Surrey County Chess Association

a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital

company registration number 5602632

registered office 38 Glebe Road, Ashtead, Surrey KT21

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

**30 June 2019**

Held at Parochial Rooms, Cheam from 2.15 pm.

Paul Shepherd (President) was in the Chair.

An attendance list was available for people to sign before the meeting. It read as follows:

**Nominated Members entitled to vote**:

**Ashtead**: Dan Rosen, Bertie Barlow (also proxy for Phil Brooks and Richard Jones)

**Crystal Palace** David Hodgson

**Dorking**: Peter Lawrence, Brian Skinner

**Epsom**: Marcus Gosling, Michael Wickham

**Guildford**: Mike Gunn, Trevor Jones, Julien Shepley, Phil Stimpson

**Kingston**: John Foley, Alan Scrimgour, Nick Grey

**South Norwood**: Martin Cath

**Streatham**: Richard Tillett

**Surbiton**: Paul Shepherd (also proxy for Paul Durrant, David Morant, Steven Kearney, Malcolm Groom)

**Wallington**: Daniel Young

**Wimbledon**: John Wilcox, Russell Granat

**Attendee entitled to a casting vote**: Paul Shepherd (Chairman)

**Attendees not entitled to vote**: Clive Frostick (Farnham), David Sedgwick (Independent Member)

Paul Shepherd provided details about the fire escape routes and also invited any of the attendees to advise him if they did not wish to be photographed. No-one raised a concern about photographs or their publication.

**In memoriam**

Respects were paid to Stephen Berry (Wimbledon)

**1. Apologies for absence**

Richard Jones, Phil Brooks, Owen Phillips, Geoff Stearn, Paul Dunican, Kevin Thurlow and Gordon Rennie.

**2. Approve the Minutes**

The Minutes of last year’s AGM, Annual Finance and League Composition Meetings were all approved.

**3. Matters Arising**

None

**4. Questions about Directors’ Reports**

Details of the written reports were distributed prior to the meeting.

President: Paul Shepherd congratulated Owen Philips and the Open team for getting to the ECF County championship final. Regardless of the result of the matches the County Championships provide players with the opportunity to play competitive chess. He also referred to the consultation about the ECF budget and increase in membership fees. Compared to the one or two replies normally received for this type of exercise there had been 55 responses. The high level of interest shown may arise due to the ease of process and that it was about an increase in membership fees.

One topic that he had hoped it would not be necessary to mention was about bad behaviour. He referred to the issues noted in his written report. He wanted everyone to convey a message back to their club members that this is not acceptable and good behaviour is expected.

Deputy President: No questions on the report but Russell Granat talked about Wimbledon losing their venue at short notice. Finding an alternative venue was difficult and much more expensive to hire. A complication has been encountered that some venues, especially those that were local authority owned or controlled, had a 10 pm finish time which was impractical under current SCCA competition time limits.

Administrative Director: None

Inter-Club Tournaments Director: In response to a question John Foley mentioned that there had been behaviour issues at Kingston Chess Club and they were drawing up a charter on behaviour. Reference was made to the guidelines for club captains and that there were currently two documents. The intention is to combine them into one document. John Wickham suggested incorporating some comments about behavioural into the planned guidance notes update. John Foley emphasised the importance of good behaviour towards women chess players. He commended Epsom Chess Club on the success of the club in attracting new members and players to Surrey when they had only entered Surrey competitions last year. He also mentioned that for the lower divisions of the SCCA competitions there were now a bigger spread of divisions resulting in fewer teams in each division so matches were played on a home and away basis. This way players from opposing clubs get to know one another better and this is good socially.

Non-Executive Directors: No questions but Alan Scrimgour mentioned that after joining the Board he had come to realise the large amount of work which they do for chess in Surrey and on behalf of Surrey.

