

Executive Director / FIDE Delegate Report

Well that's the first year over and hopefully I can say there have not been too many mistakes made. One that I will put my hand up to and admit, was the AGM, I was convinced that we only had to give 4 weeks notice. Imagine my horror when I received an e-mail enquiring when the AGM was as the constitution states 6 weeks.

This year I have had meetings with several nations presidents and from that both shared and gained some useful knowledge on the workings of other nations. We have also made the conscious effort to be more political with the early declaration of support of Anatoly Karpov.

As I mentioned in my mid year report, there is one area that I said at the AGM that I would be looking into, that we have not had the time to do this year and that is the reformation of the Constitution. That will form one of the three things that I have listed as priorities for next year.

At the Scottish this year, we had a meeting with Geoff Borg, the Development officer for FIDE. Geoff is interested in helping us develop as a chess playing nation and is helping us to implement a development plan. Stage 1 is the creation of more FIDE arbiters in Scotland, stage 2 is the creation of an accredited coaching system, stage 3 is the implementation of a national chess in schools program.

The third priority and possibly most serious priority is what to do should we lose the education grant. I was heartened to see the recent noticeboard activity where the idea of Chess as a Sport in Scotland was mooted. If we lose the grant, this is an area we can investigate. We have had offers of help with the lobbying if needed from Ali Nihat and Geoff Borg.

2010/11 looks like it could be a defining year for us!

Andy Howie