

SHROPSHIRE CHESS ASSOCIATION

To all members of the Shropshire Chess Association :

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held at Perkins Chess Club, Perkins Social Club, Albert Road, Harlescott, Shrewsbury on Tuesday, 25th June 1996 at 7.30 pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. Minutes of the 1995 A.G.M. (Matters arising).
3. Officer's Reports.

Officer	Incumbent	To include :
a. ✓ General Secretary	Iain Wilson	
b. ✓ County Junior Organisers	Neil Taylor, Mathew Clark	Schools Trophies 01743 367617
c. ✓ League Controller	Colin Roberts	League Tables, Trophy Presentation, Shrewsbury B v CODDON C issue
d. ✓ County Individual	Phil Cherrington	Trophy presentation
e. ✓ Cox & Minor Trophies	Derrick Powell	Trophy presentation
f. ✓ County 1st Team Captain	Phil Cameron	
g. ✓ County U150 Team Captain	Phil Cherrington	
h. ✓ County U125 Team Captain	Roger Brown	
i. ✓ County U100 Team Captains	Bryan Brown, Sellick Davies	
j. ✓ Oswestry Quickplay	Ron Thomson	
k. ✓ Correspondence Chess	Jim Wilkinson	
l. ✓ Grading Officer	Graham Shepherd	
m. ✓ Publicity Officer	Toby Neal	
n. ✓ Congress Organiser	Dave Gostelow	
o. ✓ MCCU Delegates	Graham Shepherd, Richard Thompson	
p. ✓ BCF Delegates	Iain Wilson, Richard Thompson	
q. Treasurer	Richard Thompson	Accounts, Team fees for 96/97
r. Auditor	Glyn Pugh	

4. Election of Officers.
5. Proposals for Revised League Rules. (Must be sent to General Secretary by 25th May).
6. Proposed amendments to Constitution.
7. County Representation Awards (Report from Committee : Everington, Roberts, Portman).
8. Any Other Business.

SHROPSHIRE CHESS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING : TUESDAY 25/6/96

Venue Perkins Chess Club

Start of Meeting 19:45

<i>Attendees</i>	David Everington	Richard Thompson	Iain Wilson	Colin Roberts
Graham Shepherd	Alan Silver	Roger Brown	Phil Cameron	
Sellick Davies	Martin Patterson	Neil Taylor	Phil Cherrington	
John Casewell	Peter Crean	Toby Neal	Dave Gostelow	
Fred Harris	Eric Inglis	Ian Davies	Matthew Clark	
Richard Archer	Carl Portman	Susan Portman	Bryan Brown	
Derrick Powell	Nick Rutter	Joe Adderley	Derrick Irving	
Trevor Brotherton	Chris Bayliss	Ron Thomson		

1 Apologies Glyn Pugh Eric Elwell Jim Wilkinson Dave Bryan
Glyn Randle John Hill

2. Minutes of the 1995 AGM

Action

- 2.1 The minutes were adopted, though, concerning item 11c (Nigel Davies evening) Carl Portman wished to express again his disappointment at the poor response.

3. Officer's Reports

3.1 General Secretary (Iain Wilson)

No formal report was presented; instead Iain said he would provide information at relevant items in the agenda.

3.2 County Junior Organisers (Neil Taylor & Matthew Clark)

a). No trophies were presented.

b). Matthew Clark (Schools) reported on a transition year in which, disappointingly, there was no Schools competition, partly because of teacher retirements (especially John Lenton at Charlton School) and partly because of a late start to arrangements. Work is in hand this term for next session. A four school round-robin was attempted but not completed. He commented on good performances, particularly by Dothill School in the Times Schools Tournament.

c). Neil Taylor (County) took two Under 14 teams, to a Leicestershire

Jamboree (finishing 8th in a Major competition) and to a Stoke Minor (finishing 5th). He praised the performances of several juniors, mentioning Tom Carver, Warren Taylor (simul victory over FM Lawrence Cooper), Ian Gilbert (5.5/7 in County Individual and 5/5 for CODDON A), William Bates (unbeaten for CODDON C), Ben Hill (victory over C.Portman), Dafydd Steele and David Hollands (50% score in Open section of Rapid Play in Birmingham).

d). Both Matthew and Neil asked for help and advice over transport arrangements. John Casewell suggested approaching the Shropshire Education Authority. Matthew announced his telephone number so that any further ideas could be provided.

e). Ron Thomson (Oswestry) mentioned the success of Junior Chess workshops held under the auspices of Oswestry Library, with as many as 60 applicants for 20 places.

