

# 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 31/05/97

**Present:** Bill O'Rourke, Geoff Jones, Ken Gorman, Bill Winter, Carl Tillotson, Angela Hanley, Mike O'Hara

### **1/ Apologies for absence**

Peter Furlong, Jim Tennant Smith, Steve Appleby, Mike Conroy, Armand Catz.( all playing for an hastily arranged Lancashire U175's BCF County semi-final), Ken Mc Mahon, Steve Lamb

### **2/ Minutes of 1996 AGM**

The minutes of the 1996 AGM were passed without alteration.

### **3/ Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the 1996 meeting that are not dealt with by the present agenda.

### **4/ Officers Reports**

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

The General Secretary read out the President's report:

"We have had an excellent 12 months, thanks to dedicated work by our officers. Again I can't praise the officers enough. There is as much enthusiasm now as there was 100 years ago [Bill Winter interjected here by asking was the President there?], but there is so much more activity through clubs, congresses, leagues and juniors. The Centenary Dinner and the Blackpool Conference were both fantastic successes owing to the efforts of Geoff Jones and Ken McMahon. The LCA has reformed it's links with the clubs through the endeavours of the General Secretary. Hopefully we will see more youthful and energetic organisers joining the Council. Our clubs, Vice-Presidents and full members deserve our best endeavours and we will work to earn their support."

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

See attached report in appendix 2.

#### **c/ General Secretary's report.**

1996/97 has seen the number of clubs affiliated to the LCA rise from 6 to 22. We must continue to provide the clubs with better services ( bulletins, reductions to congresses etc.) to entice their members to contribute fully to the business of the LCA. We currently have 592 members and there is no reason why we cannot increase this.

Lancashire clubs have performed well in the newly formulated NCCU Club Championships, with Preston in the Open final and Heywood unluckily losing in the minor section zone final. It is hoped that more Lancashire Clubs will want to try their luck next year in competing for the trophies and money prizes. If so, Lancashire Clubs could hold a knockout to decide which clubs will represent Lancashire.

County results continue to demonstrate the depth of strength of chess in Lancashire, with our Open, U175, U150 and U125 all winning their sections in the Northern Counties Chess Union Championships. In fact the Open, U175 and U125 teams have all progressed to the BCF Semi-finals.

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

a/ Mike Conroy's written report stated that he was finding difficulty in raising the top players for County matches, particularly when it clashed with congresses. He thought it would need a miracle to defeat the defending champions Kent in the semi-final because of this. The General Secretary said he would speak to the BCF to prevent these clashes happening again.

b/ Bill O'Rourke reported that the U175's were today playing Devon at Stroud to decide one of the BCF finalists. Although the U150 team had narrowly been eliminated in the quarter finals against Nottinghamshire, the U125 team would play Nottinghamshire next weekend to seek a place at the Birmingham finals on June 28th.

c/ Bill Winter reported that the U100 had gone out in the qualifying rounds but that he was most happy that this team is to be used to blood our youngsters in the future.

d/ No written report was given by the correspondence captain, but Jim Tennant Smith had reported verbally to the Secretary that the Lancashire second team had won their division of the Northern Counties 1995/6 competition with 8.5/12 points. The first team finished in mid-table.

#### **6/ Report of Congress Organisers**

Geoff Jones reported an extremely successful Blackpool Congress (532 entries), though this combined with the Centenary Dinner had caused a drain in terms of finances. Chorley Congress in 1996 came under pressure as had most congresses and reported a loss and a reduction in entries. Bill O'Rourke reported another successful 2nd Heywood congress and rapidplay, both up in numbers.

#### **7/ Report of Junior Organisers.**

Ken Gorman reported encouraging news both on the team and individual front. The U9's had qualified for the British counties U9 final at Liverpool, where despite their 15th place a lot of progress was shown. The U11's also qualified for the British Counties final at Catford, where they secured 10th place, a considerable improvement.

Craig Hanley was presently representing England in Russia, James Hanley has become the British U7 mini-squad champion (scoring 7/7 !) and Robert Woodhead has been picked for the Rest of England U11 team.

Several Lancashire juniors from Blackpool and Fylde have reached the “giga” finals of the British Juniors Chess Competition, to take place on 13 July at Nottingham. Ken also reported that the UK Rotary Clubs have released a report suggesting a National promotion of Chess in schools, involving themselves in running clubs in schools.. Ken will pass details to the BCF and the Secretary.

