

# Mid-Sussex Chess League AGM

Meeting Title: Mid-Sussex Chess League Annual General Meeting

Date: Tuesday 23 June 2015 7.45pm

Present:

The Args (A): Mike Card, Peter Farr  
 Brighton & Hove (B): Andrew Caswill, Susan Chadwick, Robert Counsell, Paul Selby  
 Crowborough (C): Don Grant, Jonathan Tuck  
 East Grinstead (EG): Bob Dyke, Suzanne Marshall  
 Eastbourne (E): Oli Froom, John Herbert, Doug Stevenson  
 Haywards Heath (HH): J Chris Baldry, Graham Ewens, Feliks Kwiatkowski, Richard Mercer  
 Horsham (H): Mark Baldock, Ian Comley, Julie Denning, Mick Harris, Anthony Higgs, Paul Richardson  
 Lewes (L): Matthew Britnell, Barry Maufe, Richard Welford  
 Uckfield (U): Brian Stockham  
 Worthing (W): Chris Jones, Peter Larwood  
 SCCA: Robert Elliston

Item	Minutes
1.	Chairman's opening remarks and apologies for absence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doug Stevenson (DS) opened the meeting, noting that it had been a quiet year for the committee.</li> <li>• Apologies were received on behalf of Hastings &amp; St. Leonards CC.</li> <li>• Outgoing secretary Ian Comely was thanked for his work on behalf of the League over the last five years.</li> <li>• Matthew Britnell (L) was the only candidate for the vacancy and was duly elected.</li> </ul>
2.	Minutes of last year's AGM (previously circulated): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The minutes were passed as a true record.</li> </ul>
3.	Secretary's report and matters arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lewes is happy and willing to host the meeting again next year. Matthew Britnell regretted it could be the last time, at least in the present building, as owner Lewes District Council is committed to developing the site, albeit with a new community facility.</li> </ul>
4.	Treasurer's report and matters arising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DS presented the accounts (see appendix).</li> <li>• Peter Larwood (W) asked about website costs. DS explained this was made up of separate costs for site hosting and site address and are usually paid two or even five years in advance to keep the cost down.</li> <li>• Mike Carr (A) asked about officers' expenses. DS explained that 'Expenses not yet paid' are officers' expenses which are paid after the Accounts are approved at the AGM; third party bills are reimbursed immediately.</li> <li>• John Herbert (E) was thanked for auditing the accounts.</li> <li>• The accounts were unanimously approved (see appendix).</li> </ul>
5.	Fixtures Secretary's report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julie Denning (JD) presented the report (see appendix).</li> <li>• JD raised the apparent multiple penalties a club faces for fielding an ineligible player.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brian Stockham (U) urged that the rules be clarified but JD said the rules were clear, it's just their strict application can lead to what it was thought might be unintended consequences.</li> <li>• Barry Maufe (L) was thanked for relieving JD of the webmaster role a year earlier than she was expecting.</li> <li>• Peter Larwood (W) asked if there should be a report from the webmaster. JD replied that at the moment the webmaster is not a committee member.</li> <li>• Suzanne Marshall (EG) thanked JD for all her work on behalf of the League, a sentiment warmly approved by the meeting.</li> </ul>
6.	<p>Match Recorder's report and matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Match Recorder, Don Grant (DG), summarised the season (see MSCL website for full results and tables): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Division 1 was won by Worthing 1</li> <li>○ Division 2 was won by Brighton &amp; Hove 2</li> <li>○ Division 3 was won by Horsham 4</li> <li>○ Division 4 was won by Brighton &amp; Hove 4</li> <li>○ The Knockout Cup was won by Brighton &amp; Hove, beating Haywards Heath in the final</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Peter Larwood (W) asked about whether we know the League structure for next season, who's up, who's down? JD replied that it doesn't work like that as she must await the team entries and there are always a few changes every year as clubs submit more or fewer teams than previously. The winning team in divisions 2 to 4 can generally be assured of going up but a 'bit of a fudge' is usually necessary to ensure the number of teams in each division remain steady.</li> <li>• Individual tankards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overall tankard was won by Julie Denning (H) with 9½/11 (86.36%)</li> <li>○ Division 1 tankard was won by David Graham and Michael Nicholas (both W) with 5/6 (83.33%).</li> <li>○ Division 2 tankard was won by Callum Brewer and Michael Hamilton (both B) with 7½/9 (83.33%).</li> <li>○ Division 3 tankard was won by Matthew Forster (H) with 5½/7 (75.57%).</li> <li>○ (After discussion, agreed the) Division 4 tankard was won by Philip Crompton (W) with 5/6 (83.33%).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Barry Maufe (L) commented that it wasn't satisfactory that the current Match Recorder wasn't on email and it was partly this that gave rise to uncertainty as to the division 4 tankard winner.</li> <li>• John Herbert (E) said that if the results had been posted on the website in advance of the AGM any errors would have been spotted and could have been rectified. DS said that the committee would aim to do this in future.</li> </ul>
