

LCA Annual General Meeting – 6 June 2001
The Atherton Arms, Atherton

Present: Bill O'Rourke, David Clayton, Egons Anderson, Rob Hart, Phil Raynor, Carl Tillotson & Simon Woodcock

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

It was mentioned that item 9a should read Preston not Morecambe.

It was proposed by Bill O'Rourke and seconded by Egons Anderson that that minutes, with the adjustment to item 9a, represented a true and accurate record.

2. Matters Arising from the Last Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last AGM.

3. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies from Armed Catz, Roy Townsend and Mike O'Hara.

4. Officers Reports

a. President

The President said he would not give a long report as most of the activities of the past year would be covered during the meeting. However, he did wish to emphasise that the county has 25 associated clubs, which is the second highest in the country.

On financial matters Bill was pleased to report that the main account now has a balance of £723, which represented a very healthy position. The junior account showed a deficit this year, this was due to reduced entries in junior congresses and extra team expenses.

The agreed transfer of £500 from the congress account to the main account was again able to take place this year as the finances of the congress account met its objectives. The President thanked all the organisers of the Lancashire Congresses for their work.

The President also thanked the junior team organisers and then summed up his report saying that the county had made cautious progress.

b. Treasurer

A report was given on behalf of the treasure. A report of the finances for 2001 was circulated to the meeting. The President said he was pleased that the Lancashire Congresses now have a treasurer and it was noticeable with the presentation of the Congress Account.

The recent problems with charging by Barclays for our use of their bank will now be refunded after the president had talked with the bank. David Clayton was tasked to write to the bank to ask them to change the contact point from himself to Simon Woodcock.

It was noted that only half the affiliation fees had been paid from clubs and vice presidents, those present were asked to chase up their own clubs if they have not yet paid their fees. The president would speak with treasurer Armand Catz and help him to speed up the process.

Egons Anderson asked what the current fees were. It was stated that the fees for clubs are £15 for those clubs with less than 15 members or £20 for those with 15 members or over. The fees for Vice Presidents being £30 and £15 for full members.

c. Secretary

There were no issues to be reported upon.

- 5 **Reports from County Team Managers**
 Open Lost 9-7 to Yorkshire in the qualifying round.
 U175 Lost 7-5 to Yorkshire.
 U150 Lost 7-5 to Yorkshire, a good result considering the 5 of the top 6 boards were unavailable.
 U125 After a win against Surrey in the quarterfinals we are due to play Cambridgeshire in the semi-finals. **{Went on to win national final under captaincy of Steve Fanning}**
 U100 The team have reached the semi-finals **{Went on to become national Runners-up under captaincy of Simon Rogers}**

Correspondence

The Ward Higgs current position: won 9, drawn 6 and lost 1.

The Brown pond current position: won 5, drawn 4 and lost 1.

In the NCCU competition, we have 2 wins in the Sinclair competition and the Turner plaque.

- 6 **Report of Congresses Organiser**
 The Chorley congress continues to attract around 160 entries and manages to break even. The 2001 Blackpool Congress increased in entrants again this year, second only to the 21st anniversary congress. The congress treasurer reported upon the status of the congress account, there are some outstanding cheques to be cleared there is a positive balance from the Blackpool conference. The congress director said there was an opportunity for someone to join the congress team to perform publicity, reporting and web page designing. Bill O'Rourke reported that the forth coming Heywood would reach its average of 140 entries. **{Actually 158}**

- 7 **Report of Junior Organiser**
 Carl Tillotson presented his report on junior congresses and the junior team, see attached. Phil Raynor said he would mail Carl with details of some schools that would offer free accommodation for junior congresses. Both Simon Woodcock and David Clayton said they would also provide Carl with contact points for potential venues.

- 8 **Report from the Bulletin editor**
 Bill O'Rourke reported on the bulletin on behalf of Nick Sinclair. He updated the meeting on the current issue and passed on Nick's thanks to all the subscribers.

9 **Reports from Lancashire Leagues and Clubs**

East Lancs.

