

## **Agenda for the ECF Finance Meeting of 23 April 2022 commencing at 1.30pm**

To be held at Broadway Conference Centre, Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NQ  
and also with access for representatives via Zoom

### **1. Appointment of Chairman**

If the Chairman of Council is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting then Council shall elect one of its members to chair the meeting.

### **2. Observation of a minute's silence**

For colleagues who have died since the last meeting

### **3. Notices**

#### **(a) Representatives are directed to the ECF website for the following information:**

- Details of voting entitlements;
- Apologies for absence;
- Members voting by individual proxy;
- Members voting by Proxy to the Chairman of the Meeting.

[In new Council Database]

#### **(b) Announcement of others in attendance with the permission of the Chairman.**

#### **(c) Appointment of Tellers.**

The Chairman will suggest names of possible tellers in advance of the meeting, who will then have had time to familiarise themselves with the process. The Chairman will ask Members to accept these tellers or bring forward alternative names.

### **4. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 16 October 2021**

Approval and if necessary amendment of the minutes

Council resolves that the Chairman of the meeting shall sign the minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 16 October 2021 as being an accurate record.
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[Paper C36.4]

### **5. Motion to allow Council Meetings to be made public via internet.**

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, resolve:

THAT this and future Council Meetings shall be made public via an internet access.
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*This item arises from a request during the Any Other Business of the last meeting. If passed by Council the Zoom link for the meeting with joining instructions will be immediately published on the ECF Website and best endeavours will also be made after the meeting to make the Zoom recording available.*

### **6. Matters Arising from these Minutes and not otherwise on the agenda.**

## 7. Finance Director's Report and Draft Annual Accounts

To receive the Finance Director's Report and the Draft Accounts for the ECF year ended 31 August 2021. Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit resolve:

THAT Council receives and accepts the draft financial accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021.

[Papers C36.7(1) and C36.7(2)]

## 8. Fees

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, resolve:

THAT ECF membership fees for direct members and member organisations and that game fees are changed from 2021-22 as follows:

Fee	2021-22	2022-23
Platinum	75.00	75.00
Junior Platinum	75.00	75.00
Gold	39.00	39.00
Junior Gold	19.50	19.50
Silver	27.00	27.00
Silver Junior	6.00	6.00
Bronze	18.00	18.00
Bronze Junior 6.00	6.00	
FIDE Rated Pay to Play	11.00	12.00
Congress Pay to Play	9.00	9.00
Congress Pay to Play Junior	2.50	2.50
Non-Members Game Fee	18.00	18.00
Non-Members Game Fee Junior	6.00	6.00
Member Organisations	64.00	64.00

*Note: In fact only the FIDE Rated Pay to Play figure has changed.*

## 9. Budget

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, resolve:

THAT Council accepts the budget proposals for 2022-23 as set out in the Finance Director's documents [C34.9(1) and C34.9(2)]

[Papers C36.9(1) and C36.9(2)]

## 10. Permanent Investment Fund

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, approve the Special Resolution:

THAT, conditional on the BCF resolving to donate to the Chess Trust the assets of the Permanent Investment Fund No. 1 and of the Permanent Investment Fund No. 2, article 1.1 of the articles of association of the Company be amended by removing references to "Trustees" from the Articles, specifically:

- (a) deleting the defined term "the Trustees" in Article 1.1
- (b) deleting the words "the Trustees;" in the definition of "Full Members".
- (c) deleting in the definition of Requisitionists subparagraph (e) and in subparagraph (i) the words "any two of a Trustee," and relettering the sub paragraphs appropriately;
- (d) In Article 4(2) deleting the words "or one of the Trustees" and "or Trustee";
- (e) In Article 5 deleting sub paragraph 5(10), renumbering appropriately;
- (f) In Article 7 deleting the phrase "the Trustees;"
- (g) In Article 9 deleting the phrase "the Trustees,;"

## 11. Blitz Games

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, approve the ordinary resolution:

THAT the game fee for ECF rated over the board blitz events be set as below, with enabling amendments to the Game Fee Bye Laws as detailed in the Game Fee Bye Law changes paper.

(A) ECF rated blitz events (leagues and internal club competitions) – There will be no charge for rating blitz games played by bronze members or above. Players not meeting the bronze member requirement will be exempt from game fee for their first 18 games in that league/event (ie 3 times the number of games allowed for rapid events) – but once they play an additional game they become liable for a Game Fee equal to the current bronze or junior bronze membership cost (ie £18.00 if an adult, £6.00 if a junior)

(B) ECF rated Open Blitz Congresses - There will be no charge for rating blitz games played by silver members or above. Players not meeting the silver member requirement will be liable for a charge of the difference between bronze and silver membership (currently £9) per event, whether the player is adult or junior, except for junior only events where the charge is £2.50. In those cases where a charge of £9 applies and the player is already a (Junior) Bronze member, their membership will be upgraded to (Junior) Silver.

AND THAT

Any charges for blitz game fees are deferred until a date to be determined by the board after the first Over the Board blitz rating lists are published with no retrospective charges for games played before the first list is published.

[Papers C36.11(1) Blitz Games Fee Background and C36.11(2) Game Fee Bye Law Changes]

## 12. Modification of the Voting Register during the Year

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, approve the Special Resolution:

THAT the articles of association of the Company be amended by:

(a) deleting the current wording of article 22 and replacing it with: "The chairman of Council shall by no later than 10<sup>th</sup> September in each year, or such other date as Council may determine by ordinary resolution, publish a base register of voting entitlement for the 12 month period commencing on the next succeeding 1<sup>st</sup> October. Such register shall form the basis of a specific register to be prepared in respect of each general meeting to be held in the period. Each specific register shall initially be published no later than the date on which formal notice is given of the relevant general meeting and may be amended prior to the meeting. A specific register shall reflect (i) all changes in membership that occur 72 hours or more before the specified start time of the relevant meeting and (ii) all assignments, rescissions of assignment and replacements of assignment that have taken effect under article 32 by such specified start time".

