

Minutes of the Norfolk County Chess Association Annual General Meeting

Aylsham and District Ex Service and Social Club, Wednesday 4th June 2025

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

1. One minute's silence for chess friends who had passed away in the previous 12 months:

Terry Turner, Geoff Elliston, Clive Cubitt, Kathy Hindle, Adrian Bell

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Andy Hartland, Antony Hall, Steve Moore, Roy Hughes

The following members signed the attendance sheet:

John Wickham, Brian Cunningham, David Moore, Alan Page, Matthew Perry, David Payne, Heather Enid Walker, Martin Graham Walker, Paul Coppard, Ben Collinson, Jeff Dawson, Mike Read, Neal Foster, David Owen, Stephen Livermore, Bharath Klass, Jon Vallet, Craig Parks, Eric Bradley, Trevor Ansell, Tony Lerner, Chris Perkins, Stephen Orton, Edward King

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes were distributed along with the agenda, by email to the county database, on Sunday 18th May 2024, and were agreed by the meeting.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

5. Reports

Chairman:

John Wickham delivered the following report:

Sadly, we have lost five former Norfolk chess players, Terry Turner, Clive Cubitt, Geoff Elliston, Kathy Hindle and Adrian Bell, this year. As you will hear later, we are honouring the memory of two of them with the Terry Turner Cup and the Kathy Hindle Shield.

This last season has been a very busy one for me personally and also chesswise. It has been a struggle to keep on top of everything, but it is fortunate that the team we have of Officers and Committee members are all very efficient and work together extremely well. I hope that you will all agree to minute thanks to all the Officers and others who have made this a successful season.

Our County First team won the Icen Cup and qualified for the Minor Counties in the ECF County Championships. They play Devon in the semi-final on Sunday 8th June.

We had two new Clubs join us. North Walsham have done well in Division 4, and we have received some good feedback from clubs that visited them regarding their venue. The Club meets on a Saturday afternoon, but they have been prepared to change that date to accommodate those clubs that find it impossible to play on a Saturday. I hope that they enjoyed their first season and that the club will be a permanent member of NCCA.

The UEA, we knew would require special consideration as they would not really know what competitions they would enter until the League was underway. What we had not appreciated was that travel would be a big issue. The last time we had a UEA team in the League was 10 years ago we did not realise how low car ownership is among students. The UEA stated that travel would be difficult, so we moved their team from Division 2 to Division 4 as the away matches were closer to Norwich. However, it was not clear until December that they had to rely on public transport, so any matches outside Norwich they could not play. I have discussed this with them and stressed that while we are happy for them to enter next season, they must solve the travel issue. There are different people running their club next season so I will need to meet with them to discuss.

We have been operating with an executive committee that meets casually once a year and discusses issues by email. This has worked but we are considering having committee meeting as an option. The intention would be to call a committee meeting if there are issues to discuss rather than hold regular meetings. At the end of the AGM we will be asking for names for the committee.

This has been another busy successful season. There has been plenty of chess available to our members and is one of our county's strengths. I hope that you all enjoyed the season and that you enjoy your rest during the Summer ready for the new season in September.

John Wickham 3/6/25

Following the report Martin Walker mentioned that he and Heather are currently in possession of and sorting through Clive Cubitt's collection of chess books.

Secretary:

Alan Page delivered the following report:

Thank you to all of you who have provided news on events and other information for distribution to the county email list over the last year.

Please could club secretaries let me have any email details for new player registrations to add to the email list.

Also, if you know of anyone not receiving the county-wide messages please let me know and I can add their details or help investigate why this is happening (it could be their email service provider has blocked the message or treated it as spam).

Could I ask you all to ensure you have signed the AGM attendance sheet this evening.

Alan was thanked for all his work by John Wickham on behalf of the meeting.

Treasurer:

The following report from Andy Hartland had been circulated for comment (none received) in advance of the meeting along with the accounts:

Financial Report for the period 1.5.24 to 30.04.25

1. Financial Position

On 01.05.24 NCCA had a total financial balance of £5,408.08, comprising £2255.86 main NCCA funds, £2151.61 junior funds and £723.27 SVP funds, with £277.34 cash in hand. On 30.04.25 NCCA had a total financial balance of £6,653.11, comprising £2980.11 main NCCA funds, £2,392.67 junior funds and £1,186.03 SVP funds, with £94.30 cash in hand. All three areas of the account (main, junior and SVP) show an operating surplus for the reporting period, although once depreciation and liabilities are taken into account the main NCCA funds are seen to have made a small loss over the period, before the cash-in-hand figure is added. The figures are somewhat distorted by equipment purchases which

do not show under income and expenditure but are shown in the balance sheet, under fixed assets. Overall, liquid funds increased by £1,245.03.

Similar to last year, the backlog at the ECF in the collection of pay-to-play fees, this time combined with outstanding costs at 30.4.25 as a result of the holding of the Great Yarmouth Congress close to the year-end, means that significant liabilities of £412 have to be factored in. However, notwithstanding these outstanding liabilities the operating surplus of £1,245 is most welcome.

Both John Wickham and Matthew Perry work diligently to ensure that events that they manage either run at cost or that they return a surplus. This is evidenced by the positive contribution that these events have made to the balance sheet.

One factor that I have not mentioned in previous reports but which has had a still more evident impact on this year's figures than in previous years, has been the generous level of corporate sponsorship and individual donations that NCCA receives. I will talk elsewhere about the contribution made by our Supporter Vice-Presidents. Here I would like to highlight the contribution made by two local companies and by the Great Yarmouth Town Centre Partnership and also by the many individuals who round up entry fees to the nearest zero, or add £5 or £10 to the cost of entry. The Great Yarmouth Congress could not continue in its current form without the generous corporate sponsorship of the event, which this year totalled £775. It is also important to acknowledge the contribution made by individuals who give donations at the time of entry. More recently, there have been examples of players who, having worked hard over a day or a weekend to win a prize, then donate that prize back to the NCCA, either for a specific purpose or simply to support the work done by NCCA. There are also individuals who, although they have not entered an event donate to the cost of the event or, for example, a specific prize. These individual donations this year totalled £725.

Members will recall that league fees increased this season by £5 per team, with cup entries remaining free. With an additional increase in the number of league teams, this brought in an additional £221. This significantly reduced the imbalance between routine income and routine expenditure that I had expressed concern about in last year's report. While club contributions to NCCA via league and cup entry fees have historically been the principal income source for the county, the overall picture is currently more complex. Going forward, while it makes sense to continue to link club contributions to routine costs, the level of voluntary contributions received does allow a little flexibility this year.

