

Chairman's Report for ECF Council

I was co-opted to the Board in November 2009 and was then appointed as Chairman following the formal creation of that position at the April Council meeting. Since joining the Board I have chaired one Council meeting, three face-to-face Board meetings and three Board teleconferences, as well as assisting in various administrative tasks.

During my term of office it became increasingly clear that a period of ill-health followed by the demands of a new day job made it impossible for me to acquit my duties on the Board in the way I would have wished. The work pressures have shown no sign of reducing and, given this, I decided that it would be inappropriate for me to put my name forward for re-election.

I would like to thank the other members of the Board, the office staff, Andrew Farthing and John Philpott for the great assistance which they have given me during my period in post. During the time I have been involved with the BCF and ECF I have known Boards whose work on behalf of English chess has been crippled by internal conflicts and personal pettiness. The current Board has not been one of them.

I wish my successor all good luck in helping ECF to face the challenges which the coming months will bring. I hope to continue to serve the Federation from outside the Board.

John Paines 15/10/10