7.	<p>County Adjudication Secretary's report and matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rob Elliston presented the report: The greater reliance on chess engines to 'adjudicate' games has led to a decrease in SCCA adjudications; nevertheless 4 positions were considered, one of which (see appendix) was akin to a study and gave the adjudications team quite a challenge.</li> </ul>
8.	<p>Presentation of Trophies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trophies won as above: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Division 1 (Mowatt Cup) collected by Chris Jones (W)</li> <li>2. Division 2 (Gregory Cup) collected by Paul Selby (B)</li> <li>3. Division 3 cup collected by Paul Richardson (H)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Division 4 cup collected by Andrew Caswill (B)</li> <li>5. Knockout shield collected by Susan Chadwick (B)</li> <li>6. Tankards by winners or on their behalf by a club member</li> </ol>
9.	<p>Election of Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There being no challengers for any position the existing committee (excepting the Secretary – see item 1) and others were re-elected: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chairman – Doug Stevenson</li> <li>2. Secretary – Matthew Britnell</li> <li>3. Fixtures Secretary – Julie Denning</li> <li>4. Treasurer – Doug Stevenson</li> <li>5. Match Recorder – Don Grant</li> <li>6. Webmaster – Barry Maufe (non-committee post)</li> <li>7. Auditor – John Herbert (non-committee post)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
10.	<p>SCCA matters relating to the League and its clubs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robert Elliston said there was nothing to report.</li> <li>• There was discussion as to whether JD should post her reports of SCCA meetings and ECF meetings on the MSCL website or whether these should continue to be sent to club contacts for circulation (or not) within clubs. JD was concerned change might mean her having to be less candid.</li> <li>• Suzanne Marshall (EG) supported the current position.</li> <li>• Peter Farr (A) thought the reports should be on the website.</li> <li>• The meeting agreed to Susan Chadwick's (B) proposal that, in addition to current practice, a notice should be placed on the website informing club members that they may request the reports directly from JD.</li> </ul>
11.	Refreshment break
12.	<p>Proposals for rule changes (see appendices for proposals):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Committee proposals regarding mobile phones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JD explained that following last year's AGM the committee had agreed to return with proposals as it had been agreed that the FIDE laws were unrealistic for an amateur chess league but that unless our rules said otherwise we would be bound by them.</li> <li>• Mike Card (A) said it was wrong to penalize the team for the error of the individual; the 'or' option was simpler and preferable.</li> <li>• Feliks Kwiatkowski (HH) said mobiles sounding disturb all players, not only the opponent of the offender; the penalty should be an instant loss.</li> <li>• Support for a tough stance on mobiles came from Brian Stockham (U), Chris Jones (W) and Andrew Caswill (B) but Peter Larwood (W), Peter Farr (A) John Herbert (E) and Paul Selby (B) all argued for a softer approach. John Herbert (E) said that mobiles had become a fact of modern life and to single out noise emitted from them over other distracting intrusions seems draconian and slightly irrational. But Susan Chadwick (B) replied that it's just expected nowadays that you turn your mobile off in the theatre etc; why should a chess match be any different?</li> <li>• Ian Comely (H) argued that the FIDE law was designed in the main not to punish noise but to deter even the possibility of cheating and felt that the MSCL committee probably would find itself having to deal with such an incident sooner or later if mobiles are permitted in the venue.</li> <li>• There was no support for the first option of applying default penalty points.</li> <li>• Votes in favour of the 'or' option ('yellow card – red card'):14; against: 9. The 'or' option was carried.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