2. The SVP Scheme

The SVP scheme supports and promotes the playing of chess in Norfolk. This year our wonderful Supporter Vice Presidents donated £618.76. We purchased 6 new DGT2500 clocks at a cost of £156 (£26 per clock) from the fund, taking advantage of a special offer through the ECF. The fund contains a current balance of 1,186.03. £750 of this amount will be set aside for the purchase of 18 more clocks when a similar offer is made, with the medium-term objective being to have sufficient new clocks to run the Norfolk Championships. £200 will be set aside in order to support the holding of the Great Yarmouth Congress, should the need arise.

3. Bank Charges

In 2023, NCCA changed its banking provider from HSBC to Lloyds. This followed the decision by HSBC to introduce charges for routine banking. Two years later, Lloyds has introduced similar charges which, over a year, will amount to around £60. We have decided to remain with Lloyds for the time being but will keep the situation under review.

4. Proposal regarding League and Cup Fees

Members who were present at last year's AGM will recall a discussion where the most recent rise in league fees was seen as part of a two-stage process to reduce the imbalance between routine income and routine expenditure. The current healthy state of the finances suggests that a further increase in league entry fees is not needed at this time and that there is no need to re-introduce fees to enter the cup competitions.

5. And finally....

Thanks again to Phil Sneesby. From my perspective, Phil's role is to prevent me from making a fool of myself on an annual basis. He seems to have achieved that objective once again.

Andy Hartland
NCCA Treasurer
22nd May 2025

Andy was thanked for all his work by John Wickham on behalf of the meeting.

League/Cup Controller:

Stephen Livermore delivered the following report:

Setting Up

We had 4 new team enter the league (Norfolk & Norwich Pawns, North Walsham, UEA Chess Society and Wymondham Finches), and 2 old teams withdraw (Broadland Grebes and St Johns Knaves). This gave us 31 teams compared to 29 in the previous season. Taking promotion / demotion and preferences into account, 8 teams were placed in each of Divisions 1,2 and 4, and 7 teams in Division 3.

15 teams entered the Williamson Cup, 15 entered the Rapidplay Handicap Cup, and 8 entered the Norfolk & Suffolk Cup, much the same as last season.

We started the season early, on Monday 16th September. The extra weeks helped to accommodate the fixtures with so many league and cup teams, especially for clubs needing to keep certain dates free from league and cup fixtures. It also provides space towards the end of the season for re-arranged matches.

The league management system has the facility to automatically generate the league fixtures which can then be fine-tuned manually. This I did but then discovered that the fixtures were being inspected by team captains before I had finished! I also did rather more fine tuning than was necessary and in the process disturbed the even distribution of fixtures through the season. Two lessons for next year.

Operation

In October the system was upgraded and given a new look and feel, and it does not appear to have caused any problems.

The team captains did an excellent job of entering and verifying match results without delay, and keeping to the board order and guesting rules, making my job much easier.

A potential issue was that North Walsham's home fixtures were to be played on Saturday afternoons. When this was not possible they were happy to play their home fixtures away, so that it did not prove an obstacle to them taking part in the league.

UEA wanted to enter a team in league and cup competitions but were not in a position to give details until after the season started. They later had difficulty attending away fixtures due to lack of transport. It is hoped that these issues can be resolved for next season.

The Williamson Cup and Plate were not without controversy this season. A proposal will be made at the AGM to change the rules so that cup and league team names can't be same, and a player can't play for more than one team in Williamson Cup and Plate in the same season.

Captains, especially if standing in, are not always familiar with the rules, and guidance is being prepared for publication on the league management system. Topics include guesting, and local ratings. If you know of other topics that would benefit from guidance, please say.

The distribution of league and cup weeks has caused some issues with team availability this year. I have prepared a draft of the calendar for next year and invite comment, see <https://lms.englishchess.org.uk/lms/orgpage/247>

This season I have kept track of guest appearances by creating dummy events "1 Guest Appearance", "2 Guest Appearances" etc. I have since discovered that it is possible to track guest appearances by inspecting the "Games" tab of a given player. If there are no objections, I propose to use this method next season. If I see a player guesting, I will check the player's games and inform the club when a player has reached their 5 game limit in accordance with Rule 11.

Player Lists and Ratings

The ratings we use to control board order and guesting are the first-of-month ratings published in the ECF ratings

database, and we advise team captains to check the database on the first of each month.

One difficulty with this advice is that the database publishes the first-of-month ratings in two forms - original ratings coloured blue, and revised ratings coloured red. They appear to be identical, but there is a difference. If any results are corrected and resubmitted, or submitted late, it may cause the published red ratings to change, but not the blue. The blue ratings, once published, never change. We should be using the blue ratings, but the database offers the red ratings by default.

Another difficulty is local ratings within the LMS that override the published ECF ratings, see [Guide to Ratings](#).

A solution to these difficulties is to use the player lists in the LMS. These have recently been enhanced to show the correct ratings i.e. blue ratings, with local ratings applied where they exist. From September I will be advising team captains to use the player lists in the LMS to check ratings rather than referring directly to the ECF ratings database.

Results

The following sections summarise the final results for each cup event and each league division.

Williamson Cup

Winners: Broadland Swallowtails

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
<p><u>Aylsham</u> 3 - 1 <u>St Johns B</u></p>	<p><u>Aylsham</u> 3 - 1 <u>St Johns A</u></p>		
<p><u>Norfolk & Norwich</u> 1 - 3 <u>Broadland Swallowtails</u></p>		<p><u>Aylsham</u> 1½ - 2½ <u>Broadland Swallowtails</u></p>	
<p><u>Norwich Dons Buccaneers</u> 2½ - 1½ <u>Lowestoft</u></p>	<p><u>Norwich Dons Avengers</u> 4 - 0 <u>Fakenham Oddfellows</u></p>		
<p><u>St Johns A</u> 3 - 1 <u>Norfolk & Norwich Reserves</u></p>			<p><u>Broadland Swallowtails</u> 3½ - ½ <u>Norwich Dons Avengers</u></p>
<p><u>Wymondham</u> 3½ - ½ <u>Norwich Dons Cavaliers</u></p>	<p><u>Broadland Swallowtails</u> 4 - 0 <u>Broadland Bitterns</u></p>		
<p><u>North Norfolk</u> 1½ - 2½ <u>Norwich Dons Avengers</u></p>		<p><u>Norwich Dons Avengers</u> 4 - 0 <u>Wymondham</u></p>	
<p><u>Fakenham Oddfellows</u> 4 - 0 <u>UEA Chess Society</u></p>	<p><u>Wymondham</u> 2½ - 1½ <u>Norwich Dons Buccaneers</u></p>		
<p>TBC v TBC</p>			