**5. Treasurer’s Report.**

Copies of the Accounts for the year ended 30 April 2019 had been provided. Dan Rosen advised that this year there had been a surplus of £14 which was essentially break-even as budgeted. In response to a question from Trevor Jones he explained that there had been an increase in the number of players taking part in the Individual Competitions hence there had been an increase in prize money. In response to a question from Phil Stimpson he explained that the income of the SCCA came from its clubs, donations and the charges made on Surrey players for home County matches. He considered it was fair for those players to contribute towards the hire of the venue for home matches rather than have the competition heavily subsidised by the clubs. His workload had increased because many entrants in the Surrey Individuals were paying by bank transfer. He had to check when those payments were received.

The collection of board fees for home County matches is a burden for the captains but they should endeavour to get helpers from their team and delegate tasks as appropriate including the setting up and putting away of equipment at home matches.

Paul Shepherd proposed and Nick Grey seconded a motion to receive and approve the accounts which were approved nem.con

**6. Questions about Officers’ Reports**

(a)ECF Delegate: Paul Shepherd reported that the ECF will be increasing membership fees as previously proposed this year. Further increases are due to be put to the Finance Council next year. He posed the question whether there should be a repeat of the consultation process with Surrey club members. The previous consultation had been about the principles of budgeting. The next consultation will be to gauge how many are in favour the increases. A straw poll indicated a substantial majority in favour of a further consultation.

The Board are arranging a meeting with the ECF Director of Women’s Chess, Chris Fegan. The aim is to build influence by dialogue rather than endeavouring to do so at twice yearly ECF General Meetings Nick Grey suggested involving Helen Frostick in the discussions with Chris Fegan. Richard Tillett stated that there was a need to be realistic and recognise that many women simply do not wish to play chess.John Foley thought that an endeavour should be made to encourage more girls to continue playing chess as adults. Mike Gunn mentioned that Chris Fegan is organising a conference at the London Chess Classic about the theme Chess and Female Empowerment. Mike also mentioned that a female player had left Guildford Chess Club because she thought the chess club was too competitive and all about grading. She thought there should be more social chess. Kingston Chess Club now have four women members. Epsom Chess Club now has a diversity officer.

(b) SCCU Representative: Paul Shepherd advised that the SCCU is struggling to populate their grade limited County chess competitions. There is an SCCU AGM next week which includes an item about how to increase participation in County matches and events next week. One idea being considered is about whether to have a joint County team from two or more counties who currently struggle to raise a team or have simply not taken part in the SCCU county competition the many years. For instance, a Berkshire and Buckinghamshire combined team.

Factors mentioned included whether the degree of travelling is the main problem, would a central location in London be possible at a reasonable cost and also that a combined team would not be able to enter in the ECF National Stages. Trevor Jones was in favour of combined teams and also being able to play matches with a smaller number of boards to ease the problem of raising a team. Paul Shepherd said that the rest of the SCCU would not support any reduction in board numbers. A straw poll in principle support for a combined Berks and Bucks county team.

The merits of having average grades were considered but a straw poll indicated a substantial majority in favour the current grade limited teams. Other ideas mentioned included each county merging all of their teams into a single team over a large number of boards or playing the competitions on a handicap basis but none of these ideas were supported. A central London venue, if one could be found at a reasonable cost, was supported in principle but David Sedgwick expressed the opinion that the biggest problem that held back counties from entering a team was finding suitable match captains.

Paul Shepherd had raised the idea of issuing a certificate to juniors who played in County matches to encourage participation. However, there appeared to be lukewarm support for this idea from the match captains. Juniors are not very keen to travel a long way just to play one long game of chess. A rapidplay event in which they play several games would be far more attractive to them. The possibility of an online competition was also considered such as using Skype or similar in a local venue with invigilators. It was noted that there may be a change in the format of the county competitions when the ECF revised the grading system. There is a strong need for revisions in the U100 competition otherwise Surrey may not be able to enter a team.

(c) Company Secretary: No report and no questions.

(d) County Team Captains

(i) Open: There were no questions about the report but Paul Shepherd congratulated Owen Phillips and his team for their success in reaching the final. The ECF have arranged a live feed on the games.

ii) U180: No questions. Trevor Jones indicated a preference for adults in his team for safeguarding reasons. Paul Shepherd expressed concern and thought it important to include juniors as catered for in the CPP guidelines.

