# Welsh Correspondence Chess Federation

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held 31st April 2016

Although planned to be held on 30th April at the Park Inn, Telford, unfortunately Mark Adams was unavoidably forced to withdraw for health reasons, leaving only Russell Sherwood and Austin Lockwood as confirmed participants. Under the circumstances, it was agreed that the meeting would be arranged for the following day as a Skype call.

### Present

* Russell Sherwood
* Austin Lockwood

### 1. Apologies

* Marc Wakeham
* Mark Adams
* Peter Bevan

### 2. Minutes of the 2015 AGM

The minutes of the 2015 AGM were accepted as a true record.

### 3. Election of Officers

* **President:** Peter Bevan (unopposed and unanimous)
* **Secretary:** Austin Lockwood (unopposed and unanimous)
* **International Secretary and Delegate to ICCF:** Russell Sherwood (unopposed and unanimous)
* **Treasurer:** Russell Sherwood (unopposed and unanimous)

### 4. Review of Responsibilities/Distribution of Workload

All officials are encouraged to participate in the activities of WCCF

### 5. Financial Report

The federation is in good financial health, there being approximately £1,300 in the current account. This is remarkable following the organisation of the 2015 ICCF Congress, and possible due to generous donations from the English and Scottish federations and our member organisations.

1. **Expense Claims (attendance at AGM, representation at ICCF Congress):** It was agreed that WCCF officials should be able to claim reasonable expenses related to their duties, depending on available finances. As the AGM was held over Skype there were no travelling expenses. Unfortunately, RS is not able to attend the 2016 ICCF Congress in Germany. Wales will be represented by AL who is entitled to claim expenses directly from ICCF as a member of the Executive Board. So there will be no direct cost to WCCF.
2. **Review of subsidised ICCF tournament entries:** It was noted that offering a free entry to a Promotion or an Aspirer’s tournament had been a great success in getting players involved in correspondence chess. It was estimated by the treasurer that the cost of this over the six months it had been running was approximately £100. In the light of the healthy financial situation, it was agreed to continue with this arrangement for new players. It was noted that there had been some requests from players for a second free entry. The EC confirmed that this offer was strictly limited to one free entry per player.
3. **Review of affiliation fee for member organisations:** The current annual affiliation fee is £1, it is necessary to maintain an affiliation fee to preserve the federation’s status as a member organisation, however given the current financial position it was not considered necessary to raise this fee above a nominal amount.

### 6. Member Organisations

The National Correspondence Chess Club (NATCOR) was welcomed as a member organisation of WCCF. Marc Wakeham will be the NATCOR representative to the federation. Our current membership is as follows:

* British Correspondence Chess Association (BCCA), representative Russell Sherwood
* SchemingMind.com, representative Austin Lockwood
* Social Correspondence Chess Association (SCCA), representative vacant
* National Correspondence Chess Club (NATCOR), representative Marc Wakeham
* Welsh Chess Union (WCU, non-voting honorary member), representative Mark Adams

### 7. Recruitment/encouraging participation

* **Progression towards titles:** Anthony Balshaw has now attained the IM title and Helen Sherwood the LIM title, these will be awarded at this year’s ICCF Congress in Bremen, Germany. It was noted that several Welsh players had excellent opportunities to work towards the new CCM and CCE norms proposed by WCCF and accepted by the 2015 Congress in Cardiff due to our offering of two invitational events.
* **Progression towards the IA title:** RS was making progress towards the IC title (since the meeting RS has now attained the IA title, and this will also be awarded in Bremen; RS is now mentoring AL). Marc Wakeham has been registered as a trainee TD and is being mentored by RS.

### 8. National Events

* **National Championship:** The player base is still not sufficiently established for a full national championship; we will continue to monitor the situation as the number of players continues to grow.
* **Trios:** We will continue to offer the Trio events, Marc Wakeham is now the TD for these.
* **2016/17 Invitationals:** Following the success of the 2015/16 invitationals, and the opportunities they have presented to Welsh players for earning norms, we will apply for two further events to be held around April 2017.

### 9. British Events

WCCF are committed to promoting British Events and encouraging Welsh participation on the understanding that none of the three British CC federations has unilateral “ownership” of any of the current British events.