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	<p>2. Committee proposals regarding notification of results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Peter Larwood (W) argued proposal 10.2 was incorrect because the Match Recorder isn't able to receive email.</li><li>• Anthony Higgs (H) replied that we must focus on the role not on the individuals currently in post.</li><li>• Barry Maufe (L) said that the current Match Recorder could see the results on the website and the match card serves no purpose.</li><li>• Mark Baldock (H) asked why the need for a signed match card when they're never needed. Richard Mercer (HH) added that as the away captain he had never been asked to sign the home team captain's match card.</li><li>• DS replied that the signed card could be needed if a dispute arose and that was its on-going purpose in an age of predominantly electronic result submission. It was added that if the home team captain doesn't ask the visiting team captain to sign, the latter should demand to do so otherwise he risks prejudicing his club's position in any subsequent dispute.</li><li>• Richard Welford (L) asked why we weren't aiming to post the results on the website as soon as possible, even when the final result is still to be determined in some games. Other clubs are interested in results as soon as possible and in rare cases it might influence how one plays one's own game in a forthcoming match. Chris Jones (W) supported this view.</li><li>• Brian Stockham (U) supported the webmaster's new result reporting system.</li><li>• Ian Comely (H) argued that the proposed 10.2 didn't preclude early online posting of results even when the match included adjudications.</li><li>• DS commented that it was clear many members wished to submit results as soon as possible and thus it is intended to replace 'should' with 'may' in proposed rule 10.1.</li><li>• Votes in favour of the new 10.1 and 10.2: 11; against: 0.</li></ul>
	<p>3. Incremental Time Controls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Susan Chadwick (B) introduced the proposal and argued for its adoption.</li><li>• A couple of technical improvements were accepted: Anthony Higgs (H) pointed out that the point about adjudication after 90 moves should say, after <i>black's</i> 90<sup>th</sup> move. Matthew Britnell (L) pointed out that relief from the requirement to score should say 'once less than five minutes has appeared on <i>that</i> player's clock', not on a player's clock.</li><li>• It was asked how it would be known that black had played his 90th move if both players' clocks had fallen below five minutes and neither player was keeping score. There was some confusion as to whether a player is at least required to tick the scoresheet after each move once his clock had first dropped below five minutes.</li><li>• Anthony Higgs (H) confirmed that there is no provision in the FIDE Laws (Article 8) to merely tick a scoresheet in any circumstances and a player may only not keep score if his clock has fallen below five minutes and there is not an increment per move of 30 seconds or more.</li><li>• Feliks Kwiatkowski (HH) said the proposal was guilty of 'dishonest presentation' and thought it was a way of imposing QPF on everyone whether they wanted it or not.</li><li>• Susan Chadwick (B) explained that the proposal was only if digital clocks were available and only if both players wished to play the QPF option already permitted by the rules. It would be mandatory in the Knockout providing digital clocks were available as this competition was already played with a QPF.</li><li>• Revised rule 11 for the Knockout and revised rule 7.5 for the League were</li></ul>

