

SCCA Executive Committee Minutes

Sunday 8th February, 2pm, 2004 at 63 Orchard Brae Avenue, Edinburgh EH4 2UR

Present

Iain Mackintosh (Chair), Jim Anderson, Raymond Baxter, Alan Borwell, George Livie and Stuart Mackenzie.

Apologies

George Pyrich.

Minutes of Last Meeting

Accepted. Minutes still not filed on website (**action Iain**).

Matters Arising

Iain has received 2002-03 advertising fees from Chess Suppliers and has agreed sponsorship of the SCCA Championship with Sam Collins.

The article on the Bulletin 21st Anniversary tournament is still not completed. The format is expected to be similar to the Scottish Centenary Tournament (**action Alan**).

Stuart has completed authorisation forms to access the Clydesdale deposit account. The next step is to transfer the balance to our savings account (**action Stuart**).

Stuart is to review 90-day account interest rates. If we can improve on the current Nationwide rate, he should transfer funds by 1st April (**action Stuart**).

The 2002-03 final accounts were published in the autumn magazine.

Stuart has sent a summary of account balances and major transactions by e-mail to the committee before the executive meeting as requested.

ICCF grading changes for SCCA members were published in the autumn magazine.

The members' website password was changed with the autumn magazine.

Silver Jubilee badges were distributed to delegates at the ICCF congress, and to SCCA members along with membership forms. A few more will be sent to selected ICCF contacts (**action Alan, George P**).

ICCF has approved the Douglas Livie Memorial tournament, which will be a 13-player, email, category 4 event. Likely start is now June 2004. A prize fund will be donated (1st £250; 2nd £100; 3rd £50; best game £100) (**action George L**). Approaches will now be made to an agreed pool of invited Scottish and overseas players (**action Alan**).

The 100 Club will be promoted and run separately with effect from January this year (**action George L**).

Proposals will be formulated for sponsorship approaches and regular SCCA dinners (**action George L**).

Membership

Jim summarised this year's membership returns:

We now have our first patron member - Michael Dominin.

We currently have 59 paid annual members, but a long list (29) to chase up (**action Iain, Jim**).

The website application form is now working correctly and several new members have used it.

All the main domestic events have now been paired and play started.

The adjudication date for League division 1 needs to go back following the disappearance of a pairing notice in the mail (**action Jim**).

League division 2 required a new pairing formula for 5 teams (we can now handle 5, 6 or 7).

The Openings event requires one more player before it can start.

The Email Quartets still have no controller and are not operating.

2003 results have contained inaccuracies, and Majors, Minors and Quartets still need to be fully checked (**action Jim**).

The membership database has been updated and was distributed to the committee on CD.

A web-based database is to be investigated (**action Iain, Jim**).

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Finance

Main income items in the last period were the Chess Scotland grant (£525), donation from the Livie family (£500) and this season's membership fees (c.£1250 to date).

Main expenditure items were the Bernard Partridge Memorial prizes (c.£1470), Silver Jubilee badges (c.£425), and ICCF Congress delegate expenses (£775).

A decision was made in principle to create a Development Fund. No additional bank accounts were envisaged; income would be an initial allocation plus donations; specific projects would be funded from the fund. Detailed proposals required before AGM (**action Iain, Stuart**).

Grading

A provisional SCCA list has been produced, but will require to be recalculated once the 2003 results (see above) are finalised (**action George P**).

International

Sales of the ICCF GOLD book are slow but steady - 13 copies remain in stock.

The 7th European Team Championships have been delayed until 2005, and an announcement is awaited from Gian-Maria Tani (ITA), the new European Zone President.

A new postal Olympiad is planned to start in late 2004.

Play continues in the Anniversary SCCA v ICCF Match with about 75% of games completed.

Only 1 game remains active in the NATT5 event.

Play continues in the NSTT2 event.

In the 15th Olympiad Preliminaries, Iain Mackintosh has achieved his 1st IM norm on board 6.

Friendly matches against Catalonia, Norway, Canada and Finland continue.

A new 20-board friendly match has started recently against Romania.

Entries for ICCF individual events have perked up after entry forms went out with the magazine.

Our nominations for World Championship Semi-Finals are Alan Borwell and Iain Swan.

Invitations were received from BFCC to provide nominations for their proposed new events - George Livie and George Pyrich will play in the Stephen Tatlow Memorial, and Richard Beecham in the John Jordan Memorial. We still need a 2300+ nomination for the Peter Watson Memorial (postal) (**action George P**).

ICCF has approved the Douglas Livie Memorial tournament (see above).

The 6-month rating return to 31st December 2003 has been provided to the ICCF Ratings Commissioner, and includes SCCA Championships, Candidates and League Division 1 results, plus friendly international matches.

Alan mentioned the work Iain was doing to manage the ICCF webserver project.

Website

Iain noted that the cost of website provision had fallen by £20 this year, and we were now entitled to 7Gb of access bandwidth per month as opposed to 3 previously.

A picture gallery has been started, and photographs of members past and present are welcome! The chess photographs featured in the 2003 ICCF Congress are likely to be added to our site this year.

AOB

None.

Next Meeting

This will be held on the 13th June 2004, immediately before the AGM. Provisional venue is Stirling - George Clarke to be contacted re premises (**action Jim**).