that would apply to all players.

5 **Secretary's Report - Alan Brewis**

Numbers attending meetings in the past year have declined in comparison with the previous two. This may result in the November meeting being dropped.

The difficulty in finding officers continues with more vacancies again this year. It is believed that Secretaries do not circulate HCA messages to their players. The Secretary will seek to create a name and email address file for HCA players that will be used sparingly to advise of HCA events.

6 **Officers' Reports**

The following reports were presented:

League Report.pdf – Steve Law,

Knockout Report.pdf – Steve Law,

U120 League Report.pdf – Steve Law,

U160 Team Report.pdf – Mike Price,

U140 Team Report.pdf – Stephen Dicks,

U120 Team Report.pdf – Peter Baker,

Congress Report.pdf – Alan Brewis,

Capel, Burn & Bunce Report.pdf – Jeremy Fraser-Mitchell,

Correspondence Conductor's Report.pdf – Graham Williams. Graham, the retiring organiser, introduced John Rhodes who is taking over. Graham also gave a good history of correspondence chess in Herts covering his 21 years involvement.

Equipment Curator's Report.pdf – Mike Price,

ECF Representative's Report. pdf – Chris Majer.

The reports, and any other attachments referred to in these Minutes, can be accessed, read and downloaded by Ctrl + clicking on the following link.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bzoz3fh927p2x4g/AAANAPwep-Hmax8EZa1kJgO_a?dl=0

Copy into your browser if this link fails to work direct. It does not install anything on your device, just takes you to a folder on AB's Dropbox (cloud storage) where you can access the files.

Adjudication Brian said only one adjudication received last season; probably due to the introduction of Fischer Timing resulting in more games finishing on the night of the match.

U160 Team MP would continue to organise but Mark Heffer, with support from Ian Mutton, would captain on match day.

Junior Chess MF's commitment to a wide range of chess activity prevents him from continuing as Junior Coordinator. However, in his capacity of President of the Herts Schools Chess Association, Mike is happy to respond to enquirers.

7 Constitution Proposals

- 7.1 An amendment, proposed by Kidge Elder, to rule 6 was approved. "The Annual General Meeting shall be held in June or July and shall appoint a President, County Secretary, Treasurer and such other Officers as may be required. All Officers shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. Notice of any motion to be submitted to the Annual General Meeting shall be forwarded to the County Secretary by the 1st June. The Chairman of the meeting has authority to accept motions submitted after this time." In the original rule, submission of a motion was required by 1st May.
- 7.2 A new rule, proposed by Alan Brewis, was approved. "Motions submitted to the AGM will have a proposer and seconder who satisfy any of the classes of membership set out in para 3" (of the Constitution).

8 Election of Officers

President	Chris Majer
(County) Secretary	Alan Brewis
Treasurer	Mike Price
League Secretary	Steve Law
U120 League	Steve Law
Capel, Burn & Bunce Organiser	Sanjay Kumar
Old Puller Cup Organiser	<i>vacant</i>
Knockout Competition Organiser	Steve Law
Open Team Captain	<i>vacant</i>
U160 Team Captain	Mike Price
U140 Team Captain	Sanjay Kumar
U120 Team Captain	Peter Baker
Correspondence Chess Conductor	John Rhodes
Webmaster	Stephen Dicks
County Grader	Steve Law
Adjudications Secretary	Brian Judkins
Chief Arbiter	Tim Thurstan
Congress Organiser	<i>vacant</i>
Archivist	<i>vacant</i>
Equipment Curator	Mike Price
Junior Chess Coordinator	Chris Majer
SCCU Representative	Michael Flatt
EACU Representatives	Mike Price, Brian Judkins
ECF Representative	Chris Majer