Ron will tell the President when the next is to be held.

All to Note

Thomson

3.3 *League Controller (Colin Roberts)*

a). Copies of the final league tables for 95/96 were provided. The 2 up/2 down promotion/relegation format provided excitement throughout the divisions. In division 1 Telford, Newport, Wellington and Shifnal were all in danger of relegation until the very last matches before Shifnal finally lost out. In division 2 Oswestry pipped CODDON B for the second promotion slot by winning a series of late postponed matches. The main highlight was, however, the close struggle between CODDON A and Shrewsbury A for the division 1 title, eventually won by CODDON for a record 5th consecutive season.

Prize-giving:

Division 1 trophy presented to CODDON A (Richard Archer) with the President praising CODDON's continuing success and active junior policy.

Division 2 trophy presented to Perkins (Joe Adderley).

Division 3 trophy presented to Shrewsbury B (Ian Davies).

b). Dispute concerning Shrewsbury B v CODDON C fixture (22/12). The President surrendered the chair to the Treasurer for the duration of discussions. The main protagonists were the League Controller and the Shrewsbury Secretary (Fred Harris), each of whom delivered prepared reports.

Here is a summary of the 'incident' :

- CODDON C requested postponement of the match because of proximity to Christmas and lack of players for a team,
- the League Controller was sympathetic, having already agreed at least 2 other postponements of pre-Christmas week matches,
- Shrewsbury wanted to play and, when CODDON did not appear, claimed the match by default,
- The Shropshire Star chess column in early January published a win for Shrewsbury,
- The League Controller did not accept the 'result' and asked for the match to be played,
- In the absence of a response the Controller stripped Shrewsbury B of the 2 points awarded, informing the clubs of the decision,
- There was no appeal at the time.

Following the presentations and much discussion (including references to fairy stories and smoking controversies) the AGM's opinion was that the matter was not proper to the meeting. Dave Gostelow proposed (Derrick Powell seconded) that it be referred to the Appeals Committee (defeated 4 - 10).

Fred Harris proposed (Eric Inglis seconded) that Shrewsbury's 2 points be reinstated and the League Rules be followed to the letter (defeated 6 - 10).

A Rules Committee will be convened to consider the general principles surrounding the dispute and report to the Council Meeting.

NB : A number of questions arose in discussions, e.g. :

- 1). Who runs the team, the captain or the club secretary?
- 2). Is publication of a result in the Star confirmation of the result or is it subject to League Controller sanction?
- 3). Does the rule governing matches postponement need clarification?

3.4 *County Individual (Phil Cherrington)*

A verbal report was presented, results as follows:

1st : Dave Gostelow (6/7)

2nd : Ian Gilbert (5.5/7)

3rd : Richard Archer (5.5/7)

U140 : John Jeggo

U120 : Steve Tarr

U100 : Neil Sampson

The trophy was presented to Dave Gostelow, who will be adjudicator for Divisions 2 and 3 in season 96/97.

Phil apologised for delays in publishing games (computer problems and work pressures) and in making the draw for the last round.

Sellick Davies proposed a vote of thanks.

3.5 *Cox & Minor Trophies (Derrick Powell)*

A verbal report was presented. Neither the Cox nor Minor competitions were complete, the Cox's tight schedule in particular being affected by disputes. Most eligible teams entered each tournament but a number of defaults occurred and some weakened teams competed. Three teams turned up at the wrong venue or on the wrong day.

The following observations were made on the disputes:

- a). grudges may well be borne, following the controller's decision, especially as there is no right of appeal,
- b). resolving disputes is costly and time-consuming,
- c). the Quickplay rules must be available and learnt,
- d). matches must be started promptly, especially if club closing times are rigid.

The Appeals Committee (with Derrick Powell) will meet to discuss ways to help the controller, e.g. an appeals panel, fee for disputes and a relaxed timetable. Findings will be reported to the Council meeting in September.

