

**Report of the ECF Non-Executive Directors,
Julian Clissold, Stephen Woodhouse, and Natasha Regan
Report to Council October 2022**

1 Board Meetings and Composition

1.a The Board has met eight times since the last report to Council. All but two of those meetings were on Zoom. Two face-to-face meetings were held in London and Birmingham. There was an average attendance approaching 80% with six of the current Board having 100% attendance. Attendance figures were adversely impacted by the long-term illness of one member. Adjusting for his absence results in an average attendance of 88%

1.b The Board was pleased to welcome Aga Milewska as Director of Women's Chess following a period acting as alternate for the previous Director of Women's Chess.

1.c The terms of four current Board Members finish in October 2022:

Shohreh Bayat	Director of Events	Standing
Julian Clissold	NE Chair	
Malcolm Pein	International Director	Standing
Stephen Woodhouse	NE Director	Standing for NE Chair

2. Board Performance

2.1 The NEDs are pleased to report that the Board has operated constructively and positively throughout the year.

2.2 Board members have worked effectively together with each other and in supporting the other volunteers and related organisations who are essential to enabling the ECF to achieve its objectives of developing and advancing chess in England. This benefits current members and also lays the ground for the long-term future health of the ECF by creating the conditions for the dynamic development of juniors and capitalising on the opportunities for extending all forms of OTB and online chess.

2.3 This has also enabled the Board to work in a manner satisfying the expectations of members and the Corporate Governance Committee.

- 2.4 In addition, there has been positive interaction between the Board and the trustees of the Chess Trust and the John Robinson Youth Chess Trust, demonstrating the key roles of all these bodies in the future of English chess.
- 2.5 Overall, there has been strong Board progress over the course of the year as set out more fully in the Board report to Council.
- 2.6 The NEDs are pleased to report that England has achieved notable international success this year including at Junior and Senior age groups. In the UK there were successful OTB tournaments including the British Championships, and there have been an increased number of GM, IM, WGM and WIM norm events giving English players more opportunities to gain international titles

English Chess Federation Non-Executive Directors

ECF NE Chair Julian Clissold
ECF NE Directors Natasha Regan
Stephen Woodhouse

18th September 2022