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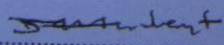
	<p>both carried nem. com. The committee were asked to tidy anomalies as discussed.</p>
	<p>4. Remove 'normally' from rule 8.6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Barry Maufe (L) said there was some confusion over this proposal as Lewes hadn't intended this minor change to be singled out from other proposed changes and tidy-ups circulated among committee members prior to the AGM.</li><li>• Jonathan Tuck (C) thought the proposal was the same as Crowborough's proposal the previous year which had been defeated but Anthony Higgs (H) reminded the meeting that Crowborough had proposed adding the words 'at the board'.</li><li>• Passed with one against.</li><li>• <i>Note added by the Secretary: there is still no mandatory requirement for refreshments to be provided as the clause will henceforth state: 'The home team is expected to provide refreshments'. It is not therefore clear, apart perhaps from a slightly enhanced moral impetus, what substantive change has been achieved by removal of the word 'normally'.</i></li><li>• <i>Note added at the request of the Chairman: clubs the subject of complaint received by and upheld by the Committee will, as in past seasons, receive a warning with requirements as determined by the Committee.</i></li></ul>
	<p>5. Various changes to the Knockout Cup rules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Richard Welford (L) introduced the proposal. Many changes were of a trivial nature (such as updating BCF to ECF, updating inconsistencies that remain from the days when the KO was a six-board event) but there were some substantive points the most significant being the introduction of a new band for the higher graded team when the same exceed their opponents' combined grade by 175 ECF points or more.</li><li>• Brian Stockham (U) questioned the fairness of the proposed Rule 4, saying that Uckfield would in all likelihood have to play all its fixtures away.</li><li>• Don Grant explained that 'higher' in this context meant the team that was depicted above ('higher') in the pairing tree, ie. that had been drawn to play at home; it didn't mean the higher-graded team. Don uses a tried and tested system to determine the tree (as there are not always a convenient number of entries) and the draw is random.</li><li>• <i>Note added by the Secretary: to aid clarity, in rule 4 only, 'higher' will be replaced with 'above', 'lower' with 'below'; and 'the pairing tree' with 'each pairing'.</i></li><li>• DS questioned the fairness of the proposed Rule 6.2.2: Why does a defaulting home team have another opportunity to play, albeit away, but a defaulting away team suffers immediate elimination?</li><li>• Barry Maufe (L) explained that this was a codification of an ad-hoc ruling this season following a default. There was no reasonable alternative in a knock-out competition when clearly it would be absurd for the originally away team to then have the benefit of playing at home.</li><li>• DS argued it was nevertheless unfair that one team would have another chance to play, while the other would not. An amendment was put to the meeting: a defaulting team, whether home or away, is eliminated from the competition. Carried.</li><li>• Don Grant (C) was happy with new rules.</li><li>• Regarding Rule 7, Matthew Britnell (L) argued that we should always use the most up-to-date grading list – it's ridiculous in a handicap tournament based on grades to be doing anything else. Using an out of date list increases the scope to field players with a particularly advantageous grade</li></ul>

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	<p>vis-à-vis their current playing strength (eg. improving juniors).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JD explained that there had been some concerns about difficulties when the new six-monthly grading list first started to be published in late January.</li> <li>• A vote was taken: 12 for the new grading list to be used; 5 against. Carried.</li> <li>• Feliks Kwiatkowski (HH) questioned the fairness of the proposed Rule 9 which introduces a new requirement for a team exceeding its opponents' combined grade by 175 ECF points or more to need 4½ to win; this places the bar at an unreasonably high level for the higher graded team.</li> <li>• Jonathan Tuck (C) pointed out that the new handicap represented an average board difference of 35 ECF and most people would expect the lower graded team to do well to achieve one draw at such a difference. Nevertheless he felt all of the grading differences should be increased by 25 points.</li> <li>• A vote was taken on the proposal as circulated: for the new 175 and above band: 12; against: 4. Carried.</li> <li>• DS questioned the new more stringent requirement in Rule 14 for the result to be submitted within 2 days of match completion.</li> <li>• Richard Welford (L) said there was no reason not to submit the match result quickly now the electronic means were available and also reminded the meeting that there are no adjudications in the Knockout.</li> <li>• The new proposals with the two amendments (regarding Rule 6.2.2 and Rule 7) were adopted with no votes against.</li> </ul>
13.	<p>Any Other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Susan Chadwick (B) raised the issue of a junior league. DS replied that while it was known that David Fryer (C) had circulated draft ideas among MSCL clubs for consultation he had not subsequently submitted proposals for the AGM agenda.</li> <li>• JD raised again the issue of penalties for fielding ineligible players (see item 5), noting that as no changes had been proposed, clubs need to be aware that Rules 3.4 and 6.1 would both continue to be applied.</li> </ul>
14.	<p><b>The meeting concluded at 11.00 pm.</b></p>

