

# 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, WEDNESDAY 02/06/99

**Present:** Bill O'Rourke, Mike O'Hara, Peter Furlong, Dave Clayton, Egons Andersons, Carl Tillotson

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

Steve Appleby, Mike Conroy, Armand Catz, Dave Gaston, Angela Hanley, Pete Dodsworth, Nick Sinclair

### **2/ Minutes of 1998 AGM**

Minutes of the 1998 AGM were passed without alteration, except for pg. 3 where cubs should read clubs.

### **3/ Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the 1998 meeting that are not dealt with by the present agenda.

### **4/ Officers Reports**

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

'Another excellent year'. Praise was given to all of the following: team captains, bulletin editor and sub-editors, congress organisers, junior organisers and the captain. A request was made to please continue in the same vein during the following year.

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

The treasurer had given the general secretary a written report, a verbal summary of which was given to the meeting. The secretary will provide complete details to anybody upon request..

**The LCA main account** showed an operating deficit of £471.56 for the year 1998. Essentially the success of 5 county teams qualifying for the national knock-outs was a massive drain on resources (i.e. £650). Fortunately a payment of £529.60 from the congress account ( as per the LCA meeting agreement 15 months ago) more than balanced the books for 1998. However we must look to the fact that it is unlikely that such a windfall from the success of Lancashire congresses will continue in the future, especially as it has been agreed that all surplus in the congress account up to £500 will be retained in the congress account to build up the 'congress battle fund'. With reluctance the treasurer therefore proposed some increases in membership fees, which had not risen for many years (see item 11).

**The Congress account** showed an operating profit of £754.23. What was especially pleasing about this figure was not only the continued success of the Blackpool congress, but also the return of numbers and financial success to the Chorley congress. £529.60 of the operating profit was transferred to the LCA main account, and the rest retained in the Congress account.

**The Junior Organisation account** continues to flourish, owing mostly to the revenues from the five junior congresses. The operating profit for 1998 was £891.36. However this needs to be balanced by the fact that the Lancashire County Council have removed the grant to the junior organisation of £580 for 1999. For 1999 the effect of this will be limited, since the EPSCA U9 and U11 finals have been held in the North West, saving the junior organisation in the order of £800 in travel and accommodation.

The meeting unanimously passed the treasurers report. The treasurer will forward details to auditor David Lees immediately. The treasurer proposed that the LCA account be moved from the Yorkshire bank to Barclays for ease of travel. The meeting agreed.

The treasurer reiterated his desire that County team captains keep a firm control on costs, and that all officers make more efforts to sell the bulletins.

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

1998/99 saw the number of clubs affiliated to the LCA continue at 25, with the addition of Blackpool but the withdrawal of King Edward's School. These clubs continue to be provided with better services than ever before - bulletins that are gaining acclaim far and wide; congress reductions; strong congresses; healthy county teams at all player strength levels and an ever expanding junior organisation.

The LCA Bulletin continues to improve, with more annotated games from players at all levels. Some of the in-depth analysis from the Morecambe players in the current edition is excellent. **One sad note is that many Lancashire players are not yet subscribing to the bulletin; in fact, very very few Lancashire county players have yet subscribed, although revenue from the bulletin goes to support the county team costs. Other counties cover these costs by asking players to pay a rate to participate in county games; Lancashire would rather provide an excellent bulletin instead at a very reasonable price..**

Lancashire clubs have performed extremely well in the NCCU Centenary Club Championships. Morecambe overcame much fancied Hull to win the Open final, and Crusaders, having defeated fellow Lancastrians Heywood in the semi-final, have gone on to win the Major section final against Elmwood of Cleveland. Both clubs will receive £250 and a trophy. It is hoped that even more Lancashire Clubs will want to try their luck next year, when a new average u100 section will be added.

The Open County team sadly crashed to their first NCCU defeat in 9 years to Yorkshire. Lancashire also had to cede to Yorkshire in the U175's on goal difference. In the nationals the U175's went down fighting to Essex in the quarter finals. The U150, U125 and U100 teams also all progressed to the national knock-outs, the U150's and the U125's as NCCU Champions. Unexpectedly the U125's crashed out to Hertfordshire in the quarter finals, but the U150's and the U100's have progressed to the national semi-finals, playing Kent and Merseyside respectively. {Both teams progressed to the finals, the U150's losing on board count to Warwickshire, the U100's losing to Surrey}

As mentioned, the NCCU Centenary has taken place all season. Lancashire players have been acquitting themselves very well, with players in the leading positions in the congress grand prix and the rapidplay grand prix. There are only a few events outstanding in both competitions. Considering these events will be held again next year, could all club secretaries bring their member's notice to ensure maximum Lancashire involvement.

The NCCU Centenary Dinner will take place at Scarborough half way through the British Championships. Lancashire will be well represented.