(iii) U160: No questions but Nick Grey mentioned that it had been a real struggle to get a full team especially for away matches.

(iv) U140: No report or questions but Mike Gunn compared the 4 out of 5 wins in the previous season to losing all four matches in the current season.

(v) U120: No questions.

(vi) U100: No report though Mike Gunn mentioned that there were only two teams in the competition namely Essex and Surrey and gave details of their performance mentioning especially the difficulty in getting a team for the away match when Surrey could only field 7 players for a 12-board match. He also emphasised the need to attract more junior players to play in the team. Paul Shepherd agreed to conclude his consultation with the relevant captains concerning awarding a certificate to juniors who play in the team and also the U120 and U140 teams.

(e) Junior Team Managers: No questions.

(f) Individual Tournaments Secretary: No questions.

(g) Correspondence Chess Secretary: Richard Tillett reported on developments in the counties correspondence chess championship. Some years back the International Computer Chess Federation had accepted that it could not control the use of chess engines such as Stockfish and would therefore allow their use (players are also permitted to use books and databases). Chess engines are now widely used in the top two divisions of the championship, but not always in division three. The combination of 'human-plus-computer' made for interesting games, but he wondered whether this form of chess could survive when (and if) AlphaZero-style artificial intelligence becomes widely available. John Foley pointed out that there is software available to check whether computers are used but others commented that it was not always reliable and enforcement would still be difficult. Richard Tillett posed the question of why Surrey had not yet won the championship. It was because he would need to change the team compositions to attempt that and he had chosen not to put all of the best players in the top team. Paul Shepherd responded that it was his decision as to how he wished to run his teams.

(h) Grading Officer: Mike Gunn drew attention to plans by the ECF in respect of monthly grading. The workload to carry out the grading exercise monthly was huge and, in his opinion, not worthwhile. He also does internal grading for six clubs as well. The ECF league management system includes player identification and therefore can provide for monthly grading automatically. However, this system will not take into account local rules such as those for the SCCA. In his opinion the introduction of monthly grading is misguided but will come. He expressed a reluctance to continue as the grading officer once it is introduced though a system solution, if one can be found, may help in that respect.

Trevor Jones indicated that he to, would not be prepared to do monthly grading for the Border League.

John Foley commented that monthly grading was a very unsatisfactory initiative by the ECF.

David Sedgwick advised that in his opinion the ECF should be able to capture results from other local systems. He also thought that the ECF were fully aware that they had not yet consulted with the local graders.

(i) Webmasters: No questions. Brian Skinner requested that each club should have only one person responsible for providing the fixtures information. Richard Tillett offered to update the information for Libraries Chess web page. Brian Skinner confirmed that traffic on the Library Chess page was not known. John Foley drew attention to the fact that the SCCA now have their own logo which is displayed on their printed material and website.

(j) Curator of Equipment. No questions or report but Peter Lawrence advised that he had provided information on equipment in his County Match Secretary’s report.

(k) Curator of Trophies: No written report. Martin Cath reported that the new John Hawson Trophy had been purchased by Paul Shepherd to replace the previous one which had been lost. It has been engraved to cover the past two years. The Minor Counties Trophy was on display. Paul Shepherd will take the U100 SCCU Trophy to the SCCU when he attends their AGM.

(l) Chairman of the Chess Disputes Committee: No questions.

m) County Match Secretary: No questions.

**7. Report Surrey Chess Congress**

No questions but Paul Shepherd congratulated the SCC committee for their success in resurrecting the Surrey Congress which will be held again this year over 4 – 6 October. Russell Granat mentioned that Mike Gunn had stood down as a director of the SCC and he expressed thanks to him for the many years in which he had worked on the SCC committee. The SCC were looking for a third director and the qualities required were common sense and a bit of initiative. They were also looking for volunteers to help with the running of the Congress.

