

Name: David Eustace

Professional background and experience:

I am now retired after a career covering financial management, information technology, project delivery, operations, programme delivery strategy and major business transformation. For some twenty years I worked at senior executive and director level at a major energy utility in the UK and internationally.

I hold a first degree in economics and I am a fellow of the Association of the Certified Chartered Accountants.

Chess background:

It seems a life time ago that at the age of 8 I picked up a Pears Encyclopaedia from the school library and saw the game of chess. I was self taught player from that book and became a keen player in my teens and early twenties. I moved on to take a much greater interest in chess from the arbiting and organisational aspect. My home area is Essex where I held various roles in the past in junior chess, running tournaments and playing for local clubs and the county. I have also been involved international tournaments in the UK mainly in London, Jersey and Guernsey. I have held the ECF and International Arbiter titles. Unfortunately professional challenges resulted in reducing my involvement as the years moved on.

How can I help the ECF?

Well, obviously I have a long held interest in the game itself, its organisation and many years of business experience.

If successful in my application, I wish to ensure that I leave the ECF's financial position in a better place than when I started. Besides contributing to the overall management of the Federation, I see three keys themes:

- i. Sound financial procedures and practices – good governance
- ii. Put the annual operating finances on a robust footing – consistent breakeven or a surplus
- iii. Enhance the long term financial position – provide resources to take advantage of opportunities

Chris Mattos and John Philpott have made great progress in sorting out the accounts and providing the Board with much clearer financial information. I am very pleased that John wishes to continue to make more progress in this area as Financial Controller and that Chris, time strapped as he is, wishes to continue to be involved.

I wish to concentrate on the Federation's long term position. We need to address the 'charitable status' issue and the capital funding position in line with Council's aspirations.

This gives us an opportunity to have a small team of professionals to actively manage the Federation's finances and I believe that will be in its long term interests.