



## **Agenda (updated) for the ECF Finance Meeting of 27 April 2024 commencing at 1.30pm**

To be held by video-conference only. Access for representatives will be via Zoom only.

### **1. Appointment of Chair**

If the Chair 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 Chair of the Meeting.

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

***(c) Appointment of Tellers***

As the meeting will be held entirely via video conference the electronic voting system will be utilized. Therefore, the appointment of Tellers is not required.

### **4. Minutes of the Last Meeting Held on 14 October 2023**

(Paper C40.4)

Approval and, if necessary, amendment of the minutes

Council resolves that the Chair of the meeting shall sign the minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 14 October 2023 as being an accurate record.
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### **5. Matters Arising from These Minutes and not Otherwise on the Agenda**

## **6. Annual Accounts and Finance Director's Report**

(Paper C40.5a)

- i. To receive the Annual Accounts for the ECF year ended 31 August 2023. Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit resolve:

That Council receives and accepts the financial accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023.

(Paper C40.5b)

- ii. To receive the Finance Director's Report for the ECF for the year ended 31 August 2023. Council is invited to consider and, if thought fit resolve:

That Council receives the Finance Director's report for the year ended 31 August 2023.

## **7. Budget**

[Paper C40.6]

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

THAT Council accepts the budget proposals for 2024-25 as set out in the Finance Director's documents.

## **8. Report of the Chair of the Finance Committee**

[Paper C40.7]

## **9. Presentation on the Use of the Grant from the DCMS**

**Note:** Please read for the purposes of resolutions 10 and 13 the attached paper

### **Explanatory Note on Constitutional Proposals**

[Paper C40.8]

### **Compared Articles for resolutions 11 and 13**

[Paper C40.10]

## 10. Rolling Membership Resolutions

(i) This Resolution is proposed as a special resolution:

THAT the articles of association of the ECF be amended by deleting the existing wording of article 18 (5) and replacing it with “Determination of the Membership Fee to be charged for each category of Direct Member for membership periods commencing between 1<sup>st</sup> September next, (or, if Council so determines in any year, an earlier date up to two months before to be determined by the Board), and 31<sup>st</sup> August of the following year.

(ii) Resolution to be proposed as an ordinary resolution:

THAT The Direct Members Bye Laws be amended by:

- (a) deleting the second paragraph of clause 2 and replacing it with the following: “The membership period in respect of a new Direct Member, or an existing Direct Member renewing for a higher category of membership, shall be for a period of 12 months commencing on the first day of the calendar month in which they join or, as the case may be, renew. The membership period for a renewing member for the same or lower category of membership shall, provided that renewal is effected no later than one month after expiry of their then current membership, be for a period of 12 calendar months commencing immediately on expiry of the expired membership period. If renewal is not effected within such one month period, then the application for membership shall be treated in the same way as an application by a new Direct Member.”
- (b) replacing all references, whether capitalised or not, to “grading” or “graded” to “rating” and “rated” respectively; and
- (c) deleting the schedule to the Bye Laws.

## 11. Amendment to Implement Abolition of Organisation Membership Fee and Having Clubs as Members

[Paper C40.9]

The attached paper entitled “Proposals to Extend Club Representation, Abolish Council Membership Fees, and Update Council Membership Arrangements” explains the changes proposed by the Board for the abolition of the organisation membership fee and the mechanism for allowing clubs as members.

You will also find attached the articles of association marked up to show the proposed amendments.

The following resolution shall be proposed as a special resolution:

THAT the articles of association of the company be amended as set out in the marked-up draft articles of association signed by the Chair of the meeting for the purposes of identification.

## 12. Membership Fees

After the review the Board has agreed the Membership Rates for 2024-25 the figures given below, including Game Fee and Pay-to-Play fees etc. The fees below will be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024. In addition to merging the Silver and Gold membership categories, the table below shows a price increase of £2 for each membership category.

Categories	Current price	Following merger of Silver/Gold	After Price Increase
	£	£	£
Bronze	18.00	18.00	20.00
Silver (discontinued)	27.00	N/A	N/A
Gold	39.00	N/A	N/A
Platinum	75.00	75.00	77.00
Supporter	10.00	10.00	12.00
Junior Silver (discontinued)	6.00	N/A	N/A
Junior Gold	19.50	N/A	N/A
Junior Platinum	75.00	75.00	77.00
New adult Gold (merged with silver)		33.00	35.00
New junior Gold (merged with silver)		10	12

The Board is proposing the following changes to Pay to Play Fees and Game Fees:

Other Charges	Current	Proposed from 01/07/24	Explanation
FIDE rated pay to play	12	N/A	No distinction between FIDE and non-FIDE events following silver/gold merger
Congress pay to play fee	9	15	Difference between bronze and new gold
Congress pay to play (junior)	2.50	3.00	
FIDE admin fee – players who are non-ENG federation and not gold members	1.50	1.50	No change
Non-members game fee	18	20	New bronze rate

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Non-members game fee (junior)	6	12	New junior rate
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**Note:** If the motion in Item 11 above is not passed the organisation membership fee will be increased by £2 from £64 to £66.

**13. Amendments to Procedural Bye-laws**

[Paper C40.10]

THAT Bye Law No 3 (the Procedural Bye Laws) be amended by:

- (a) deleting the last sentence of paragraph 2.1 and replacing it with “For the purposes of this paragraph 2.1 if a meeting is held virtually, it shall be deemed not to have taken place for the purposes of the operation of the meetings cycle.
- (b) deleting sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 12.6 (and re-lettering the existing sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) accordingly); and
- (c) in paragraph 12.7, deleting the wording from “indicating” to the end and replacing it with “...indicating the Post for which they are nominated and the name of their proposer or proposers but only the proposer or proposers that sufficed for the candidate to be duly nominated.”

**14. Grassroots Chess Initiatives**

Paper by the Director of Home Chess

[Paper C40.11]

**15. Any Other Business**

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

**16. Date of Next Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024 in London.

*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 24<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).*