

SCCA Executive Committee Minutes
Sunday 21st June, 2015, 2:00pm, by Skype

Present

Iain Mackintosh (Chair), Gordon Anderson, Alan Borwell, Alastair Dawson (in part), Kevin Paine, George Pyrich (all Skype).

Apologies

Jim Anderson.

Minutes of the Meeting on 8th February 2015

Accepted.

Matters Arising

- Late membership renewals have now been chased up.
- Quick links have been added to the website home page.
- Improved pay-in facilities via Halifax in Bath have been arranged.
- ICCF tournament remittances are being sent directly to Gordon now George is in Spain.
- Clarification was received on Champions League format and the event is under way.
- SCCA 3rd Webserver Open finals are both now started.
- The printed magazine distribution list for 2015 is now in operation.
- Professor Alastair Dawson is to join our committee at AGM.

Membership Secretary's Report

Kevin reported that 7 annual members have renewed after reminders and 1 new annual member has joined. John McKinstry hasn't renewed, so shouldn't be selected for forthcoming friendlies.

Domestic Events Report

No report available due to Jim's absence, but all 2015 events are understood to be progressing satisfactorily. The Championship trophy won by Stuart Graham in 2010-11 still needs to be retrieved. **(Action: Jim Anderson)**

Treasurer's Report

Gordon reported that the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015 have been audited by Alan Hind. Alan has once again agreed to donate his fee and more importantly has agreed to continue to offer himself as the SCCA Auditor.

The Accounts reveal a satisfactory financial position. Income in the 12 month period amounted to £2,392 (2014: £2,584), the main contributors to the fall in income being reduced subscriptions to the 100 Club, a reduction in income from entries to ICCF competitions and no costs being incurred with our website ISP Connection fees (donated). The falls in income in these areas was offset a little by increases in donations received, bank interest and magazine income.

Expenditure in the year was £2,120 (2014: £2,443). The reduction in expenditure results from a significant reduction in the costs incurred for prizes, reductions in monies paid to ICCF in respect of tournament entries, and reduced postage for the SCCA magazine. These reductions were offset to some extent by our donations to both the Welsh Correspondence Chess Federation in respect of the ICCF Congress to be hosted by the WCCF this year and a donation to Chess Scotland to assist with the funding of the Glorney Cup which they recently hosted.

The outcome was a surplus of £272 (2014: £142). Total assets amounted, at the year end, to £10,754 (2014: £10,482). The committee thanked Gordon and Alan for their customary accurate and efficient work.

SCCA Executive Committee Minutes
Sunday 21st June, 2015, 2:00pm, by Skype

International Secretary's Report

George reported that new matches against Iceland, Wales and the National Correspondence Chess Club (affiliated to EFCC) were started recently. The 6th cycle of the ICCF Champions League also started recently and we need to resolve collection of fees. **(Action: Iain Mackintosh)**

ICCF recently invited entries to 2 new events, the 8th Veterans World Cup and 21st World Cup. We have already submitted a number of entries to both events.

The 2015 ICCF Congress is to be held in Cardiff from 16th to 22nd August where we will be represented by George Pyrich, Gordon Anderson and Kevin Paine. Expense allowances of those attending were agreed, and Gordon has circulated a final budget. We aren't currently carrying any proxies for other countries, but Ireland may yet ask.

The published ICCF Congress proposals were debated, with the committee deciding that our delegate vote should accept 23, reject 13, and reflect further on 2 meantime. Comments on the latter two should be circulated no later than Sunday, 28th June. **(Action: All)**

A meeting is scheduled to be held in Cardiff between representatives of the 3 UK National Federations. Amongst items to be discussed will be the format and organisation of future British events including the British championships. Full proposals are unlikely in advance.

Grader's Report

George reported no new movements in title norms.

