

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held at Chippenham Chess Club on Wednesday 13th September 2017 at 7.30 pm.

In attendance: Messrs. A Gladwell (League Secretary), R Ludlow (Secretary), A Ransom (Tournament Secretary), S Zeidler (Treasurer), D Auld, R Carver, A Cooper, S Farren, H Light, and E Sheppard.

1. Apologies were received from J Bourne (Chairman) and P Owen (Grading Officer). HL kindly volunteered to take the chair.
2. Minutes were accepted.
3. Matters arising:

(A) from item 4, President's Shield: A Copping was recommended to the President as the 2016 / 17 winner, but we have not heard of a decision. It was noted that A Copping's family has now moved back from Spain to the UK. AG proposed two possible winners for the Shield for 2016/17, these being G Georgiou (grade 147), who had scored 4 1/2 points out of 6, and I Pickup (149) who had scored 3 1/2 out of 4, both in the Major League. Both had achieved exceptional wins against much higher graded opponents. RL would pass on these recommendations to the President and enquire after the previous season's recommendation.

(B) from item 7, AG had made contact with Salisbury Chess Club but their commitments elsewhere would not permit them to play a match against the rest of the County. [RL had had no success in inviting Salisbury to field teams in the Wiltshire Leagues, ref. minutes of last AGM, item 8]

4. Resolved: the Major League trophy had been presented to Brown Jack after the AGM. It has been engraved.

5. There will be three teams in the Major League:

Brown Jack                      contact: M Rabbitt, reserve J Bourne  
Devizes/Nationwide contact: A Cooper, reserve S Zeidler  
Swindon                         contact: M Jones, reserve G Georgiou

On behalf of Trowbridge, RL explained that their Major League players were graded in the 150s and were no longer willing to play against opponents graded 20 to 40 points higher. He regretted that the Club would not be fielding a team.

Each team would play the other two teams home and away once, making just four matches each.

There will be six teams in the Intermediate League:

Chippenham                    contact: P Owen, reserve J Rose  
Devizes/Nationwide contact: A Gladwell, reserve D Parsons

Swindon A	contact: Gareth Williams, reserve Richard Williams
B	contact: D O'Byrne, reserve Gareth Williams
Swindon C	contact: R Carver, reserve G Chapman
Trowbridge	contact: R Ludlow, reserve A Ransom

The grade limit was to be 145, with no exceptions.

RC requested that Swindon A and B teams, and B and C teams should not have matches on the same evening.

Each team would play the other five teams home and away once, making ten matches in all.

There will be three teams in the Minor League:

Chippenham	contact: S Williams, reserve D Auld
Swindon	contact: D Brown, reserve R Sparks
Trowbridge	contact: R Ludlow; A Ransom

RL explained that Trowbridge would have only three players available before 1st December. AG would try to adjust fixtures accordingly. It was hoped that other players might become available during the season.

The grade limit was to be 110, with no exceptions.

AG emphasised the fact that time regulations had changed. All games would last 90 minutes each player, as before, but there would be no time control after 75 minutes.

It was emphasised that graded games, but not within the teams, were always possible.

New or amended contact details for Chippenham members are as follows:

jimbrose6@gmail.com

auldart@hotmail.com - David is now Chairman of Chippenham Chess Club

swilliams987@hotmail.com - Steve is Captain of the Minor League team

It was left to the Swindon and Trowbridge captains to determine whether to use Devizes as a convenient venue for their matches.!!!

6. SZ circulated his updated summary of accounts and explained them. There was to be no increase in match fees. All players were to be encouraged to become ECF members. This would avoid our having to pay board fees.

7. RL announced that, as we had no County Captain, there would be no county chess. He regretted the fact that the venue chosen for the South West Jamboree (Kennford, to the west of Exeter) was not at all central. Only Devon and Cornwall teams had entered the Graded Section. He had made representation to Mark Hassall, the organiser. SZ suggested that an online tournament might be possible.

8. AR announced the result of the 5-minute Tournament, which had taken place on 4th September at Brown Jack. There had been 12 entries: 1st J Sherwin (10 1/2 points from 11), 2nd L Martin (9 1/2). JB had given his apologies.

The Rapidplay Tournament was to be held on Sunday 26th November at Nationwide. AR encouraged people to enter.

A Wiltshire Congress was to take place during the weekend of Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th March at the Devizes Club. There would be Major (above 145), Intermediate (115 to 145) and Minor (below 115) sections.

#### 9. AOB

A). SZ distributed entry forms for the Swansea Congress.

B). From PO: the result of the Intermediate League match between Chippenham and Trowbridge had been sent in too late for the August grading. Some grades would be slightly adjusted in January.

C). Attention was drawn to item 9 of the 2016 Executive Committee minutes re the County sets.

D). Would clubs wishing to purchase digital clocks contact DA. Discounts were available on large orders. AG pointed out that the cost was now about £50 per clock.

10. The date of the 2018 AGM was confirmed: Tuesday 29th May at 7.30 pm at Chippenham Chess Club.

12. The date of the 2018 Executive Committee was decided: Wednesday 12th September at 7.30 pm at Chippenham Chess Club.

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15th September 2017