9 Presentation of Trophies

	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Represented by</u>
Davis Cup Herts Congress - Major	Mike Price	Mike Price
League Division 1 New Puller Cup	Watford 1	Sanjay Kumar
League Division 2 Montague Jones B&S	Letchworth 1	*
League Division 3 Patterson B&S	Royston 2	Brain Judkins
League Division 4 K L Woodland Trophy	Welwyn Hatfield 2	Mir Wali
League Division 5 Gateley Trophy	Watford 4	Sanjay Kumar
League Division 6 G W Davies B&S	Letchworth 3	*
U120 League	Welwyn Hatfield	Mir Wali
Wright Trophy	Andrew Maclaren	Steve Law
Russell Trophy	Watford	Sanjay Kumar
Sharp Trophy	Hemel Hempstead	**
U140 Trophy	Stevenage	Mike Price
U120 Trophy	Hemel Hempstead	Steve Law
U120 Best individual performance	Keith Woodhouse	Keith Woodhouse

* In the absence of a club representative, trophy temporarily retained by AB

** To be transferred from Tim Thurstan (Letchworth) to Steve Law.

'County Awards' were presented for county team performances to:

Mike Price, Michael Flatt, Mir Wali, Alan Adams, Gary Ruddick, Mark Duggin, John Rhodes, Keith Kitson, Alan Brewis. There are other winners who will be invited to the next meeting to receive their awards.

10 Any Other Business

In Malcolm's temporary absence Chris Majer, his successor as President of the HCA, proposed that Malcolm become an Honorary Vice President in recognition of many years of service to chess in Hertfordshire and in the wide variety of offices he has held. This was unanimously agreed by the meeting and awarded to Malcolm on his return to the room. Malcolm was warmly praised and thanked by all.

Simon Cage, Michael Flatt and Graham Williams were elected Vice Presidents of the HCA.

SCCU 125th Anniversary Match, Saturday 16th September A 125 board match between North of the Thames v South of the Thames, in north London. Please refer to the relevant two files available through the link on page 3 or via <https://sccu-chess.com/index.php/en/125th-celebration>

St Albans Congress, was awarded the 'ECF Congress of the 2016' said RC. It had 210 entrants of which 40 were from Herts.

Meeting closed at 10.50 pm.

**SUMMARY OF
INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 15th June 2017**

Derived from the Detailed Financial Report (DFR)

DFR Part	Income	Expenses	<u>2017</u> £	<u>2016</u> £
2 Administration	£5,262.93	(£5,863.03)	(£600.10)	(£64.67)
3 HCA Competitions	£665.99	(£300.00)	£365.99	£355.46
4 County Teams	£313.85	(£1,089.18)	(£775.33)	(£1,326.48)
5 HCA Congress	£2,877.00	(£2,423.36)	£453.64	£380.34
6 Game Fees	£475.00	(£495.00)	(£20.00)	(£10.00)
	£9,594.77	(£10,170.57)	(£575.80)	(£665.35)

**BALANCE SHEET AT 15th June
2017**

	<u>2017</u> £	<u>2016</u> £
<u>ASSOCIATION FUNDS</u>		
Funds at 16th June 2016	£9,155.86	£9,821.21
Deficit for the Year	(£575.80)	(£665.35)
Total Funds at 15th June 2017	£8,580.06	£9,155.86
Comprising		
Congress Fund	£7,044.75	£6,191.11
General Fund	£1,535.31	£2,964.75
	£8,580.06	£9,155.86
<u>ASSETS & LIABILITIES</u>		
<u>Assets</u>		
Bank and Cash Balances	£4,137.92	£4,239.34
Money in Deposit	£5,000.26	£5,000.00
Add sums due to Association	£156.00	£366.50
Deduct Liabilities	(£714.12)	(£449.98)
Total Net Assets	£8,580.06	£9,155.86

Other Assets

	Insurance Value
Capel Cup	£2,750.00
Sharp trophy	£1,850.00
Burn Cup	£895.00
Hakanson Cup	£600.00
Old Puller Cup	£600.00
New Puller Cup	<u>£1,900.00</u>

Total £8,595.00

DETAILED FINANCIAL REPORT

Period 16th June 2016 to 15th June 2017

Treasurers Report to AGM

14 July 2017

Sheet 1 of 2

1 AFFILIATED CLUBS - Affiliation and Competition Entry Fees

	Receipts		
Affiliation fees *	£137.00		
Entry fees - League **	£294.67		
Entry Fees U120	£39.09		
Entry fees - K.O.s ***	£32.23		
Total	£502.99		
Sum outstanding	(£20.04)	<i>Clubs not paid</i>	2