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

a/ Mike Conroy's report to the secretary bemoaned the fact that on the day the rub of the green went all Yorkshire's way to give them their first Open victory against us in 10 years by 7-5. He would be happy to continue as captain if re-elected.

b/ The secretary reported that the U175's, captained by Armand Catz, had been defeated in a close quarter final against Essex by 9-7.

c/ The secretary reported that the U150's faced Kent in the semi-final after a one sided victory over Norfolk in the quarter finals. {The U150's defeated Kent on board count only to succumb to Warwickshire in the final by the same method}

d/ The secretary reported that the U125's had progressed to the quarter finals where they were heavily defeated by Hertfordshire. Five of Lancashire's top boards were involved in running the EPSCA finals, but Hertfordshire refused to change the allotted date.

e/ The secretary reported the team was through to the semi-finals to play Merseyside. {They won through to the final but were defeated 8-4 by Surrey}. The entire Lancashire team was made up of juniors.

f/ The correspondence captain (Roy Townsend) reported to the secretary that our national first division team is on 13/21 with five games to go. The NCCU first team stands on 3.5/5 (total 12 games), the second team on 4/7.

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

David Clayton reported another extremely successful Blackpool Congress, slightly down on last year (442 compared to the centenary's 482 entries) through having to contend with the miss-placement of the Doncaster Congress to the same weekend {The secretary has talked with Yorkshire officers and as a result the Doncaster congress will take place in February next year,}. However the congress made a surplus of just over £500 owing to slightly increased entry fees. It was pointed out by the organiser that entry fees are still considerably lower than for comparable events. The 1998 Chorley Congress increased in numbers to 202, and reported an healthy surplus of £200. Bill O'Rourke reported another successful 4th Heywood congress and rapidplay, both up in numbers (201 and 202 respectively). Although only a 50p reduction had been offered to LCA members, over 100 players took this option at both events. This "cost" the Heywood congress fund over £100, but was considered another worthy benefit to LCA members. Rochdale and Preston are to be approached to ask if they would consider giving a similar reduction to LCA members.

Dave Clayton proposed that the LCA treasurer formally joins the congress team as the congress treasurer. This was unanimously agreed. Another post of congress trophy officer is to be created, and Tony Rigby of Chorley will be approached to take up the post.

Mike O'Hara offered to take Chorley entry forms across to the British championships in Scarborough. The advert placed in the BCF yearbook marketing all Lancashire events (congresses, rapidplays and junior congresses) was considered a great success and would be repeated next year. The secretary proposed a vote of thanks to Dave Clayton and Ken McMahon, and this was passed unanimously.

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

In the absence of a report from the Junior Organiser, the secretary reported the following: The U9's had finished 9th in the British counties U9 final at Heywood, compared to 7th place last year. The U11's struggled at the U11 finals at Heywood and finished 12th. Both results baffled people involved with the Lancashire chess organisation, since both teams had performed so well in the qualifiers, with the U11's becoming North West champions and the U9's North West runners-up. The five junior congresses have boosted finances further. Next year several "coaching" days are being planned for our best youngsters, including a coaching and simultaneous game display by a Grandmaster, and volunteers from our county's best players are asked to put their name forward to give one day's training per year. Please contact Bill Winter. (see attached "Officers List" for addresses).

The NCCU U18 team jamboree was held at Lancaster Royal Grammar School on March 6th 1999, with Angela Hanley as the organiser. The event had run smoothly, but again it was felt that the Lancashire team had slightly under-performed against expectation. Next year the event will take place in Merseyside.

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

Nick Sinclair had put forward the following report: My second year as editor completed, I'm pleased to report the growing willingness of more people to help us with articles and games, be they experts or novices. Many thanks to those who have contributed so far. The meeting applauded the efforts of the editor and his sub-editors.

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

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

Preston took division one, with Lytham-Ex taking divisions two, three and four.

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

The secretary reported that Rochdale had won the first Division at their first attempt, but had been thwarted in an attempt to take the double when Heywood defeated them in the cup final. Nelson took the second division, and Preston B the third. Blackburn A took the subsidiary cup.

##### **c/ East Lancashire league**

Crusaders has ended Burnley's long winning streak by taking the first division. Blackburn A took division two and Great Harwood C division three. Crusaders completed the double by taking the cup, with Blackburn A taking the subsidiary cup. Ken Hoadley was Div. 1 player of the year, S. Ward in Div. 2 and Peter Harrington Div. 3.

##### **d/ Clubs**

Morecambe were new NCCU open Champions after an exciting win against much fancied Hull, and Crusaders the NCCU major Champions. Congratulations were offered to both clubs, who had won £250 and a trophy each. All games are covered in the LCA bulletin.

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

**11/ Appointment of Auditor**

David Lees has agreed to continue as auditor.

