

Leicestershire & Rutland Chess Association 2015 AGM Minutes

Wednesday June 3rd 2015 - at Latimer Conservative Club

The chairman **John Pattinson** opened the meeting at 7:35, and thanked those present for their attendance, and the Latimer Club for arranging the use of their premises.

The General Secretary **Jim Bingham** took the minutes.

1. Present and apologies for absence.

	<u>Club</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Apologies</u>
1	Ashby	Neil Roberts (NR)	Richard Vann (RV);
2	Blaby District at Heathcote Arms		Graham Booley (GB)
3	Braunstone	Jim Bingham (JTB); Mike Salisbury (MWS)	Paul Colburn (PJC)
4	Hinckley		
5	Kirby Castlers	Jim Cowley (JC)	
6	Latimer	Brian Slater (BS); Granville Hill (GH)	
7	Leicester University	Laurence Livsey (LL)	
8	Loughborough		John Mitchell (JM)
9	Market Harborough	Charles Oppenheim (CO)	
10	Melton Mowbray		
11	Oadby		Mike Thornton (MAT)
12	Red Admiral		
13	Shepshed Rooks		
14	Syston	Shabir Okhai (SO)	
15	Thurnby	John Pattinson (JP);	Bob Collins (BC)
16	Wigston	Neil Beasley (NB); Andy Morley (AJM); Non-delegates :- Iain Dodds (ID);	Martin Burrows

2. Minutes Of The LRCA Annual General Meeting held on 23rd May 2012

These were taken as read as they had been distributed with the notification of the AGM in the email from the Gen Sec on 12May15. AJM proposed that they were an accurate reflection of the 2013 AGM, and NB seconded the proposal.

3. Matters Arising

AJM confirmed that the recommendation that had been passed to the League Management Committee (LMC) regarding the time control had been adopted; so interim time controls had now been discontinued.

He also mentioned that he had carried out the activity to effect some rationalisation of the League rules in the handbook, as had been authorised at the 2014 AGM: and he put out the invitation to those present for further comments on this issue if they wished.

This prompted a response from JC, who then agreed to email AJM about his view of an inconsistency in the rules.

4. Officer's Reports.

4.1. Chairman [John Pattinson]

JP expressed his thanks once again to all the officers for the hard work over the year, and to the Latimer Club for hosting this year's AGM.

He continued by summarising the items he'd listed in his written report; which was as follows :-

The charity evening held at Latimer raised £132 for LOROS which is a great sum thanks all the entries on the evening which saw the largest number of teams for many years.

The league expanded by a division this year which is great to see more players playing more games. The George Winterton minor league continued this year and my thanks to the junior committee for helping out and to Stewart Gordon for recording the results for the website. Currently Loughborough and Ashby are playing off for the title. Please enter teams for this competition as it gives juniors and low graded players much fun and experience.

Thanks to Andy Morley for once again running the Indian summer event. I had plenty of good friendlies and handed out a contact lists to new players. Also for running the county Championships and HE Atkins congress which continues to be well attended.

LRCA had 235 members registered with the ECF this year with about a quarter of clubs registered the players directly. It is something I'd like to leave for clubs to do individually as it takes a lot of time preparing spreadsheets to upload and posting cheques but feel we need to leave the option of going through an LRCA officer for free juniors.

The ECF membership fees are going to be raised by £2 Bronze, £3 Silver and £4 gold.

The open day and charity evening will be held at the end of September so if you have a suitable venue that can hold 30 – 40 games of chess please let me know.

Finally anyone who is interested in helping run anything in LRCA please contact Jim Bingham as we have plenty of vacancies.

3.2. Secretary [Jim Bingham]

JTB provided a presentation of the items he'd listed in his written report; which were as follows :-

Although we do again seemed to have had another satisfactory season, I'm afraid my pessimistic concerns, expressed last year, and in recent emails, resulting from the lack of new willing volunteers to take over as officials in our organisation, continues.

If those officers who declared their intention at the 2014 AGM to step down after this last year, actually do so this evening, then as far as I know we could be left with vacancies in the following key positions :-

General Secretary

League Secretary.

