

## SUFFOLK COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the SCCA Committee Meeting, held at Willow Farm, Pettaugh,  
Stowmarket, IP14 6AX on Tuesday 13 March 2017 7:30 pm – 10:35 pm

### **Present:**

President / U-160 Captain - Bob Jones (BJ)  
Vice-President – Leon Burnett (LB)  
Secretary – Kevin Greenacre (KG)  
Treasurer – Adrian Sanderson (AS)  
County Grader – Dave Wild (DW)  
Competitions Secretary – David Green (DS)  
Women's Organiser - Vicky Allen (VA)  
Cup & Plate Organiser – Rob Sanders (RS) from 20:00

### **1) Apologies:**

Correspondence Captain – Bob Stephens (BS)  
County First Team Captain – John Peters (JP)  
County U-120 Captain – Peter Collicott (PC)

### **2) Minutes of last SCCA Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 20 April 2016**

These were formally agreed by the Committee.  
No amendments were required

### **3) Action Points from last Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 20 April 2016**

- Identify locations of trophies (BJ/AS) – briefly discussed, some trophies have been located but not all. BJ and AS will liaise to maintain an inventory, suggested photographs of trophies would be a good idea.
- To amend various sections in the SCCA Constitution (BJ) – actioned and now up-to-date.
- To review Bury Juniors Child Protection Policy (BJ) and email Committee (BJ) – BJ / LB will liaise with a view to preparing a draft policy for discussion / approval at the 2017 AGM; will be circulated to Committee Members beforehand.
- To look at the possibility of holding a one day Ladies Championship in March 2017 (BJ) – this did not take place.
- To compile a list of trophies held at Ipswich Chess Club (KG) – actioned.
- To add to AGM agenda funding for the Results system (KG) – actioned.
- To consider co-opting a deputy (DW) – Marcus Misson has volunteered.
- To check whether other counties have a Child Protection Policy and if so, to obtain details (LB) – see above, BJ /LB will liaise to prepare a draft policy.
- To add KG to authorised signatories (AS) – actioned.
- To arrange the Suffolk Cup Final date (LB / Ian Wallis) – actioned.
- To advertise for a County First Team Captain (Ian Wallis) – actioned, JP took over this post.

- Committee Members to send brief details of their post to BJ – BJ reminded Committee Members to let him have these if not already sent to him.

#### 4) Action Points from 2016 AGM

- To check whether the U-100 trophy can be located (DG) – located.
- To discuss whether to purchase additional trophies for Suffolk Cup and Suffolk Plate and also for County Player of the Year trophies (SCCA Committee members) – This was discussed by Committee members. Currently the First Team and U-160 teams plays a minimum of six games (potentially could be eight games), the Committee was in favour of awarding POTY trophies so discussed the criteria. It was agreed that these would go to the highest scoring player from each of the county teams; a minimum of six games would need to be played to qualify. LB asked whether games played in the National stages would count, agreed they would so effectively all games played up to the AGM. Suitable trophies to be sourced and acquired (**Action Point for BJ**)
- For the Cup and Plate competitions – Possible trophies for previous events that are no longer competed for are held, will look at using these but also BJ to look at acquiring suitable trophy(s) if required (**Action Point for BJ**).
- To discuss the feasibility of using reserves to assist in the payment of board fees for county players (SCCA Committee Members) – not discussed at meeting.

It was confirmed that the Secretary should email Minutes from Committee Meetings and General Meetings to Club Secretaries once available.

The Committee also agreed that from 13 March 2017, the Secretary would email details of the date of forthcoming SCCA Committee Meetings to all Club Secretaries.

BJ will try to update the Suffolk Chess blog with previous Minutes – some IT issues so will need to speak with Steve Lovell about this.

#### 5) Reports from Officers

**BJ (President)** – advised the meeting that the blog post scheduled for 13 March 2017 will be number 1,070; he was thanked for all his efforts. It is possible to follow the blog and this enables an email to be sent to the follower to advise when a new post is added.