# Appendices

## 4. Treasurer's report and matters arising

<b>MID SUSSEX CHESS LEAGUE</b>			
<b><u>INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</u></b>			
<b><u>for year ended 31 March 2015</u></b>			
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>2014/15</u></b>	<b><u>2013/14</u></b>	<b>15/16 Budget</b>
Team fees: League 36 (38)	72.00	152.00	36 72.00
ECF fees	144.00	214.00	150.00
Donations	1.20		
Bank interest	0.29	0.26	0.20
	<u>217.49</u>	<u>366.26</u>	<u>222.20</u>
<b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>			
ECF fees	144.00	214.00	150.00
Engraving claimed	58.65	21.90	60.00
Match Recorders' expenses	2.50	5.50	5.00
Web site cost	31.50	31.45	35.00
Postage, telephone & stationery	1.79	2.80	2.20
Trophy repairs	15.00		
	<u>253.44</u>	<u>275.65</u>	<u>252.20</u>
<b><u>SURPLUS/ - DEFICIT</u></b>	<u>-35.95</u>	<u>90.61</u>	<u>-30.00</u>
<b><u>FUNDS AT 31 MARCH:</u></b>			
Cash in bank	456.17	464.63	
Less: Expenses not yet paid	-6.29	-10.30	
	<u>449.88</u>	<u>454.33</u>	
Expenses paid in advance	35.00	66.50	
	<u>484.88</u>	<u>520.83</u>	454.88
Being:			
General	414.88	450.83	
The Holt trophy fund	70.00	70.00	
	<u>484.88</u>	<u>520.83</u>	
Signed..... 	Treasurer		
D.W. Stevenson			
I certify that the above Income and Expenditure Account and the Funds Statement are correct.			
Signed..... 	Auditor		
JG Herbert			

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## 5. Fixture Secretary's report

This season saw the net loss of 2 teams, with Knoll Knights withdrawing and Crowborough reduced from 4 teams to 2. Providing partial compensation has been Sussex University who we welcomed back into the League after an absence of many years. Due to the loss of Knoll Knights, who would have remained in Division 1, the relegation of Lewes 1 into Division 2 was cancelled. We therefore continued with the 4 divisions format, with 10, 9, 8 and 9 teams respectively.

Several fixtures were re-arranged throughout the season and in at least some cases it was deemed appropriate to penalise a team for missing an agreed fixture date. However, generally, I maintained my practice of past seasons of not seeking to impose penalties if 2 teams tell me they have mutually agreed a change, even though closer examination might have revealed that the precise requirements of Rule 2.6 concerning fixture changes might not have been fully complied with. I've come to refer to this as my "don't ask, don't tell" policy. The meeting may care to give me guidance on this. My view is that where neither team involved has complained, although the precise wording of the Rule may not have been met, seeking out a guilty party and imposing a penalty would involve a great deal of extra work, generate animosity and not serve any real purpose.

Another Rule that came into focus this season was the penalties for fielding an ineligible player. There had been very few instances of this over the past few seasons, but there were a couple of cases this season. The directly applicable Rule is 3.4 "Penalties for ineligible players". This dictates that the ineligible player's game is deemed to have been defaulted and, additionally, the team may be penalised further in terms of overall game points for the match depending upon the results on any lower boards. There is also Rule 6.1 setting penalties for defaulting on one or more boards. My previous view was that this should relate only to cases where a team turned up with fewer than 5 players and was not relevant to the ineligible player situation. However, strict interpretation of the wording suggests otherwise. Rule 3.4 states that the board is deemed defaulted and thus Rule 6.1 should also apply. The outcome is that the team faces up to 3 potential forms of penalty for the one offence; namely:

- defaulting the board in question;
- a further game points penalty against lower board;
- default points which, in combination with other misdemeanours during the season, might carry a match point penalty.

The ruling given in 2 instances this season was that combined penalties of both Rule 3.4 and Rule 6.1 applied.