ECF memberships administrator; possibly

Publicity Committee Chairman

And as I mentioned in last year's report if we can't address this personnel problem then, at the very least, but most importantly, the League will not continue to run in the forthcoming season.

Finally I would just add that there are at least two of us now (myself and Mike Thornton) who feel that there some aspects of the Constitution which are in real need of an update, and we have provided proposals to achieve this objective in Item 10 on the Agenda.

3.3. Treasurer [Bob Collins]

As BC's report (appended to these minutes) had been circulated to everyone previously, the meeting moved on to discuss its contents and BC's account summaries.

The main concern of the meeting was the unusually high deficit (£488) shown on the balance sheet. AJM and JP pointed out that there were several contributory factors to this situation, viz.

- the purchase of 2 new cups and individual trophies for the extra divisions
- other atypical expenditure associated with trophy repairs and engraving
- an uncleared cheque for £150
- some items carried forward from the previous season.

A lengthy discussion then took place about the current financial situation and whether the Treasurer's proposal that the fees paid by clubs should not need to be increased for the coming season.

JP pointed out that the demands placed on the finances by the county teams will be lessened next season if, as seems likely, there may be only two county teams. However counteracting this situation is both the possibility that the U120 side might be resurrected, and also that the ECF have proposals in mind which might increase the number of matches that will have to be played.

On the topic of the county teams expenditure, the point was made that the £50 penalty for one of the teams failing to satisfy one their fixtures, was also considered to be a one-off.

One area where there was substantial agreement was the expense involved in supplying so many trophies to the individuals involved in the teams winning the league divisions and the various cups. Especially as many players over the years just finish up hoarding large numbers of trophies.

Ultimately AJM and MWS undertook to investigate whether there are ways of reducing this annual bill, while ensuring that those players who wish to have individual trophies would still do so. The compromise between the latter players especially, as LL emphasised, when they have just started to achieve some success, and those players for whom gaining trophies had become almost meaningless, was recognised to be the fundamental issue.

When it was highlighted that the amount spent on junior chess had increased over the last season, BS raised the question of whether there was a declared budget for this aspect of the LRCA's commitments. Although it was evident that no-one could provide any assurance about this, AJM did mention that there was enough money in the Congress account for some to be used for supporting junior chess activities. However, this remained as an undefined undertaking.

On the proposal made by the Treasurer that the fees should remain the same for the next season, there was majority approval, with only GH, who argued the case for aiming to balance the books every year, voting against the motion.

In the absence of the Congress Committee Treasurer (Sean Hewitt) AJM reassured the assembly that the very healthy financial standing of the Congress accounts is available to underwrite the LRCA accounts, should that unlikely situation arise.

Acceptance of the accounts was then proposed by AJM and seconded by SO, and were duly passed unanimously.

1. Committee Chairman's Reports

1.1 County Teams [Graham Booley]

In the absence of GB, JP gave a presentation based on GB's written report for the 1st team, which can be found appended to these minutes.

JP also added that the U100 team had acquitted itself much better this year, which should provide some encouragement for the team to continue.

Some discussion took place about the ECF's intentions to consider allowing any team to enter the final stages of the competition: and there was general agreement that this would undermine the rationale for the MCCU's existence, and would potentially lead to more expense for the county organisations since it would result in more matches, and these would often require the use of neutral venues. Consequently there was a lot of sympathy with GB's declaration that he would resign as 1st team captain should this embryonic plan come into being; though this would probably be disastrous for Leics county chess.

However, JP pointed out that the "ECF plan" will not be applied to this coming season anyway, and he will certainly be raising the subject at the upcoming MCCU AGM.

On a more optimistic note NR mentioned that Paul Colburn had indicated at the recent Junior Committee meeting that he is considering running a county U120 team, with the aim of providing more opportunities for juniors to play at this level.

1.2 League Secretary's Report [Mike Salisbury]

MWS provided a presentation of the items he'd listed in his written report; the latter being as follows :-

The season has been a considerable success with all the fixtures in all 6 divisions being completed on time and with no last minute defaults. There were 47 teams entered in the league, an increase of 4 from the previous year, and these were equally spread across 6 divisions. It was good to see a new team from Leicester University enter and they played all their matches and did well to finish second in division 5.