Junior congresses this year have had very good attendance’s, though entry fees will have to increase from £2 to £3 to raise funds for the travels of our successful juniors!. Ken stated that he will need the up-to-date accounts as soon as possible if he was to make a fresh lottery application for a grant this year.

Carl Tillotson reported that he is helping to set up a Blackburn Junior Chess Club.

Angela Hanley stated that the U18 team will be competing in the National Youth championships to be held in Staffordshire in September. The General Secretary noted that it was Lancashire’s turn to organise the Northern counties U18 jamboree during the 1997-98 season.

#### **8/ Report from Bulletin Editor.**

Steve Appleby had verbally reported to the Secretary that he felt he had achieved what he had set out to do (i.e. re-establish the Lancashire Chess Bulletin) and that the time was now right for another “younger enthusiast” to take over, preferably somebody who was au fait with new information technology skills. Nick Sinclair’s name was put forward by several people and the General Secretary was asked to formally approach him. { Nick has since accepted }. Steve Appleby was warmly praised for his previous efforts and the meeting hoped that he will continue to contribute articles as a sub-editor.

#### **9/ Reports from Lancashire leagues and clubs.**

##### **a/ Blackpool and Fylde League**

Bill Winter reported that the “teams of 4” issue would reappear for debate at their AGM. If this alters, then the present format of 6-7 teams in each of the 5 divisions would have to alter as well.

A big success has been the initiation of their web page, edited by Nick Sinclair with information supplied by Bill Winter. The e-mail address is:

**<http://www.wavenet.co.uk/users/nicksinc/home.htm>**

##### **b/ Central Lancashire League**

Carl Tillotson reported that Leyland had won the first Division and Heywood the second. Preston B had defeated Preston A in the Cup final. Leyland B had won the subsidiary cup.

The league had run a successful club rapidplay competition in May which had been won by Crusaders A. They are now considering running a larger Lancashire club rapidplay in late September.

The Central Lancs league is now well represented on the Lancashire Chess Association web page run by Editor Carl Tillotson:

<http://www.netcomuk.co.uk/~lca/index.htm>

#### **c/ Clubs**

Atherton have reached the final of the BCF Open plate competition, and Morecambe have reached the U175 plate final. Heywood have won through to the U125 final. All finals will take place on June 28th in Birmingham.

Heywood chess club will be visiting and playing against their counterparts of their Twin Town Peine in North Germany in July.

#### **10/ Special award.**

Two proposals had been made that Jim Tennant-Smith, on the occasion of his 70th birthday this summer, receive from the Lancashire Chess Association the position of Honorary Vice-President. The proposals ( from Peter Furlong, seconded by Bill O'Rourke, and by Geoff Jones, seconded by Ken McMahon) were unanimously accepted and passed.

#### **11/ Election of Officers. - See results on next page. Greyed areas represent new officers.**

#### **12/ Subscriptions 1996/97**

Committee members sanctioned the prices of £20 for Vice Presidents, £10 for Full Members and clubs at £15 for above 15 members, £10 for 15 or below. A proposal that individuals could become Associate members of the LCA for £5 was proposed by Mike O'Hara and seconded by Carl Tillotson. For £5, these members will receive 4 copies of the bulletin delivered free to the home per year. The extra revenue generated from these fees (due from January 1st 1998, excluding Associate members whose fees will be payable immediately) would be invested in Bulletin improvement, County teams and club competitions.

#### **9/ Other Business**

a/ The treasurer inquired as to who should be the new signatories for the Lancashire Chess Association Congress account. It was agreed that the following would be the 4 official signatories:

Dave Clayton, Geoff Jones, Ken McMahon and Carl Tillotson

b/ The Secretary presented a single A4 sheet (see appendix 1) summarising the duties and responsibilities of the General Secretary. The idea is that if such a summary existed for each officer's position, then this would help to prevent problems of the past when new officers took up posts. The meeting agreed this to be a good idea and the Secretary therefore asked if all officers could furnish him with a similar sheet covering their own duties and responsibilities a.s.a.p. please.