Wilson

Appeals
Committee
& D.Powell

- 3.6 *County 1st Team Captain (Phil Cameron)*
A written report was presented. Highlights of a successful season were wins over Worcestershire in the MCCU West Zone competition, and over Derbyshire in the 1st round of the Minor Counties tournament before losing to defending champions Suffolk in the Quarter Final. Several of the stronger players were absent for away games, in particular against Greater Manchester and Suffolk (at Bedford). Best performances came from Nigel Ferrington (3.5/6), John Footner (3.5/5), Colin Roberts (2.5/4), Toby Neal (2.5/3), Trevor Brotherton (2/2) and William Bates (1/1).
He thanked Roger Brown (and mother) for refreshments at matches, as did the other captains.
In the Nuneaton Counties Rapidplay held in September 1995 Shropshire finished 5th, ahead of Derbyshire.
- 3.7 *County U150 Team Captain (Phil Cherrington)*
A written report was presented. The match against Warwickshire sadly had to be defaulted (Phil's first ever) due to lack of players. When questioned, Phil assured the AGM that he did not default against Warwickshire until he had contacted players with grades as low as 100 or less and still had only about 9 players.
Of the remaining 3 matches Shropshire beat Staffordshire and Worcestershire, and narrowly missed drawing with Manchester. Top scorers were Ian Gilbert and Glyn Randle with 2.5/3.
Phil thanked Graham Shepherd for providing equipment and appealed for more regular turn-out from the stronger players.
- 3.8 *County U125 Team Captain (Roger Brown)*
A written report was presented. The team enjoyed a good season, finishing 2nd with 3/5 in its MCCU zone and narrowly losing 7-9 to Notts A from the other zone in the semi-final.
Top scorers were Gavin White (5/5 : one default) and William Bates (4.5/6).
- 3.9 *County U100 Team Captains (Sellick Davies / Bryan Brown)*
A written summary was presented. Bryan mentioned that following last year's AGM the team lost narrowly in the U100 final to Kent at Birmingham. There was a hearty round of applause.
The 95/96 season had, however, been 'challenging', with only 3 matches played out of 6 scheduled. Each resulted in defeat with a total of only 10 points scored (5.5 by the Taylor family).
The poor season seemed due to 3 factors:
a). The loss through grading improvements of several strong players,
b). A preference among many juniors for Congresses and Rapid Plays,
c). Considerable travelling distances for youngsters.
Hopefully the U100 will be zoned next season.
Sellick added that a lady representing one county cancelled so late that the MCCU Treasurer provided Shropshire with £20 in compensation. He confirmed that the organiser, Neil Beasley, had been informed of problems encountered.

3.10	<p><i>Oswestry Quickplay (Ron Thomson)</i></p> <p>a). The October 1995 Quickplay, with John Harvey as controller, attracted 41 competitors. The winner was Trevor Brotherton.</p> <p>b). This year's will be at the end of October, as usual, but may not be at the Wynnstay, because the function room has become a restaurant. Ron is discussing options with the Hotel and will keep the Association informed. Carl Portman offered CODDON Chess Club as an alternative (free) venue.</p>	<p><i>Action</i></p> <p>Thomson/All to Note</p>
3.11	<p><i>Correspondence Chess (Jim Wilkinson)</i></p> <p>In Jim's absence, the General Secretary stated that the current competition was nearing completion and that Shropshire would probably finish second or third. Final details will be provided at the Council meeting.</p>	<p>Wilkinson</p>
3.12	<p><i>Grading Officer (Graham Shepherd)</i></p> <p>a). Graham has provided grading information on 212 Shropshire players. Games from Round 7 of the County Individual and from the current Cox and Minor competitions will be deferred to the 97/98 list. The 96/97 BCF List will be published at the beginning of August and a Shropshire list will be presented to the Council meeting.</p> <p>b). In response to a query by Roger Brown, Graham said that the official BCF view is that the supplementary grading list should be regarded as 'not published'.</p>	<p>Shepherd</p> <p>All to Note</p>

4. ***Election of Officers.***

Action

4.1 There were no resignations or nominations. All incumbent officers were willing to be re-elected en bloc.

4.2 The General Secretary advised that he was now entering his fifth and final year in office and would be looking for a successor at the next AGM in June 1997.

All to note

5. ***Proposals for Revised League Rules.***

5.1 Carl Portman proposed (Richard Archer seconded) that Rule 14 be amended to extend the ban on smoking from the playing area to the whole club room.

In support, Carl cited BCF precedents at meetings and Congresses, FIDE rules over distracting opponents, legal advice and the fact that the present ban had encouraged some chess players to give up smoking. In opposition, Fred Harris stressed the difficulties faced by smokers in complying with the existing ban. Sellick Davies and Joe Adderley said that it was impossible to ban smoking from rooms open to non-chess players (e.g. Perkins, Oswestry) and Iain Wilson outlined the difficulties faced by Telford in staging concurrent Wolverhampton League and Shropshire League matches.

Matthew Clark proposed (Richard Archer seconded) an amendment banning smoking by members of Shropshire Chess Association. The amendment was defeated (8 for, 12 against).