There had been no Suffolk Junior Chess Organiser for some years, despite attempts to find a volunteer for this post. BJ was delighted to advise the Committee that Tim Kent (the father of Rowan Kent) has now volunteered; Tim has a number of good ideas he wishes to adopt, including setting up a Suffolk Junior Chess website in due course, promoting chess in local schools etc. BJ said he would like Tim to be made Acting Suffolk Junior Chess Organiser pending formally filling the post at the 2017

AGM. DW asked if people were still going into local schools for training; BJ said there were but this all needs to be co-ordinated. VA said various trophies / shields had been played for in the past in school leagues. BJ said Tim is planning on holding a meeting for all interested parties in due course and encouraged any interested parties to attend; AS confirmed there was approximately £393 in available reserves for junior chess. VA mentioned that Dagne Ciuksyte would be providing some chess training at Orwell Park School from next year.

**KG (Secretary)** – had received a recent enquiry about the possibility of setting up a new Chess Club in the Ipswich area; the Committee agreed that if this goes ahead, this new club could apply to be affiliated as a SCCA club; if they wanted to play in the league and / or Cup and / or Plate competitions, the club would need to have sets, clocks etc. BJ confirmed this would need to be a bona fide club; recently a club has started in Woodbridge so in due course, Woodbridge might wish to join the SCCA – BJ would be visiting Woodbridge Chess Club shortly.

KG had sent off details of Committee members to the ECF at the end of 2016 for inclusion into the 2017 Yearbook; he had received no acknowledgement but DW confirmed these had been included.

DG advised he had experienced some issues with trying to contact various club captains to obtain information etc; DW said he had found a list of club captains but these were rather out-of-date and it appeared there was no system of keeping this list current. In the Bury Area Chess League (BACL), a booklet is produced each season with this information but there is nothing like this for the Suffolk Chess League. BJ said we need email details for captains and ideally a telephone number. LB wondered if there could be two names, perhaps to include the Club Secretary as an additional contact point. BJ agreed there should be a written list of names plus also this information should be available on his blog, albeit only to specified users. It was agreed that DG would send out a letter to clubs to confirm that as part of the nomination process at the start of the season, he needs details of each team captain. BJ mentioned that both Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds Clubs have a match captain as well. LB asked how this would be sanctioned and BJ said he would announce at the 2017 AGM. The AGM is held in June as it had been felt that holding it in September would be too close to the start of the season.

***Action Point – DG to send a letter to clubs to confirm that as part of the nomination process at the start of the season, he needs details of each team captain – to also mention at the AGM.***

**LB (Vice President)** – had done some work on the Child Protection issue and will liaise with BJ post meeting. Other counties have a Child Protection Officer and wondered if Suffolk also needed to consider this post. BJ said the Bury Knights Club have a named parent that a child could go to in the event of any problem. Perhaps Tim Kent could be involved in looking for a volunteer for this post. DW asked about the DBS check (Disclosure & Barring Service – previously a CRB check) and BJ confirmed the need for this and the cost is £15. VA asked how clubs dealt with juniors at present; BJ said all adults involved in running the Bury Knights Club are DBS checked and suggested each club should have one or more regulars who are DBS checked – ideally, there would be at least one DBS checked adult present at

every club evening which covers the SCCA legally. VA asked whether a club would have to turn away a junior if there was no DBS checked adult present; BJ said the parents are able to approve an appropriate adult; if this was in writing, this would be preferable. The DBS check needs to be done every three years.

**AS (Treasurer)** – had prepared a statement of income and expenditure for 2016 – 2017 (up to February 2017) for the Committee. Team fees had remained the same but there had been an undercharge in game fees. The ECF is proposing a change to the Game Fee and meetings to discuss this issue are scheduled; the outcome will need to be reviewed once agreed. AS suggested he will need to retain some funds to cover any possible changes; possibly will have to pay in advance and then reclaim. The accounts show a healthy position; no equipment had been purchased during the year and BJ confirmed Suffolk have sixteen working electronic clocks for county matches. BJ said that Tim Kent may ask for some funds for junior chess activities, although Tim is also looking at the possibility of some commercial sponsorship. AS advised the Committee of the minimal rate of bank interest being paid by Barclays so less than £5 interest received in the 2016-2017 year.