#### **10/ Date of next meeting - Thursday 18th September 1997 at 7.30, at this venue.**

### **LANCASHIRE OFFICERS 1997-98**

**President:** Peter Furlong, 6 Thetford Road, Great Sankey, Warrington, WA5 3EQ. Tel:01925 725706

**Hon. Vice-Presidents:** P. Furlong, P. C. Hoad, D. Lees, J. Tennant-Smith.

**Vice-Presidents:** M. J. Conroy, B. P. Dabulawicus, S. Foulkes, B. Halliwell, M. J. O'Hara, V. Tormey, R. Townsend.

**Full Members:** G. Jones, A. T. Ormesher

**General Secretary:** Bill O'Rourke, 101 Queens Park Road, Heywood, Lancashire OL10 4JR. Tel: 01706 627874

**Treasurer:** Carl Tillotson, 13 St. James Street, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 4HD. Tel: 01254 697089.

**1st team Captain:** Mike J. Conroy, 2 Fairbairn Avenue, Burnley, Lancashire BB12 0LW Tel: 01282 425703

**2nd (U175) team Captain:** Steve Horrocks, 41 Mercer Street, Great Harwood, Lancashire BB6 7AN. Tel: 01254 884690.

**Joint 3rd (U150) and 4th (U125) Team Captains:** Ken Mc.Mahon (see below) and W. O'Rourke.

**5th (U100) team Captain:** Bill Winter, 26 Alder Grove, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire FY6 8EH Tel: 01253 882306

**Correspondence Match Captain:** : Jim Tennant-Smith, 268 Middleton Road, Heywood, Lancashire OL10 2LG. Tel: 01706 369727

**Junior Organiser:** Ken Gorman, 16 Carleton Garderns, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire FY6 7PB Tel: 01253 899742 ; **U11 and U9 Manager:** Steve Lamb, 37 Pheasant Wood Drive, Thornton, Cleveleys, Lancashire FY5 2AW Tel: 01253 857072; **U18 Manager:** Angela Hanley, 136 Coulston Road, Lancaster, Lancashire LA1 3AB. Tel: 01524 63803

**Congress Organiser:** Dave Clayton, 15 Pearfield, Leyland, Lancashire PR5 1NX. Tel: 01772 456784

**Congress Coordinator:** Ken Mc. Mahon, 1, Blake Avenue, Lostock Hall, Preston, PR5 5LY Tel: 01772 315630

**Grade Coordinator:** Bill Winter ( see above).

**Vice-Presidents' Representative:** J. Tennant-Smith (see above).

**Full Members' Representative:** G. M. Jones, 27, Clarke Street, Leigh, Lancashire, WN7 4HU. Tel: 01942 604262.

**Committee:** Dave Gaston ( Crusaders), Dave Newhouse ( Preston), Frank Rushworth ( Morecambe ).

**B.C.F Delegate:** Mike O'Hara, 878 St. Helens Road, Over Hulton, Bolton. BL5 1AA. Tel: 01204 63275

**N.C.C.U. Delegates:** P. Furlong, W.O'Rourke (see above)

**Bulletin Editor:** Nick Sinclair, 7 Furlong Lane, Poulton, Blackpool, Lancashire. Tel: 01253 893170

**LCA Web Page Author:** Carl Tillotson ( <http://www.netcomuk.co.uk/~lca/index.htm> ).

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Duties and responsibilities of officers of the Lancashire Chess Association**

**As of 23/6/97**

**b/ General Secretary**

**1/** To take, collate, circulate and maintain minutes of all meeting held by the Lancashire Chess Association, including the Annual General meeting held as near as possible to June 1st each year.

**2/** To prepare and circulate agendas for Lancashire Chess Association meetings based on proposals put forward by Lancashire Chess Association Officers, Affiliated clubs or members of Affiliated clubs. The agendas to be circulated at least 2 weeks before meetings.

**3/** To keep and maintain a list of the names and addresses of all officers and affiliated clubs of the LCA.

**4/** To keep all BCF Yearbook information appertaining to the Lancashire Chess Association up-to-date.

**5/** To order and distribute yearbooks to the following officers of the LCA if they so request:

President  
General Secretary  
Treasurer  
Lancashire Junior Congress Organiser  
County captains provided they do not hold one of posts above.

**6/** To order and distribute BCF yearbooks asked for by LCA Vice-Presidents who have paid their yearly affiliation fee.

**7/** To distribute all necessary information to LCA officers resulting from information sent by the British Chess Federation or the Northern Counties Chess Union.