Williamson Plate

Winners: Norfolk & Norwich

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
<div> <u>Lowestoft</u> $1\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$ <u>Norwich Dons Cavaliers</u> </div>		
<div> <u>St Johns B</u> $1\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{2}$ <u>North Norfolk</u> </div>	<div> <u>Norwich Dons Cavaliers</u> $2 - 2$ <u>North Norfolk</u> </div>	
<div> <u>Norfolk & Norwich Reserves</u> $4 - 0$ <u>UEA Chess Society</u> </div>		<div> <u>North Norfolk</u> $\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{1}{2}$ <u>Norfolk & Norwich</u> </div>
<div> TBC v TBC </div>	<div> <u>Norfolk & Norwich Reserves</u> $0 - 4$ <u>Norfolk & Norwich</u> </div>	

Rapidplay Handicap Cup

Winners: Norfolk & Norwich Pawns

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
<div> <u>Lowestoft</u> 3 - 5 <u>Norwich Dons A</u> </div>			
<div> <u>Aylsham</u> 8 - 0 <u>UEA Chess Society</u> </div>	<div> <u>Lowestoft</u> 4½ - 3½ <u>St Johns B</u> </div>		
<div> <u>Norwich Dons B</u> 2½ - 5½ <u>Norfolk & Norwich Knights</u> </div>	<div> <u>Norfolk & Norwich Knights</u> 4 - 4 <u>Aylsham</u> </div>	<div> <u>Norfolk & Norwich Pawns</u> 5 - 3 <u>Aylsham</u> </div>	
<div> <u>Broadland Swifts</u> 2 - 6 <u>St Johns A</u> </div>			<div> <u>Broadland Fliers</u> 3½ - 4½ <u>Norfolk & Norwich Pawns</u> </div>
<div> <u>St Johns B</u> 6½ - 1½ <u>North Norfolk Lobsters</u> </div>	<div> <u>Broadland Fliers</u> 8 - 0 <u>North Norfolk Shrimps</u> </div>		
<div> <u>Wymondham</u> 2½ - 5½ <u>Broadland Fliers</u> </div>		<div> <u>Broadland Fliers</u> 5 - 3 <u>Lowestoft</u> </div>	
<div> <u>North Norfolk Shrimps</u> 7 - 1 <u>North Walsham</u> </div>	<div> <u>St Johns A</u> 4½ - 3½ <u>Norfolk & Norwich Pawns</u> </div>		
<div> TBC v TBC </div>			

Norfolk & Suffolk Cup

Winners: Norfolk & Norwich

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
<p><u>Lowestoft</u> 3 - 3 <u>St Johns</u></p>		
<p><u>Wymondham</u> ½ - 5½ <u>Norfolk & Norwich</u></p>	<p><u>Norwich Dons</u> 5 - 1 <u>Lowestoft</u></p>	
<p><u>Aylsham</u> 3 - 3 <u>Broadland</u></p>		<p><u>Norfolk & Norwich</u> 4 - 2 <u>Norwich Dons</u></p>
<p><u>North Norfolk</u> 1½ - 4½ <u>Norwich Dons</u></p>	<p><u>Norfolk & Norwich</u> 5 - 1 <u>Aylsham</u></p>	

League Division 1

Winners: Norfolk & Norwich A, Runners Up: Broadland Bitterns

League Table

Team	Play	Won	Draw	Lost	For
<u>Norfolk & Norwich A</u>	14	10	3	1	39
<u>Broadland Bitterns</u>	14	9	3	2	34½
<u>Norwich Dons Avengers</u>	14	5	3	6	30
<u>Norfolk & Norwich B</u>	14	7	2	5	29
<u>St Johns Crusaders</u>	14	7	2	5	29
<u>Norwich Dons Buccaneers</u>	14	3	3	8	23½
<u>Norwich Dons Cavaliers</u>	14	2	3	9	20
<u>St Johns Templars</u>	14	3	1	10	19

Top 10 Scorers

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Collinson, Benjamin PQ	13.5	16	84.4%
McEwan, Ken B	11	14	78.6%
Ganesan, Arasu	10.5	12	87.5%
New, Alexander	10	12	83.3%
Walker, Martin G	9.5	14	67.9%

Hughes, Roy	9	13	69.2%
Bonafont, Philip R	8	14	57.1%
Orton, Stephen LA	8	13	61.5%
Lim, Mark	8	13	61.5%
Moore, Steve N	7.5	16	46.9%
Taylor, Matthew	7.5	14	53.6%
Dawson, Jeff R	7.5	18	41.7%
Stone, Peter	7.5	12	62.5%

Top 10 Performers (with 6 or more games played)

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Ganesan, Arasu	10.5	12	87.5%
Collinson, Benjamin PQ	13.5	16	84.4%
New, Alexander	10	12	83.3%
McEwan, Ken B	11	14	78.6%
Samarakoon, Vivash	7	10	70.0%
Hughes, Roy	9	13	69.2%
Walker, Martin G	9.5	14	67.9%
Abbott, Nathan J	4	6	66.7%
Stone, Peter	7.5	12	62.5%
Orton, Stephen LA	8	13	61.5%
Lim, Mark	8	13	61.5%

League Division 2

Winners: Norfolk & Norwich C, Runners Up: Aylsham Spitfires

League Table

Team	Play	Won	Draw	Lost	For
Norfolk & Norwich C	12	9	1	2	30½
Aylsham Spitfires	12	7	2	3	30
Wymondham Eagles	12	5	2	5	24½
North Norfolk Seals	12	4	3	5	23½
Lowestoft A	12	4	2	6	21
Lowestoft B	12	5	0	7	19½
Fakenham Oddfellows	12	2	2	8	19

Top 10 Scorers

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Hedges, Daniel R	9.5	11	86.4%
Sevciuc, Evghenii	9.5	11	86.4%
Perkins, Chris	8	11	72.7%
Slough, Andrew JS	7.5	12	62.5%
Klass, Bharath	7	10	70.0%

Dekker, Cor	6.5	10	65.0%
Baldry, Owen	5	10	50.0%
Hickman, Neil	5	9	55.6%
Galletti, Armando	5	14	35.7%
Twitchell, David J	4.5	11	40.9%
Robinson, Ashley	4.5	5	90.0%
Gallant, Sam	4.5	9	50.0%
Blackwell, Robin	4.5	10	45.0%
Annison, Thomas	4.5	10	45.0%
Ansell, Trevor J	4.5	8	56.3%
Flynn, Chris	4.5	11	40.9%

Top 10 Performers (with 6 or more games played)

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Sevciuc, Evghenii	9.5	11	86.4%
Hedges, Daniel R	9.5	11	86.4%
Perkins, Chris	8	11	72.7%
Klass, Bharath	7	10	70.0%
Dekker, Cor	6.5	10	65.0%
Slough, Andrew JS	7.5	12	62.5%
Ansell, Trevor J	4.5	8	56.3%
Hickman, Neil	5	9	55.6%
Gallant, Sam	4.5	9	50.0%
Baldry, Owen	5	10	50.0%
Gibbons, Michael J	3	6	50.0%

