

Secretary's Report to the AGM

Attendance

July 2017 (AGM)	September 2017	November 2017	March 2018
18 (17) (20) (17)	(12) (18) (14)	(N/A) (8) (13) (11)	(10) (8) (12) (11)

Structure of Meetings

A decline in 'business' is probably reflected in the numbers attending HCA meetings. This led to no meeting being held in November 2017. Meetings in the future are likely to follow a specific pattern:

September – To review the fixture list for the season ahead and to debate proposals for new HCA events as well as existing ones.

November – No meeting planned but can be reintroduced if necessary.

March – Closed County Competition Rule (CCCR) proposals. Although proposals can be made at any time, all those received will be debated and voted upon in March (subject to at least 21 days' notice) and those approved will come into force the following season.

July (AGM) – Constitution proposals; officers reports; election of officers, and presentation of trophies.

Minutes

In the light of an inquorate meeting in November, the usual Minutes were replaced by a Newsletter, distributed in January. This experiment allows a more flexible and, hopefully, readable format. As with the Minutes though, there was very little feedback but this approach may continue.

General Data Protection Regulation

A privacy policy for the HCA, <http://www.hertschess.com/node/413>, was introduced in May in response to the Information Commissioner's Office legislation to improve protection of personal data. I have assumed that secretaries will look after their own clubs' GDPR arrangements.

Closed County Competition Rules

A new edition of the Rules, issue 24, version 1 has been released for the 2018/19 season, <http://www.hertschess.com/node/4>.

A summary

- 3.8.1 A club wishing to withdraw a team shall only withdraw from the lowest division.

- 3.6.4 Each pair of players decide on a rate of play (3.7). A proxy (e.g. team captain) may act on behalf of a player who is not present.
- 3.7.4 The home player (or a proxy acting on their behalf) must first decide, before starting the clock, whether they wish to invoke the 35 moves in 75 mins, plus 7 moves each 15 minutes rate of play. If they decline, the away player (or a proxy) then can decide. Note that the player choosing to play this rate of play travels in the event of the match continuing after adjournment.
- 3.8.1 For games played using the Fischer Timing rate of play (all moves in 70 mins plus 10 secs) clocks are stopped immediately by the player having the move when “time” is called and the game shall be sent for adjudication (3.12).
- 4.1.1 In grade-limited competitions, U120 League, knockout, etc, the ECF Grading List autumn revision will determine the grade for the whole season ahead, i.e. the January Grading List will be ignored.
- 4.1.2 In grade-limited competitions the team playing White on odd boards will be determined by the toss of a coin.

County Award

Unfortunately, the new county award introduced two seasons ago is no longer available from the suppliers. A replacement will be sort.

Winners from the 2017/18 season include:

U160 Team – Jon Barnes, Michael Flatt, James Aldred

Correspondence Teams – John Rhodes, Arthur James, Peter Dunks

Newsletter

Work on producing a newsletter summarising the 2017/18 season is hoped to start soon.

Archives

If anyone interested in taking over and maintaining our archives could they please contact me.

Alan Brewis , July 2018