**8.** E**lection of Directors.**

The existing Directors are:

President – Paul Shepherd

Deputy President – Russell Granat

Administrative Director - Peter Lawrence

Treasurer – Dan Rosen

Inter-Club Tournaments Director – John Foley

Non-Executive Directors – Alan Scrimgour and Phil Brooks

Paul Shepherd informed the meeting that Phil Brooks has decided not to seek re-election. The remainder of the directors were willing to stand for re-election and there were no other candidates. The Board nominated Clive Frostick for the post of Non-Executive Director. It is a condition of being an SCCA Board Member that your personal contact data will be displayed on the SCCA website.

A vote to re-elect the existing directors en bloc was passed nem.con. They were duly re-elected.

Clive Frostick introduced himself to the meeting mentioning that he is a member of Farnham Chess Club and also plays for Guildford Chess Club. He is also the fixtures-coordinator for the Surrey Border Chess League. The Board nomination to elect him as a Non-Executive Director of the SCCA was passed nem.con.

**9. Election of Independent Examiner**

A motion supporting the reappointment of Richard Jones was passed nem.con.

**10. The Presentation of Trophies**.

Results for the 2018/2019 season

Surrey Trophy – Surbiton 1- presented to Paul Shepherd by Russell Granat

Beaumont Cup – Guildford 2 presented to Trevor Jones by Paul Shepherd

Ellam Trophy – Ashtead 2 but the Trophy was not available for presentation and will need to be found.

Centenary Trophy – Surbiton 4 presented to Paul Shepherd by Russell Granat

Minor Trophy – Ashtead 3 presented to Dan Rosen by Paul Shepherd

Fred Manning – Ashtead presented to Dan Rosen by Paul Shepherd

Alexander Cup – Wimbledon presented to John Wilcox by Paul Shepherd

Lauder Trophy - Kingston presented to Nick Grey by Paul Shepherd

Ellery Williams – not run

Stoneleigh Trophy – Guildford presented to Julien Shepley by Paul Shepherd

John Hawson Trophy – Kevin Thurlow

Tommy Dunne – Radha Ratnesan

Photographs of the trophy recipients were taken and will appear on the SCCA website.

**11. Revision to By Law 2.8 as specified in Appendix A**

The existing rule allows a player to leave the playing area and use their mobile phone or other electronic communication device outside of the playing area. This is clearly not acceptable and was highlighted in a county match last season when such an eventuality happened. However, under SCCU rules Surrey were able to win their case. Had SCCA rules applied they would have lost. The proposal had been devised to address this loophole. A suggested amendment by David Sedgwick for the wording to comply with FIDE rules was withdrawn but he will discuss the matter with the Board prior to the next AGM. Various aspects of the proposed rule were discussed including that the mobile phone or other electronic device can only be used outside of the playing venue if permission to do so has been agreed with the opposing match captain or Controller. It was confirmed that the SCCA rule will rely on the FIDE definition of a playing venue. The new rule will mean that the mobile phone or other electronic device will be left unattended during a comfort break. If a mobile phone or other electronic device needs to be left turned on in the playing venue for essential reasons that can be agreed with the opposing match captain or Controller but does rely on them being reasonable.

The motion was passed nem.con.

**12. Revision to Bye Law 3.8.3 as specified in Appendix B**

Dan Rosen explained that in a Lauder Trophy match in 2018/19, there was a query on the applicable grade of one of the players, in respect of which the application of Bye Law 3.8.2 might have changed the result from 3½-2½ to a 3-3 tie. In this case, the board count procedure set out in Bye Law 3.8.3 would not be well-defined because the adjustment does not relate to a particular board. This proposal takes a simple approach by deciding any such issue in favour of the “innocent” party.

The reference to “net adjustment” is needed because it is possible that both teams might be over the grading limit; however, if the same adjustment would have been made in respect of each team (so that there is no net adjustment) then the normal board count will still work.

In response to a question Dan Rosen advised that the grading violation could not apply to the Alexander Cup as that competition is not grade limited. The Lauder Trophy is the only knockout competition that has a total team grading limit.