League Division 3

Winners: Kings Lynn Bishops, Runners Up: St Johns Bishops

League Table

Team	Play	Won	Draw	Lost	For
Kings Lynn Bishops	14	10	3	1	38½
St Johns Bishops	14	10	1	3	34½
Aylsham Hurricanes	14	5	5	4	29
Broadland Swallowtails	14	5	3	6	28
Norwich Dons Daredevils	14	5	2	7	26
Wymondham Wrens	14	3	3	8	24½
Wymondham Owls	14	5	3	6	24
Norfolk & Norwich D	14	2	2	10	18½

Top 10 Scorers

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Stevens, John	9.5	12	79.2%
Guinness, Rupert E	9	11	81.8%

Morter, Matthew J	8	12	66.7%
May, David C	7.5	9	83.3%
Grant, Joseph	7	11	63.6%
Martin, Rupert P	7	10	70.0%
Sneesby, Phil	6.5	10	65.0%
Purkiss, Carl	6.5	11	59.1%
Moore, David W	6	12	50.0%
Carman, Bruce M	6	14	42.9%
Wickham, John R	6	11	54.5%

Top 10 Performers (with 6 or more games played)

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Lin, Henry	5.5	6	91.7%
May, David C	7.5	9	83.3%
Caponka, Raimondas	5	6	83.3%
Guinness, Rupert E	9	11	81.8%
Stevens, John	9.5	12	79.2%
Martin, Rupert P	7	10	70.0%
Jones, Chris	4	6	66.7%
Morter, Matthew J	8	12	66.7%
Sneesby, Phil	6.5	10	65.0%
Grant, Joseph	7	11	63.6%

League Division 4

Winners: North Norfolk Crabs, Runners Up: Wymondham Finches
League Table

Team	Play	Won	Draw	Lost	For
North Norfolk Crabs	14	8	3	3	37
Wymondham Finches	14	9	2	3	36
UEA Chess Society	14	10	0	4	34
Broadland Harriers	14	7	2	5	28½
Norfolk & Norwich Pawns	14	6	2	6	27½
St Johns Knights	14	2	2	10	21
Aylsham Gladiators	14	4	1	9	20½
North Walsham	14	4	0	10	18½

Top 10 Scorers

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Larner, Tony R	9	11	81.8%
Foster, Neal	9	12	75.0%
Vallverdu, Diana	8.5	11	77.3%
Hackford, Edward	7	12	58.3%
Rahman, Faraz	6.5	7	92.9%

Picksley, Robert	6.5	9	72.2%
Gurinas, Edvinas	6.5	8	81.3%
Gendj, Ali	6	6	100.0%
Sexton, Reggie	6	8	75.0%
Coppard, Paul J	6	11	54.5%

Top 10 Performers (with 6 or more games played)

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Gendj, Ali	6	6	100.0%
Rahman, Faraz	6.5	7	92.9%
Larner, Tony R	9	11	81.8%
Gurinas, Edvinas	6.5	8	81.3%
Vallverdu, Diana	8.5	11	77.3%
Foster, Neal	9	12	75.0%
Sexton, Reggie	6	8	75.0%
Picksley, Robert	6.5	9	72.2%
Bradley, Eric	4	6	66.7%
Vallet, Jon	4.5	7	64.3%
Leverett, Isaak	4.5	7	64.3%

Alex Niedzwiedzki Memorial Trophy

This goes to the player with the highest percentage performance in NCCA League and Cup standard play competitions having played 10 or more games. This year the trophy goes to Ashley Robinson.

Top contenders:

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Robinson, Ashley	10.5	11	95.5%
Collinson, Benjamin PQ	18.5	22	84.1%
Larner, Tony R	9	11	81.8%
Sevciuc, Evghenii	10.5	13	80.8%
Ganesan, Arasu	12	15	80.0%
Guinness, Rupert E	9.5	12	79.2%
McEwan, Ken B	14	18	77.8%
Vallverdu, Diana	10.5	14	75.0%
Stevens, John	9.5	13	73.1%
Samarakoon, Vivash	8	11	72.7%
May, David C	8	11	72.7%

John Charman Trophy

This goes to the highest scoring player in NCCA League matches and rated under 1600 having played 6 or more games. This year the trophy goes Jon Vallet.

Top contenders:

	Points Scored	Games Played	Performance
Vallet, Jon	12	25	48.0%
Purkiss, Carl	10.5	17	61.8%

Vallverdu, Diana	10.5	13	80.8%
Gurinas, Edvinas	10	14	71.4%
Foster, Neal	10	13	76.9%
Stevens, John	9.5	13	73.1%
Picksley, Robert	9	20	45.0%
Larner, Tony R	9	11	81.8%
Carman, Bruce M	7.5	18	41.7%
Lin, Henry	7.5	10	75.0%
Sexton, Reggie	7.5	14	53.6%
Leverett, Isaak	7.5	11	68.2%
May, David C	7.5	9	83.3%

Detailed Results

All of the details of this season and past season results are available to view on the ECF League Management System, see <https://lms.englishchess.org.uk/lms/organisation/247>

The events are listed down the left-hand side. Select one of these and you will see a series of tabs that include tables of results and player statistics.

Roll of Honour

The Roll of Honour on the NCCA web site will be updated with all of this season's results. See <https://www.norfolkchess.org/rollofhonour.html>

Stephen Livermore, NCCA Competitions Controller
June 2025

Following the report, Stephen was thanked for all his work by both Eric Bradley and John Wickham on behalf of the meeting.

Events Organiser:

John Wickham delivered the following reports:

We were able to hold our full quota of events this year with five events. I had my usual excellent help from Mike Read and also Roy Hughes. I was pleased that Chris Jones was able to help me at Great Yarmouth despite some health issues. Hopefully Chris will recover following treatment and be available next season for more events.

A feature this season has been finding dates for the events that don't clash with other major events. We were not helped by ECF rearranging dates of their events (e.g. English Seniors and the Cambridge International) and the 4NCL moving some of their dates as well. I expect similar challenges next season.

All events were well attended and went smoothly. I have had a suggestion for a new event, a Seniors Championship. Leaving aside finding a date on the calendar I would welcome some feedback as to whether this will be of interest.

I am pleased to advise that we have a new Trophy for the Rapidplay, The Terry Turner Cup, which will be awarded to the highest scoring Norfolk Registered player in the Championship section. This was purchased with funds from Andrew Brett's prize and was his recommendation, one that I was happy to endorse.

Also, there will be a new shield at Great Yarmouth, in memory of Kathy Hindle and will be for the Highest scoring Norfolk registered Female. We are using funds from a prize donated by Jon Vallet and support from the SVP fund. We will be looking at a prize for the highest scoring female as well.

Finally, a date for your diaries. The Norfolk Championships will be on 4th and 5th October 2025 at our usual venue of the Tithe Barn.

