

CHESS ARBITERS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, August 5th 2000 at the Millfield School, Street.

Present: Alex McFarlane, Geoff Jones, David Welch, John Turnock, Steve Boniface, David Woodruff, Ewart Smith, John Robinson, Stewart Reuben, Neville Belinfante, Neil Graham, John Dunleavy, Marda Dixon, Julie Leonard, Gerry Walsh.

Alex McFarlane started the meeting as Chairman, Geoff Jones as Secretary.

It was noted, with regret, the death of Dave Hardcastle, one of our members.

1. Apologies. Apologies were received from David Eustace, Frances Bowers, Roy Heppinstall, Tony Corfe, Lara Barnes, Peter Purland, Ian Cowen, Alec Webster, John Richards, David Sedgwick, Gerald Jacobs, Marc Shaw, Richard Freeman.
2. Minutes. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, August 7th, 1999 at the Spa Centre, Scarborough, were accepted as a true record.
Proposed John Turnock, Seconded David Welch. _
3. Matters arising. The matter of training will be covered in the treasurer's report.
4. Chairman's Report. The Chairman welcomed members to the year 2000 meeting of the CAA. He was keeping his report short because length of matters on the agenda. He proposed a vote of thanks to be recorded to Steve Boniface for the effort he has put in to the training of arbiters and his recruitment drive for the CAA, and to John Turnock for continuing to produce such a high quality magazine. He also stated that he thought the position of chairman should pass around the association and therefore he was hoping to pass on the position next year.
5. Treasurer's Report. Please find attached the accounts for the last financial year. On the accounts, the following comments were added: (1) The treasurer had not been able to authorize his own expenses. Those totalling £45.90 + £6.62 postage he submitted to the meeting now. They were accepted. (2) We had 55 members (52 paid up) and 30 associates, 9 from Coulsden and 7 from Cambridge (3) An offer to set up an arbiters' web site had been received (4) The change over of bank account with Barclays had taken the best part of the year which explained the slight anomaly on dates. (5) The outstanding debts were less than 10% of the association assets. (6) It was proposed that we ask members to renew again in September at £5.00 for members and also associates. Steve Boniface then went on to outline how after undertaking arbiter training, some candidates required experience which was only available away from their own area. He proposed that the association set up a system of bursaries with the following conditions. (1) A limit of £50 per bursary and only one per candidate. (2) A maximum of five this year, to be reviewed at next year's AGM. These exclude the Bristol and Paignton cases that were agreed separately. (3) Can only be given as part of parallel funding from at least one other source. (4) The candidate must be a member of the CAA and his/her national association. (5) Subject to approval from Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief Arbiter. It was proposed that the bursaries should also include candidates for other suitable titles. (FIDE arbiter). This was accepted and the motion was passed nem-com.

6. Chief Arbiter's Report. Dave Welch went through the proposed changes to the laws. (A copy of these proposed changes that is on the FIDE web site is available from Geoff Jones for those that require them.) There was much discussion on these, which is listed here:(Italics are the consensus of the meeting) -

5.4 The game is drawn when neither player has mating potential *Expand to include article 6.9*

5.7 In all cases mentioned in the Articles 5.1 - 5.6 the final position must appear as a consequence of legal moves *Conflict between 5. 7 which is prescriptive and 8. 7 which discretionary.*

6.6 If neither player is present initially. the player who has the white pieces shall lose all the time that elapses until he arrives: unless the arbiter rules that the time elapsed when neither player is present shall be shared equally.. *Not part of arbiters duties, ruling should be made by FIDE.*

6.8d If a player due to physical or religious reasons is unable to use the clock an assistant shall be employed to perform this operation.

An assistant shall be employed "by the player"

6.10 Except where Articles 5.1, 5.2, 5.3 or 5.7 apply, if a player does not complete the prescribed number of moves in the allotted time, the game is lost by the player. In order to win, the opponent must have 'mating potential'. This is defined as adequate forces eventually to produce a position legally, possibly by 'helpmate' where a player having the move cannot avoid being checkmated in one move. *Should be a definitive law on its own i.e. 5.5*

7.3 if a player displaces pieces, he shall re-establish the correct position on his own time. *Should be part of 6.13.* If necessary either the player or opponent shall stop the clocks and ask for the arbiter's assistance. The arbiter may penalise the player. *Should be part of 6. 14*

7.5 After the action taken under Article 7.4(p). for a first illegal move by a player the arbiter shall give two minutes extra time to his opponent: for a second illegal move by the same player the arbiter shall give another two minutes extra time to his opponent: for a third illegal move by the same player. the arbiter shall declare the game lost by the player who played incorrectly;

Incorrectly should be illegally.

8.1 In the course of play each player is required to record his own moves and those of his opponent, move after move, as clearly and legibly as possible, in the algebraic notation (Appendix E), on the scoresheet prescribed for the competition in the correct manner.

A player may reply to his opponent's move before recording it, if he so wishes. He must record his previous move before making another. The offer of a draw must be recorded on the scoresheet by both players.(Appendix E.12)

If a player due to physical or religious reasons, is unable to keep score, an amount of time, decided by the arbiter, shall be deducted from his allotted time at the beginning of the game.

in the correct manner..Make clearer to show that the written and right move has been played. I. e. not writing move 30 down against move 31 .

physical or religious reasons. Jotted throughout laws should be brought together under one heading.