**RS (Cup & Plate Organiser)** – both of these events are moving along well; there were one or two issues at the start of the event but these have been resolved. Currently at the semi-final stage. DG confirmed one of the semi finals of the Cup had already been played and Manningtree had beaten Ipswich B (post meeting - the other semi-final match had been played and Saxmundham had beaten Ipswich D so the Cup Final will be Manningtree versus Saxmundham). In the Plate, the semi final matches were already known and would be taking place shortly (Manningtree B versus Bury St Edmunds D and Felixstowe A versus Ipswich F).

BJ mentioned that at the 2016 AGM, the issue of possible conflicts with the U-125 and / or U-145 events had been mentioned and asked about this; RS said as long as these graded events did not cause any issues, he had no problem with them. Ideally, the Cup and Plate competitions would have their own weeks in the schedule but RS appreciated the difficulties this could cause the Competitions Secretary. LB said it did make planning for his club tricky but DG said he wasn't able to give dedicated weeks to the Cup and Plate events. It was agreed that the old League Cup could be used as the trophy for the current Suffolk Cup and BJ would look into purchasing a suitable trophy for the Suffolk Plate competition

RS said in the past, there had been four divisions in the Suffolk League, currently three divisions of seven, seven and eight teams. In the U-125 and U-145 events, there were seven teams in the U-125 and four in the U-145.

LB mentioned that in the Suffolk Cup initial round, the two Manningtree teams had been paired against one another; could teams from the same club not be paired against each other at that early stage of the competition? RS said there was no provision in the rules for this and that the seeding used had produced that pairing. BJ thought it was tricky for RS to avoid this possibility taking place; LB asked about the seeding used and RS confirmed it had been taken from the previous season's league position and the draw was split into two halves so 1 versus 7, 2 versus 8 etc.

***Action Point – BJ to look into purchasing a suitable trophy for the Plate competition and to discuss cost with AS.***

**DG (Competition Secretary)** – confirmed the U-125 event was working well and should be completed by early April.

In the League, Divisions 1 and 3 are on schedule but Division 2 is a little behind schedule due to a couple of cancellations.

Ipswich had won the Suffolk section of the Norfolk & Suffolk Cup; this had been a three club event (Ipswich, Bury St Edmunds and Manningtree) and DG said a set of rules needed to be put into place to be used in the event of any tie-breaks being required.

In the U-145 event, Manningtree had won the event; no specific rules so the U-125 rules had been used.

The Committee discussed the Norfolk & Suffolk Cup; if two or four teams took part, it would be a knockout but if three teams competed, should it be an all play all or should the winner in the previous year be given a bye into the final and the other two teams play against each other for the other finalist place? Agreed that this needs to be discussed at the AGM and DG to draft a proposal.

DG asked about the backing up of results on DW's website; DW confirmed there had been a recent IT issue which he had reported and had been resolved but all data was backed up.

LB said that Division 1 was quite close and likely would only be settled in the final round of matches; he thought it was not ideal if two teams from the same club were playing against each other in these final matches and wondered if they could be played at the start of the season. RS said this had been done in the past. DG advised this would need to be done manually instead of the current semi-automatic process he was using at present. BJ agreed this suggestion would add some complexity to the existing process but in the BACL, this scenario is avoided if at all possible. DG said the main problem would be postponements but agreed to have a look into this for next season. BJ said another issue was that four teams from Ipswich are in Division 1 so that adds to the possible difficulty with adopting LB's suggestion; VA was in favour of encouraging more clubs to compete instead of amalgamating clubs.

***Action Point (DG) – draft a proposal for discussion at the AGM in relation to the format of next season's Norfolk & Suffolk Cup.***

**DW (County Grader)** – had submitted games for grading for the January 2017 revised grades and this had all gone through smoothly. The League Management System was being trialled but was not yet formally adopted. DW mentioned the register of events as this was supposed to be introduced by the ECF but he had not heard any further details. BJ said we do send information about the Bury St Edmunds Chess Congress to the ECF; DW said in theory we would need to include details of all League, Cup etc events but would need to wait and see what was agreed. DW also thanked DG for using more features of the League Management System when adding results.