ICCF Veterans' World Cup (VWC)

Alan reported the following status:

- **VWC 2 Final:** (TD George Pyrich) has been concluded with the winner being Vladimir Stepanovich Sergeev IM from Russia, ahead of Vytautas Sutkus IM from Lithuania and Juan Andres Enricci SIM from Argentina. The three medallists have received engraved Quaichs presented by the Scottish CCA.
- **VWC 3 Final:** (TD George Pyrich) started on 15/2/2014 with 13 players and it should end in late Summer 2015. There are currently 92 finished games with 13 still in progress. So far there have been only 10 conclusive games in a 15 player Final. The leader with 8pts from his 14 games is SIM Tor-Arne Klausen (NOR) but he could be overtaken by IM Frits Blecker IM (GRE) who has 7.5/12pts. Lawrence Coplin (USA) and GM Juri Siigur (EST) have finished with 7/14pts but several other players could also reach medal places.
- **VWC 4 Final:** (TD Gordon Anderson) started on 15/1/2015 with 15 players and no closing date. Both SIM and IM title norms are available. So far 34 games are finished – all as draws!
- **VWC 5:** There are 9 Semifinal Groups of 13 players. Alan Borwell played in Group 02, finishing with 7.5/12pts, winning 3 and drawing 9 games. However, he was unable to win his last game and will not qualify for the Final. Peter Bennett leads Group 07 also with final score of 7.5/12 pts. He is also unbeaten but will have to wait until several other challenging players have finished their games, before knowing if he will qualify for the VWC5 Final.
- **VWC 6:** 42 groups started 1/9/2013 –Closing Date 28/2/15. There were 9 Scottish participants playing in 12 different preliminary groups. Richard Beecham finished in top place with a very impressive 10/12 score! Alan Borwell (8/12) also qualified for the Semifinal stage by finishing with 8/12 pts as group runner-up on tie break, having scored 5 wins in his games. The VWC6 Semifinals began on 15 June 2015 with 8 groups each of 19 players. Only the winner of each group is guaranteed a place in the 15 player Final, with the 7 best placed runner-up to complete the line up. Richard Beecham decided not to take up his Semifinal place so Alan Borwell is Scotland's only participant.

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- **VWC 7:** started on 1st September 2014 with 33 Prelim. Groups. There are 6 Scottish CC participants playing in 8 groups. After only 10 months of play, most Groups have more than 75% of games finished. The only SCCA player likely to qualify for the VWC7 Semifinals is Peter Bennett with 6.5/10pts with 2 games to finish. Alan Borwell with 5.5/10 and 6/11 is unlikely to reach a top 2 placing whilst Eoin Campbell finished with a creditable 7/12 in his group
- **VWC 8:** was announced in May 2015, with the closing date for entries being 1st August 2015. The likely start date is 1st September 2015. It will be organised by the English CCF.

Alan asked if this item should continue on the SCCA Exec agenda and we agreed that it should be a fixture until **VWCs 2-4** (organised by the SCCA) were completed.

3rd Webserver Open

George reported that both A and B Finals were now under way and progressing well. A number of results are now posted and all active games can be viewed with a 5-move time delay.

2nd Annual Best Game Prize

Iain reported that Richard Beecham had judged Charles O'Neill-McAleenan as winner of the 2014 competition. A further competition would be held at the end of 2015. **(Action: Iain Mackintosh)**

Website, Facebook and Magazine

Iain reported that the website continues to run smoothly and now has quick links on the home page for easier navigation. Our Facebook page is available at <http://facebook.com/scottishcca> and has received 68 likes worldwide – you can add to that total if you haven't already. The next magazine copy date is 30 June - all contributions gratefully received as usual.

Adjudication Rules

Kevin presented his proposals for revision of SCCA Adjudication Rules. All agreed in principle. Final draft wordings to be completed and the website updated in the next couple of weeks, with a view to applying in 2015. **(Action: Kevin Paine, Iain Mackintosh)**

Postal League

Raymond Burrige had submitted a proposal to extend the life of the Postal League by perhaps reducing team sizes and/or pooling players. A group will poll team captains and players before year-end then propose a way forward. **(Action: Jim Anderson, Alan Borwell, Alastair Dawson)**

Championship Tie-Breaks

We agreed to implement the Baumbach method (followed by Sonnenborn-Berger if required) to the current Championships (2014-15 and 2015-16) and subsequent years.

Retirements and Presentations

C/F: We need to check if George Livie received a quaich after retiring. **(Action: Iain Mackintosh)**
Dave Savage should receive a letter and quaich for his long service in running the Postal Leagues. **(Action: Jim Anderson)**

Next Meeting

TBA.