John Wickham

Norfolk Team Blitz

After last year's successful first Team Blitz when we had 16 teams and a two section all play all of 7 rounds, we were hoping for a repeat this year. However, despite Roy Hughes efforts we only had 12 teams enter. That scotched a 7 round all play all, so Roy suggested we have two preliminary rounds with the middle 6 teams playing for a place in either the Championship or the Challengers, and then we have a 5 round all play all for the two sections.

After the preliminary rounds we were left with two Norfolk & Norwich, two Broadland and two St Johns teams in the Championship and in the Challengers, three Broadland, one Dons, one St Johns and one Aylsham team.

The all play all's showed how Blitz can sometime be a lottery. In the Championship, the favourites were Norfolk & Norwich A but they were eclipsed by Broadland Swifts who had it won by the end of round 4 with 8 points and 3 points clear, so a loss to Norfolk & Norwich A in the last round was academic. Just below Norfolk & Norwich in third were St Johns Ambulances.

The Challengers had one team, Aylsham, on a charge and winning four games in a row and only losing one, the last game against St Johns Vets. That enabled Dons Donuts to catch Aylsham on top with each team on 8 points. In terms of game scores, it was identical at 12-3 each. What clinched it for Aylsham was their win against Dons Donuts. Behind Dons Donuts in third place was St Johns Vets.

Roy Hughes organised the event at the Tithe Barn and took all the entries. I just turned up on the night and controlled it. Mind you with the teams not settled until after the preliminary rounds I had a lot of work to do in entering teams and setting up the fixture. I did not catch up until after the last round.

Norfolk County Chess Championships 2024

After last year record entry this year was more of a normal slow burn with final entry numbers at 45. This allowed a full Championship section and 21 in the Challengers. Also, the Championship section was one of our strongest and meant some players who normally play in the Championships were in the Challengers (the top seed's rating was 1752 in the Challengers).

I was assisted as usual by Mike Read who is perfect for this event in his judging of the best game prize and in providing coaching, plus help in setting up and watching games. We also had help in packing away with some waiting to help me load up my car, my thanks to them.

There were several donations which helped to boost the prize fund. This is of great help to the event as we try to use any funds after expenses as the prize fund. My thanks to them as well.

The Championship was one of the strongest with ratings from 1759 – 2230 and ten players rated over 2000. Martin Walker was defending the title, and he got off to a good start with a win in round 1. In fact, most of the seeds won their games except Adrian Elwin who lost to Robin Blackwell. There were draws for Ken McEwan (v Steve Moore), Phil Bonafont (v Mervyn Hughes) and Paul Smith (v Sam Gaffney).

Round 2 saw the top 2 boards drawing, Roy Hughes v Martin and Vivash Samarakoon v Gerald Moore which enabled Stephen Orton and Jaden Jermy to go into the lead. Joining them was Robin who also won.

Round three had only 11 playing and Stephen winning against Robin to be on maximum points. I was watching the game, and Stephen demonstrated some excellent endgame technique to win. Martin won against Vivash. In an all Norfolk & Norwich game Ben Collinson won against Paul Smith. In fact, of the 10 playing 5 were from Norfolk & Norwich. Dan Joal, the bottom player scored a win over Steve Moore

In round 4 Jaden scored a fine win against Stephen to take the lead on 3.5 points. On three points were Martin (after a draw with Gerald Moore), Stephen and Roy Hughes who was victorious in a Hughes v Hughes game. Dan Joal drew with Adrian Elwin taking him on to 2 points.

The Final Round had Martin playing Jaden and Roy playing Stephen. Jaden was not able to repeat his previous form and lost to Martin. Stephen had a hard-fought win against Roy. With a tie for first place, we had to resort to the Tie break which was sum of opponents scores and Martin just pipped Stephen to retain the title. Vivash beat Robin Blackwell and shared 3rd place with Jaden.

This was an excellent result for Martin, and I know he will be back next year to try for a hatrick.

The U1940 was shared between Robin, Antony Hall, Sam Gaffney and Jim McAvoy. On the Tie Break Robin was the Champion.

The Challengers ratings went from 1085 to 1752 and at the top must be the strongest we have had. It was good to see Chris Tuffin, who has been absent for a few years, enter. He said this was his swansong and he just wanted to meet old friends and play 4 games.

In the first round Larysa Klepikovska drew with John Lambert despite a 236 point difference in ratings. This was one of a number of good results for Larysa. Sharvari Saharkar beat Armando Galletti who was 237 rating points higher than her. Chris Tuffin drew with Dennis Driscoll.

Round two saw Stephen Livermore, David Payne, Colin Payne and Henry Morgan win to move to the top. Larysa won against David Jones. Heather Walker had a good win against Diana Vallverdu, who was 277 rating points higher.

Round 3 saw Henry Morgan beat Stephen Livermore and be the only one on maximum score. There was only 10

playing. Juniad Ahmed the lowest rated player beat Isaak Leverett, who was rated 436 points higher. Diana Vallerdu unfortunately continued her poor form, losing to Sharvari Sahrkar who sacrificed several pieces to open up Diana's position. Mike commented that he could not see what Sharvari was gaining. However, she complicated the position and Diana made a poor move giving Sharvari the game.

Round 4 was the tale of the two Paynes with David beating Henry and Colin beating Stephen to put them both on 3.5 points. Behind them were some on 3 points to make the last round interesting. Larysa drew with Chris and Heather got her second win by beating David Jones.

So Round 5 had the two Payne's playing and they agreed a draw. Henry beat John Lambert to put himself on 4 points as well. We had to wait for other results and both David and Colin had equal sum of opponents scores but David was ahead on Sonenbergen and became the Challengers Champion. David was also the U1825 Champion with Colin the U1640 Champion.

Larysa had an impressive win against David May where she delivered a smothered mate very early in the game. Mike Read was so impressed with the game that he has awarded it the Best Game Prize. Larysa has been involved in our competitions for 3 years and initially she was quiet and knew little English. She is now confident and has a good grasp of English. With money donated by Michael Sturman from his prize at Great Yarmouth a trophy for the Junior personality of the year was purchased and Larysa was the first recipient. I gave her the trophy at the start of the Championships and she was amazed to see that hers was the first name on the trophy. It was great to see her win the best game prize.

The other best game prize went to Steve Moore for his game against Andy Hartland. Mike will be annotating both games for En Passant.

The final Trophy was the Austin McDonnell which goes to the highest senior player under 1825 who has the best percentage increase in rating. With a 2/4 in rated games she showed a tournament rating of 1514 which was a massive improvement on her 1261 rating.

