

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

September 2024

Draft Version 2 by Paddy Collins, 19th July 2025

Name and Objects

1. The Association shall be entitled the “Buckinghamshire County Chess Association” and its objects shall be to encourage the establishment of chess clubs throughout the County and to foster and encourage chess playing generally.

Organisation

2. The Association shall consist of registered members of affiliated clubs and registered unattached members.

3. The Association’s affairs shall be organised by an Executive Committee of officers elected at annual general meetings. In the event of a tied vote the chairman of any meeting has a second, casting vote.

Annual General Meeting

4. An Annual General Meeting shall be held between the end of the season and the start of the next season to elect officers, together with a Grading Officer, an Auditor, and Match Captains for the following season.

5. At this meeting a statement of accounts for the past season shall be presented by the Treasurer, and reports presented by the various officers.

6. Any member wishing to submit a motion for this meeting must email it to the Secretary at least 21 days before the AGM.

7. Fourteen days notice of any General Meeting and its agenda, and if available a copy of the accounts for the past season shall be sent to each unattached member and to the Secretary of each affiliated club in respect of that club’s members.

8. The quorum for an AGM shall be five persons, of whom at least two shall be officers and at least two club representatives.

County Officers

9. The Officers of the Association shall be the President, Chairman, Match-Captains, Secretary, Treasurer, Controller of the Club Championship and other events, the Conductor of the Individual Championship, and the Junior Organiser.

10. Any person may be invited by Executive officers to be an honorary Vice-President of the Association.

Executive Committee

11. The Association shall be managed by an Executive Committee, which shall consist of the Officers of the Association (except the Grading Officer/Webmaster and Auditor) and one representative from each affiliated club if the club is not already represented by a county officer.

12. If required meetings of the Executive Committee may be convened by the Secretary at any time or by any other member of the Committee upon giving the Secretary written notice of his request and specifying the matters to be discussed.

13. The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be five persons of whom two at least shall be officers and at least two club representatives.

14. The minutes of each meeting of the Executive Committee shall be circulated to members as soon as is practicable after the meeting.

15. If any matter shall require urgent decision, then that matter shall be decided by a sub-committee consisting of the Chairman, or the Secretary plus two other officers of the Association as they shall consider necessary. Any such decision of the sub-committee shall be reported to the next meeting of the Executive Committee. No officer may sit on a sub-committee dealing with a matter in which he is involved.

Territorial Area

16. Any club whose headquarters are not within the Buckinghamshire county boundary may nevertheless be affiliated on an affirmative vote of at least 75% of a meeting of the Executive Committee, who shall consider the proximity of the headquarters of the club in question to the Bucks county boundary and general suitability for affiliation to the B.C.C.A.

Subscriptions

17. The annual subscription for affiliated clubs and for unattached members shall be determined in the Annual General Meeting, and, in the case of affiliated clubs, shall be due and payable to the Treasurer at the time of entry by the club to the Club Championship Competition.

18. The Association's financial accounts for the preceding season will be presented at the AGM

The Laws of Chess

19. The laws of chess as for the time being published or adopted by FIDE shall govern all play conducted by the Association, subject to minor modifications to adapt them to the circumstances of our competitions. See appropriate competition rules for details.

County Tournaments

20. The Association shall in each season conduct the following tournaments:-

- (a) Club Championship
- (b) Individual Championship
- (c) Other competitions to encourage people to play and to improve their standard of chess.

21. A board fee, if any such fee is decided at the AGM, shall be paid by a member playing in home matches for any County team.

English Chess Federation Fees

22. The ECF game grading fee scheme currently in force shall be adopted by the Association.

23. If a club fields a non ECF member that club undertakes to pay the treasurer for any grading fees so arising.

Changes to the Constitution

24. Alterations to the constitution can only be made at an AGM.