

Council report April 2013 – Douglas Bryson (CS Grading)

This report is very similar to previous editions. Grading continues normally with the support of the team of area graders around the country and the two programmers Gordon Rattray and Andrew McHarg. Gordon successfully devised a modification to the routine used to import outside Scotland FIDE events after the world body changed the format of their data at the start of 2013. A new upload to refresh latest grades is made every Wednesday as has been done now for over a decade.

There have been a couple of requests for FIDE speed events from outside Scotland to be included in domestic allegro grades. However this idea has not been pursued. FIDE compile a monthly report of all main list data, not allegro. This means the semi-automatic import routine created by our programmers would not apply – it would be back to manual compilation either by the player or the chief grader. The judgement at the moment is it is sufficient for players to see the FIDE calculation of an allegro grade – these are displayed and updated monthly on the links on the CS site. There are only 12 players in Scotland have a FIDE allegro grade.

One FIDE issue which should be noted is how few chances there are in Scotland to record any FIDE rated games. This 2012-13 season there are only 3 events FIDE rated – the Scottish Championship, the Premier section of the Edinburgh Congress, The Edinburgh Blitz tournament – the latter obviously not graded for the main list. There was some discussion on the noticeboard that FIDE rating of the CS club KO events the Richardson and Spens may be revived.

News: The Wordpress news list on website front page has been in operation since August 2011. This continues to give a quick update and links to world events, recent tournaments, player selections and news about CS.

Grand Prix prizes. The sponsors Chessbase, Everyman and New in Chess have again provided prizes this season. There was a modest increase in cash prizes in the junior sections such that 1st to 3rd will be guaranteed a prize this season – previously it was only 1st place in each age category. The same sponsors will be approached again – unless any other ideas are forthcoming.

100 Club. This lottery continues to generate over £500 per year for CS. There is a monthly update of prizewinners in the news list. The “club” has still to reach the 100 units mentioned in the title, currently in the high 90s.

Executive Director Report

This year has been one of the most frustrating so far. The time that I should have been spending on securing sponsorship for next years festivities, working on the Chess in Schools project and causing a nuisance of myself has been eaten up with several long running disputes.

The loss of the grant, although not unexpected, was a blow. I have seen some of Davids ideas and I am more than confident that not only do we have the right person in charge but that he will steer us out of this.

On the Delegate front, there is no meetings planned until later in the year when the ECU meet. I am intending on attending this meeting.

Andy Howie

International Directors Report

BUDGET 2013/14 – starting May 1st 2013

International Directorship

Priority 1 – European Team Championship , Warsaw, Poland , 7-18 November 2013

Funding Required - £1,500

Funding will be spent - £300 per player toward expenses

Objective – To achieve a high placing and title norms

Measure of success – Finish above seeding and obtain a title norm

Priority 1 – Olympiad preparation for Tromso , Norway, 1-14 August 2014

Funding Required – about £900 – carried forward

Funding will be spent – as a reserve for appearance fees or training

Objective – To achieve a high placing and title norms

Measure of success – Finish above seeding and obtain a title norm

Priority 2 – European Senior Team Championship , Dresden, Germany, 20-28 July 2013

Funding Required – 200 Euro = £170

Funding will be spent – 40 euro per player entry fee

Objective – To achieve top 10 finish

Measure of success – Finish above seeding and finish in top 10

Priority 2 – European Senior Championship, 2014

Funding Required -100 Euro = £80

Funding will be spent – 100 Euro entry fee

Objective – To achieve title norms

Measure of success – Finish above seeding and obtain a title norm

Priority 2 – World Senior Championship , Opatija, Croatia, 11-24 November 2013

Funding Required – 120 Euro = £100

Funding will be spent – 120 Euro entry fee

Objective – To achieve top 3 finish

Measure of success – Finish above seeding and finish in top 3

23/7/14-3/8/14 Commonwealth Games, Glasgow

01/08/14-14/08/14 Olympiad Oslo

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT 2012/13

Tournaments:

17/8/12-27/8/12 European Senior Individual – Kaunas, Lithuania - Phil Giulian was 16th, Ian Marks 53rd

28/8/12-11/9/12: Olympiad – Istanbul, Turkey: Open team came 76th, Ladies team came 83rd

12/11/12-25/11/12: World Senior Individual – Greece: Craig Pritchett was 13th, Phil Giulian