(b) deleting in article 32 the words "on publication of the next voting register" and replacing them with "72 hours after receipt".

Paper C36.12-17 Proposed Constitutional Amendments

## 13. Change to Deadline for Proxy Notification

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, approve the Special Resolution:

THAT the articles of association of the Company be amended by inserting in article 37(3) after the words "not less than 48 hours" the words "(or such shorter period specified in the notice of meeting)".

Paper C36.12-17 Proposed Constitutional Amendments

## 14. Casual Vacancies for Direct Member Representatives

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, approve the special resolution:

THAT the Articles of Association of the Company be amended by deleting article 14 and replacing it with the following: "Where an elected Direct Members' Representative vacates office during a term of office and such vacancy arises on or before 31<sup>st</sup> January in the relevant term, a bye-election in respect of the remainder of such term shall be held as soon as reasonably practicable in accordance, mutatis mutandis, with the provisions for elections set out in the Direct Members Bye Laws".

Paper C36.12-17 Proposed Constitutional Amendments

## 15. Duties of Direct Members' Representatives

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, approve the ordinary resolution:

THAT the Direct Members Bye Laws be amended by inserting as paragraph 5.3 (and re-numbering the existing paragraph 5.3 as paragraph 5.4) the following: "Direct Members' Representatives shall represent the interests of the Direct Members of the relevant category, consult with them in relation to material agenda items at general meetings of the Company and any other relevant matters of substance and shall, when exercising their speaking, voting and other rights at such general meetings, bear in mind the views expressed by those consulted".

Paper C36.12-17 Proposed Constitutional Amendments

## 16. Direct Member Representatives to be in the Class they represent

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, approve the ordinary resolution:

THAT the Direct Members' Bye Laws be amended by inserting as a fourth sentence in paragraph 5.2: "A person is only eligible for election or re-election if at the time of election or, as the case may be, re-election they are a Direct Member of the relevant category of membership".

Paper C36.12-17 Proposed Constitutional Amendments

## 17. Board Members not to be Direct Member Representatives

Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit, approve the ordinary resolution:

THAT the Direct Members Bye Laws be amended by adding as a final sentence in paragraph 5.2: "A person is ineligible for election or re-election if at the time of the relevant election or, as the case may be, re-election they are a Director. With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2022, if a Direct Members' Representative becomes a Director then their office as a Direct Members' Representative shall be automatically vacated with effect from midnight of the date of their becoming a Director".

[Paper C36.12-17 Proposed Constitutional Amendments]

## 18. Rolling Membership

Council is invited to consider and approve the Board's plan

that the ECF moves from fixed membership years (1 September – 31 August) to rolling membership years (new/rejoining members receive a full year's membership regardless of (re)joining date).

[Papers C36.18(1) Move to a Rolling Membership  
and C36.18(2) Notes on Rolling membership (from Dave Thomas)]

## 19. Revision of Regulations

Council is asked to note revised versions of:

(a) Regulation 2: The Directors and Officers Responsibilities

[Paper C36.19(2)]

(b) Regulation 4: Standards of Conduct for ECF Officials

[Paper C36.19(4)]

(c) Regulation 5: ECF Complaints Procedure

[Paper C36.19(5)]

## 20 Ukraine

*The motions below were originally proposed by the Durham County Chess Association and seconded by Tim Wall, ECF Silver Members' Representative. Unfortunately they were received out of time and so are here formally proposed by the Chair. The Chair will invite the original proposers to present the resolutions.*

(A) Council is invited to consider, and if thought fit, approve the ordinary resolution:

THAT the ECF calls for the immediate resignation of FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich over his involvement with the regime of Russian President Vladimir Putin, which by its barbaric invasion of Ukraine and mass murder of Ukrainian civilians has put itself outside the civilised world community. Council believes that Mr. Dvorkovich's longstanding involvement in Putin's government as Deputy Prime Minister from 2012-18, including during Russia's illegal annexation and occupation of Crimea and involvement in conflict in Eastern Ukraine from 2014 onwards – the precursor to the 2022 escalation of war in Ukraine – makes him unfit to hold the post of FIDE President.

Council further calls for an extraordinary FIDE Congress to be urgently convened to elect a new FIDE President. We believe this is in the best interests of the game, allowing chess to remove the taint of association with a murderous regime as we seek to grow the game worldwide on the principles of peaceful cooperation and respect for human rights.

(B) Council is invited to consider, and if thought fit, approve the ordinary resolution:

THAT Council sends its solidarity to the people of Ukraine as they face an unprecedented and barbaric military onslaught by Russian President Vladimir Putin and his regime, and requests the ECF Board to implement an emergency programme to offer whatever material humanitarian assistance the ECF can to help our colleagues in the Ukrainian Chess Federation.

[Papers C36.20 Background Paper on the Ukraine Resolution]

## 21. Any Other Business

To consider any other business, notice of which has been given to the Chairman of the Meeting 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.

*Note:*

*Council representatives are entitled to appoint a proxy. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. Notification of proxies must be received by the end of Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April using the form of words in the Articles of Association (and notified separately to members in the letter accompanying this agenda).*