

**ENGLISH CHESS FEDERATION
FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING 18 APRIL 2015**

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Council will be held at the Ibis Hotel, Ladywell Walk, Arcadian Centre, Birmingham B5 4ST on Saturday 18 April 2015 starting at 1.30 pm.

The Procedural Bye Laws prescribe that the Chairman of the meeting shall seek to end the meeting by 6:00 p.m.; but it may be extended to 6:30 p.m. if Members wish. Further extensions can be made if Council votes to suspend standing orders.

This meeting is convened by John Philpott, Company Secretary. This Agenda is issued from the English Chess Federation Office (The Watch Oak, Chain Lane, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0YD) on Wednesday 25 March 2015.

Members considering the appointment of a proxy or voting by directed proxy to the Chairman of the Meeting are directed to the relevant enclosure and should note that deadlines apply to the receipt of written proxies of all kinds.

Any organisation wishing to change its Representative Member should note that they must do so before 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday 15 April 2015.

In order to expedite the business of the meeting, Members are invited to contact the ECF Office beforehand should they have any questions of detail on the papers for the meeting, particularly the Budget Spreadsheet.

Enclosures:

- (i) The Agenda
- (ii) Attendance reply slip, appointment of proxy form

Please note that as a cost saving measure only a minimal set of paperwork has been mailed. The full set of paperwork will be published on the ECF website at http://www.englishchess.org.uk/?page_id=897 by no later than noon on Saturday 28 March 2015.

Should you require to be mailed a paper copy of the documentation please contact the ECF Office.

Agenda items have been annotated as follows

- * Paper expected to be available for download on 28 March 2015

Venue Information

Parking: There is a "Chinatown" multi-story car park opposite.

Accessibility: The venue is wheelchair accessible via the main entrance.

Refreshments: Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

AGENDA

1. Appointment of Chairman

In the absence of the President the Board recommends **that Council appoints John Foley, one of the Non-Executive Directors, to chair the meeting**".

2. Notices

2.1 Location of printed lists of Apologies for Absence, Members voting by individual Proxy and Members voting by Proxy to the Chairman of the Meeting.

2.2 Announcement of others in attendance with the permission of the Chairman

2.3 Appointment of Tellers

2.4 Voting Register *

Council is invited to note the Voting Register and any amendments thereto.

3. Approval and, if necessary, correction of minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council held on 11 October 2014 *

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, resolve: ***"That the Chairman of the meeting shall sign the minutes as being an accurate record."***

4. Matters Arising from these Minutes and not otherwise on the agenda

5. Approval of the ECF accounts *

David Eustace

Council is invited to approve the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2014

6. Report of the Chairman of the Finance Committee *

Mike Truran

Council is invited to note the report

7. Strategy statement *

Phil Ehr

Council is invited to approve the strategy statement

8. Independent Constitutional and Governance Review Commission

Council is invited to receive an oral report from Gareth Pearce, Commission Chair

9. National Chess Library *

Phil Ehr

Update on the position and the options.

10. **Report of Finance Director and Budget 2015/2016 ***

David Eustace

Council is invited to note the report.

11. **Proposal by William Armstrong (Direct Members' representative) and Andrew Leadbetter (representative member of the Staffordshire County Chess Association)**

"That in fixing membership fees, the ECF should narrow the gap between Bronze and Silver so that eventually the two categories can be merged into one".

12. **Direct Members' Subscriptions ***

Council is invited to consider the levels of subscriptions proposed by the Board and, if thought fit, resolve: ***"That subscriptions for the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016 be set at the following levels:***

Platinum: £60 (unchanged)

Gold: £32 (Junior £26) (currently £28 (Junior £22))

Silver: £22 (Junior £16) (currently £19 (Junior £13))

Bronze: £15 (Junior £11) (currently £13 (Junior £9))

13. **Minimum Membership Fees for Member Organisations**

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, resolve ***"That the minimum Membership Fee for Member Organisations increases from £58 to £60."***

14. **Determination of Game Fee**

The Board's proposes that

(a) The Game Fee rate for League, County and Club games be increased to £2.50 for standardplay and £1.25 for rapidplay (the 2014/15 rates were £2 and £1 respectively)

(b) The Game Fee for exclusively junior events be increased to 60p for standardplay and 30p for rapidplay (the 2014/15 rates were 50p and 25p respectively)

The pay to play fee for non-FIDE-rated Congresses that are not exclusively junior would be set as the difference between silver and bronze adult and junior memberships as determined under item 10. The pay to play fee proposed for FIDE-rated Congresses under item 15 shall, if approved, be determined in that item.

Unless there is overwhelming support for the Board's proposals on a show of hands, a card vote will be held to fix the rates on the basis of the median of the votes cast.

15. **Introduction of a Pay to Play Fee for FIDE-rated events ***

David Thomas

The Board proposes that **"a Pay-to-Play fee equal to the difference between Silver and Gold membership rates be levied on each England-registered player in an event submitted for FIDE rating through the Federation who is not a Gold or Platinum member of the Federation, that for members holding Silver membership this payment shall be treated as an upgrade of such membership to Gold, and that the existing policy of requesting FIDE to delist such players be discontinued."**

16. Adoption of Budget for 2015/16

David Eustace

Council is invited to consider and, if though fit, adopt the budget for the financial year from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016.

17. Olympiad budget for 2016/17

David Openshaw

Council is invited to approve the 2016/17 Olympiad budget of £36,000 expenditure and £2,500 income.

18. Amendments to the Procedural Byelaws *

Chris Majer

Council is asked to consider and if thought fit approve the amendments to Byelaw No. 3 The Procedural Byelaws set out in the attached paper

19. Amendments to Regulations *

Council is asked to note:

19.1 Regulation No. 4 Standards of Conduct for ECF Officials which the Board approved on 16 February 2015.

19.2 Regulation No. 5 ECF Complaints Procedure which the Board approved on 16 February 2015

20. Proposal by the Board to discontinue the printed Yearbook and Diary after 2016. * Phil Ehr

21. Discussion item requisitioned for the AGM, but deferred to the present meeting by the Devon County Chess Association, Bristol & District Chess League, Torbay Chess League, Royal Beacon Seniors Congress and Barnstaple Chess Club for members of Council to discuss how their groups use Game Fee to help the ECF identify any problems that might need to be resolved before Game Fee can be phased out in favour of a pure membership scheme *

22. Any Other Business of which notice has been given to the Chairman of the Meeting or Company Secretary before the start and which is of a minor nature only.

Matters of substance may not be raised under this heading, except in terms of information or a preliminary notification of important business for a future Meeting.

British Chess Extraordinary Council Meeting

An Extraordinary Council Meeting of the British Chess Federation will take place during the afternoon adjournment of the English Chess Federation Finance Council Meeting. The agenda for the BCF meeting is being sent to the members of the BCF Council (effectively the ECF Officers, Constituent Units and County Associations), and only these members are entitled to vote at this meeting. However, all members of the ECF Council who are not also members of the BCF Council are welcome to be in attendance. Papers for the BCF Council meeting can also be downloaded from the website at the same URL.