

**Minutes of the Sheffield & District Chess Association Fixture Meeting
to be held Tuesday, 19th September 2023 at 7.30 p.m.
at The Sheffield Chess Centre, 329A Coleford Road, Darnall, Sheffield S9 5NF**

Jonathan Arnott chaired the meeting due to the absence of the President, and Immediate Past President.

1. Apologies for absence:

Mike Smith, Geoff Frost, Phill Beckett, Steve Mann, T Amarnath, Brian Crofts and Oliver Brennan

2. Minutes of the fixture meeting from Tuesday, 20th September 2022

Not previously circulated but the meeting chose not to have them read out.

3. Matters arising

None

4. Presentation of trophies

Davy Challenge Trophy	Nomads A
Weston Trophy	Nomads B
Batley-Meek Memorial Trophy	Worksop B
Athenaeum Challenge Cup	Nomads C
Richardson Cup	Nomads 1
Sam Haystead Memorial	Barnsley
Edwin Woodhouse Challenge Cup	Chesterfield A
D K Hodgett Memorial Trophy	SASCA A
Sheffield Deaf Trophy	Woodseats A
Roebuck Trophy	Nomads D
Bruce Trophy	Daniel Sullivan
Holroyd Trophy	Oliver West
Shapero Trophy	Talalalukoppa Amarnath
Crabb Shield	Deji Jeje

5. Registration of players for the 2023/24 season under rules 17(a,b)

Division One

Chesterfield A	Peter Ackley, Dave Latham and Martin Howard
Darnall & Handsworth A	Oscar Idle, Marek Gajdosz and Rob Woodford
Ecclesall A	Jim Burnett, Ewan Cormack and James Marley
Hillsborough A	Chris Ross, Carl Walker and Farshad Ai
Nomads A	Sam Milson, Jon Nelson and Mike Handley
SASCA A	Peter Gayson, Jonathan Arnott and Tom Wills
Woodseats A	Andrew Ledger, Nigel Carpino and John Fletcher
Worksop A	Jon Tait, Oliver Graham and Phil Griffiths

Division Two

Barnsley A	Mitchell Burke, Greg Eagleton, Andrew Butterworth and Peter Micklethwaite
Darnall & Handsworth B	Ed Ter Gevorkian, Szilard Tamas and Geoff Brown
Ecclesall B	Tim Gollins, John Clark and Ken McIntosh
Hillsborough B	Andrew Birtwhistle, John Mercy and Gerry Fletcher
Nomads B	Daniel Sullivan, Vasileios Pasialis and Henry Withington
University A	deferred until after start of University term

Division Three

Barnsley B	Martin Sheard, Richard Desmedt and Ken Hunter
Chesterfield B	Tim Humphries, Joe Bradey and John Trafford
Darnall & Handsworth C	Barry Williams, Ian Barker and Andy Nettleship
Nomads C	Kevin Marshall, Paul Wheatley and Steve Withington
SASCA B	Deje Jeje, Yang Guo and Miles Edwards-Wright
Woodseats B	Brendan Ashmore, Peter Hulse and Jamie Woodhouse

6. Draw for the First and Second Rounds of the Richardson Cup

First round matches to be played in the week commencing Monday 16th October 2023

1. Nomads 1 v Sheffield Deaf
2. Ecclesall 1 v Darnall & Handsworth 11
3. SASCA 1 v Hillsborough
4. Worksop v Woodseats
5. SASCA 11 v Darnall & Handsworth 1
6. Barnsley v Rotherham
7. Ecclesall 11 v University
8. Chesterfield v Nomads 11

The draw for the Second Round was also made. Matches in week commencing 13th November

1. Ecclesall 11 / University v Ecclesall 1 / Darnall & Handsworth 11
2. Chesterfield / Nomads 11 v SASCA 1 / Hillsborough
3. Barnsley / Rotherham v Worksop / Woodseats
4. Nomads 1 / Sheffield Deaf v SASCA 11 / Darnall & Handsworth 1

7. Distribution of Fixtures for the 2023/24 season

These had already been published on the LMS web pages and club secretaries and team captains had all been notified. Any fixture changes that might be needed now should be agreed between the clubs and notified to the relevant League Secretary (Daniel Sullivan for Divs 1 & 2 and Phil Beckett for Divs 3 & 4).

SASCA stated their preference for their D team to play double-point home matches rather than playing teams both home and away.

8. Announcements by Officials and Secretaries

(a) Sheffield Individual Tournaments entries to Geoff Brown by 15th October 2023

(b) Treasurer John Mercy would be available immediately after the meeting to receive league fees from clubs

9. Any Other Business

- (a) It was agreed that the proposed wording re guidance on mobile phones and other electronic devices (see separate sheet below) should be posted on the website.
- (b) Following the failed rule change proposal at the AGM re time increments this seemed a good time to issue a reminder re FIDE's Guidelines for Games without Increments -

III.6 The following shall apply when the competition is not supervised by an arbiter:

III.6.1 A player may claim a draw when he/she has less than two minutes left on his/her clock and before his/her flag falls. This concludes the game. He/She may claim on the basis:

III.6.1.1 that his/her opponent cannot win by normal means, and/or

III.6.1.2 that his/her opponent has been making no effort to win by normal means. In III.6.1.1 the player must write down the final position and his/her opponent must verify it. In III.6.1.2 the player must write down the final position and submit an up-to-date scoresheet. The opponent shall verify both the scoresheet and the final position.

III.6.2 The claim shall be referred to the designated arbiter.

- (c) Dave Hill mentioned the proposed changes to ECF Membership levels. The likelihood is that there will be only one level of membership, at a cost higher than the existing Bronze level. There is still time for members to register the option they prefer via the ECF website.
- (d) Chris Willey reminded clubs that matches at their venue have to start at 7.30 pm prompt as the pub shuts at 10.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm

S&DCA Guidance regarding Mobile Phones and other Electronic Devices

a)

Except in exceptional circumstances [see (c)], such as the player being a doctor on call, mobile phones, and other electronic devices (including smart watches) should be switched off completely. Captains are advised to remind players to switch off their devices prior to the start of a match.

b)

If, during their game, a player's device which has not been exempted from being switched off nevertheless makes a noise, then the player shall lose their game, unless the opponent cannot win the game by any series of legal moves in which case the game shall be drawn.

c)

Exemption from having the phone switched off requires either that such exemption has been requested by the player and has been granted for that match by the opposing captain, or else that the circumstances fall within the scope of a general exemption issued by the Executive. If a player is claiming such general exemption, then they must still inform the opposition player and captain prior to the start of their game.

Example 1: One player is missing from a team when the game starts. Their captain cannot contact the player, and requests permission from the opposing captain to leave his phone on until the player arrives. This would be granted.

Example 2: A visually impaired player uses an electronic board which transmits his opponent's moves to a small monitor on which he can focus more easily. This would be granted.

Example 3: A diabetic player wears a glucose monitor and the information is accessed via their mobile phone. An alarm will sound on the phone if their sugar levels go too low or too high. This would be granted.

Example 4: A player's favourite football team are playing in a big match, and a request is made to set up goal alerts on the player's phone to keep track of the score during the chess game. This would not be granted.