

Irish Chess Union

Minutes General Meeting: 28 September 2014 at 15:10

Attendees

Name	Club	ICU Code	Name	Club	ICU Code
Vincent Bissett	Malahide	65	Eugene Donohoe	Elm Mount	4190
Tony Bregazzi	Finglas	95	Andrew Peters	Elm Mount	4522
Paul Carey	NULL	174	William Ffrench	Elm Mount	4570
Paul Cassidy	Dun Laoghaire	194	Carl Jackson	Gonzaga	4618
Darragh Connolly	Inchicore	238	Derek Stacey	Curragh	4888
Colm Daly	Bray/Greystones	295	Niall O'Higgins	Inchicore	4937
John Delaney	Blanchardstown	318	Stephen Stokes	Bray/Greystones	5007
Oliver Dunne	Elm Mount	382	Killian Delaney	Gonzaga	5104
Terence Fayne	Inchicore	423	Rory Delaney	Trinity College Dublin University of	5160
Anthony Fox	Dun Laoghaire	456	Kevin O'Flaherty	Limerick	5193
Gerry Graham	Sarsfield	507	Bernadette Stokes	Bray/Greystones	5220
Paul Higgins	Rathmines	600	Colm Mooney	Elm Mount	5385
Sean Loftus	Elm Mount	788	Pete Morriss	Galway	5983
John Maher	Rathmines	834	David Fitzsimons	Elm Mount	6236
Kevin Murray	Elm Mount	981	Gary P. O'Grady	NULL	7214
Eugene McMorrow	Elm Mount	1151	Melvyn King	Malahide	10214
Jonathan O'Connor	Dublin	1243	Roland McCrann	Phibsboro	10357
Bernard M. Palmer	Dun Laoghaire	1354	Stephen Joyce	Inchicore	10517
Ciaran Quinn	Elm Mount	1398	Bryan Tobin	Curragh	12072
Peter Scott	Elm Mount	1536	Colm O'Muireagain	The Ross Chess Club	12275
Chris Sheridan	Inchicore	1552	Tom Collins	Naomh Barrog	12318
Pat Fitzsimons	Elm Mount	1733	Ronan J. Murphy	Elm Mount	12328
Ted Jennings	Limerick	1875	Thomas O'Neill	Dun Laoghaire	12699
Tim Walsh	Round Tower	2202	Nick Scallan	Rathmines	12817
Tristan Sheridan	Inchicore	2687	Desmond Beatty	St. Benildus	13381
Mervyn Honner	Bray/Greystones	2831	Jonathon Melling	Ennis	13532
Ciaran Ruane	St. Benildus	2865	Ruth Redmond	Enniscorthy	13562
Bernard Boyle	Elm Mount	3172	Andrew Kildea	Enniscorthy	17448
Gordon Freeman	Gonzaga	4153			

Standing Orders are presented for the meeting.

1. Welcome address by the chairperson
2. Apologies for absence
No apologies noted for absence

Proposal: Alcoholic drinks not be allowed to be brought into the room

Proposed: Pete Morriss **Seconded:** Ted Jennings

Passed by majority

Proposal: Reverse items 7 and 6 on the agenda

Proposed: Pat Fitzsimons

Passed by majority

3. **Approval of minutes of previous meetings**

(a) The EGM held on 18 May 2014

Proposed: Desmond Beatty **Seconded:** Pete Morriss

(b) The AGM held on 29 September 2013

Proposed: Pete Morriss **Seconded:** Paul Carey

(c) The AGM held on 30 September 2012

Proposed: Pete Morriss **Seconded:** Bryan Tobin

All minutes passed without dissent

4. **Presentation of Officers' Reports**

Officers' Report are available online at <http://www.icu.ie/articles/460>

Chairman's report

Chairman gives a summary of his officers' report and a personal statement

Proposed: Ted Jennings **Seconded:** Killian Delaney

Passed without dissent

Treasurer's report

The treasurer notes the deposit account in AIB is the Glorney accrual

Proposed: Pete Morriss **Seconded:** Kevin O'Flaherty

Passed without dissent

Junior Officer, Secretary, FIDE/ECU, Development and Webmaster all considered to be read.