**12/ Subscriptions**

Upon the treasurer's recommendations, the meeting agreed that vice president's and full member's subscription rates will be raised from January 2000 to £30 and £15 respectively. For their £30, Vice-Presidents receive a BCF yearbook (£12 delivered), free bulletins delivered (£6.76), reductions to all Lancashire congresses and acknowledgement under the LCA section of the BCF yearbook. It was agreed that the bulletin should remain at £1.50. it was further agreed that from January 2000 club affiliation fees would rise to £20 from £15 for 15 members or more, and to £15 from £10 for less than 14 members.. Clubs are reminded that payment of this fee entitles ALL of it's members to reductions at Lancashire congresses; to free entry into the NCCU Congress and rapidplay Grand Prix; to one copy of each LCA bulletin being delivered free to the club; Finally it entitles that club's members to be picked for Lancashire.

**13/ Other Business - none**

**14/ Date of next meeting - Wednesday 15th September 1999 at 7.30, at Chorley Chess Club.**

**Date of next AGM - Wednesday 7th June 2000, 7 p.m. , Atherton**

**Late news - the secretary is sad to report that he has been informed ,by his wife, of the death of Lancashire Vice-President Brian Halliwell. Brian died suddenly on the 14th May. I have notified the Blackpool chess club (of which he was champion for many years). Members wishing to send condolences can contact Mrs. Halliwell at:**

**Waverlee, Great Heads Road, Grange-Over-Sands, Cumbria, LA11 7EA.**

# LANCASHIRE CHESS ASSOCIATION ELECTED OFFICERS 1999-2000

Founded circa 1897

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

**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, K. Gorman, G. Jones.

**Vice-Presidents:** E. Andersons, M. J. Conroy, L. Cutler, C. Murray, B. P. Dabulawicus, D. Hodges, J. Horner, J. Lyth, M. J. O'Hara, W. O'Rourke, C. Tillotson, V. Torney, R. Townsend, R. Wild.

**Full Members:** C. Bond, M. Bridges, S. Fanning, E. Gradwell, B. Hague, C. Healey, S. Horrocks, J. Lund, S. Parkinson

**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.

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

**U175 team Captain:** Armand Catz, 19 Dicken Green, Rochdale, Lancashire, OL16 5TJ Tel: 01706 669852

**U150 team Captain:** W. O'Rourke (see above);

**U125 team Captain:** Ken Mc.Mahon (see below).

**U100 team Captain:** Peter Dodsworth, 62 Kendall Road, Great Heaton, Higher Crumpsall, Manchester OL11 5DE  
Tel: 0161 795 4856

**Correspondence Captain:** Roy Townsend, 10 Hillside Walk, Blackburn, Lancashire BB1 2BQ.

Tel: 01254 602127

**Junior Organiser:** Bill Winter, 26 Alder Grove, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire FY6 8EH Tel: 01253 882306.

**U18 Manager:** Angela Hanley, 136 Coulston Road, Lancaster, Lancashire LA1 3AB. Tel: 01524 63803

**U14 Manager:** Steve Lamb, 37 Pheasant Wood Drive, Thornton, Cleveleys, Lancashire FY5 2AW

Tel: 01253 857072

**U12 Manager:** Mike Harris, 8 Oxford Road, Andsdell, Lytham St. Annes, Lancashire FY8 4EG

Tel: 01253 739031

**U11 Managers:** Carl Tillotson (see above) & Dave Gaston, 40 Plantation Road, Blackburn, Lancashire, BB2 4QA

Tel: 01254 673430

**U9 Manager:** Paul Smith, 39 Woodplumpton Lane, Broughton, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 5JJ Tel: 01772 861849.

**Congress Organiser:** Dave Clayton, 17 Bracken Close, Chorley, Lancashire PR6 0EJ. Tel: 01257 275053

**Congress Co-ordinator:** Ken Mc. Mahon, 66 Blackamoor Road, Guide, Blackburn, Lancashire Tel: 01254 725153

**Grade Co-ordinator:** Bill Winter ( see above).

**Vice-Presidents' Representative:** Jim Tennant-Smith, 268 Middleton Road, Heywood, Lancashire, OL10 2LG. Tel: 01706 369727

**Full Members' Representative:** Mick Bridges, 298 Burnley Road East, Waterfoot, Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 9HU  
Tel: 01706 223935

**Club Reps Committee:** Mick Bridges (Rawtenstall), Egons Andersons (Rochdale), Tony Rigby (Chorley).

**BCF Council Delegate:** Mike O'Hara, 878 St. Helens Road, Over Hulton, Bolton. BL5 1AA. Tel: 0120463275

**N.C.C.U. Delegates:** Mike O'Hara, W. O'Rourke (see above). Substitute Egons Andersons.

**Bulletin Editor:** Nick Sinclair, 289 Blackpool Road, Poulton-Le-Fylde, Lancashire. Tel: 01253 893170

**LCA Web Page Author:** Carl Tillotson ( <http://www.lancashirechess.demon.co.uk> ).