Championship

1st = **Martin Walker – Champion**
Stephen Orton
3rd= **Jaden Jermy**
Vivash Samarakoon

Challengers

1st = **David Payne - Challengers Champion**
Colin Payne
3rd **Henry Morgan**

U1940 **Robin Blackwell (Shield winner),**
Antony Hall
Sam Gaffney
Jim McAvoy

U1825 **David Payne**

U1640 **Colin Payne**

Best Game **Larysa Klepikovska**
Steve Moore

Austin McDonnell **Heather Walker**

Norfolk Rapidplay

A week before the event (which took place at Horstead Tithe Barn on Sunday February 9) Congress organiser and controller John Wickham was concerned about the lack of entries to the Norfolk Rapidplay Congress. A flood of entries during the final week meant that he decided to allow a total of 54 entries when his "limit" had been 52. In the end, one player didn't turn up so there were 53 present.

The field was split into three sections, the Championship, the Challengers (U1750) and the U1450 section.

In the end, no fewer than 22 entries were received for a very strong Championship. Every player was above 1750, and more than half the field was rated over 2000. The top six seeds were, in rating order, Alan Merry, David Spence and John Anderson (all Suffolk), and our own Mike Harris, Martin Walker and Jaden Jermy.

With Alan Merry sailing through, as expected, only conceding a draw in the final round (to Mike Harris) and David Spence winning five of his six games (losing the other to Alan), the top two seeds finished in the top two places with ⁵1½ and 5 points respectively.

In a fine third place, and highest finishing Norfolk player, was ninth seed Andrew Brett on ⁴½. Finishing in a tie for fourth place, on four points, were Jaden, Mike and Cambs-based Scot Robbie Coleman.

Andrew started with a win against eight-year-old Advik Saxena from London. Andrew said that he was an impressive player who moved at lightning speed. Advik drew in round two with old hand Francis Bowers and then

lost to the Norfolk junior talent Dan Joal Allwin Christopher. I think he was getting settled down by then, because he won his final three games, the last being against Jeff Dawson, and ended on $3\frac{1}{2}/6$, level with John Anderson and Phil Bonafont and ahead of some illustrious names. Unsurprisingly, with a rating of just 1819, Advik was awarded the under-2000 rating prize.

The Challengers section brought another Suffolk success, with top seed Simon Riley winning on 5/6. He had a clean score going into the final round, where he was beaten by Rupert Guinness (King's Lynn). Rupert thereby came second with $4\frac{1}{2}$. In a tie for third place came Colin Payne (DONs) and Barry Connor (Lowestoft). They had been seeded respectively seventh and eighth in a field of fourteen. Barry could be particularly pleased with a performance rating of 1752 against a starting rating of 1602, and it could have been even better. If he had beaten Colin Payne in the final round instead of losing he would have tied for first place with Simon.

The under-1600 rating prize went to Gert de Block of Cambridge City club, who finished on $3\frac{1}{2}$.

The U1450 section resulted in the day's only triumph for Norfolk when Larysa Klepikovska of Dons won with $5\frac{1}{2}/6$. Like Alan Merry, she conceded just one draw – in the final round against second-placed (and top seed) Jon Vallet of Wymondham, who thereby finished with five points. Third was Jonathan Tzelgov Manske (Norwich Juniors) with $4\frac{1}{2}$, and tied fourth on four points were Mylo McLean and Sam Farley – both of Norwich Juniors. All three won Junior prizes.

Larysa has already been featured in these pages when Mike Read awarded her the 2024 Norfolk Championships Best Game Prize for her smothered-mate win against David May in the Challengers section there. Here, her performance rating was a 1561 – a staggering 278 greater than her starting rating of 1283. Mike was assistant controller at both events and was again very impressed with her play. Apart from her winner's prize, Larysa was also awarded the Peter Burnett Cup for the best score by a Norfolk player in the congress. John Wickham controlled the event in his customary calm and efficient manner, and Mike tendered his able assistance – on the way picking up some game scores for your delectation over the coming months.

Note this is the report in En Passant.

Championship

1st Alan Merry 5.5

2nd David Spence 5

3rd Andrew Brett 4.4

Rating U2000 Advik Sexana 3.5

Challengers (U1750)

1st Simon Riley 5

2nd Rupert Guinness 4.5

3rd = Colin Payne

Barry Connor

Rating U1600 Gert De Block

U1450

1st Larysa Klepikovska 5.5

2nd John Vallet 5

Junior Jonathan Tzelgov 4.5

Junior Mylo McLean 4

Sam Farley 4

Peter Burnett: Larysa Klepikovska

Great Yarmouth Chess Congress 2025

We were once again at the Great Yarmouth Racecourse which is an excellent venue with room for up to 100 entrants. As with all venues the costs have increased and we can only afford the venue if we have a reasonable level of sponsorship. We are fortunate to have support from Kingsley Healthcare, Bodo Ltd, Patrick McDermott and Great Yarmouth Town Centre Partnership. For next year costs may increase and we will lose our main sponsor Kingsley Healthcare but I anticipate being able to find the funds required so that we can return next year.

I had the usual support from Mike Read who came along and help set up on the Friday. Mike is excellent and he gives up his time to help every year. Normally I have arbiting assistance from Adrian Elwin but he was the Chief arbiter at the English Seniors and thus unavailable. Fortunately, Chris Jones, who has passed the Arbiter exam, was available to help set up and assist in arbiting, and he did a great job in assisting me. He even managed to get involved in dealing with a threefold repetition of position claim which is rare in our event but good experience for him.

With the English Seniors clashing with our event, we lost some players from the Open and also had a clash with a

UK Chess Challenge megafinal in Colchester. Overall, they both probably took up to 10 entrants from us. Despite this we had 81 playing which was a good number allowing for some extra rating prizes in some sections. We did have 16 in the Open but with two withdrawing due to illness we were down to 14. The Major had 30 entries and the Minor 37.

The highlight for me was that in the last round Board one had two female players, Stephanie Brown and Larysa Klepikovska. With the male dominance in chess this is refreshing and hopefully will encourage more female players to get involved in chess

OPEN

1st Alan Merry 4
2nd = John Anderson 3.5
David Le Moir
Martin Walker
Rating U2000 Mark Lim

Major U1900

1st Andy Hartland 4 Plus Peter Vivian Shield
2nd = Francis Bowers 3.5
Sam Gaffney
David Twitchell
Antony Hall
Matthew Taylor
Rating U1800 Stephen Livermore
Rating U1700 David May
Charles Richmond

Minor U1600

1st Stephanie Brown 4.5
2nd = Rob Jarvis 4
Robert Picksley
Darren Blore
Rating U1500 Jon Vallet
Rating U1400 Eric Bradley
Junior Larysa Klepikovska

5th Norfolk Blitz 26th May 2025

With our traditional May Bank Holiday Blitz clashing with the start of the Cambridge International, where some of our regulars were playing, I knew numbers would be lower than usual, so I was pleased that we had 26 entries. That number included 11 juniors, 10 of which were from the Norwich Juniors club.