Membership Officer's report

Bernard Palmer apologises for not performing his duties during the year as membership officer and the hassle caused.

Request from the floor for membership figures for each province

Rating Officer's report

Noted that the average rating is 150 rating points lower due to deflation
Next executive should address this.

Women's Officer's report

Received late but read out by the chair (available online)

Proposed: Bernard Palmer **Seconded:** Gary O'Connelly

Passed without dissent

PRO's report

No current PRO. Ex-PRO (sept 2013 – June 2014) report received late and handed out by the previous PRO. The *italics* below indicates the wording of the information handed out at the meeting by the PRO.

“ICU PRO Report

My tenure as Public Relations Officer for the Irish Chess Union was shortened this year but much was achieved during my team in office.

In September I proudly took up my position and set about ways to promote chess in Ireland.

Significant graphics work was produced for ICU branding.

Of course Garry Kasparov's visit to Ireland was a magnificent historic occasion, one that I am very proud of. Thank you Eamon for your vitally important work in bringing Garry Kasparov to Ireland. I would also like to thank Eamon for his important discussions with Tromsø in securing Irish arbiters for the Tromsø Olympiad.

Great to hear that an alternative chess organization has been initiated. I would like to wish the Irish Chess Organisation the best of luck in the future.

Year highlight for me was the massive input from chess players across the country who helped document a wonderful series of chess club histories.

Next would be Jonathan O'Connor's superb initiative in organising Alexander Baburin's immense blindfold challenge which was broadcast on national TV news.

Yes, the "Irish Chess Union" is now officially "Aontas Fichille na hÉireann" in the Irish language, thanks to communications with the government body "An Coiste Tearmaíochta" (Irish language terms committee) and can be viewed on www.focal.ie

This is the brief PRO report from Úna O Boyle (ICU Public Relations Officer 2013-2014, resigned June 2014) which the ICU executive refused to publish.."

The ex-PRO then reads out a personal statement and hands withheld ICU material to chairman elect – Pat Fitzsimons and notes she intentionally withheld it from the executive.

Proposal: To remove the Irish Language section of the PRO report as the constitution defines what the Irish Chess Union's name is in Irish

Proposed: Pete Morriss **Seconded:** Tom Collins

Passed by majority

5. **Presentation of accounts for 2013-14.**

Included in Treasurer's report

6. **Election of Officers**

Proposal: To have 3 people count the votes for the elections; the secretary and 2 others elected from the floor.

Proposed: Pete Morriss

Passed by majority

Nominee: Bernard Palmer

Proposed: Jonathan O'Connor

Nominee: Gerry Graham

Proposed: Ted Jennings

Gerry rejects his nomination

Nominee: John Delaney

Proposed: Jonathan O'Connor **Seconded:** Gerry Graham
Two candidates passed by majority

The chair steps down and the vice-chairperson chairs the meeting while the elections for chairperson are taking place.

Chairperson

Pat Fitzsimons - Proposed by David Fitzsimons

Seconded: Paul Cassidy

Pete Morriss - Proposed by Pete Morriss

Seconded: Jonathan O'Connor

Pat Fitzsimons

Pat takes the floor and notes the following points for his next year in office:

Will develop a 5 year plan, with consultation from members

Reduce the size of the executive

All agendas and minutes on an open part of the website

Will develop a new constitution with the incoming executive and put it out to the members at an EGM

Bundle all events the tournament director is responsible for into one package and seek suitable people to work on these events for a year or two

Develop a new coaching process in the ICU

Introduce a new team event in the Irish weekender as junior players would benefit from this team event.