The proposal to revise the wording of Bye Law 3.8.3 was passed nem.con.

**13. Proposal by the Board to appoint Mike Gunn and David Sedgwick each as a Life Vice President of the SCCA**

Addressing the meeting Paul Shepherdsaid that Mike Gunn and David Sedgwick were fine long-standing servants of the SCCA.

Citation by Paul Shepherd in support of Mike Gunn – See Appendix C

Mike Gunn was appointed and photographed with the President Paul Shepherd. Mike provided a brief summary of his involvement with the SCCA. In particular he remembered attending his first SCCA AGM and thinking that he could do a much better job chairing the meeting than the incumbent. Subsequently he became President of the SCCA and he listed some proud moments when he held that position.

Citation by Dan Rosen in support of David Sedgwick – See Appendix D

David Sedgwick was appointed and photographed with the President Paul Shepherd. He was proud to be wearing his Grand Chess Tour jacket and briefly explained the background to obtaining it. He confessed to having limited involvement with the SCCA compared to that of Mike Gunn and Martin Cath. However, he had been happy as an independent member to be a nuisance. Now he could continue to do so without having to pay a membership fee.

Trevor Jones thanked Paul Shepherd for his chairing of the meeting.

The meeting finished at 5.50 pm.

**Appendices**

Note. Explanatory paragraphs are shown in *italics.*

**Appendix A**

*The existing rule suggests that a mobile phone or electronic device may be used or answered during play outside the playing area. This is not acceptable in today's climate of increasing concern over cheating. The issue of when a mobile phone may be used (with permission) is also not addressed.*

*The SCCU has put considerable effort into reformulating its rule on this issue to make it as clear as possible, and it is proposed to use the basic principles of the new SCCU County Match Rule (which will be effective from 1 Sept 2019) for the SCCA, but incorporating some SCCA-specific drafting changes as well as refinements carried over from the current SCCA rule.*

**Proposed revision to Bye Law 2.8**

For Bye Law 2.8, substitute the following:

**2.8 Mobile telephones and other electronic devices**

2.8.1 Subject to paragraph 2.8.3 below, mobile phones and other electronic devices shall not be used during play.

2.8.2 Mobile phones and other electronic devices are permitted in the playing venue, provided they are

* stored either in full view on or near the playing table, or in a bag under or near the playing table; and
* switched off, unless prior permission has been obtained in accordance with paragraph 2.8.3 below for them to be on, in which event they must be in silent mode.

Players should be reminded of this requirement before commencement of play

* in a [Club Competition](#bl_clubComp), by the match captains; or
* in other competitions, by the [Controller](#bl_controller) or his nominated deputy at the playing venue.

2.8.3 Notwithstanding paragraphs 2.8.1 and 2.8.2 above, a mobile phone may be used or left on if prior permission has been given in accordance with paragraph 2.8.6 below.

2.8.4 Subject to paragraph 2.8.5 below, a player shall not leave the playing venue during play.

2.8.5 Notwithstanding paragraph 2.8.4 above, a player may leave the playing venue if prior permission has been given in accordance with paragraph 2.8.6 below.

2.8.6 Permission under paragraphs 2.8.3 or 2.8.5 above may be given:

* in a [Club Competition](#bl_clubComp), by the opposing match captain; or
* in other competitions, by the [Controller](#bl_controller) or his nominated deputy at the playing venue;

in which case the person giving permission shall notify both players concerned.

2.8.7 The penalty for violations of paragraphs 2.8.1, 2.8.2 or 2.8.4 not covered by the concessions in 2.8.3 or 2.8.5 shall be the loss of the game by the offending player.

2.8.8 If a player's phone or electronic device makes any sound during his game, then on the first occurrence he shall receive a warning, and for a second offence by the same player in the same game, he shall lose the game.

2.8.9 Where an offending player loses in accordance with the paragraphs 2.8.7 or 2.8.8 above, his opponent shall win.

2.8.10 Should a player use an electronic device as a playing aid during play, the matter shall be reported to the [Controller](#bl_controller), who shall refer the matter to the Board.