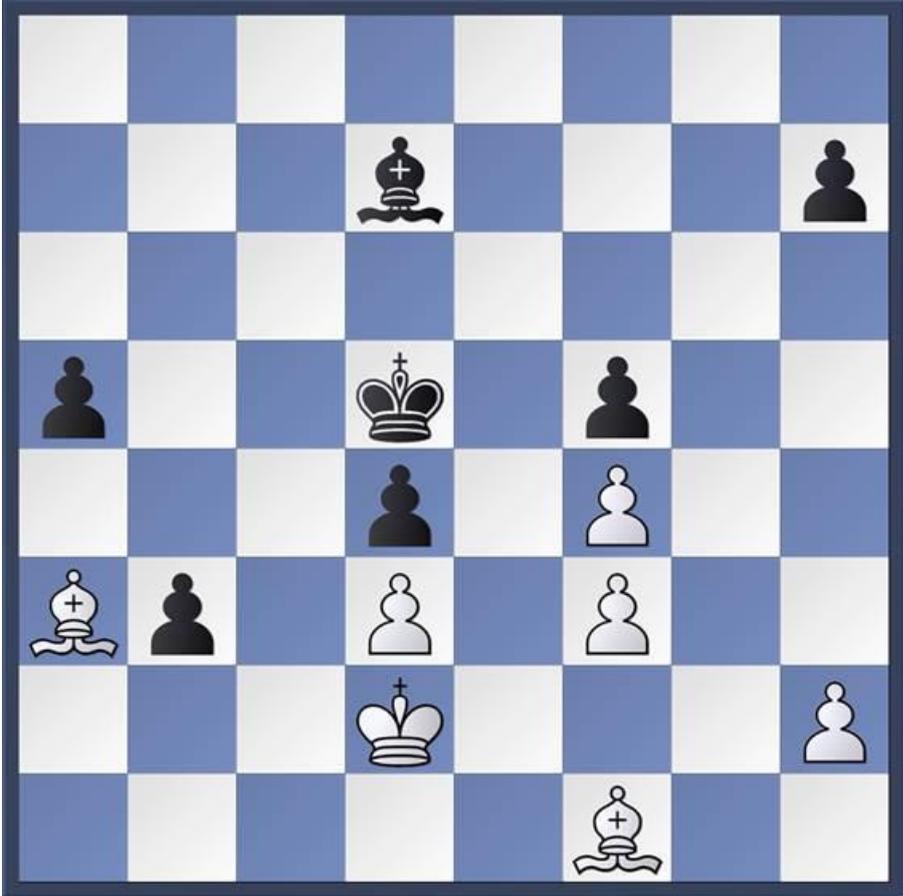
Whilst this does appear a correct interpretation from the wording of the Rules, I would like to know whether it is the view of the membership that this is what was intended, or whether we should consider that the ineligible player case is adequately dealt with under Rule 3.4 alone and that Rule 6.1 is reserved solely for cases of too few players.

Looking forward to the 2015/16 season, I fear there may be a reduced entry from Haywards Heath. We would therefore very much welcome any additional entries that any of our other clubs might be able to submit. With the meeting's endorsement, I will be pleased to continue as your Fixtures Secretary.

At the last AGM I gave notice that I would not be able to continue with the additional role of web editor for more than one further season. I was delighted that Barry Maufe spoke with me after the meeting and agreed to take on this task forthwith. Having rather greater website skills than myself, he has made some beneficial changes, but I'm aware that he has some concerns going forward which he will raise with the meeting in due course.

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## 6. County Adjudication Secretary's report and matters arising



White to play

The adjudicators found a win for White; can you?

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## 12. Rule change proposals

1. Mobile phones in playing area	Management Committee
<p>It was agreed at the last AGM that the committee would bring forward a proposal to address the issue that mobile phones are not strictly allowed in the playing area. The committee propose two alternatives for discussion at the AGM</p>	
<p><b>Current Rule</b></p>	
<p><b>8.1 Laws of chess</b> The FIDE laws apply in general and the Management Committee will utilise the version produced by the Chess Arbiters Association for interpretation of the various aspects of these laws in the context of the League. For the 2014-15 season the rules utilised will remain those for the 2013-4 season</p>	
<p><b>New Rule</b></p>	
<p><b>8.1 Laws of chess</b> The FIDE laws apply in general and the Management Committee will utilise the version produced by the Chess Arbiters Association for interpretation of the various aspects of these laws in the context of the League. <del>For the 2014-15 season the rules utilised will remain those for the 2013-4 season</del> <b>except as set out in 8.1.1.</b></p>	
<p>"8.1.1 Mobile phones, other communication devices, tablets and similar equipment are allowed in the playing area. However they must be either switched off or switched to silent mode for the duration of the match. Home team captains must remind players of this requirement."  plus either:  "For each incident that a player's mobile phone or similar device sounds then their team will incur twelve rule 6.1 default penalty points. The opposing captain must confirm this claim to the Match Recorder."  [Note: Thus instead of the individual losing his game the match result stands but the whole team loses at least half a point for the 1st incident and one and half points for the 2nd.]  or:  "If a player's equipment makes any sound during his game, then: On the first occurrence he will receive a warning. For a second offence by the same player in the same game, the penalty is loss of the game."</p>	

