

# WECU

## MINUTES

### Council Meeting (via Zoom) - Thursday 18 August 2022 starting at 7:00pm

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Guy Greenland explained that with sufficient members now present this Zoom Meeting now represented a Council Meeting (with live voting) that could now be completed

Present:

Nikki Forster (NF), Jon Underwood (JU), Phil Meade (PM), Guy Greenland (GG), Oliver Wensley (OW), Kevin Markey (KM), Graham Stuart (GS), Jamie Morgan (JM)

Apologies were received from:

Roger Hardy and Malcolm Steevens

#### 2. Minutes of last Zoom meeting 18/7/22

Circulated and agreed

#### 3. Matters arising

The election of Officers was held over from the last Meeting. GG continued to chair Meeting

#### 4. Any Officer's reports etc received since date of last Meeting

GG stated that Roger Hardy had submitted his resignation as ECF Delegate to the Meeting via email

GG stated that Phil Meade was resigning as Fixture Secretary. John Wheeler had been in touch with the General Secretary via email and proposed Graham Stuart

#### 5. Election of Officers

(a) President – Nikki Forster was elected as the new President from the date of this Meeting.

(b) Deputy – no election held – post vacant

(c) General Secretary – Guy Greenland was re-elected

(d) Treasurer – Oliver Wensley was re-elected

(e) Junior Chess Secretary – no election held – current post holder Mrs B Scofield

(f) Congress Secretary – no election held – previous post holder M Shaw had resigned, and no candidates had come forward to date

(g) Fixtures Secretary – Graham Stuart was elected as the new Fixtures Secretary from the date of this Meeting

(h) ECF Delegate – no election held – previous post holder R Hardy has resigned. NF stated she will cover this post until further notice.

(i) Jamboree Organiser – no election held – post vacant

## 6. Re-election of Vice–Presidents

The following Vice-Presidents were re-elected : J E Fewkes, D C Jarrett, I M George, G N Jepps, M Steevens, Mrs F Headlong, R H Jones, P J Meade, B W R Hewson, R Rendell, L Walker and J Wheeler.

In addition, K Markey (as former President) was elected as a new Vice-President from the date of this Meeting

## 7. Confirmation of Meeting dates for 2023:

(a) Spring Executive Meeting – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
(optional via Zoom or F2F)

(b) Council Meeting – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 (optional via Zoom or F2F)

## 8. Any other business

- (a) A statement was read out by GG from Malcolm Steevens who had submitted a question via email concerning the development of junior chess in WECU and the accumulated funds available for this. In response:

KM mentioned that if juniors had to travel to matches then adults would need to travel with and organise them - that might be a problem. A Championship including juniors provided by WECU would be necessary to distribute these funds.

JU indicated that it was still up to Match Captains to decide the number of juniors being fielded. Also, second team grading boundaries can remain at any reasonable level, and not in line with ECF guidelines but if lowered from the current level it might mean two matches can more easily be played the same day by some Counties. General agreement in the Meeting was that in any Counties juniors would be encouraged to form an U1900 team with some adults making up numbers.

NF enquired as to how many junior teams there were among the Counties and JU believed that many local juniors played in some national competitions and suggested an eight-board competition being proposed for next year among WECU Counties.

- (b) GG mentioned that the ECF National Blitz south-west regional play-off competition was being held in Swindon instead of Bristol this coming September. The Meeting

highlighted there were encouragingly several returning chess Congresses in the coming months in various formats.

- (c) OW requested that £10 fee per team entered continues to be levied for the County Championship. Also, the £11 affiliation fee per County to be chargeable again following the pandemic. The Meeting agreed that this should be re-instated. Any useful ideas for using funds available for increased participation in a WECU congress other than prize money to be considered and possibly utilised.
- (d) GS checked with the Meeting that the forthcoming County fixtures he had set up were agreeable. Those present and involved all in general agreement.
- (e) JM stated that venues for County matches should be accessible by public transport if possible.
- (f) OW proposed a special vote of thanks to Phil Meade for his valuable contribution to WECU over recent years, those present all agreed.
- (g) The Meeting agreed there may be ad-hoc Zoom meetings held in future as necessary. See above for the major Meetings scheduled for 2023.

Meeting closed at 8.00pm