2 ADMINISTRATION

	Receipts	Payments	Surplus /Deficit	Totals	2016
Club Affiliation Fees *	£137.00		£137.00		£157.75
VPs Fees & Donations	£125.00		£125.00		£240.00
Committee Room Hire		(£110.00)	(£110.00)		(£125.00)
Website fees		(£330.00)	(£330.00)		(£56.10)
Interest	£0.26		£0.26		
Donations					£75.22
ECF Insurance (Public Liability)		(£174.24)	(£174.24)		(£168.70)
ECF Insurance (Trophies)		(£212.09)	(£212.09)		(£204.00)
Expenses	£5,000.00	(£5,036.70)	(£36.70)		(£149.99)
Adjudications					
	£5,262.26	(£5,863.03)	(£600.77)	(£600.77)	(£230.82)

3 HCA COMPETITIONS

League **	£294.67	(£10.00)	£284.67		£286.60
U120 League	£39.09		£39.09		£39.35
Knock-out Tournaments ***	£32.23		£32.23		£13.71
Old Puller Cup (RP)					
Individual Tournaments	£300.00	(£290.00)	£10.00		£20.00
Correspondence Chess					(£48.00)
Purchase Trophy Woodland					
Purchase Trophy U120 Leag					
	£665.99	(£300.00)	£365.99	£365.99	£311.66

DETAILED FINANCIAL REPORT
Treasurers Report to AGM

Period 16th June 2016 to 15th June 2017
14 July 2017

Sheet 2 of 2

	Receipts	Payments	Surplus /Deficit	Totals	2016
4 COUNTY TEAMS AFFILIATION and ENTRY FEES					
SCCU Affiliation fee		(£50.00)	(£50.00)		(£50.00)
EACU Levy		(£65.00)	(£65.00)		(£65.00)
Open - EACU entry fee					(£24.00)
U160 - EACU entry fee		(£24.00)	(£24.00)		(£24.00)
U140 - SCCU entry fee		(£44.00)	(£44.00)		(£44.00)
U120 - SCCU entry fee		(£38.00)	(£38.00)		(£38.00)
Purchase County Awards		(£196.26)	(£196.26)		(£100.00)
Purchase Clocks					(£707.50)
			(£417.26)	(£417.26)	(£1,052.50)
<u>OPERATING</u>					
Open					(£45.00)
U160	£118.85	(£157.80)	(£38.95)		£0.52
U140	£75.00		£75.00		
U120					(£229.50)
			£36.05	£36.05	(£273.98)
5 HCA CONGRESS					
2016 Congress	£3,077.00	(£2,423.36)	£653.64	£653.64	£180.34
<i>Congress Fund</i>	<i>£7,044.75</i>				
6 GAME FEES					
<i>Clubs</i>	£462.50	(£482.50)			
<i>County Teams</i>	£12.50	(£12.50)			
Game fees total	£475.00	(£495.00)	(£20.00)	(£20.00)	(£10.00)
7 SURPLUS/DEFICIT - this year activities				£17.65	(£1,075.30)
	Assets	Liabilities	Surplus		
Start Year Accruals (Pred. Error)	(£235.33)		(£235.33)	(£235.33)	
End Year Accruals (Predicted)	£156.00	(£514.12)	(£358.12)	(£358.12)	
Surplus for this financial year				(£575.80)	
8 HSBC BANK ACCOUNT and CASH BALANCE					
Bank Account at 16th June 2016	£3,789.36			Bank	£4,137.92
Cash in Hand at 16th June 2016				Cash	
Surplus to Start Year Accruals	£131.17			Cheqs held	
Surplus on Activities this Year	£17.65			Cheqs n/p	(£200.00)
Bank & Cash Balances	£3,937.92	Annual Target is £4,500			£3,937.92
Total Net Assets					£3,937.92

The HCA owns trophies valued at £8,595.