The number of entries meant that a two section Swiss for a 10-round event was not viable, and we ran one section but using accelerated pairings. How this works is that the top 14 players were given an extra point at the first round which was removed over the first five rounds. The split was convenient as the bottom 12 contained nine juniors and saved them from meeting the stronger players in the first round.

It also resulted in Martin as the top seed playing the next five seeds in the first six rounds, winning them all. That included Hazel Bowler who won all her other games to be just a point behind Martin. Martin was then held to draws in rounds seven and eight by Barry Connor and Lucy Batley (both deserving their draws) while Hazel continued the winning run and drawing level with Martin. With both winning in rounds nine and ten they shared first place.

While the prize money was shared there was the Greg Tebble Cup and a play off (only the second one of the 5 Blitzes and Martin was involved in the previous one) was held. This was an Armageddon where white has 6 minutes plus 2 seconds and Black had 5 minutes plus 2 seconds, the twist being that white had to win. It was an exciting finish, and Mike Read has annotated the game having kept a score. Suffice it to say that Martin drew white and made an exchange sacrifice and eventually prevailed in an endgame where he had an advantage.

Alex New came third. I added two junior prizes the first was won by Dan Joal Allwin Christopher and the other by Parnav Kumar. The other juniors did well and some scored good results against adult opponents (Obie Matten beat John Valet, Mylo McLean beat Ed King and Saikrishna Shuunmugan beat David May, being the standout ones). Daniel Haxel, another Junior with a 1141 rating scored 5.5 points and won the U1500 rating prize. The U1700 rating prize was shared by Gert De Block and Ed King.

Mike Read helped and gave invaluable assistance. This year we started later at 11.30, so whilst it was still early for Mike, I picked him up at a later time than usual.

The numbers were good but perhaps next year there will not be a clash, and we can have enough for two sections.

1st = Martin Walker
Hazell Bowler
3rd Alex New
Rating U1700 = Gert De Block
Ed King
Rating U1500 Daniel Haxell
Junior Dan Joal Allwin
Junior Pranav Kumar
Greg Tebble Cup Martin Walker

Following the report there was discussion about the possibility of Norfolk having a Women's Chess Champion, with regard to a current ECF initiative to hold a county champions competition.

John mentioned that the Norfolk Championships will be held on 4th-5th October 2025 at the Tithe Barn, Horstead.

County First Team Report 2024-25:

Antony Hall had sent the following report which was read out to the meeting by Alan Page:

A quick recap... a few days after last year's AGM, the First Team faced Sussex in the SF of the Minor Counties. The teams had almost identical average ratings and the match was tied 8-8, with Norfolk losing on board count. Having also lost the Final the season before on board count to Cambs, I can assure you it is a painful experience that does not get any easier.

So, we licked our wounds and assembled again at the start of this season. For the first time that I can recall, Suffolk were not able to raise a team for the opening fixtures, so Norfolk played Beds and Cambs in a triangular match (as used by the U150 side back in the day). The door was left open for Suffolk to take part in the remaining matches, but they were not able to do so. As a result, we needed only two Sundays to play all the matches. It is to be hoped Suffolk return next season, as the Open is poorer for their absence.

Two convincing wins against Beds, and a draw and (close) victory against Cambs meant the First Team finished top of the EACU Open Championship and retain the Icení Trophy. The nature of the triangular matches meant the result was usually in the balance until the end of the day, which made things exciting.

We accepted our nomination for the Minor Counties alongside Cambs who finished second. With only seven counties nominated, this season Norfolk was awarded the bye straight to the SF, where we will face Devon. They beat us in the 2022 Final and, although we got our revenge in the QF last season, they are strong opponents and there are no easy matches at this stage. The match will be played on Sunday 8th June at Knaphill Methodist Church in Surrey, the intermediate venue for recent matches against our opponents. The travel and the time control for the match will make for a very long day, so I am grateful to the players who have made themselves available.

At the time of writing, a total of 21 players have represented the team. Geoff Moore and Dave Hall top scored (3½/4). The best rating performance was from Jaden Jermy (2228 from 4 games), while Jeff Dawson and Jon Collins both performed well above their ratings.

As ever, I would like to thank everybody who has played for and supported the team this season, with special thanks to John Wickham for preparing the kit.

I am willing to continue in the role of First Team Captain.

Antony Hall
Norfolk First Team Captain 2024-25

Antony was thanked for all his work by John Wickham on behalf of the meeting

U1850 Captain's Report:

David Payne gave the following report to the meeting:

Report for U1850 Season

Despite fielding strong and competitive sides for the EACU county championships we were unable to qualify for the KO stages, coming third.

Nigel Larter and Hazel Bowler were top scorers with 4/6

Dan Joal Allwyn Christopher played well with 3.5 / 4 but missed the final round.

24 players represented Norfolk

A huge thank you to those who provided transport.

Players came from a range of clubs

Aylsham – 3 players

St Johns Norwich – 5 players

N&N - 2 players

Norwich Dons – 7 players

North Norfolk – 2 players

Lowestoft – 5 players

League table for u1850 County Championship

Team	Play	Won	Draw	Lost	For	Against	Points	SP	MP	IM
<u>Cambridgeshire CCA u1850</u>	6	4	1	1	51	45	9	0	0	0
<u>Suffolk CCA u1850</u>	6	2	2	2	48	48	6	0	0	0
<u>Norfolk CCA u1850</u>	6	2	1	3	46	50	5	0	0	0
<u>Hertfordshire CA u1850</u>	6	1	2	3	47	49	4	0	0	0

Name	Performance	Score	Games	Including Defaults	Excluding Defaults
Allwin Christopher, Dan Joal	2113	3½	4	87.5%	87.5%
Gallant, Sam	2013	1½	2	75%	75%
Klass, Bharath	2012	3	4	75%	75%
Taylor, Matthew	1883	1½	2	75%	75%
Bowler, Hazel	1942	4	6	66.67%	66.67%
Larter, Nigel J	1895	4	6	66.67%	66.67%
Shah, Biran S	1883	2½	4	62.5%	62.5%
Payne, Colin R	1706	3½	6	58.33%	58.33%
Hedges, Daniel R	1842	1	2	50%	50%
Yelverton, Ben	1742	1	2	50%	50%
Hartland, Andrew D	1774	2	4	50%	50%
Movilla Miangolarra, Ander	1633	1	2	50%	50%
McAvoy, Jim	1675	2½	6	41.67%	41.67%
Livermore, Stephen	1658	2½	6	41.67%	41.67%
Galletti, Armando	1605	2½	6	41.67%	41.67%
Flynn, Chris	1342	1½	5	41.67%	30%
Gaffney, Samuel	1717	1½	4	37.5%	37.5%
Connor, Barry	1467	½	2	25%	25%
Blackwell, Robin	1636	1	4	25%	25%
Owen, David M	1569	½	2	25%	25%
Payne, David J	1521	1	5	20%	20%
Wickham, John R	1411	½	3	16.67%	16.67%
Perkins, Chris	1489	½	4	12.5%	12.5%
Klepikovska, Larysa	1126	0	2	0%	0%

David Payne – U1850 Captain

David was thanked for all his work by John Wickham on behalf of the meeting

Junior Organiser:

Matt Perry gave the following report to the meeting:

Norfolk Junior Chess Report 2025

Junior chess in Norfolk has had another successful year.

