

SUFFOLK COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION

Agenda for the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 12 July 2022

To be held at The Ipswich Institute (home of Ipswich Chess Club) – 7:30 pm

- 1. Apologies for absence.**

- 2. Minutes of the SCCA EGM meetings held on 17th August 2021 and 21st February 2022.**

- 3. Matters Arising.**

- 4. Officers' reports.**
 - 4.1** President (Stephen Lewis)
 - 4.2** Vice-President (Post vacant)
 - 4.3** Admin Secretary (John McAllister)
 - 4.4** Treasurer (David Green)
 - 4.5** Competitions Secretary (Sam Gaffney)
 - 4.6** Divisional Rapid Play Organiser (Rob Sanders)
 - 4.7** First Team Captain (Steve Ruthen)
 - 4.8** U160 Captain (Bob Jones)
 - 4.9** Internet Officer (Steve Lovell)

5. Election of Officers.

All incumbent officers are standing for re-election.

Candidates for the post of Vice-President are;

6. Proposals for Changes to the Competition Rules.

The SCCA Committee has proposed the following amendments to the Competition Rules:

6.1 Rule 4.1

Delete all after "throughout the season". Add "Board order and substitution will be determined by players' current monthly ratings."

The use of January ratings harks back to when mid-season grades were introduced. Now that ratings are revised on 1st of every month, there is no need or logic to using January ratings.

6.2 Rule 4.2

Add, at end, “If a player who is unrated at the start of a season subsequently acquires a current ECF rating, then this should be used instead of his estimated rating.”

An estimated rating is just that – estimated. As soon as a ‘real’ rating is known, that must take precedence as it will be much more accurate. In the case of rating-limited competitions, we will need to decide if a player’s first proper rating should apply, or the current one.

6.3 Rule 5.3

Insert the word “currently” for the rule to read: “Within a team, a player must not be currently rated more than 80 points above anyone on a higher board.”

The word ‘currently’ has been added. Without this it could be argued that start of season or January ratings should apply.

6.4 Rule 5.4(f)

The current rule to be replaced with, “The rating of a substitute player must not exceed 80 points more than the nominated player for whom he is substituting.” As a consequence Rule 6.1(a) will be deleted with rules 6.1(b) to 6.1(d) renumber accordingly.

This would bring SCCA rules into line with BACL rules.

6.5 Appendix 1 – DIVISIONAL RAPIDPLAY CUP Rule A1.4

The first sentence: to be replaced with “Each match will comprise two rounds of Rapidplay games, where each team member plays the same opponent twice, with White and Black.”

This makes more sense than “... will comprise two Rapidplay games”. It also confirms that both games are played between the same opponents (which has always been the case in practice).

6.6 Appendix 1 – DIVISIONAL RAPIDPLAY CUP Rule 1.4

Change the increment from 5 seconds to 10 seconds.

The DGT2010 clocks have this pre-programmed into them (No 16) and therefore negates the need to adjust program 18, which is used for regular league matches. This would increase a 60 move game by a maximum of ten minutes, from a maximum of 1 hour, to 1 hour 10 minutes.

7. Proposals for Change to the Constitution.

The SCCA Committee has proposed the following amendments to the SCCA Constitution.

7.1 Change to clause 4.1 of the Constitution.

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”.

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 Constitution. It also removes roles that are no longer filled.

7.2 Change to clause 4.8 of the Constitution.

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.”

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.

7.3 Change 8.2 of the SCCA Constitution.

In the second paragraph delete the words “in January each year”.

The purpose of this change is to allow the treasurer to raise invoices for such fees at the end of the season, after the SCCA has been invoiced by the ECF.

7.4 Change 8.3 of the SCCA Constitution.

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.”

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 Deposit Account be unchanged except that two signatures should be needed in future to make any withdrawal.

7.5 New emergency clause in the Constitution

Add the following new “Clause 12” to the SCCA Constitution

“12. Suspension to the Constitution or Competition Rules.
In the event of an emergency the committee has the power to suspend normal SCCA protocols.

This addition to the constitution will enable the committee to act constitutionally during such events as have occurred this past two years.

8. Presentation of Trophies:

Division 1 – Manningtree A

Division 2 – Woodbridge

Division 3 – Manningtree B

Division 1 POTY – Panagiotis Kanellopoulos (Manningtree)

Division 2 POTY – Simon Wilks (Saxmundham)

Division 3 POTY – Sam Gaffney (Saxmundham)

U1800 Cup – Woodbridge

U1450 Cup – Clacton

Division 1 Rapidplay Cup – Ipswich A

Division 2 Rapidplay Cup – Saxmundham A

Division 3 Rapidplay Cup – Manningtree B

9. Teams for next season

Clubs will be asked to state their anticipated numbers of teams for next season (in all competitions). At this early stage this will only be an indication, but the Competitions Secretary will need to know final numbers by 31 July 2022.

10. Any other business: (please notify the Secretary in advance)