A vote then took place on the original proposal which was defeated (4 for, many against).

6. ***Proposed Amendments to Constitution.***

6.1 None.

7. ***County Representation Awards.***

7.1 The President produced a sample certificate to be awarded to players who represent the County on a set number of occasions (retrospective appearances to count). The AGM (as well as last year's Council Meeting) preferred a tie to a certificate. The President will present designs/costs etc to the Council in September.

Association members were asked to consider the qualification level and advise secretaries of views before the Council.

Everington

All Officers

8. ***Any Other Business.***

Action

8.1 Equipment for County matches.

a). Phil Cameron proposed (and Nick Rutter seconded) that the Association fund the purchase of 16 boards, sets and clocks for County matches, to avoid the need for individual clubs to provide equipment. With the existing 18 sets previously bought by Graham Shepherd's company, Shropshire could fully cater for 2 home County matches on the same Saturday.

The equipment could also be used for any other suitable county events, e.g. Junior chess or Simultaneous displays.

The Treasurer stated that, given an estimated cost of £640, funds could be made available through transfer from the Congress to the General Account. The Congress Account would still be sufficiently liquid to withstand at least one disastrous year. The Team Fees would need to be increased, to cover depreciation (see 8.3 below).

A vote resulted in the motion being carried with only one opponent.

b). Phil Cameron will contact e.g. ManChesster Supplies for a quote prior to arranging purchase / delivery of new equipment,

c). Storage of the new equipment and the sets donated to the County by Graham Shepherd will be discussed at the Council,

d). The Treasurer will consider insurance needs.

Cameron

Council

Thompson

8.2 Fixture Congestion

Alan Silver (Church Stretton) asked whether a limit could be imposed on the number of teams in a division, in order to reduce the number of club nights dominated by matches. The League Controller admitted that the second division was too large and that he is considering remedies. The matter will be discussed further at the Council meeting.

Council
(Roberts)

8.3 League Fees

The Treasurer had come to the AGM prepared to recommend an increase in the League fees from £30 to £32 per team. However, in order to account for depreciation over 10 years of the equipment mentioned at 8.1, he proposed increasing the fee to £35. In response to a question from Matthew Clark penalties for late payment would remain the same.

Dave Gostelow seconded the motion.

Nick Rutter proposed (Sellick Davies seconded) an amendment, that the increase be restricted to £2. Defeated: 7 for, 9 against.

The original motion was adopted (10 for, 7 against) and the team fee for season 96/97 will be £35.

Clubs to
Note

The meeting closed at 22:40.

Iain Wilson
General Secretary

26th July 1996

**Shropshire Chess League
95/96 Season Tables**

Division 1	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Coddon A	14	11	2	1	46.5	23.5	24
Shrewsbury A	14	10	3	1	50.5	19.5	23
Telepost A	14	9	1	4	43.5	26.5	19
Telford A	14	5	3	6	34.5	35.5	13
Newport A	14	4	3	7	30.5	39.5	11
Wellington A	14	4	2	8	28.5	41.5	10
Shifnal A	14	4	1	9	25.5	44.5	9
Church Stretton A	14	1	1	12	20.5	49.5	3

Division 2	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Perkins	16	12	2	2	50.5	29.5	26
Oswestry A	16	11	3	2	52	28	25
Coddon B	16	12	0	4	48.5	31.5	24
Shrewsbury School	16	6	4	6	44.5	35.5	16
Telford B	16	7	2	7	35.5	44.5	16
Wellington B	16	4	4	8	36.5	43.5	12
Newport B	16	4	3	9	35.5	44.5	11
Church Stretton B	16	3	3	10	31.5	48.5	9
Shifnal B	16	2	1	13	25.5	54.5	5

Division 3	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Shrewsbury B	11	9	1	1	37.5	17.5	19
Coddon C	11	8	1	2	37	18	17
Telford C	12	7	0	5	30.5	29.5	14
Telepost B	12	5	1	6	27.5	32.5	11
Coddon D	12	4	2	6	24	36	10
Wellington C	12	2	3	7	27	33	7
Newport C	12	1	2	9	21.5	38.5	4

SHROPSHIRE CHESS ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF COUNTY FIRST TEAM - 1995/96

This has been another successful season for the county first team. A win against Worcestershire in the Midlands West Zone ensured that we qualified for an easier game against Derbyshire in the first round of the Minor Counties knockout competition, followed by a quarter final match against the defending champions Suffolk.

