SCCA Executive Committee Minutes
Sunday 8th June, 2014, 2:00pm, at Perth and by Skype

Present
Iain Mackintosh (Chair), Jim Anderson, George Pyrich (all Perth); Gordon Anderson, Alan Borwell, Kevin Paine, (all Skype).

Apologies
None.

Minutes of the Meeting on 2nd March 2014
Accepted.

Matters Arising

- No new committee members as yet, item carried forward. **(Action: Iain Mackintosh)**

Membership Secretary's Report

Kevin reported 2 new annual subscribers (Richard White and Anton Davis); one annual renewal (Professor Alastair Dawson); and two printed magazine renewals (Colin Hammersley and Val Nye). Kevin will be out of the country on sabbatical during the first half of 2015, so we'll issue instructions to members to remit SCCA cheques via Gordon Anderson, or use online banking to credit the SCCA account directly. **(Action: Kevin Paine, Iain Mackintosh)**

Domestic Events Report

Jim reported that all 2014 events were progressing satisfactorily. We will poll team captains in the Postal League to establish their interest in a 2015 event – present numbers are making the competition of marginal benefit. **(Action: Jim Anderson)**

Treasurer's Report

Gordon reported that the 2013-14 Accounts had been fully audited and reveal a satisfactory financial position.

Income amounted to £2,584.46 (2013-£2,882.09), the main contributors to the fall in income being reduced membership fees, reduced donations and reduced interest income. The falls in income in these areas was offset a little by increases in team league entry fees and 100 club subscriptions.

Expenditure in the year was £2,442.85 (2013-£2,558.33). Committee expenses fell significantly due to the use of electronic distribution of renewal papers, however, this was offset by a significant increase in the cost of prizes and trophies to £826.00 (2013-£283.50). The main cause of that increase was the provision for prizes for the recently commenced 3rd Webserver tournament.

The outcome was a surplus of £141.61 (2013-£323.76). Total assets at year end amounted to £10,481.68 (2013-£10,340.07).

The Barclays bank mandate update remains in progress. **(Action: Gordon Anderson)**

International Secretary's Report

George reported that a new friendly match versus France (23 boards) had started in March, and a return fixture with Venezuela (25 boards) had started a few days ago. In May, a tri-nations match was initiated between Wales, England and ourselves, over 10 boards and restricted to <2200 grades.

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We have fielded a strong 8-board team in the 10th Euro team semi-finals, which officially starts on June 10th. Entries close on 30th June for the 6th ICCF Webserver Open, and an announcement on the 7th ICCF Veterans' World Cup is imminent.

No further nominations to the 2014 Preliminaries of the ICCF World Championship were made. We'll consider subsidising individual entry fees in future. **(Action: George Pyrich, Gordon Anderson)**

The 2014 ICCF Congress will take place in Sydney, Australia from 11th to 18th October. Andrew Dearnley (England) is indisposed, so we'll ask Austin Lockwood (Wales) to carry the SCCA proxy. **(Action: George Pyrich)**

Grader's Report

George reported Peter Bennett had now recorded 4 grading norms towards the SM title, and the award was unanimously approved. Robert Montgomery remains close, but still needs 1 further norm.

ICCF Veterans' World Cup (VWC)

Alan reported the following status:

- **VWC2:** (TD George Pyrich) the final is nearing conclusion, and there is no fixed closing date. There are 2 ongoing games which, barring blunders, should result in clear 1-2-3 placings. 3 trophies will be awarded in the form of engraved quaichs. **(Action: Alan Borwell, George Pyrich)**
- **VWC3:** (TD George Pyrich) the final started on 15/2/2014 with 13 players. 27 games (all draws!) have completed and 78 remain in progress. Although there is no fixed closing date, it should end in late Summer 2015.
- **VWC4:** (TDs Gordon Anderson, Alastair Maxwell and Kevin Paine) 7 semi-final groups of 15 players each are being contested with a closing date of 15/11/2014. There are 52 unfinished games across all groups. The final starts February 2015.
- **VWC5-7:** (Organised by the BdF) VWC5 has 36 groups which closed on 1/3/2014. Semi-finals start June 2014 (Alan Borwell has qualified, and Richard Beecham, Geoff Lloyd and Peter Bennett are all in contention). VWC6 has 42 groups which started on 1/9/2013 – no set closing date. VWC7 is due to start September 2014 – announcement imminent.

We'll check on TD progress towards IA norms before the ICCF Congress in October in case anyone qualifies for the title. **(Action: George Pyrich)**

Chess Scotland Articles

Iain reported that no further articles had been published. Peter Woods has just stood down as editor, and we will liaise with the new appointee once the announcement is made.

3rd Webserver Open

Alan and George reported that both sections were progressing well, and should be decided prior to the target completion date.

1st Annual Best Game Prize

Iain reported that this had been won by Richard Beecham with a full report provided in magazine 125. Jim had provided the trophy. The meeting decided that previously published games would be eligible for future competitions.

British CC Championships

George reported that the BFCC had now changed its name to the English Federation (EFCC), thus ending the York Agreement which had governed Home Nations events.   The Welsh Federation (WFCC) is organising an inaugural British Chess960 Championship.   Further discussions will be necessary to decide the format of any future British CC Championships.

Website and Magazine

Iain reported that the website has continued to run smoothly since the hosting changeover. The next magazine.copy date is 30 June - all contributions gratefully received as usual. A low take-up on printed magazine renewals this year may make future print runs prohibitively costly, but we'll check with previous subscribers and also the printers before deciding. **(Action: Iain Mackintosh)**

Next Meeting

Provisionally Friday 19th September at 8pm, by Skype. This may be subject to change as it depends on early receipt of ICCF Congress papers plus an email round of comments and issues arising – we need to establish our proxy voting intentions by early October. The other main agenda item is 2015 membership renewals.