Minutes of all executive meetings will be published on the open part of the ICU website

Pete Morriss

Previous 12 months of smooth running of the ICU

Reduce abuse and vindictiveness the executive receives

Notes previous 5 year plans have failed

Notes motions about transparency later in the AGM

Started a constitutional reform and asked for members and received no input from members

Votes

48 - Pat Fitzsimons 8 - Pete Morriss 2 - Spoilt 1 – Abstain

Pat Fitzsimons is elected chairperson

The vice-chair steps down and hands to the chair

Vicechairperson

Paul Cassidy - Proposed by Pat Fitzsimmons

Seconded: Mervyn Honner

Paul Cassidy is elected vicechairperson

Secretary

Bryan Tobin - Proposed by Pat Fitzsimmons

Seconded: John Delaney

Bryan Tobin is elected secretary

Treasurer

Chris Sheridan - Proposed by Tristan Sheridan

Chris Sheridan is elected treasurer

Development Officer

Darko Polimac - Proposed by Pat Fitzsimmons

Darko Polimac is elected development officer

FIDE & ECU Delegate

Kevin O'Connell - Proposed by Kevin O'Connell

Seconded: Darko Polimac

Kevin O'Connell is elected FIDE & ECU delegate

Junior Officer

Desmond Beatty - Proposed by Kevin Burke

Seconded: Darko Polimac

Desmond Beatty is elected junior officer

Rating Officer

Mark Orr - proposed by Mark Orr

Seconded: Jonathon O'Connor

Mark Orr is elected rating officer

Tournament Officer

Peter Scott - proposed by Pat Fitzsimons

Gerry Graham - proposed by Gerry Graham –nomination withdrawn

Peter Scott is elected tournament officer

Public Relations Officer

[No nominations]

Colm Daly – Proposed by Pat Fitzsimons

Colm Daly accepts his nomination

Seconded: David Fitzsimons

No other nomination received.

Colm Daly is elected Public Relations Officer

Women's Officer

[No nominations]

Garry O'Grady – Proposed by Jonathon O'Connor

Garry O'Grady is elected women's officer

Membership Officer

[No nominations]

Proposal: Discuss motions before electing a membership officer.

Proposed: Desmond Beatty

7. **Consideration of Motions**

A. Motions to Change the Disciplinary Process

1. Proposal from the Advisory Board on the Code of Conduct
2. Proposal from Pete Morriss

Both proposals are going to be discussed at the same time. The chair steps down and the vice-chairperson chairs the meeting while the Motions to Change the Disciplinary Process are taking place.

Ted Jennings informs the AGM that the Advisory board submitted 3 separate proposals (7A.1.1, 7A1.2. and 7A1.3.) and submitted them in his own name. The motions are as follows:

It is proposed to amend the constitution of the ICU as follows to incorporate the new Code of Conduct and Rules for disciplining a member of the ICU.

7A.1.1. Add this paragraph to Article 3.2

f) To lay before the membership rules for the orderly running of the Union. These rules shall form Appendix A of this constitution and shall be adopted and/or amended by a General Meeting by simple majority and shall be binding on all members.”

7A.1.2. Add Appendix A to this constitution.

7A.1.3. Add the following to Article 13

“The Executive Committee shall be bound by any rules contained in Appendix A.

Ted addresses the AGM about his motions.

Pete addresses the AGM about his motion.

Motion 7A.1.1.

Proposed: Ted Jennings **Seconded:** Jonathon O’Connor

28 for **2 against**

Vote passed by supermajority

Motion 7A.1.2.

Proposed: Ted Jennings **Seconded:** Jonathon O’Connor

15 for **16 against**

Motion failed

Motion 7A.1.3. withdrawn by Ted Jennings

Motion Change of Disciplinary Process from Pete Morriss

Proposed: Pete Morriss **Seconded:** Jonathon O’Connor

2 for **5 against**

Motion failed

B. Motions to Change the Constitution

[These motions, if passed, to come into effect immediately on being passed, unless they specify otherwise. Passages proposed to be deleted are struck through; to be added are in bold font.]

Proposal: To discuss item 3 and 22.

