
NORTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION FOUNDED 1899

AGM 2025 Rating Officer's Report

I have been assisting Bryan Bainbridge, the County Championship Controller, with running the LMS pretty much since (Greater) Manchester entered the NCCU County Championships. There's not that much to do, and Bryan is easy to work with, so I am happy to continue to do so.

I was not at the 2024 AGM, and found I was elected Rating Officer in my absence (I won't be making the mistake of missing a meeting again!). Bryan is the actual rating officer, as far as the ECF are concerned, as unlike me he is what we used to call a grader; but as the President thought I should be given some title, I am happy to continue (ideally with the post being renamed to reflect what I do).

As far as I can tell, the LMS has run smoothly, and all the games played have been correctly rated. If anyone has found any errors or issues, please let me know.

General comments

I find in Manchester that it's not easy getting volunteers to fill chess positions (although some of this is due to the awful behaviour of a handful of Manchester chess people, mostly it is because everyone seems very busy). Therefore, I am not surprised that the NCCU has a similar issue in filling officer posts.

There appear to be 9 Officer posts and 9 counties in the NCCU, so obviously 1 person from each county would be enough; equally, the bigger counties like Manchester and Yorkshire could be expected to find a couple of candidates each.

There must be lots of chess playing accountants, tax advisers, financial planners, bankers, and other financially literate people in the NCCU; I understand that those working full time have pressures from work as well as family commitments, but I would hope that you could find candidates for the position of Treasurer. (My suggestion would be you find us a candidate, and we approach them to explain what is involved, and see if they are willing do the job).

I am happy to answer questions by email in advance of the AGM.

Mick Norris
29 May 2025