

Proposal by Mike Truran (Chairman of the Finance Committee), 4NCL, the Atkins Memorial Congress, the Coventry and District Chess League, e2e4 Chess, the Kidlington Chess Congress, the Leicestershire & Rutland Chess Association, the London Chess Classic, the Manchester Chess Federation, the Oxfordshire Chess Association and the Stockport and District Chess League

Council notes the following points in the election address of Roger Edwards:

- A. "I want to re-examine the membership scheme."
- B. "I want more autonomy for the various constituents of the ECF with less transferring of funds from one part to another. I feel that each part of the Federation be it the British Championships or Junior chess or any other should be self-financing."
- C. "I have always understood that grades are meant to indicate a player's strength, not to show that he or she has been well behaved and played in the right events. Grading should not be used as a political tool and I also believe that there should be more cooperation between the ECF grader and the Scottish and Welsh graders to make sure that all a player's games are included in order that the grade is as accurate as possible."

Council rejects these ideas for the following reasons respectively:

- A. The membership scheme has been introduced after extensive discussion, taking into account significant differing opinions, and the priority now is to implement the scheme successfully.
- B. There are now, and will be in the future, worthwhile activities which the ECF undertakes but which are unable to be self-financing and therefore which require financial support.
- C. The provision of Grading Services underpins the entire financing of the ECF. In order to maintain this it is necessary to ensure that all graded events apply the membership rules as laid down in order to be included in the grading list.

Accordingly, Council instructs the Board not to pursue these ideas.