This year there was only one occasion when a team defaulted, and there were only 22 boards defaulted across all 47 teams in 6 divisions – a low number compared to previous years. As usual there was the odd problem with the "barred players" rules and their interpretation. However with the barred players list now on the main Irca website and being regularly updated there were no significant disputes at all during the season.

Thanks must be paid to Michael Fraser for all his hard work in running the league results website - in terms of up to date results and information it is excellent.

Congratulations to the divisional winners:

- Division 1 – Wigston 1
- Division 2 – Braunstone 1
- Division 3 – Loughborough 2
- Division 4 – Kirby Muxloe 1
- Division 5 – Red Admiral 1
- Division 6 - Wigston 6

Having served office for a number of years now, I feel it is the right time to step down and let someone else to take over.

On the latter issue MWS subsequently expressed his fervent hope that some willing person will make themselves available for this post. In response, SO informed the meeting that Cyril Johnson had mentioned that he could be called upon to perform this role should it become necessary.

JTB was able to inform the meeting that Cyril's preparedness to help out had also been relayed to him in an email, and that he had already thanked Cyril for his offer of help.

It was then decided that it would be more appropriate to return to this topic in Item 8 of the Agenda.

A vote of thanks for all MWS' efficient management of the League over recent years was then proposed by AJM, and duly passed unanimously.

As MWS had also supplied a webmaster's report (appended), in his absence JTB read it out to the meeting.

1.3 Congress

In his capacity as the controller of the individual championships held last summer, AJM firstly gave a brief report about these events; the main points of which were :-

- He had again had strong indications that they had been successful events which had been thoroughly enjoyed by the participants.
- He had been very frustrated that the 2 Wigston players who had tied for 1st place in the County Championship never managed to organise their play-off, and he had decided that a stronger line would be adopted such a situation arise again.
- Following the particularly uncooperative attitude of one player in the County Championship, he had taken the unilateral decision (as the Controller) that this individual would be barred from entering in future.

As the Congress report (appended to these minutes) had already been circulated to everyone previously, AJM just commented on some of its main points, starting with a glowing endorsement of the way that Regent College, as usual, made every effort to help to make the event successful.

For yet another year AJM was disappointed by the inexplicably low turnout of Leics players to the event, and would be interested to hear of any possible reasons why this should be so, and also any ideas for rectifying this situation. Regarding the latter LL made the suggestion that an award of some sort could be made to the LRCA club that was deemed to be the best represented at the event; a method that he had seen used at another congress.

After a discussion about whether the lack of Leics players might be resulting from an inadequate awareness of the event taking place, JP wondered whether it would be worthwhile having an email circulation list for all the LRCA members, to allow direct targeting of information to everyone for such instances. BS pointed out that if this technique were to be used, then care would need to be taken to ensure that the addressees were not made vulnerable to cyber attacks.

The question of whether the Atkins being run over 3 days might be a deterrent to some people was raised by SO, suggesting that maybe switching to a 2-day congress, like some others, might be helpful.

AJM finally closed this item with an appeal for more assistance in running the congress.

1.4 Juniors [John Mitchell]

As the Junior Chess report (appended to these minutes) had already been circulated to everyone previously, NR, in the absence of JM and PJC, presented the main items of this report to the meeting.

Over the last month or so, the overriding issue on the junior chess scene has been the fact that Paul Findley had resigned his post as Director Of Schools Chess, and at the time of the meeting had not yet been able to settle the financial matters that existed as result of his company taking payments for chess tuition that he was no longer able to perform.

As well the awkward situation this had left the LRCA in, the collapse of the interface which his company had with the Leics. schools was also a cause for concern. NR pointed out that the cooperation between these schools (49 in total) and the junior committee had been an ongoing issue for some time, since there have only been a handful who had shown any interest in chess. It was later mentioned that schools had been contacted about entering the George Winterton Cup, which could allow for matches to be played immediately after the end of school. This again prompted little response, and AJM suggested that he felt given this situation all those involved in junior chess could do was to maintain their efforts to encourage the schools to take an interest, by making continual contact.

There was also some discussion about whether the lack of a formal arrangement between Paul Findley's company and the LRCA had left the latter in a risky situation with regard to untoward developments affecting the LRCA's reputation.