**VA (Ladies Organiser)** – said there were very few ladies taking part in chess events locally and that VA is the only regular league player. At the 2016 AGM, there had been a mention about holding a rapid play event for ladies in early 2017 to enable the Ladies Trophy to be awarded but this had not taken place so VA suggested that this should be awarded to the lady who scored the most points in the Open Section of the Bury St Edmunds Congress (minimum of three points). If there was no local lady in the Open, this would then go to the leading lady player in the Open and again, if there was no local lady in the Major, would then go to the Minor.

VA said there were plenty of girls taking part at Primary School levels but they tended to stop playing as they got older.

BJ asked the Committee for their thoughts on VA's suggestion. The last winner had been Anita Somton but she had moved away from the area.

Qualification for a local player would be residence in Suffolk, a member of an affiliated SCCA club or was born in Suffolk.

It was agreed that VA would prepare a proposal for discussion at the AGM and would send this to Committee Members prior to the AGM for them to read

***Action Point (VA) – to draft a proposal for awarding the Suffolk Ladies Chess trophy and to send to Committee Members prior to the 2017 AGM.***

**JP (First Team County Captain)** – as JP was not present, he had prepared a report for the Committee and KG read this out. Suffolk had again qualified for the knockout stages in the Minor Counties Cup by finishing second in the group stage and the draw for the next round would be made towards the end of March 2017. A number of players had scored very well for the side, including Alan Merry with 4/4 and Graham Moore with 5/6. BJ hoped JP would continue in the post for next season.

**BJ (U-160 County Team Captain)** – Suffolk had won both their matches the previous day so had finished top of the EACU U-160 league with five wins from six matches; the scheduled next round will take place on 13 May 2017.

**PC (U-120 County Team Captain)** – as PC was not present, he had also prepared a report for the Committee and KG read this out. PC confirmed he had been unable to arrange any U-120 matches and due to other commitments, had advised the Committee he would be stepping down as this post holder. AS confirmed Suffolk had paid to enter a team in this event; BJ said the EACU organises the event but there was no sign of any matches having taken place; DW advised that Norfolk had entered a team and had gone straight through to the next stage of the event so BJ will speak with Patrick Ribbands to ascertain the current status of this event. The SCCA will need to advertise for a U-120 Captain for next season.

A question had been asked whether the SCCA should consider appointing an official webmaster to maintain and update a Suffolk Chess website; BJ confirmed his blog was unofficial although did have links to rules, minutes etc and said he preferred to maintain this arrangement.

At this point, BJ handed round copies of the current Competition Rules and Constitution to allow Committee Members to have these available for the next items.

## **6) Proposals**

### **6.1 – Amend SCCA competition rules and other matters**

DG suggested some amendments to clear up some possible ambiguities in the wording of the SCCA Competition Rules –

Cup & Plate (Proposed Rule Change)

A1.7 existing wording –

*‘In Round 1 all teams will be seeded according to their League placement at the end of the previous season, unless there are significant changes to their strength. Any new teams will usually be seeded below current teams’.*

A1.7 proposed wording –

*In Round 1 all teams will be seeded according to their League placement at the end of the previous season, unless there are significant changes to their strength. Any team that is new to the league will usually be seeded below current teams’.*

Norfolk and Suffolk Cup

The current rules (A3.1 – A3.3) refer only to a knockout competition for teams of six players but in the current season, three teams clubs entered (Ipswich, Bury St Edmunds and Manningtree) and it was run as an all play all once. This led to a potential issue with any tie breaker and DG had to alter the rules after the competition had started which he did not like doing. The Committee discussed this competition; next season it would be a knockout if two or four clubs entered but if three clubs entered, there would be a need to decide whether to hold it again as an all play all once or a knockout with a bye being awarded to the previous year’s winner of the competition. LB said he was against the idea of having a bye last year’s winner; BJ suggested that all three clubs get together to decide on the format of next season’s competition and volunteered to contact the match captain of the other two clubs; this may lead to a possible rule change.