**Appendix B**

*In a Lauder Trophy match in 2018/19, there was a query on the applicable grade of one of the players, in respect of which the application of Bye Law 3.8.2 might have changed the result from 3½-2½ to a 3-3 tie. In this case, the board count procedure set out in Bye Law 3.8.3 would not be well-defined because the adjustment does not relate to a particular board. This proposal takes a simple approach by deciding any such issue in favour of the “innocent” party.*

*The reference to “net adjustment” is needed because it is possible that both teams might be over the grading limit; however, if the same adjustment would have been made in respect of each team (so that there is no net adjustment) then the normal board count will still work.*

**Proposed Revision to Bye Law 3.8.3**

In Bye Law 3.8.3, add “if there has been a net adjustment pursuant to Bye Law 3.8.2 above, the winner shall be the team benefitting therefrom; otherwise,”

The revised Bye Law 3.8.3 would read:

3.8.3 If in a match, the scores are level, [if there has been a net adjustment pursuant to Bye Law 3.8.2 above, the winner shall be the team benefitting therefrom; otherwise,]1 a decision shall be reached by board count, and if there is still a tie, by cancelling the score from the bottom board upwards one board at a time until a definite result is obtained. If all games are drawn, the team with black on the top board will be declared the winner.

1 Proposed on 30 June 2019 at the AGM.

**Appendix C**

Mike Gunn LVP Citation - SCCA AGM 2019

* SCCA Board propose to appoint Mike Gunn to LVP of SCCA for his services to chess and Surrey chess in particular
* Let us consider Mike's CV for Surrey
* 17 years as SCCA President from 2000-2017
* Presided over the fundamental changes to the SCCA in 2007 when it changed from an unincorporated association to a company
* For many of those years Mike also served as the SCCA rep on the ECF Council and SCCU forums. No-one else wanted to do it!
* 15 years as SCCA Grading Secretary up to the present day
* 18 years running the Surrey Congress from 2000-2018 when he stepped down last year after the congress had been successfully resurrected
* 5 years in the past as captain of SCCA U125 team, in the last 2 years he has been captain of both U140 and U100 teams
* Managed to squeeze in one year in 2007-8 season as SCCA webmaster
* Mike has also made significant contributions in the wider chess world:
* At Guildford he has captained their third team for about 20 years and more recently has also been their club webmaster and junior organiser
* Mike is the current Surrey Border League delegate to ECF Council
* He was President of the SCCU for 2 years between 2009 and 2011
* 3 years as a non-exec on ECF Board in which he was also chairman of the Board followed by:-
* Last 3 years to the present day as chair of ECF Council after ECF reorganised in light of the Pearce Commission proposals
* I think there are three key things that I would say about Mike:
  + On any chess issue he will have a deep knowledge and a helpful comment to give about it
  + I hope he will forgive me but I think it's also fair to say that one should not hold one's breath waiting for his written reports!
* Mike does a great job chairing meetings.

**Appendix D**

# David Sedgwick — Biographical Details

David Sedgwick was born on in Pinner, Middlesex, England. He was educated at Whitgift School, Croydon, and Queens' College, Cambridge, and worked in investment management for thirteen years.

He has been a member of both Insurance Chess Club and Mushrooms Chess Club since the late 1970s and has served both as Chairman. From 1993 to 1995 he was the President of the Southern Counties Chess Union and from 1995 to 1999 he was the International Director of the British Chess Federation (BCF), now the English Chess Federation (ECF).

From 2007 to 2013 he was the ECF representative on the Sport and Recreation Alliance, a major UK umbrella body for sport, and in that capacity, he contributed towards obtaining the inclusion of the Chess in Schools and Communities project in both the 2012 and the 2013 Community Sport and Recreation Awards.

He has over 30 years' experience as a chess arbiter, both domestically and within the International Chess Federation (FIDE). He became a BCF Arbiter in 1986, a FIDE International Arbiter in 1994, and a BCF Senior Arbiter in 1997.