In relation to the current problem NR mentioned that the junior committee were looking for ways to the rectify matters; and he reassured the meeting that the upcoming junior championship to be held later in June would be entirely under the auspices of the LRCA. Neil also mentioned that the LRCA Treasurer always ensures that junior financial items (for instance the donations from John Mitchell's company) are recorded separately, in his accounts. And this procedure is also adopted by the clubs who run the county-wide junior events; so, for example, the income from the events held at Braunstone were just intended to meet expenses, such as the room hire.

In response to interest in what type of junior players were receiving the attention of the Junior Committee, NR explained that, for example, the Ashby event planned for the June 6th was being limited to those players who were likely to become county team members.

A motion to give a vote of thanks to Paul Colburn for all the work he has put in to junior chess over the last year, was passed unanimously. And as a associated point on this topic it was pointed out that the junior members of the LRCA now make up 15% of the total (the average for all counties being ~17%).

As afterthought on the ill-defined financial relationship between the junior chess scene and the LRCA, AJM requested that good communications were essential between both parties, and that all junior activities ought to get full coverage on our website.

Publicity Chairman Report [vacant]

Despite the lack of a functioning Publicity Committee, and consequently no report being provided, some discussion took place on our current situation regarding publicity. It was again highlighted that local newspapers have little interest in providing chess coverage.

SO raised the question of the LRCA's involvement in the Indian Summer event, and although a few new members had been gained from the 2014 event there seemed little disappointment at the news from AJM that we had not been invited to make an appearance at this year's event.

2. Report of ECF Delegate

In the absence of the ECF delegate (Sean Hewitt), and no report had been provided: however Sean has not given any indication of wishing to discontinue in this role, despite his resignation as an ECF official.

Report from MCCU Delegate

No formal MCCU Delegate report was presented and in a discussion about the MCCU event; the West Midlands Congress, JP mentioned that he would be obtaining more information about this at the MCCU AGM on June 20th.

A question about the allocation of Grand Prix points for the Leicester Congress was unresolved.

(P.S. by JTB : Subsequent to AGM, JP has provided a report; which is appended herewith).

Report from Grading Officer [Stewart Gordon]

No report was available from SG

(P.S. by JTB : A secretarial error meant that Stewart had not been prompted for a report or the date of the AGM. He has since provided a report; which is appended herewith).

Comments were made at the meeting about there being some confusion about the results of some matches which had not been resolved.

3. Election Of Officers

JTB emphasised to the meeting that he had emailed all of the LRCA Officers and Club Secretaries about the precarious situation the LRCA is currently in because of the intention of some key officers to relinquish their roles, and the lack of suitable volunteers to take on the roles.

There was much discussion about duties performed by various officials and the possibilities of splitting workloads between more people: some of the salient points being that :-

- MWS suggested that it was imperative that a League Secretary should be available to start their duties by the end of July, at the latest.
- JP indicated that although he would much prefer not to be the LRCA Chairman he would be prepared to act in some other capacity.
- JTB agreed that if absolutely necessary he would be prepared to continue as General Secretary for another year.

- SO, despite reservations about his long-term residency in Leics was prepared to help out with some aspect of the LRCA workload.
- Martin Burrows had previously offered to take over the fixture secretary's duties from Mike Thornton.

Eventually a working proposal was arrived at which would allow us to "stagger on" for another year, and consisted of the following occupations of the existing, and newly introduced, LRCA roles :-