2. Amendment to notification rules	Management Committee
<p>Update to the notification rules in the light of the new arrangements.</p>	
<p><b>Current Rule</b></p>	
<p><b>10 Notification of results</b></p> <p><b>10.1 Completion of results card</b> The official result card, including full initials of all players, must be completed immediately after the match, as far as possible, and then be signed by both team captains. Positions sent for adjudication should be marked on the card with a capital 'A'.</p> <p><b>10.2 Return of results card</b> The team captain of the home club must send the result to the Fixture Secretary within eight days of the match. Where e-mail is used, it is the home captain's responsibility to preserve the match card and produce it should the Match Recorder require it.</p> <p><b>10.3 Notification of undecided games</b> If when the result card is submitted to the Match Recorder there exist games unfinished that are not subsequently sent for adjudication, then the home captain shall be responsible for informing the Match Recorder of those results.</p>	
<p><b>New Rule</b></p>	
<p>10 Notification of results.</p> <p>10. 1 Completion of result record. It is the home team captain's responsibility to arrange for the completion of an official result card or record [including full initials of all players] before the match, signature by both captains after the match conclusion and its retention until completion of the season at the AGM. If there are undecided games the submission of the result should be pended and, in accordance with rule 9.1, any games subsequently sent for adjudication then marked with an 'A'.</p> <p>10.2 Result submission. The home team captain must arrange for the final result to be</p>	

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submitted to the Match Recorder by e-mail as soon as possible but in any case within ten days where rule 9.1 applies, using the form available on the website. In case of query, the Match Recorder may request to see the signed record and if it is not available to make a determination of the match result.

Delete 10.3

## 3. Incremental Time Controls

Sue Chadwick on behalf of Brighton and Hove

In the main MSCL divisions this would be an option in the same way that the QPF option is available at present, i.e. if mutually agreed between players.

In the KO competition this would present a choice between the QPF option and the incremental option.

The option proposed is all moves in 80 minutes with a 10 second increment from move one. There would be no necessity to continue scoring with less than 5 minutes on the clock, and no necessity to start scoring again should the remaining time go back above 5 minutes.

The reasoning behind this is that anything less than a 60 move game would be over in less than three hours. Should the game overrun beyond this then the end would be played out at speed.

There would be no need of the QPF rules or adjudication - unless, perhaps, the players chose adjudication beyond 90 moves, i.e. three hours and 10 minutes, in the interests of getting home. Although it is assumed the outcome would be clear before this and the players could agree.

### Current Rule: Knockout

11. The rate of play shall be 30 moves in 1 hour, after which both players' clocks shall be turned back half an hour, and all the remaining moves played. The FIDE Laws of Chess on quickplay finishes shall apply.

### New Rule

11. The rate of play shall be all moves in 80 minutes with a 10 second increment from move one. No scoring is required once less than five minutes has appeared on a player's clock. The position may go to adjudication after the 90th move.

If digital clocks are unavailable then the rate shall be 30 moves in 1 hour, after which both players' clocks shall be turned back half an hour, and all the remaining moves played. The FIDE Laws of Chess on quickplay finishes shall apply.

### Current Rule: League

#### 7 Time controls

7.1 Clocks Clocks must be used in all games.

7.2 Time controls: division 1 In Division 1 matches, including play-offs between Division 1 teams, at least 3 hours must be allowed for play, and unless 7.5 applies the time control shall be 42 moves in 1 hr 30 min and 7 moves per 15 minutes thereafter.

7.3 Time controls: other divisions In other matches at least 2 hrs 40 min must be allowed for play. If at least 3 hours is available, then the time control shall be as above with the option of 7.5, but for shorter matches it shall be 40 moves in 1 hr 20 min and 7 moves per 15 minutes thereafter with no 7.5 option.

7.4 Additional time controls Both clocks should be turned back by 15 minutes for each additional 7-move time control played.

7.5 Quickplay finish Before white makes his second move both players may agree to play under the following time control: 30 moves in 60

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minutes with all (remaining) moves in 30 minutes. Upon this agreement the clocks shall be adjusted accordingly by adding 30 minutes to each player's clock. After completion of black's 30<sup>th</sup> move the clocks should be turned back by 30 minutes.

**7.6 During the quickplay phase of the game** A player may claim a draw when he has less than two minutes left on his clock and before his flag falls. This concludes the game.

**He may claim on the basis**

- a) that his opponent cannot win by normal means, and/or
- b) that his opponent has been making no effort to win by normal means

In (a) the player must write down the final position and his opponent verify it.

