

# LANCASHIRE CHESS ASSOCIATION

Founded 1897 (Centenary year)

Affiliated to the British Chess Federation and the Northern Counties Chess Union.

## MINUTES OF AGM HELD AT THE WHEATSHEAF HOTEL ATHERTON, SATURDAY 1ST 01/06/96

**Present:** Peter Furlong, Stan Foulkes, Bill O'Rourke, Jim Tennant Smith, Geoff Jones, Ken Gorman.

1/ No minutes were available as no AGM was held in 1995.

2/ Matters arising - not applicable.

### **3/ Apologies for absence**

Bill Winter, Ken Mc Mahon, Mike O'Hara, Steve Appleby, Mike Conroy, Armand Catz.

### **4/ Officers Reports**

#### **a/ President's report**

"We have had an excellent 8 months, in which, thanks to dedicated work by our officers, we have come some way towards restoring our organisation and finances. To cement this progress we need another steady year and new organisers to reinforce the veterans. I can't praise the officers enough. All I can hope is that they serve another term in office. Our clubs, vice-presidents and full members deserve our best endeavours and we will work to earn their support."

#### **b/ Treasurer's report**

"A less worrying year financially, although the 1995 accounts reveal that a further loss was sustained. This is attributed partly to the continuing success of our various teams, whose venue costs had generally risen; Also to the lack of revenue from vice-presidents and affiliated clubs. It is now important to approach VP's and clubs with the request for fees .

### **4/ Reports from County Team Managers.**

a/ The Secretary reported that the first team had showed a great improvement, reaching the semi-final stage. The captain was reported as being confident about the 1996/97 season but was still finding it difficult to entice some quality players. The U175 team had been eliminated by a close margin after the preliminary stage.

b/ Bill O'Rourke reported that although the U125 team had narrowly been eliminated in the preliminary stages, the U150 team had proceeded to the semi-finals where they were due to meet Nottinghamshire next weekend in Leeds.

### **5/ Report of Congress Organisers**

Geoff Jones reported another very successful Blackpool Congress in terms of numbers ( over 400) and in terms of finances ( see 1995 accounts) , another successful Chorley Congress in 1995 and a promising successful 1st Heywood congress and rapidplay. Geoff then outlined a plan for celebrating the centenary year through the congresses. It was suggested that six congresses - Blackpool, Chorley,

Heywood, Rochdale, Morecambe and Preston - would each be backed to the tune of £100 as a prize for the highest scoring Lancashire player. This was agreed and endorsed by the meeting. It was also suggested that a banquet be held at the Winter Gardens during the Blackpool Congress to celebrate the Centenary. This was also agreed and Geoff will report back at the next meeting.

**6/ Report of Junior Organiser.**

Ken Gorman reported encouraging news regarding the Lancashire County Council grant, which will be maintained at least at the current level. Ken was still seeking sponsorship from other sources as well. Junior congresses run this year have had very good attendance's. Also Steve Lamb has expressed interest in running U9 and U11 county teams.

**7/ Election of Officers.**

**See results on next page. Greyed areas represent new officers.**

**8/ Subscriptions 1996/97**

Committee members sanctioned the prices of £20 for Vice Presidents, £10 for Full Members and clubs at £10 for above 15 members, £5 for 15 or below.

**9/ Other Business**

a/ President commentated on Junior Tournament prizewinners having prizes withheld due to opting to play for a county other than Lancashire. He felt it unreasonable and asked that this be remove. The meeting agreed.

b/ Proposal put forward by president for annual county rapidplay events to be held. Venues are to be sought and the President will report back at the next meeting.

c/ The President is investigating the possibility of preparing a centenary yearbook and will report further at the next meeting.

**10/ Date of next meeting - Thursday 5/9/96 at 7.30, hopefully in Preston.**