LRCA Policy Committee		
Position	Appointed	Previous incumbent
Chairman	Mike Salisbury	John Pattinson
General Secretary	Jim Bingham	Jim Bingham
Treasurer	Bob Collins	Bob Collins
League Secretary	John Pattinson	Mike Salisbury
LRCA Policy Committee (contd.)		
Position	Appointed	Previous incumbent
<u>Committee Chairmen</u>		
Congress	Andy Morley	Andy Morley
League	Mike Thornton	Mike Thornton
County teams	Graham Booley	Graham Booley
Publicity	vacant	vacant
Junior Chess Directors :-		
- Clubs (& Chairman)	John Mitchell	John Mitchell
- Schools	Neil Roberts	Paul Findley
- County	Paul Colburn	Paul Colburn
Delegates and other officers		
MCCU delegates	Graham Booley; John Mitchell; Sean Hewitt ; John Pattinson	Graham Booley; John Mitchell; Sean Hewitt ; John Pattinson
ECF delegate	Sean Hewitt	Sean Hewitt
<u>County Teams</u>		
Chairman	Graham Booley	Graham Booley
Delegates :-	Paul Colburn	John Pattinson Paul Findley Paul Colburn
	U160 Captain (decision deferred until late summer)	N/A
Grading Officer	Stewart Gordon	Stewart Gordon
Webmasters	Mike Salisbury - information content Mike Fraser - results	Mike Salisbury - information content Mike Fraser - results

Independent Auditor	Martin Burrows	Martin Burrows
Supporting Roles		
ECF Regns. Administrator	Shabir Okhai (acting Deputy League Sec)	N/A
Fixtures Sec .	Martin Burrows	N/A (performed by League Chairman)
Junior Comms. Administrator	Mike Salisbury	N/A

This allocation of roles was then proposed by NB and seconded by ?? and then passed unanimously by the meeting.

9. Subscriptions for 2015-2016

This item had already been discussed and agreed upon in Agenda Item 3.3. (PS : JTB perhaps this decision should be permanently be relocated to this earlier position on the Agenda?)

10. Proposed changes to the Constitution

Because of the complexity of this issue and the lateness of the evening, after a short discussion AJM offered to consider the suggestions being made by MAT and JTB, and prepare a revised version of the Constitution for presentation to the Policy Committee for comment. Following endorsement by the Policy Committee this Constitution should then be brought to the 2016 AGM for consideration/approval.

11. Any Other Business

The various items discussed at this point were :-
MCCU June 20th meeting attendees. JP declared that he would be going, and SO said in that in his new capacity he felt that he should go too.

AJM felt that in view of SDH's resignation from his ECF role (?) we ought to confirm that he is agreeable to continuing as our ECF delegate.

The possibility of fielding U100 and/or U120 County teams needs to be raised with Paul Colburn. It was understood that Paul was quite keen on this idea, to give more juniors the opportunity for county chess; though it seemed quite likely that he would already have more than enough commitments.

In this year's discussions about time controls and the late starting of matches, AJM made the radical proposal that at any particular match if the home team failed to meet the 7:30 start-time, then the away team should be granted the right to choose which of the two time controls should be used. And this was passed unanimously, so should become an item forwarded to the League Committee for consideration.

11. Date of Next Meeting

In line with JTB's proposal for the Constitutional change to arrange the AGM's to be the nearest convenient date to the end of May, it was agreed that this should be acted upon for next year. (P.S. by JTB : this actually conflicts with the decision taken at the 2014 AGM!)

JP then declared the meeting closed at 10:07pm.

COUNTY 1ST TEAM REPORT

Firstly to conclude the 2014 season, Despite having Mark Hebden back to lead our fight for a place in the national finals and our top 7 boards also available we went down to a 3rd successive defeat to Nottinghamshire 9.5-6.5, so our campaign ends at the semi- final stage.

Onto 2014/2015 season

We started with a comfortable win against Derbyshire 11.5-5.5 this was followed by a loss to Lincolnshire by the same score, next up was Nottinghamshire, having lost to them 3 times last season we were understandably nervous about making it 4 in a row but we needn't have worried, Nottinghamshire were not the same force as last season and we secured a comfortable 10.5-5.5 win. This gave us a midlands semi against surprise opponents Worcestershire who had managed to overcome the might of Warwickshire and Staffordshire to top the west zone.

Despite being confident of success against a team I couldn't remember losing too before, our hearts sank when they produced GM Keith Arkle on top board and this proved to be the deciding factor as we lost by 1 board. This meant we had to play a 3rd place play off against Greater Manchester to decide who would go through to the national stages.

We were missing our top 3 boards but surprisingly found ourselves heavily outgrading our opponents from board 5 down, this however did not stop the usual drama as the match went down to the last board 8-7 to our advantage but a loss would see us lose on board count, the board in question was Mike Cowley with very little time left but a slight edge (anyone who watches Mike regularly will know this is not a pleasant experience), however Mike managed to hold is nerve and bring home the win for a 9-7 win for the team.