8.5b If only one player is not required to keep score under Article 8.4, he must update his scoresheet completely before moving after either flag has fallen. Provided it is the player's move, he may use his opponents scoresheet but must return it before moving.

before moving after either flag has fallen *change to* *_before moving after it as been pointed out flag fall.* but must return it moving .. *delete.* _

8.7 At the conclusion of the game both players shall sign both scoresheets, indicating the result of the game. Even if incorrect, this result shall stand, unless the arbiter decides otherwise. *Change to "The arbiter has discretion to change the result or resume the game if a major irregularity, particularly a breach of article 5. 7 has occurred. He must bear in mind the consequences of any such action on the event as a whole. "*

9.5b If the claim is found to be incorrect, the arbiter shall deduct half of the claimant's remaining time up to a maximum of three minutes and add three minutes to the opponent's remaining time as long as the claimant has more than two minutes on his clock: if the player has more than one minute, but less than two minutes, his remaining time shall be one minute: if the claimant has less than one minute, the arbiter shall add only three minutes to the opponent's time. Then the game shall continue and the intended move must be made. Correcting time not reasonable, should be a fixed penalty. *Suggested standardizing of all times on 3 minutes i.e. keeping score, calling in arbiter, penalties etc.*

10.2 Alternative I: If... flag falls. He shall stop the clocks, make a note after the last completed move, summon the arbiter and claims a draw.

a. If the arbiter is satisfied with the claim, he declares the game drawn.

b. If the arbiter disagrees, he shall reject the claim and award two extra minutes to the opponent. -

c. The arbiter may postpone his decision. The game shall continue in the presence of the arbiter. Subsequently the final result shall be declared by the arbiter after a flag has fallen. '

A claim cannot be withdrawn and the claimant cannot win on time *delete*

10.2 Alternative II: -

If the player, having the move, has less than two minutes left on his clock, he may claim a draw before his flag falls. He shall stop the clocks and summon the arbiter.

a. If the arbiter is satisfied the opponent is making no effort to win the game by normal means, or that it is not possible to win by normal means, then he shall declare the game drawn. Otherwise he shall postpone his decision.

b. If the arbiter postpones his decision, the opponent may be awarded two extra minutes thinking time and the game shall continue in the presence of the arbiter

c. Having postponed his decision, the arbiter may subsequently declare the game drawn, even after a flag has fallen.

d. The opponent may subsequently accept the draw.

The player may, provided it is his move, subsequently withdraw his claim. The opponent shall be awarded two extra minutes thinking time

The opponent may subsequently accept the draw. *Delete. It was pointed out that if there was a dubious sacrifice and the' opponent was in time trouble, it gave one player an unfair advantage. (He may try a sacrifice and if it does not work then take the draw.)*

12.6 The players shall take no action which brings the game of chess into disrepute. *Does not only apply during game.*

13.6 The arbiter must not intervene in a game except in cases described by the Laws of Chess. He shall not indicate the number of moves made, except in applying Article 8.5, when at least one player has used all his time. The arbiter shall refrain from informing a player that his opponent has made a move, or that he has failed to press his clock. *Change to " only when necessary in cases described by the Laws of Chess or other extreme situations." (Roof falling in etc.)*

C4 If a player leaves his king in check, then the opponent may indicate he claims a win by capturing the player's king *change to if a player makes a move leaving his king in check. . 4*
C5 Alternative

If a player has less than one minute left on his clock he may claim a draw before his flag falls. He shall stop the clocks and summon the arbiter. If the arbiter is satisfied that his opponent cannot win by normal means, he shall declare the game drawn. Otherwise the claimant lose the game. *Caused concern, not a valid use of arbiters time. Vote for status quo.*

In reply to a question on other matters Dave Welch stated that on the re-affirmation of arbiters titles, no one had been removed from the list due to their activities

7. Election of Officers. ,

(Office)	(Nominee)	(Proposer)	(Seconder)
Chairman	Alex McFarlane	Neil Graham	David Welch
Secretary	Geoff Jones	Stewart Reuben	David Woodruff
Treasurer	Steve Boniface	John Robinson	David Woodruff
Chief Arbiter	David Welch	Stewart Reuben	Neville Belinfante
Information Officer	VACANT VOLUNTEER REQUIRED		
Committee	John Robinson	Stewart Reuben	John Turnock-
Auditor	David Sedgwick	Neil Graham	Stewart Reuben
BCF Delegate	Neville Belinfante	Stewart Reuben	Steve Boniface.

8. Policy on, Mobile Telephones at Congresses. It was agreed that it should be on congress leaflets that audible mobile telephones should be banned in the playing areas, Neil Graham to circulate congresses. It was also agreed that this could be addressed under 12.4 of the FIDE laws and it was left to our delegates to the FIDE meeting in Turkey to place on the agenda. The meeting agreed that the offence merited a time penalty. '

9. Any Other Business. Neville Belinfante asked if the BCF Swiss pairing rules could be published on a web site on the internet. Neil Graham replied that if a copy was passed to the BCF web site organiser it could be done. Neville Belinfante said that he would pass them on. The association formally asked Neil Graham to propose to the BCF that they put John Turnock and Steve Boniface forward for the title of FIDE arbiter.

On the subject of tournament blacklists, David Anderton was still looking into this for the BCF.

Positive vetting of arbiters. Concern again was raised on this subject but Geoff Jones reported that the police had told him that they would not give him a vetting, this was also the case in other parts of the country. it was agreed that ideally part of the arbiters course and acceptance as an arbiter should include a police vetting. -

There being no further matters the meeting closed at 5.35p,m.