***Action Point (BJ) – contact the match captains of Manningtree and Ipswich to discuss next season’s Norfolk & Suffolk Cup.***

***Action Point (DG) – draft a set of proposed rules for the Norfolk & Suffolk Cup***

## U-145 Cup (Proposed Rule Change)

DG said this event has no rules and so had used the U-125 Cup rules (Appendix A2.1 – A2.3); suggested the U-125 rules are altered so they become the rules for the graded competitions, will need to look at how teams who finish with the same number of match points are separated.

## Who has the White pieces? (Proposed Rule Change)

Rule 1.5 existing wording –

*‘In divisions where both home and away games are played, the away team will have White on the odd-numbered boards. Otherwise colours will be decided by the toss of a coin and the team which wins the toss will play White on the odd boards’.*

Although this appeared to be clear, in the U-125 Cup, the away team had been using the away team white on board one rule. DG suggested the rule is amended.

Rule 1.5 suggested wording –

*In all SCCA competitions the away team has White on the off numbered boards’.*

## Executive Decisions

DG said Rule 12.1 referred to the process for amending the Competition Rules, currently considered at the AGM or an EGM called specifically for the purpose of this process. BJ said he thought a level of flexibility was required and LB considered that rules changes needed to be discussed and voted on at an AGM or EGM; if a sub-committee was needed to be set up with a view to considering possible rules changes, this would be fine. VA mentioned the possible difficulty of arranging an EGM; BJ said if a new competition is designed, a sub-committee could arrange to be set up to set some rules and these could then be formalised at the following AGM.

## General Rules (Proposed Rule Change)

1.2 existing rule

*... ‘The Competitions Secretary, in consultation with the Committee, is permitted to reformat the SCCA league divisions to reflect any changes in the numbers of clubs that are entered.’*

1.2 proposed wording

*‘The Competitions Secretary, in consultation with the Committee, is permitted to reformat any SCCA competition to reflect any changes in the numbers of clubs that are entered.’*

DG said currently he is able to only reformat league divisions; with support, he had also needed to change the format of non-league competitions. LB thought it was not



ideal for changes to be made to the rules of an event once it had started. BJ agreed rules needed to be formalised. There was a question asked relating to the Norfolk & Suffolk Cup – was it a SCCA event? DW said that Norfolk arranges their own event for a winner to take on the Suffolk winner and Suffolk has no control over how Norfolk runs their event.

#### Job Specification for Competitions Secretary (Proposed Rule Change)

The Committee discussed the role of the Competitions Secretary in relation to arranging the upcoming fixtures in the various competitions.

#### 1.2 existing rule

*... 'The Competition Secretary is responsible for ...the issuing of fixture lists to club secretaries before the start of the season...'*

#### 1.2 proposed rule

*'...The Competition Secretary is responsible for ...the compilation of the fixtures lists....'*

#### Succession Planning

DG thought some sort of Competitions Secretary handbook needed to be produced so that a future person taking up this post could have some detailed guidance to refer to.

#### Agenda

BJ confirmed that any Committee member could raise an issue prior to a Committee Meeting by informing the Secretary for inclusion onto the agenda.

DG suggested 35 days notice of the meeting date, agenda entries to close 28 days before the meeting and the agenda to be issued 21 days before the meeting.

#### ***Action Points***

***(DG) Update the Competition Rules to take into account any rules change agreed at an AGM / EGM.***

***(DG) Draft some guidance for an eventual successor for the post of Competitions Secretary.***

***(All) – Send a list of duties in your post to BJ.***

## **6.2 – Reviewing the process of nominations and substitutions**

DG said he had encountered some problems with the issue of nominations and substitutions; one cause was that not all team captains were applying to him for estimated grades, where required. Rule 5.4 related to the current substitution rules but there were various opinions around the question of ‘material changes’ in rule 5.2 relating to nominations. DW mentioned the possibility of a strong new club member joining a team mid-way through the season which could have a significant effect; BJ mentioned the old ten point rule which had previously existed. RS thought it was all a question of timing and wondered why there should not be the usual three week period for renomination and then after this period had ended, no more renominations would be accepted. BJ confirmed the cut off for this in the BACL was 1 March. The Committee discussed this and thought this would provide some level of clarity for DG.