We now had a preliminary round match against Cambridgeshire in the national stages.

I managed to secure a halfway venue and gather our strongest team of the season, only Alan Byron and Andy Morley were missing from our top order but I had managed to replace them with Phil Horspool and Raj Ganger. The teams were quite evenly matched based on the January grades, apart from some boards in the middle order(of which we didn't lose any) we were given a great start by John Robinson who won in a few moves when his opponent just castled into a take on h7 and there was no escape, we continued to pick up draws and other wins by Raj Ganger and John Mitchell and I thought we were looking good but despite further wins by Constantin Gramaticu and Jim Bingham, we suddenly lost 2 boards in the middle order and then lost the top 4 boards to go down by a single point 8.5-7.5 and so another season comes to an end.

My thanks to all the players and it was nice to welcome 2 new players to the squad in Shabir Okhai and Contantin Gramaticu, special mention to the ever present Graham Sharpe and John Mitchel for their continued in the transport department, also ever present were Brian Galligan and Shabir Okhai. Brian remained unbeaten for the second successive season and John Mitchell also remained unbeaten with an excellent 4.5/5. My final thanks to Andy Morley who continues to provide transport support and stood in as captain when I was unavailable.

I will be happy to continue next year if the tournament structure remains the same but if the changes being discussed for the national stages go ahead then I will stand down as captain. I can give more details of these proposed changes at the AGM but you can find out about them on the ECF forum

Graham Booley

LRCA AGM 2015

Report of the Congress Committee chairman Andy Morley.

The 2014 H.E. Atkins memorial tournament was held at the same venue as for the last 6 years, the Regent College, Regent Road. The date was, as last year, the last weekend in November.

The number of entries – 120 - was a record since the event was revived in 2006. This suggests that the end of November is a good time for the event. Andy Butterworth, who runs the Chess Direct bookstall, commented that he had also done better trade than in the recent past – perhaps a good time to be buying Christmas presents!

Once again there were 3 sections to the tournament.

The breakdown of the entries was:

OPEN - (FIDE rated) 38 (2013: 25)
Major - (grade below 160) 46 (2013: 29)
Minor - (grade below 130) 36 (2013: 44)

The prize fund was £1,625 and a full list of the prize winners is given below. The winner of the Open was the young female player, Akshaya Kalaiyalahan, aged 13, who played some very attacking, entertaining chess and gained her WFM title in the process. The Major was won by Roger Greatorex, and the Minor by Mike Maher – who got the draw he needed against Bob Wallace of Melton in the last round.

The congress was enjoyed by all, judging from the absence of any complaints, and by the number of players who made a point of telling us that they had enjoyed it! So it was disappointing that the entry from Leicestershire players hit an all time low – both in terms of the numbers participating, and the percentage of the overall entry. Just 20 Leics players took part – 5 fewer than last year, and 5 fewer than in 2006 when the total entry was only 80. One of the main purposes of running this tournament is to offer local players the opportunity to play in a local congress and, for some reason, they are not doing so. I am keen to know why this is, and whether there are changes we could make which would attract more local players. So if anyone has any ideas, please let me know.

The Congress returned a surplus of £ , taking the accumulated balance to £.

Thanks go to Sean Hewitt, who handled the entries, and managed the website; Ben Vaughan who helped with the controlling throughout the weekend; Dave Ricketts, Phil Harlow and my son Joe who helped set up the sets, boards and clocks on the Friday night, and to my wife, Judy who provided the refreshments.