The Midlands West Zone results were as follows :-

Warwickshire	9.5	v	6.5	Shropshire
Greater Manchester	13.5	v	2.5	Shropshire
Shropshire	11.5	v	4.5	Worcestershire
Shropshire	4.0	v	12.0	Staffordshire

The Minor Counties results were as follows :-

Shropshire	9.0	v	7.0	Derbyshire
Suffolk	12.5	v	3.5	Shropshire

I would like to thank all the players who represented the county this year, 33 in all, especially Andrew Footner, Nigel Ferrington, John Bashall and Iain Wilson who played in all 6 matches.

The nucleus of the team remained fairly stable throughout the year but some of our stronger players were missing from the away matches against Greater Manchester and Suffolk as the results indicate. Next year we must try to field our strongest team in all matches.

The best results for the team were gained by the following :-

Nigel Ferrington	3.5 / 6
John Footner	3.5 / 5
Colin Roberts	2.5 / 4
Toby Neal	2.5 / 3
Trevor Brotherton	2.0 / 2
William Bates	1.0 / 1

The county also competed in a rapidplay competition at Nuneaton, finishing in 5th place ahead of Derbyshire.

Philip Cameron
Shropshire First Team Match Captain
25/6/1996

GRADES 1993-94 SEASON

<u>Church</u>	P. Baker 107	M. Patterson 30	M. Smith 126
<u>Strelton</u>	N. Barnett 93	N. Rutter 178	J. Wilkinson 135
	J. Cockburn 55	W. Tedd 153	<u>Shrewsbury</u>
	R. Cockburn 68	K. Wasmuth 107	<u>School</u>
	N. Graham 159	T. Winyard 117	A. Le Queune 112
	G. Hourd 102	<u>Oswestry</u>	J. Peake 63
	B. Pogson 58	C. Bayliss 118	D. Pratley 86
	J. Robson 122	W. Evans 122	P. Scott 92
	J. Samworth 118	F. S. Harris 114	<u>Telepost</u>
	G. Shepherd 135	J. Harvey 135	N. Allen 129
	N. Shepherdson 113	L. R. Haynes 108	J. Bashall 145
	M. Whittle 101	S. Povall 138	D. Bryan 150
	T. Williamson 103	R. Thomson 92	I. Casewell 86
		S. Thomas 121	J. Casewell 67
<u>Goddon</u>	R. Archer 147	J. Adderley 107	W. Clarke 119
	W. Bates 96	F. Billington 108	A. Cliff 73
	D. Buttery 102	D. Brown 111	P. Crean 99
	P. Cameron 131	D. Donnell 76	V. Crean 80
	I. Gilbert 88	D. Irving 98	N. Ferrington 174
	J. Hill 112	R. Powell 92	B. Holford 74
	E. Jones 106	R. Simpson 128	J. Thomas 112
	A. Knight 165	<u>Shifnal</u>	G. Thomas 92
	C. Portman 152	P. Broderick 62	<u>Telford</u>
	G. Pugh 165	R. R. Brown 106	T. Brotherton 181
	E. Raby 118	P. Cherrington 128	D. Gostelow 165
	I. Richards 84	J. Copley 139	D. Roberts 120
	A. Shaw 106	E. Elwell 119	G. Roberts 90
○ (A. Steam 128)		D. Gibson 132	R. Thompson 150
Nicola Taylor 75		W. Terrick 115	A. Walters 127
N. K. Taylor 72		D. Lea 88	G. Wells 116
D. Taylor 40		R. Parry 152	I. Wilson 146
J. Tunks 119		C. Roberts 167	<u>Wellington</u>
G. Vizokai 117	<u>Shrewsbury</u>	G. Bradley 149	N. Andrews 132
G. White 106		C. A. Bliss 118	B. Brown 94
P. Whitehouse 116		S. Cook 138	B. Clvinger 55
<u>Newport</u>		I. Davies 86	J. Fletcher 157
K. Bolton 101		D. Everington 165	R. Hughes 112
S. Davies 69		A. Footner 166	C. Humphreys 99
D. Griffiths 121		F. G. Harris 95	R. Hudtwick 128
A. Grillage 113		E. Inglis 115	G. Link 148
R. Hinsley 83		S. Kempell 115	M. McCrae 64
A. Holdford 153		D. Lockett 106	T. Neal 150
M. Hubbuck 102		G. Lyon 47	D. Ogundipe 85
J. Jeggo 128		A. Puser 77	I. Owers 96
D. Morris 117		J. Puser 134	D. Powell 113
			G. Randle 120
			C. Staples 127
			M. Watson 108