### 1.2 existing rule

*‘Nominations can be changed during a three week period following the publication of the mid-season grades, by notifying the Competitions Secretary....’*

### 1.2 proposed rule

*‘Nominations can be changed during a three week period following the publication of the mid-season grades, by notifying the Competitions Secretary; after this three week period, no more renominations will be accepted for the rest of the season...’*

## **6.3 Appendix 2 (proposed change of wording)**

DG put forward a proposal to amend Appendix 2 to allow the AGM to choose the graded competition it wished to run using a standard set of rules.

**Proposal to change  
Appendix 2 to allow the  
AGM to choose the graded  
competitions it  
may wish to run using a  
standard set of rules.  
Existing Appendix 2**

## SUFFOLK UNDER 125 CUP

### A2.1 The Competitions

Secretary will decide the exact format of this event depending on the number of teams entered, but it will be for teams of four players, all with a standard grade of less than 125 ECF. In the event of a knockout phase or phases the Competitions Secretary will perform the draw.

A2.2 Players may only play in one team.

A2.3 In the event of a tie in a knockout or final match,

the competition will be decided by:

- a) Elimination of the bottom boards until a result is obtained;
- b) Selecting the team with the lower aggregate grades;
- c) Toss of a coin.

Proposed Appendix 2  
SUFFOLK Grade limited competitions

A2.1 The Competitions Secretary will decide the exact format of these events depending on the number of teams entered, but they will be

for teams of four players, all with a standard grade of less than an agreed grade limit or limits. In the event of a knockout phase or phases the Competitions Secretary will perform the draw and assign any byes by drawing lots.

A2.2 Players may only play in one team.

A2.3 In the event of a tie in a knockout or final match, the competition will be decided by:

a) Elimination of the bottom boards until a result is obtained;

# b) Selecting the team with the lower aggregate grades;

# c) Toss of a coin.

## Appendix 2 existing rule

A2.1 The Competitions Secretary will decide the exact format of this event depending on the number of teams entered, but it will be for teams of four players, all with a standard grade of less than 125 ECF. In the event of a knockout phase or phases the Competitions Secretary will perform the draw.

A2.2 Players may only play in one team.

A2.3 In the event of a tie in a knockout or final match, the competition will be decided by:

- a) Elimination of the bottom boards until a result is obtained;
- b) Selecting the team with the lower aggregate grades;
- c) Toss of a coin.

## Appendix 2 proposed rule

A2.1 The Competitions Secretary will decide the exact format of these events depending on the number of teams entered, but they will be for teams of four players, all with a standard grade of less than an agreed grade limit or limits. In the event of a knockout phase or phases the Competitions Secretary will perform the draw and assign any byes by drawing lots.

A2.2 Players may only play in one team.

A2.3 In the event of a tie in a knockout or final match, the competition will be decided by:

- a) Elimination of the bottom boards until a result is obtained;
- b) Selecting the team with the lower aggregate grades;
- c) Toss of a coin.

## **6.4 – Adoption of Fischer (incremental) timing as default option for SCCA division 1 from 2017-2018**

BJ said that as most clubs were now using digital chess clocks and that players seemed to like using incremental time controls. He proposed that this time control should be adopted as the default option in Division 1 of the Suffolk League as from the start of the 2017-2018 season. Both players would have to agree not to use the incremental time control but to use a standard time control. One advantage of using the digital chess clock is that the old 10.2 rule does not apply (it is possible if by

standard time control to claim a draw within the last two minutes if an opponent is not attempting to win a game using normal means – could lead to controversy). BJ said that the use of incremental timing in the BAACL had been a huge success; to the best of his knowledge, no game has lasted more than three hours and very seldom does a player lose on time as they still get an extra fifteen seconds per move. Incremental timings are used in county chess matches and also in the 4NCL. Also, the new DGT2010 chess clocks remember the settings and it is very easy to set the clocks to incremental timing.

The Committee members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of introducing incremental timings.

DW was in favour and thought that quick play finishes may be going out of use in the future.