1 st Division	Crusaders won the play off against Great Harwood on board count
2 nd Division	Great Harwood
3 rd Division	Clitheroe

Central Lancs

1 st Division	Crusaders A
2 nd Division	Chorley A
3 rd Division	Crusaders B

Blackpool and Fylde

Division A	Morecambe 1
Division B	Lytham Ex.
Division C	Poulton 3

NCCU Club Championship

Open	Morecambe beat Preston in the final {won £100 and £50 respectively}
Intermediate	Preston beat Heywood {won £100 and £50 respectively}

Rob Hart informed the meeting of the junior section of Chorley chess club. He mentioned that Mathew Turner from the BCF had presented the club with equipment supplied by the BCF, they have also received a grant from Chorley Borough council.

Egons Anderson mentioned about a school fund, he was asked to see if he could provide more details.

10 Election of Officers

Officers were elected to the following posts:

Post		Proposed	Seconded
President	Bill O'Rourke	S Woodcock	R Hart
Secretary	David Clayton	W O'Rourke	E Andersons
Treasurer	Armand Catz	W O'Rourke	C Tillotson
1 st . Team Captain	Mike Conroy	C Tillotson	S Woodcock
U175	Armand Catz	E Andersons	R Hart
U150	Bill O'Rourke	R Hart	C Tillotson
U125	Steve Fanning	E Andersons	S Woodcock
U100	Simon Rogers	P Raynor	W O'Rourke
Correspondence	Roy Townsend	W O'Rourke	C Tillotson
U18	Frank Gardner ?		
U14	Carl Tillotson		
U11	Carl Tillotson		
U9	Rob Hart	C Tillotson	W O'Rourke
Congress Director	David Clayton	R Hart	S Woodcock
Congress Treasurer	Simon Woodcock	R Hart	C Tillotson
Congress Trophy Holder	Egons Anderson	S Woodcock	P Raynor
LCA Grader	Geoff Jones	S Woodcock	R Hart
BCF Delegate	Mike O'Hara	E Anderson	C Tillotson
NCCU Delegates	Bill O'Rourke	P Raynor	R Hart
	Egons Anderson	S Woodcock	C Tillotson
Bulletin Editor	Nick Sinclair	W O'Rourke	P Raynor
LCA Web Master	Carl Tillotson	S Woodcock	E Andersons
Junior Web Master	Carl Tillotson	R Hart	W O'Rourke
Auditor	Peter Harrington	C Tillotson	W O'Rourke

It was proposed by Bill O'Rourke and seconded by Rob Hart that the posts of Full Member and Club representative be abolished at the end of the 2001-2002 season. This was passed unanimously.

Carl and Bill said they would try to find volunteers for the vacant junior posts.

12 Subscriptions 2001 and proposals for 2002

The President proposed that there be no change to the subscriptions for 2002, seconded by Egons Anderson. This was passed unanimously.

The fees for 2002 are as follows:

Clubs with 15 players or more	£20
Clubs with less than 15 players	£15
Vice Presidents	£30
Full Members	£15

13 Any Other Business

a. Arbiters Decisions at NYCA

Egons Anderson asked if we could challenge the pairing decision made by an arbiter at a NYCA event, our Junior Organiser had felt one of the rounds should have paired differently. It was suggested a letter be sent with next year's entry expressing our concern at the decision.

b. Pairings for the NCCU Club Competition

Egons Anderson asked if pairing for the above could alternate between home and away each year. Bill O'Rourke said he would consider this the next time the draw is made.

c. The Blackpool Hilton Chess Festival

The first Blackpool Hilton Chess Festival took place last August. There was internet chess, a playoff between clubs who won their local leagues, chess on computers and various simultaneous displays against GM Nigel Davies and Lancashire's best junior, Craig Hanley.

The organisers decided to build upon what was successful and add a one day rapid play and hold the event again this year, the weekend of 17-19th August.

d. GMCA & Manchester & District Chess League proposals.

The president informed the meeting of various letters and questionnaires that are being circulated regarding a possible merger between GMCA & MDCL. This could have implications upon some of the clubs associated to LCA.

The President said he would like to see any issues of this type to be discussed in the open and that the LCA should adopt a pro-active stance in any development in this area. He did not wish any debate to become acrimonious, which has happened in the past.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The following dates were agreed for the next meeting:

Wednesday 5 September 2001

Wednesday 5 December 2001

Wednesday 26 February 2002

The following date was set for next AGM:

Wednesday 5 June 2002

It was agreed that Atherton would be the venue for all meetings.