

Minutes of a meeting on Thursday 18 June 2026

Present: N Graham (chair), N London, J Swain, D Flynn, A Wright, S Humphreys
Apologies: none

1. Minutes of previous meeting 16/04/26).

Amended version **accepted** as a true record.

2. Matters arising (not on agenda):

- a. Tony Wright was welcomed as an appointed member of EC.
- b. Chess mobbing –DF will confirm a date with interested parties.

Action: DF

3. Financial Report

Stu H had previously circulated a draft of the annual accounts and report for presentation to the AGM. The accounts have been audited by Dave Griffiths.

The accounts and report were **approved** unanimously.

- a. The surplus from the Rapidplay and Congress means that NCA is in a very healthy financial position with a current balance of over £7000.
- b. SH is investigating options for an interest-earning deposit account alongside the current account
- c. Noted that an invoice for hire of West Nottingham's venue for the Rules Revision meeting has not yet been received by SH.
Action: AW to follow up with W Nottm CC treasurer.
Action: SH to refer invoice & payment to auditor to clear with 25-26 accounts when received.
- d. Brief discussion on use to be made of the resources available. To be considered in more detail by EC members after the AGM.

Special arrangements for 50th anniversary Congress in 2027 to be considered at the AGM.

Action: NL to include on AGM agenda & inform Congress Cte members

4. Child Protection Policy

NL had previously circulated a draft of amendments to the policy section 'Responsibilities of Management Committees and Officers'. The intention is to clarify procedure and roles within NCA in the event of a safeguarding incident. The draft had also been circulated to Chair of LMC, Safeguarding Officer and Deputy SO.

Noted that there is necessarily a dual process that follows both the standard safeguarding reporting and escalation path and an internal NCA decision making process.

It was agreed that responsibility for obtaining eyewitness accounts for league match incidents lies with LMC.

The amended policy was **approved** (unanimously).

Action: NL to update policy on NCA website

5. Annual General Meeting

a. Officer Posts:

- i. the large majority of current postholders have indicated willingness to continue.
- ii. Some uncertainty around League Secretary role. Alternative of separating the function of 'fixtures secretary' from the season-long league management role was discussed and could be put to the AGM.
- iii. Some non-responses from current LMC members.

Action: NL to follow up

- b. Proposed constitutional change: NL proposed an extension to the time period allowed for RRM to be held. JS is willing to second

6. NCA Document Repository

Stephen Humphreys had asked EC to consider establishing a central store of documents for current administration and management.

Action: Stu H to liaise with Ste H to establish detail of what is required.

7. County Teams

After successfully winning through the Midlands stage both U1850 & U1450 lost their matches at the national stage. NG regretted the clash of dates with the Megafinal which deprived the U1450 of some able juniors, and the lack of other people providing assistance in organisation.

NG does not intend to run teams in the future. If Notts is to compete at any level in the future, other NCA club members must step forward and take charge of captaincy of the teams.

8. Summer League

NG reported that 8 teams have entered, playing in two mini-leagues.

The first round of matches has taken place and future rounds will fit in with England football fixtures.

9. County Championship

NG has a provisional date for this of July 25th & 26th, at a venue in Ashfield.

Details to be confirmed soon.

Action: NG

10. MCCU Matters

a. An AGM is scheduled for 11th July (via Zoom for the first time) which JS will attend as NCA rep and as non-executive director.

b. The issue of frozen accounts has still not been resolved but directors are working on it.

c. Noted that no invoice for historic recharges has been issued; approach is still to be decided. NG suggested that in view of the lack of MCCU activity in recent years historic charges should be waived.

Action: JS to pass on Notts views on this.

d. Nominee for British Championships – county nominations had been received (none sent in by NCA); the board is to decide between two nominees.

11. Any Other Business

a. League entries: 7 clubs so far have submitted entry forms or indicated intentions. Final deadline is end of June. Some indications of increased number of teams overall.

b. NL had received a request from Notts library service ('Inspire') to publicise the informal chess clubs that now operate in various libraries around the county.

Action: NL to liaise with Ste H to include on website page.

c. Best game prizes: JS reported that a small number of (high quality) entries have been received, and that judging was currently being done by Ankush Khandelwal FM, former NCA player

d. AW volunteered to start investigating possible sources of commercial sponsorship from local companies for supporting chess developments and events.

Action: AW

12. Date of next meeting

10 September 2026, starting 7:30pm.