

**ENGLISH CHESS FEDERATION
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING B074, 4th August 2013**

B074

The 74th Meeting of the ECF Board was held at 9.30 am on Sunday 4th August 2013

Present:

Roger Edwards	RJE	President	from 11.46 Item 11
Mike Gunn	MG	Non-Executive Chairman	In Chair
Alex Holowczak	AH	Director of Home Chess	
David Openshaw	DO	Director of International Chess	
Phil Ehr	PE	Director of Junior Chess & Education	from Item 3
David Thomas	DT	Membership & Marketing Director	
Sean Hewitt	SH	Non-Executive Director	
Jack Rudd	JR	Non-Executive Director	from 12.00 Item 11.

In attendance:

Chris Majer	CMj	Chairman of the Governance Committee
John Philpott	JAP	Company Secretary and Financial Controller
David Eustace	DE	Minutes

Apologies:

Chris Mattos	CM	Director of Finance
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1. Apologises for absence

Apologises were recorded as above.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting B073 (13th July 2013)

- i. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed for accuracy.
- ii. The Publication version was agreed after deciding to include the item for salary increases.

3. Eligibility Criteria for International Selection for England and British Championships

After a discussion on the rules for selection it was agreed that DO would provide the history of the selection criteria for England teams by the November 2013 meeting.

Action: DO

It was also agreed to continue with the 2013 arrangement for the Tie-Break rule in qualification rounds for 2014.

Vote: Unanimous

Action ref.	Responsible official	Details of action	Update
		Eligibility Criteria for International Selection for England	

74.01	DO	To provide the history of the selection criteria for England teams by the November 2013 meeting.	Target:10.11.2013
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4. Status of Cheshire and North Wales

It was understood that some players within the area objected to being requested to become ECF members. The Board of the Welsh Union was subject to elections in the near future but had indicated that they would wish to discuss the issues. The ECF Board will await contact from the Welsh Union, probably in the autumn.

5. BICC Agreement / Procedures and request for a meeting

MG had consulted David Sedgwick, Stewart Reuben, David Anderton and Andrew Farthing on the status of this body. DA confirmed that it did not have a constitution, but there was an agreement; the arrangement was informal. It was agreed to have a meeting of the BICC subject to an agreed agenda, possibly in December. **Action: MG**

Action ref.	Responsible official	Details of action	Update
		Eligibility Criteria for International Selection for England	
74.02	MG	It was agreed to have a meeting of the BICC subject to an agreed agenda, possibly in December.	Target: 31.12.2013

6. Financial Position and Motion from DO

JAP reported the following:

- i. Game Fee. The final position was still uncertain and he intended to maintain a neutral position against the budget for the moment.
- ii. British Championship Accounts. There had been a very high level of entries; although the event was in progress and there remained a number of uncertainties the surplus, taking into account the £7,500 income earmarked from the payment received from the pension trustees of Martin Hawes, was unlikely to be less than £7,500. The Board agreed that as the Hawes funding was a contingent amount to ensure that the hire of the Riviera Centre could be covered; this amount should be returned to the general funds.

DO's motion had originally been articulated as:

- a) "50% of any surplus over budget (up to a maximum £5,500) from April 13 to September 13 should be allocated to the International Fund."
- b) If the above motion passed then it needed to be placed before Council. (the sum requested was reduced to £4,000 so that it was within the Board's competence)
- c) Request members when renewing subscriptions to ask for donations. SH advised that this had already been included in the request for renewals of subscriptions, but he would

revise the wording.

It was agreed that 50% of any surplus over budget (up to a maximum of £4,000) in the 16 month period from May 2012 to August 2013 would be allocated to the International Fund.

Vote: Unanimous

Action: CM / JAP

Action ref.	Responsible official	Details of action	Update
		Allocation of 50% of any surplus over budget to the International Fund.	
74.03	CM / JAP	It was agreed that 50% of any surplus over budget (up to a maximum of £4,000) in the 16 month year from April 2012 to August 2013 would be allocated to the International Fund.	

7. ECF Arbiter Appointment

Appointment of Phil Thomas. It was agreed to defer this appointment until the September meeting.

8. ECF Bursary Fund

The supporting paper had previously been circulated. The arrangements were agreed.

9. Review of Regulation No 2 (directors' / officers' responsibilities)

The revised text of Regulation No2 based on the current Articles was approved for publication with the election notice. It was agreed that CMj would prepare a paper setting out the revisions to the Regulations that would apply if the changes to the Articles were approved, including a role description for the proposed Commercial Director position, (excluding the responsibility for the website) and removal of the post of Non-Executive Chairman.

Action: CMj

Action ref.	Responsible official	Details of action	Update
		Review of Regulation No 2 (directors' / officers' responsibilities)	
74.04a	CMj	Prepare a paper setting out the revisions to the Regulations that would apply if the changes to the Articles were approved, including a role description for the proposed Commercial Director position, (excluding the responsibility for the website) and removal of the post of Non-Executive Chairman.	Target: papers for the AGM meeting

74.04b	JAP	Publish the revised text of Regulation No 2 on the website at the same time as the election notice	
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10. Revised Complaints Procedure

It was agreed that CMj would redraft the current version of the procedure, rewording the clause "an officer acting in his official capacity", adding a time limit on a complaint and including a £25 fee.

Action ref.	Responsible official	Details of action	Update
		Revised Complaints Procedure	
74.05	CMj	Redraft the current version of the procedure, rewording the clause "an officer acting in his official capacity", adding a time limit on a complaint and including a £25 fee.	Target:

11. Problems with free Silver Membership for First Time Juniors

It was agreed that DT would set up a meeting to discuss membership issues with the interested parties. **Action: DT**

SH indicated that he would not be standing for re-election and he would not be seeking an alternative Board position.

Action ref.	Responsible official	Details of action	Update
		Problems with free Silver Membership for First Time Juniors	
74.06	DT	Set up a meeting to discuss membership issues with the interested parties.	Target:

12. Charge for Diary

It was agreed to increase the charge for the diary from £3 to £3.50.

13. Endsleigh Insurance

It was agreed that CM would discuss with Endsleigh if appropriate. **Action: CM**

Action ref.	Responsible official	Details of action	Update
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		Endsleigh Insurance	
74.07	CM	To discuss with Endsleigh if appropriate.	

14. Any Other Business

- i. A member had raised a concern over the content of the Think Drink products. It was agreed to take no action.
- ii. PE advised that Andrew Paulson had expressed an interest in meeting with members of the Board with a view to standing for senior office.
- iii. It was agreed that the following organisations were admitted membership:
 - Oxfordshire Sunday League
 - Witney Rapid Play
 - Witney Weekend Congress (new event)

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Sunday 8th September by Skype.

The meeting closed at 12.30 pm

Approved.....

Mike Gunn

Chairman

Date.....

Schedule of Future Board Meetings:

The second Sunday of each month at **19.30** by teleconference (Skype) unless agreed otherwise.

Sunday - 8th September at 7.30 by Skype

13th October

10th November

8th December