Prize Winners

Open

Rank	Name	Flags	Score	Fed.	M/F	Rating	TPR	W-We	Prize
1st	Kalaiyalahan, Akshaya	CCF	4.5	ENG	F	2016	2730	1.89	£250.00
2nd	Lane, Peter C R	None	4	ENG	M	2043	2766	1.47	£125.00
3rd=	Barnes, Michael H	Gambit	3.5	ENG	M	2204	2164	-0.2	£8.33
3rd=	Mason, Donald J	Shirley \ Warwick	3.5	ENG	M	2143	2061	-0.28	£8.33
3rd=	Burrows, Martin P	Wigston	3.5	ENG	M	2130	2191	0.38	£8.33
3rd=	Jones, Steven A	Surbiton	3.5	ENG	M	2114	2038	-0.34	£8.33
3rd=	Armstrong, Malcolm J	Stafford	3.5	ENG	M	2095	2104	0.06	£8.33
3rd=	Abbas, Daniel	3Cs	3.5	ENG	M	1996	2240	1.27	£8.33
1950+	Sucikova, Svetlana	Hertford	3.5	SVK	F	1985	2120	0.72	£50.00
U1950	Rowan, Daniel	Banbury	3	ENG	M	1720	2079	1.78	£50.00

Major

Rank	Name	Flags	Score	M/F	Rating	Prize
1st	Greatorex, Roger	Llangollen	4.5	M	150 *	£250.00
2nd	Dean, Robert A	Undercliffe	4	M	158 *	£125.00
3rd=	Ireland, David J	Coventry	3.5	M	156 *	£28.57
3rd=	Ashcroft, Graham J	Preston	3.5	M	153 *	£28.57
3rd=	Ribbands, Patrick C	Linton	3.5	M	151 *	£28.57
3rd=	Wilson, Matthew R	Devon	3.5	M	148 *	£28.57
3rd=	Hibbitt, Arthur M	Banbury	3.5	M	147 *	£28.57
3rd=	Hepworth, Peter	Huddersfield	3.5	M	138 *	£28.57
3rd=	Ruffle, Alan P	Penkridge	3.5	M	136 *	£28.57

U155, U148 & U140 Grading prizes merged with 3rd place

Minor

Rank	Name	Flags	Score	M/F	Rating	Prize
1st	Maher, Mike P	Lichfield	4.5	M	127 *	£250.00
2nd=	Kent, Paul	Aigburth	4	M	128 *	£58.33
2nd=	Wallace, Robert (Bob)	Melton Mowbray	4	M	128 *	£58.33
2nd=	Moreby, Kurt E	Gosforth	4	M	121 *	£58.33
U125	Cooper, Barrie D	Wigston	3	M	109 *	£25.00
U125	Reid, Patrick W	Braunstone	3	M	104 *	£25.00
U110	Dainty, Neil	Marple	3	M	99 *	£25.00
U110	Willoughby, Peter	Ecclesall	3	M	99 *	£25.00

MCCU delegate report

The MCCU AGM was held at Syston on the 14th June 2014 so was quite a while ago. Link to minutes http://www.mccu.org.uk/admin/2014agm_min.htm

The MCCU only really organise the county championship so the finances were pretty stable. The fees for the 2014/15 season was kept at the same rate as the previous season.

Money was set aside for a Midlands congress and this was proposed at the meeting to run again on 7th and 8th March 2015 but it has not been run for another year.

All Midlands open congresses are eligible from Grand Prix points this information was passed onto our congress committee.

A list of players who played in the MCCU county championships and where not ECF members was given, there was assurances that the players would be registered before the August 2014 deadline.

Next meeting Saturday 20th June 2015

An additional item has come in via the ECF that there is a proposal to enter all teams into the ECF stages rather than the top 2 or three in the MCCU. This would mean more long distance matches to arrange and less time to play in the MCCU county champs.

John Pattinson

Report of the Grading Officer : Stewart Gordon.

The following events have been submitted for grading since the 2014 AGM:

2013-14 Leicestershire Minor League

2014 Charity Quickplay

2014 Summer Cups - Chapman, Birstall, Harrod and Wylie

2014 Braunstone Club Championships - Open, Major and Minor sections

2014 Braunstone Internal Junior Competition

2014 Braunstone Juniors v Ashby Juniors Friendly

2014-15 Leicestershire Chess League up to December 2014

I am currently in the process of dealing with the remainder of the 2014-15 League and Minor League results. This has been difficult partly as a result of ongoing delays in resolving bugs with the results website, but I am making progress. Furthermore, over the next few weeks/months I plan to develop a system to further automate the generation of grading submissions, which I expect will enable me to carry out the procedure more quickly and efficiently and to identify any problems encountered sooner rather than later.