VA thought that players should have the choice of time controls and BJ confirmed it would be possible to use the two timing systems in the same division 1 match (if both players decided to use standard timings). LB said that the future is using incremental timings. RS said he had originally been against the idea of incremental timings but would be happy for this proposal to be trialled in Division 1 next season. He did also say that there may be resistance from some players. DG said that the proposed change would not personally affect him but when he had used incremental timings in U-160 county matches in the past, there had been some confusion as to exactly how much time a player had left. BJ advised the time limit for these U-160 matches were slightly different from his proposal for division 1 next season; using the new DGT2010 chess clocks, a player would just need to choose the relevant function code and the clock stored the appropriate timing.

VA asked if lower divisions could also trial the incremental timing – BJ confirmed yes as long as both players agreed prior to the start of the game.

Generally the Committee were in agreement for a trial to take place next season in division 1 but following a suggestion from LB, also agreed to review after the end of the 2017-2018 season to assess how the trial had gone.

***Proposal for 2017 AGM – Introduction of an incremental timing control as the default in division 1; if both players agreed to use the standard timing control, they would be able to.***

## **7) Nominations for SCCA Officers for 2017-2018 & vacancies to be filled**

The following confirmed they wished to continue in their post –

BJ – President

LB – Vice President

KG – Secretary

AS – Treasurer

DG – Competitions Secretary

DW – County Grader

RS – Cup & Plate Organiser

JP – First Team Captain (would need to confirm with JP but believed he will do so)

BJ – U-160 Captain

BS – Correspondence Captain (would need to confirm with BS but believed he will do so)

The following confirmed they wished to step down from their post –

VA – Ladies Organiser

PC – U-120 Captain

The Committee wished to nominate the following into the vacant post –

Tim Kent – Junior Organiser

The following vacancies will now exist for 2017-2018

Ladies Organiser

U-140 Captain

U-120 Captain

U-100 Captain

## **8) Proposals for the AGM**

- Proposed rule change to A1.7
- Proposed rule change in U-145 event
- Proposed rule change to rule 1.5
- Proposed rule change to rule 1.2
- Proposed rule change in Appendix 2
- Proposal for adoption of incremental timing as the default option for Division 1 from 2017-2018 season

Also, LB asked around rule 1.4 – ‘should any mobile electronic equipment emit a sound during a game, the player in possession must offer to resign but his/her opponent may decline the offer’. LB proposed that the rule is amended to read that the player in possession loses the game automatically. The Committee discussed and decided that if LB’s club wished to submit a proposal for this rule change for discussion at the AGM, this would be the way forward as there was no clear consensus as some Committee members liked the existing rule.

## **9 Any Other Business**



BJ proposed a possible amendment to rule 5.4 (e) and part of Table 1; currently this rule says that a player can only act as a substitute in a maximum of six matches per season when not playing for his main team. BJ thought this rather restrictive and proposed a change in the middle row of Table 1 to say there would be no restriction on the number of games played as a substitute.

This was discussed by the Committee but it was felt only a very small number of players were affected so the members felt they would not recommend this rule change is adopted.

Date of the proposed Suffolk AGM – 30 May 2017 at Ipswich Chess Club (to be confirmed). AS said that accounts may not be finalised on that date.

Meeting closed at 10:35 pm

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### **Summary of Action Points**

- (All) – send a description of the duties in your post to BJ.
- (BJ) – sourcing and acquiring Player of the Year trophies for county teams;
- (BJ) - sourcing and acquiring trophy for Suffolk Plate Competition
- (DG) – advise clubs that as part of the nomination process for the start of the 2017-2018 season, he needs details of team captains – will mention at AGM
- (DG) – draft a proposal for discussion at the AGM for the format of next season's Norfolk & Suffolk Cup, with suggested rules
- (VA) – draft a proposal for discussion at the AGM for the format of awarding the Suffolk Ladies Chess Trophy based on performance at the Bury Chess Edmunds Congress.
- (BJ) – Liaise with Manningtree and Ipswich match captains about next season's Norfolk and Suffolk Cup event.
- (DG) – Amend the Competition Rules to take into account any rule changes agreed at an AGM / EGM
- (DG) – Draft sine guidance for an eventual successor for the post of Competitions Secretary

