

## **Election address of ADRIAN ELWIN for the position of Home Chess Director**

I have for many years played a part in the organisation of Milton Keynes Chess Club, Bedfordshire County Chess Association and the East Anglian Chess Union, giving me an insight to the problems that these organisations have to deal with. My job as a Software Engineering contractor has stopped me from taking a more active part at national level. My recent retirement allows me to put myself forward for the Home Chess Director position.

### **Chess CV**

Milton Keynes Chess Club :- 30 years involvement including Treasurer, Tournament Controller and team captain.

Bedfordshire:- County Chairman and League Controller

EACU :- Chief Arbiter

ECF :- Current Platinum representative (I intend to resign this position if elected as holding both positions would be a conflict of interests). County Championship Controller 2010-11.

ECF Arbiter since 2000, IA awarded 2017.

### **Moving Forward**

#### **British Chess Championship**

The move to a 9-day format has proved successful in persuading more Grandmasters to play in the Championship and consequently increased the status of the Championship itself. More work needs to be done to attract stronger players to the Major Open and to ensure that a family-friendly atmosphere attracts more junior players.

#### **County Championship**

The flagship Open section has seen a decline in entries over the last 10-15 years. The outgoing Home Chess Director has balloted the counties as to how to combat this, and to improve the county situation generally, but has not been successful in finding a consensus. A more general discussion needs to take place as to why the previous ballots failed to find a solution.

#### **Arbiters**

The introduction of regular Arbiter courses has led to a welcome increase in the number of level 1 arbiters. However, this increase has highlighted a shortage of Assessors and Lecturers which still needs to be addressed.

I look forward to working with the other post holders reporting to the Home Director where I expect to be consulting with them as to how to help them perform their roles more effectively. I also look forward to working with the other members of the board on activities such as sponsorship, international congresses and supporting both junior and senior international competitions.