29th Alastair White 43rd, Alan Borwell 71st

9/11/12-2/12/12: Women's World Championship – Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia, Ketu Arakhamia was eliminated in the 1st round
27/12/12-6/1/13: Steve Mannion beat 2 GMs in Hastings Challengers finishing 14th
In January, IM Andrew Greet switched federation from England to Scotland
22/1/13-31/1/13: At Gibraltar, Alan Tate finished 142nd, Ketu Arakhamia finished 73rd
17/2/13-28/2/13 At Reykjavik, Andrew Muir finished 71st, however he beat 2 GMs in the same day including the joint winner Bassem Amin (2631)
23/2/13-2/3/13: At Cappelle, Alan Tate finished 182nd.
23/2/13: Colin McNab retained the British Solving Championships– England, ahead of 3 former world champions
10/3/13-22/3/13: At European Individual Senior Championships in Plovdiv, Craig Pritchett was 12th beating 2 GMs, Phil Giulian 39th, Alistair White 43rd, Alan Borwell 82nd, Douglas McKerracher 46th
July 2013: European Senior Team Championships-Dresden :

Expenses paid:

European Senior Team - nil

2012 European Senior Individual £80 (Giulian)

Olympiad £5,016

World Senior Individual £96 (Pritchett)

2013 European Senior Individual, Plovdiv £87 (Pritchett)

Total £5,279

Balance £871

Budget £6,150

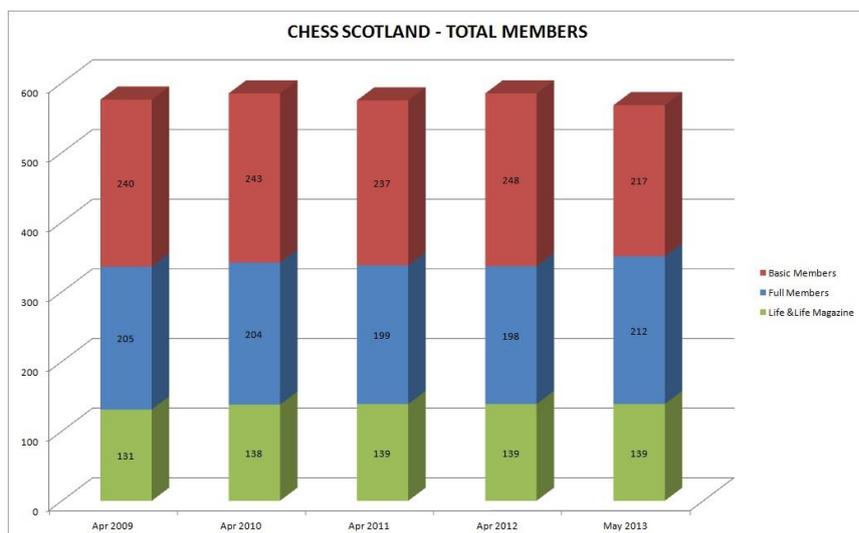
Membership Secretary Report

1. Membership Renewals

The most important task for the membership secretary is to invite members to renew their memberships. Costs incurred by Chess Scotland are kept to the minimum by using email wherever possible. Where members do not renew promptly they receive repeat reminders. Statistical information regarding membership activity is recorded at the webpage Membership Statistics The information published there is updated promptly at the end of each month.

2. Membership Numbers

It is satisfactory to note that overall membership numbers have remained fairly stable over the past, say, four years. To an extent the totals mask an underlying increased volatility of non-renewals and subsequent reinstatements.



A number of other charts are published each month on the membership statistics web page.

3. Overall Summary

All aspects of the Membership Secretary role are progressing normally, there are no known difficulties/complaints.

Dick Heathwood

Schools Development Directors Report

1. Secondary Schools Championship. Unfortunately this event did not run again, however, it is planned to go ahead with the event next year. Discussions are ongoing as to the format of the event with a number of ideas being put forward.
2. A budget of £400 was allocated. With no Secondary Schools Championship going ahead, this was used, in conjunction with a generous donation, to put together a Junior Membership pack in an attempt to encourage more juniors to become members of Chess Scotland. 150 Wooden chess piece USB drives (4GB), in the shape of a king, have been ordered for the pack. These will be sent to current junior members and to new juniors as they join.
3. Glorney 2014. As Scotland will be hosting the event in 2014 it is proposed to hold the event at the University of Stirling, 3rd – 7th August. Negotiations are ongoing with regards to costing for accommodation and catering.

Technical Directors Report

The Arbiters' Committee met in March. Lara Barnes was appointed as Senior Arbiter; it was noted that Andy Howie had passed the Senior Arbiter exam and now required to supply reports. Full minutes are on the website.

A course for Arbiters was held at Kilmarnock in October; four candidates subsequently passed the exam.

There have been many delays by FIDE in producing the revised Laws, due to operate from July 1. It appears that the general Laws are now finalised but those for Rapid and Blitz are not and will probably come into force later. The plan is to produce a revised version of the CS Rules Book by July 1 but the current situation has not made this straightforward. Regardless of this, the aim will be to ensure that the website version of the Rules Book remains current.