In (b) the player must write down the final position and submit an up-to-date scoresheet, which must be completed before play has ceased. The opponent shall verify both the scoresheet and the final position.

*If a result cannot be agreed then each club shall submit a claim in accordance with 9.1*

**9.1 Submitting games for adjudication** Team captains should make reasonable efforts in the eight days following a match to agree the results of any unfinished games. If agreement on any such game cannot be reached, then each club must submit the position and their claim to the Adjudication Secretary of the Sussex County Chess Association - in accordance with SCCA procedures.

With regard to a quickplay finish claim under 7.6(b) a copy of the verified scoresheet must also be submitted by the claiming team

## New Rule

### 7.5 Incremental time control

Before white makes his second move both players may agree to play under the following time control (subject to suitable clocks being available): all moves in 80 minutes with a 10 second increment from move one. No scoring is required once less than five minutes has appeared on a player's clock. The position may go to adjudication after the 90th move.

NB current 7.5 becomes 7.6 etc

## 5. Amendment to notification rules

### Lewes

Lewes propose a number of amendments to improve the knockout rules.

### Proposed Amendment

4 In each match the team that appears higher in the pairing tree shall play at home, unless the lower-placed team has already played ~~one or~~ more away games than the higher-placed one, in which case the venue is reversed.

7 For the purposes of this competition a player's grading shall be their official ~~BCF grading~~ ECF standard playing grade from the July grading list that is in effect at the beginning of the tournament. If a player only has a rapidplay grade this shall be used. The January ECF standard play list will however supersede any and all rapidplay or estimates (from the table below) of ungraded players if it has figures for them.

If a player has no ~~BCF~~ ECF grading, it shall be based on the highest division in which in which he/she has appeared in a MSL match in the current season, as follows:

Division 1	150
Division 2	135
Division 3	120
Division 4	105
(or not previously played)	

9 The match shall be handicapped according to the following table.

Difference in total grading	To win, higher-graded team must score
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0 - 24	No handicap and a 2 ½ - 2½ draw resolved first by board count and second by board elimination
25 - 74	The higher graded team must score 3 to win and a 2½ - 2½ result shall count as a win for the lower graded team
75 - 124	The higher graded team must score 3½ to win
125 plus - 174	The higher graded team must score 4 to win
175 plus	The higher graded team must score 4½ to win
<p>10 If the difference between the total gradings of the teams is less than 25, a level match shall be played, with a <del>3-3</del> 2½-2½ draw being resolved by board count, and, if the board count is equal, by board elimination.</p> <p><b>Board count:</b> Each team totals the numbers on the boards of which it won, and the team with the lower count wins the match. E.g. Team A wins on boards <del>3</del> 1 and 4; team B wins on boards <del>2</del> 3 and <del>6</del> 5; boards <del>4</del> 2 and <del>5</del> are is drawn. A has a board count of <del>3</del> 1 + 4 = 7 5; B has a board count of <del>2</del> 3 + 5 <del>6</del> = 8; A has the lower count, and wins the match.</p> <p><b>Board elimination:</b> The result on board <del>6</del> 5 is eliminated, and, if this is drawn, the result on board <del>5</del> 4 is eliminated, and so on until one team is winning on the remaining boards. E.g. Team A wins on boards 3 and 4; team B wins on boards 2 and 5; boards <del>1</del> and <del>6</del> are is drawn. The board count is equal at 7 each, but after <del>board 6</del> and then board 5 are is eliminated, A has the better score, and wins the match.</p>	
<p>12 All relevant rules of the League apply to this competition , except the following:</p> <p>Read Tournament Controller instead of Fixtures Secretary or Match Recorder.</p> <p>Rule 6.1, 6.2.1 and 6.2.3 shall not apply.</p> <p>Rule 6.2.2 shall apply if the defaulting team is Home, in which case the venues are swapped. If the defaulting team is Away, they are automatically eliminated from the competition.</p> <p>. If a League player's club does not enter a team they may play for another club's K/O team irrespective of League rule 3.2.</p>	
<p>14 Results (including the computation of handicaps) shall be entered on the spreadsheet form provided and sent to the appropriate email address, or online webform if provided, by the captain of the winning team within <del>8</del> 2 days of completing the match.</p>	