

# **SUFFOLK COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION**

**Agenda for the Extraordinary General Meeting on Tuesday 17th August 2021  
To be held on-line via Microsoft Teams– 7:30 pm**

## **1. Apologies for absence**

## **2. Minutes of the last SCCA AGM held Tuesday 21 May 2019**

These are available for download from the SCCA website under “Documents”  
“Minutes”.

## **3. Matters Arising**

## **4. Treasurer’s Report**

## **4. SCCA Activity for 2021-2022 Season**

The following competitions will be run by the SCCA this coming season;

Three divisions of six teams per division (subject to a Division Two team accepting promotion to Division One).

The U1650 (U125) Cup

A Divisional Rapidplay Competition.

A First Team in the Minor Counties Championship

An U1850 (U160) in the County Championships.

## **5. Restrictions while the Covid Pandemic continues**

The SCCA Committee have decided that while the pandemic remains, the League should follow government guidelines regarding enclosed spaces. Therefore all matches should be played with face coverings. However, if both/all teams at a venue agree to play without face coverings, they will be permitted to. If any team(s) does not agree, the default position is that face coverings must be worn.

Fixtures for the '21-'22 season will be front-loaded, with several weeks at the end of the season explicitly left blank to present as many clear opportunities as possible for rescheduling postponed matches. At the discretion of the SCCA committee, the season may be extended until the end of May to also facilitate the completion of postponed matches.

Teams will be permitted to postpone any fixture if:

- their playing venue is closed due to a COVID outbreak
- 3 or more of the nominated team members are self-isolating or have tested positive for COVID

Teams not meeting either of these criteria will be expected to fulfil their scheduled fixtures. Teams will not be required to provide proof that the criteria have been met, and will be trusted not to abuse this allowance.

Where fixtures are postponed, the Competition Secretary will reschedule the fixture into one of the blank weeks at the end of the season. Where a fixture is for any reason not played before the end of the season, the result will be scored as a 1-1 tie. If, across all three Suffolk league divisions, 6 or more scheduled fixtures are not played (resulting in 6 or more 1-1 ties), there will be no promotion or relegation resulting from the final standings of the '21-'22 league season.

## **6. Proposals for changes to League Rules from the SCCA Committee**

### **6.1. Changes to Rules 2.3 to 2.5**

Rule 2.3 should be deleted in its entirety.

In Rule 2.4, renumber this rule 2.3. Delete the words “Divisions 1 and 2,” and replace them with, “all SCCU competitions,”. Also delete the final sentence, “The standard timings as listed in Rule 2.3a can only be used if both players agree.”

Rule 2.5 should be deleted in its entirety.

New Rule 2.4 added stating. “Where suitable digital clocks are not available, mechanical clocks may be used. In such cases, each player will be allowed 90 minutes to complete all moves. The first 30 moves must be completed within 75 minutes. This alternative time control is also available where both players agree to it, and either mechanical or digital clocks may be used in such cases.

### **6.2. Change to Rule 4.1**

Rule 4.1 should be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following;

4.1 The August rating will be used for determining eligibility to a rating limited competition throughout the season and for board order and substitution until the January ratings are released. The January rating will then be used for determining board order and substitution for the remainder of the season, but not for eligibility purposes.

### **6.3. Change to Rule 5.1**

The purpose of this change is to remove the need to nominate players that are unlikely to be played should the regular players in such a team happen to be the lowest rated players as well.

Add to the first sentence, “except for teams in the lowest division where only boards 1 and 2 need nominating. The remaining boards in that Team/Teams will be filled in accordance with Rule 5.3”

### **6.4. Change to League Rule 5.3**

Insert the words “ECF or 80 points ELO” between “points” and “above”.

## **7. Proposals for changes to the Constitution from the SCCA Committee**

### **7.1. Change to clause 4.1**

The purpose of this change is to enable any new posts created by the League (such as Internet Officer) to be automatically invited onto the committee without the need to change the League Rules. It also removes roles that are no longer filled.

Delete the words "County Team Captains, Suffolk Junior Chess representative, Women's Chess representative, Correspondence Chess captain, County Results Officer" and insert the word "and" between "Treasurer" and "Competitions Secretary". Delete the existing sentence after "Competitions Secretary" and replace it with, "Occupants of all other roles of the SCCA will be invited to join the committee at the AGM".

### **7.2. Change to clause 4.8**

The purpose of this change is to remove the anomaly that exists whereby a secretary can give just 21 days "notice" for a meeting, when members must submit any items for inclusion on the agenda for that meeting at least 28 days in advance.

Change "The Secretary shall give members 21 days' notice of the date of each meeting, together with an Agenda and the Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting."

To "The Secretary shall give members an agenda, along with minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, plus any other necessary documentation, at least 21 days before the date of each meeting."

### **7.3. Change to clause 8.3**

The purpose of this change is to enable the use of internet banking and electronic money transfers. Currently the SCCA finances rely solely on paper-based transactions such as cheques and paying in slips. There is a current account that requires two signatures on each cheque and a deposit account that holds about 70% of the SCCA's cash and requires just one signature to make a withdrawal. It is proposed that the current account be moved to a provider that will give free internet banking and allow postal deposits of received cheques. It is proposed that the Deposit Account be unchanged except that two signatures should be needed in future to make any withdrawal. The recommendation from the SCCA Treasurer, is that the SCCA uses Santander Bank.

Change "A Current Account will be maintained by the Treasurer to receive income and make payments on behalf of the SCCA. All withdrawals will require two signatories drawn from the President, Secretary and Treasurer. A Deposit account

may also be held to hold extra funds. Withdrawals from this account will be paid into the current account and only one signatory is required for this purpose.”

To “A Current Account with online facilities will be maintained by the Treasurer to receive income and make payments on behalf of the SCCA. The Treasurer and the President and/or the Secretary will hold the access codes and passwords for the on-line current account with the Treasurer authorised to make BACS payments that do not require a signature. A Deposit Account may also be held for extra funds. Withdrawals from this account will be paid into the current account and two signatories drawn from the President, Treasurer and Secretary are required for this purpose.

#### **7.4. New emergency clause in the Constitution**

The committee proposes that the following new clause be added to the constitution to enable it to act constitutionally during such events as have occurred this past year.

#### **12. Suspension to the Constitution or Competition Rules**

In the event of an emergency the committee has the power to suspend normal SCCA protocols.