* **British Correspondence Chess Championship:** Under the 2015 Cardiff Agreement WCCF are entitled to nominate two 2300+ players to the final. It was agreed that players who are likely to qualify anyway would not be nominated; the Welsh nominations will be Russell Sherwood and Helen Sherwood.
* **British Webserver Team Championship:** The current season is set to end by January 2017. The EC decided to delay the start of Season Four until then and examine the possibility of using the proposed “Triple Block” time control which will be available in January if approved by the ICCF Congress.
* **British Ladies Correspondence Chess Championship:** The English Federation for Correspondence Chess recently made a decision to discontinue the BLCCC. A polite note was sent by AL to remind EFCC that they did not have the authority to discontinue a British event without consultation. The 2017 BLCCC will be organised by WCCF (TO RS), we will apply for approval to make this a title tournament and invite some guest players from other federations.
* **Tri-Nations Team Tournament:** Following the Welsh victory in the first Tri-Nations, the second event is still ongoing. AL will contact England and Scotland to make arrangements for the third event; we will suggest that the rating ceiling is raised from 2200 to 2250.
* **WCCF Member Organisations Team Tournament:** This should start again later in 2016.

### 10. International Events

It was agreed that the International Secretary/Team Captain would have the authority to select teams for Olympiads and other international team events, to be ratified by the EC.

### 11. ICCF Congress 2016

Unfortunately, RS is unable to attend Congress as delegate, AL will attend as delegate designee for Wales. The complete proposal list was not available when this meeting happened, however email agreement was subsequently reached about Welsh voting:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2016-002 | Adjudicating Deceased Players' Games | Yes |
| 2016-003 | Timing for Tournament Approval Submissions | Yes |
| 2016-004 | Clarification of Tournament Rule 10.4c | Yes |
| 2016-005 | The Right to Overrule a TD | No |
| 2016-006 | TD Leave Time for Server-Based Games | Yes |
| 2016-007 | The Right for Officials to File an Appeal | Yes |
| 2016-008 | Applying Consistent Rules to Friendly Matches | Yes |
| 2016-009 | New Tournament Organizer (TO) Manual | Yes |
| 2016-010 | National Federation Opt-Out of ICCF Adjudication System | No |
| 2016-011 | GDP Based Fee Structure for Developing Nations | No |
| 2016-012 | Allow Changes to Playing Rules - Server Only Once in 2-Years | No |
| 2016-015 | Revised Norm Calculations | Yes |
| 2016-016 | Minimum Opponent Rating for Norms | Yes |
| 2016-017 | Revised Rating Rules | Yes |
| 2016-019 | Revising Tournament Rule 10.10 | Yes |
| 2016-021a | Minimum Rating Requirements for GM and IM Norm Tournaments - #1 | No |
| 2016-021b | Minimum Rating Requirements for GM and IM Norm Tournaments - #2 | Yes |
| 2016-022 | Evaluation of the Glicko Rating System | Yes |
| 2016-023 | Reverting the ICCF Champions League to its Previous Format | No |
| 2016-024 | Adjudication of Games of a Deceased Player | No |
| 2016-026 | Discontinuation of Postal Olympiads | Yes |
| 2016-027 | GM Title Norms Recognition in Previous Tournaments | No |
| 2016-028 | New Time Control System - Server-Based Games: Triple-Block System | Yes |
| 2016-029 | Rationalizing Zonal Subsidies | Yes |
| 2016-030 | New Member Federation Application | Yes |
| 2016-031a | Reimbursement Allowance for Officials on Job-Related ICCF Duty | Yes |
| 2016-031b | Reimbursement Allowance for Officials on Job-Related ICCF Duty | Yes |
| 2016-032 | Official Travel Per Diem Expense Calculation | Yes |
| 2016-033 | Reduce GM Norm Entry Rating to 2400 and Reduce Term to Enter | Yes |
| 2016-034 | Fixed Start Dates of ICCF Olympiads Final and Preliminaries | Yes |
| 2016-035 | Software Mastering | No |
| 2016-036 | Identify ICCF players by Database Number in Cases of Similar/Identical Names | No |
| 2016-037 | Identify ICCF Players by Name and ID Number Only | No |
| 2016-038 | Use Only the Standard 26 Roman Alphabet Letters A-Z in Player Names | No |
| 2016-039 | 2107 Congress - Bangalore India | No |
| 2016-040 | Congress Duration and Schedule | Yes |
| 2016-041 | Chess Board at Disposal of Each Federation for Propagandistic Reasons | No |
| 2016-042 | Delegate Sponsorship Programme | Yes |
| 2016-043 | Establishment of New Team Event | Yes |
| 2016-044 | Modification of Proposal Process | Yes |
| 2016-045 | 2017 Congress - Sunny Beach, Bulgaria | Yes |
| 2016-046 | Postal reflection time | Abstain |

### 12. Website and Marketing

AL will produce a new website

### 13. Any Other Business

None