At the FIDE Congress in Turin in 2006 he was appointed as a member of the Arbiters' Council (now the Arbiters' Commission) and he served thereon until 2010. At the same Congress he was appointed as one of the original members of the Approved List of Lecturers for FIDE Arbiters' Seminars.

In the 1990s he helped in the administration of the first five World Amateur Championships at Hastings. In October 2004 he was the Chief Arbiter of the inaugural World Senior Team Championship held on the Isle of Man. He was an arbiter at the top section of the Open event at the Turin Olympiad in May and June 2006 and again at the Batumi Olympiad in September and October 2018.

From 2003 to 2015 inclusive he was a member of the arbiting team at all the first thirteen of the Gibtelecom and Tradewise Gibraltar Chess Festivals. He was the Deputy Arbiter of the London Chess Classic each year from its inception in 2009 until 2015.

From 2006 to 2015 he was the Chief Arbiter of the Guernsey International Chess Festival each October. In April 2015 he was the Chief Arbiter of the 4th European Small Nations Team Championship in Guernsey.

He reached the then pinnacle of his career as a chess arbiter when in March and April 2013 he was the Deputy Chief Arbiter of the FIDE Candidates Tournament in London, which determined the Challenger for the World Championship Match in November 2013. Following the Candidates Tournament, he was appointed as a Category A International Arbiter.

In February 2013 he was a player and a lecturer at the Gambian Chess Festival, which marked that country's return to international chess after an absence of over 25 years. Following the Festival he was appointed as the Chief Arbiter of The Gambia Chess Federation in June 2013.

In August 2015 he accepted an invitation to become the Chief Arbiter of the Grand Chess Tour, an annual series of tournaments featuring the world's top players. The appointment became effective on 1st In bridge, he is a County Director of the English Bridge Union.

In the Mind Sport of Memory, he officiated at the World Memory Championships in London in November 2009 and he was appointed as a Level I Arbiter at the end of the Championships. He officiated at the UK Open Memory Championships in London in August 2012 and at the World Memory Championships in London in December 2012. In July 2013 he was the Chief Arbiter at the 1st

Philippines National Memory Championships in Manila. In August 2013 he again officiated at the UK Open Memory Championships in London and he was appointed as a Level 2 Arbiter at the end of the Championships. From 30th November to 2nd December 2013 he finally had the opportunity to officiate at a major event in his home town when the World Memory Championships were held in Croydon.

He was a founder member of the Guild of Mind Sports Arbiters in August 2016 and he subsequently became Deputy President.

Notes on My Involvement with Surrey County Chess Association

To the best of my recollection my involvement with the SCCA at adult level began in 1984.

The late Eric Weimann, then captain of the Surrey Second Team, spotted me reading the BCF Yearbook at East Croydon station. He introduced himself and invited me to play for the county teams.

I attended my first SCCA AGM in the early 1990s when my club, Mushrooms, asked me to oppose a motion that Surrey should disaffiliate from the BCF. However, my main contribution to the meeting was to make a well received proposal that, when invitations to play in the Challenge Cup were being made, a greater degree of priority should be given to players who supported the Surrey 1st team.

The adoption of the Game Fee scheme to replace the Levy as from 1994 meant that there was no benefit to Mushrooms in continuing to affiliate to the SCCA. As a result, I became an Individual Member, which I remain to this day.

Towards the end of that decade I was one of the first members to suggest that the SCCA should have a website.

I was not prepared to serve as an officer of the SCCA under the then structure, but when it was agreed that this would be changed as a result of incorporation I offered to serve as Chairman, the then Number 2 position, in 2005. When the company came into being in 2007 my title changed to Deputy President. I stood down in 2010 after completing five years' service.

Subsequently I have served on the SCCA Chess Disputes Committee and as the SCCA nominee on the Southern Counties Chess Union Rules and Appeals Sub-Committee. I continue to hold both positions.

David Sedgwick

25th June 2019