The majority of the county's junior players attend the Norwich Junior Chess Club run by Stephen Orton. Others come from clubs including the Wymondham Junior Club, Broadland Junior Club, the North Walsham Library Chess Club, and 'The West Norfolk Knights' in Downham Market.

The Norfolk Junior Championships was held on the 22nd of March this year. 53 junior players took part. The Sheringham Junior Tournament is taking place in July again this year. The Norfolk Juniors are looking forward to taking part in an East Anglian Junior Jamboree event in October. Andy Hartland has taken the lead on organising this event.

The Norfolk under 9 champion for 2025 is Advik Tripathi, the under 10 is champion is Saikrishna Shunmugan, the under 11 champion is Gaia Medina, the under 14 champion is Obie Matten and the under 18 champion Dan Joal.

The Norfolk Junior Player of the Year shield this year has been awarded to Peter Stone for his excellent results in the Norfolk League. The Junior Personality of the Year award goes to Arthur Perlman this year for his enthusiasm and commitment to chess.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who supported myself and Norfolk Junior chess this year, including John Wickham, Stephen Orton, Martin Walker and Andy Hartland. Without this support all of these successes would not have been possible.

Following his report, Matt was thanked for all his work by John Wickham on behalf of the meeting.

ECF Delegate:

John Wickham delivered the following report:

ECF Report 2025

There has been a change of the Board at ECF. The CEO, Mike Truran planned to step down by the next AGM but has moved to look after Finance Director after the current Director asked to move down to Finance Controller. The Home Chess Director, Nigel Towers, has stepped down and his role have been split into three roles. Finally, the Junior Director, Alex Holowczak, has taken on the Events Director role, and he is replaced by a new Junior Development Director, Tim Wall. They are all in place until the AGM in October when the formal elections will be held.

At the Finance Council meeting in April the Membership fees were increased by between £1 and £3. Further annual increases are scheduled though they do depend on the financial position at the time. The new fee rates are:

Bronze £21

Gold £37

Platinum £80

Supporter £12

Junior Gold £14

Junior Bronze £7.50

Junior Platinum £80

Adult Congress Pay to Play £16

Junior Congress Pay to Play £6.50

Junior exclusive events Pay to Play £3

Note that Junior Gold and Junior Bronze plus Student Gold are still free in the first year of membership.

The ECF Grassroots Fund, of which I am the East of England Regional Coordinator, has reached its first year with the conclusion of tranche 4 on 31st May 2025. Up to the end of tranche 3 £34,000 worth of grants had been made in 66 successful applications. I know there are several to be considered for tranche 4. There is a further year to

run, and each region has at least half of the £10,000 allocated remaining for further grants. So far, we have helped many Clubs, Congresses, Junior clubs, events etc. and I will be looking to do more in the East of England from 1st June 2025.

John Wickham

Website:

Trevor Ansell reported that the website had been updated during the year and asked for any suggestions from members on potential changes or enhancements.

6. Proposed amendments to the rules

These were all amendments from the committee, proposed by John Wickham and seconded by Alan Page.

Williamson Cup and Plate

30 In any cup or plate competition no player is to play for more than one team in any one season.

PROPOSAL

Amend 30 to:

30 (a) In the cup and plate competitions no player is to play for more than one team in any one season.

Add as 30 (b):

Where a club has more than one team in the cup and plate competitions the teams must not have the same names as any of their league teams.

Agreed by the meeting.

Mobile telephones

53 The penalty for an audibly ringing mobile telephone is the loss of the game. This will still apply even if the game has already been completed. If the game has been completed, then the opponents score will not be adjusted and the original score will be used for rating purposes.

PROPOSAL

To amend rule 53 to provide a warning as follows:

53 Any player whose mobile phone makes any sound during play will receive a warning for the first offence and will be defaulted on a second offence in the same game. This will still apply even if the game has already been completed. If the player's phone has made a sound whilst the game was in progress, that will count as a first offence for any second offence in the same match after the game has completed. If the game has been completed, then the opponents score will not be adjusted and the original score will be used for rating purposes.

There was discussion about this item and John Wickham clarified that changes had been based on existing EACU rules. The proposed changes were agreed by the meeting.

PDAs and other electronic equipment

50 Any player found consulting a PDA or any other electronic device will lose his game.

To amend to:

Electronic Devices

50. Any player who is found to be using or consulting any device capable of suggesting chess moves, will be defaulted that game.

Agreed by the meeting

7. Election of Officers and Committee Members

The following committee appointments were made:

Chairman	John Wickham
Vice Chairman	Brian Cunningham
Secretary	Alan Page
Treasurer	Andy Hartland
League and Cup Controller	Stephen Livermore
ECF/EACU Delegate	John Wickham
Auditor	Phil Sneesby
Junior Organiser	Matt Perry
Web Site Officer	Trevor Ansell
Trophies Officer	Jeff Dawson
Events Organiser	John Wickham
County 1st team Captain	Antony Hall
U1850 Captain	David Payne
U1650 Captain	Brian Cunningham (New appointment)
U1450 Captain	Eric Bradley (New appointment)
Safeguarding Officer	Martin Walker
Additional EACU delegates	Mike Read, David Payne, Eric Bradley
Additional Committee Member	Mike Read (New appointment)

8. Presentation of trophies:

Division 1:

Winners – Norfolk & Norwich A

Runners Up – Broadland Bitterns

Division 2:

Winners – Norfolk & Norwich C

Runners Up – Aylsham Spitfires

Division 3:

Winners – Kings Lynn Bishops

Runners Up – St Johns Bishops

Division 4:

Winners – North Norfolk Crabs

Runners Up – Wymondham Finches

Williamson Cup – Broadland Swallowtails

Williamson Plate – Norfolk & Norwich

Rapidplay Handicap Cup – Norfolk & Norwich Pawns

Captain's Rose-Bowl – Nigel Larter

Norfolk Chess Personality of the Year – Andy Hartland

Alex Niedzwiedzki Memorial Trophy – Ashley Robinson.

John Charman Shield – Jon Vallet

Peter Vivian Shield – Andy Hartland

Norfolk & Suffolk Cup NCCA Winners - Norfolk & Norwich

9. Any Other Business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.49 pm.