Proposed: Pete Morriss

Seconded: Jonathon O'Connor

3. To amend Article 7: General Meetings

7.1 Replace “1st July and 30th September” by “1st October and 15th December” to read:

7.1 The AGM shall be held between ~~1st July and 30th September~~ **1st October and 15th December** in each calendar year (to come into force in 2015).

(Proposed by the Executive)

Explanatory Note: On the timetable for the year

The Constitution contains a contradiction. The Constitution says that the AGM should be held between 1 July and 30 September (7.1); one of its functions is to approve the accounts (7.9); the accounts are to be for a subscription year (12) and a subscription year runs from 1 September for 12 months (Membership Bye-laws). This is internally inconsistent, as the accounts can't be prepared before the end of the accounting year, so an AGM can never take place in July or August.

There seem to be three ways of resolving this:

- (1) Change the dates of the AGM to be considerably later;
- (2) Change the accounting year to end considerably earlier;
- (3) Keep the same timetable, but present the accounts to the AGM in the subsequent year.

All three seem to have drawbacks. The Executive are proposing to go with (1).

Amendment: 15 December changed to 1 December in motion 3.

Proposed: Desmond Beatty **Seconded:** Pete Morriss

Desmond Beatty notes that the Executive should try to hold the AGM as early as possible

Vote passed by majority

22. To amend Article 12: Accounts

Delete second sentence and replace by: “Copies of the accounts should be made available to members on the ICU web-site at least 4 weeks in advance of the AGM” to read:

Accounts of the Union shall be prepared in respect of each subscription year by the Hon. Treasurer and audited by an Auditor who shall be a qualified Accountant approved by the Union in general meeting.

~~Copies of the accounts shall be available for inspection by fully paid-up members of the Union at the Annual General Meeting and also on written request from any fully paid-up member (including any body~~

~~referred to in rule 4.1).~~ **Copies of the accounts should be made available to members on the ICU web-site at least 4 weeks in advance of the AGM.**

(Proposed by the Pete Morriss)

Seconded: Stephen Joyce

Vote passed by majority

4. To amend Article 7: General Meetings

7.3 Delete and replace by: “Without prejudice to other forms of communication with members of the Union, publication on the website of the ICU shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of giving notice to members.”

(Proposed by the Executive)

Seconded: Desmond Beatty

Vote passed by majority

Desmond Beatty notes that the ICU should have a subscription feature on the website

5. To amend Article 7: General Meetings

7.4 Delete “at the time when the meeting proceeds to business” to read:

7.4 No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present ~~at the time when the meeting proceeds to business;~~ the quorum shall consist of 9 persons entitled to vote at General Meetings of the Union.

(Proposed by Pete Morriss)

[Explanatory note: As drafted, a quorum is only required when the meeting starts; once that is satisfied, the meeting would still be quorate if only one person remains, which seems unwise.]

Seconded: Paul Cassidy

Vote passed by majority

Proposal: To discuss items 6, 7 and 8 at the same time

Proposed: Pete Morriss

6. To amend Article 8: Extraordinary General Meetings

Delete the current Article 8 in its entirety, and replace by the following

Article 8: Extraordinary General Meetings

8.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting can be called by one of two procedures. The first is at the request of a majority of the Executive. The second is if not less than 30 fully paid up members of the Union, who are entitled to vote at a general meeting, request an EGM, then the request should be placed on the website (for members only), and the EGM called if at least 20% of the members of the ICU who are entitled to vote at a general meeting indicate, within one month of the request being published on the website, that they wish the EGM to take place. Those eligible to vote are those defined as eligible to vote in general meetings in section 7.6,

who are paid-up members of the ICU on the date that the motion is submitted.

The request must state the motion proposed, giving reasons why it should be considered and why it is sufficiently urgent to be considered before the next AGM. Each document containing signatures must contain the full statement of the motion, with supporting reasons. An EGM cannot be called simply to reverse a decision passed at the previous AGM.

8.2 An Extraordinary General Meeting must be called by the Executive of the Union within 60 days, and held within 90 days, of a valid request. At least three clear weeks notice of the date, time and venue of the meeting and of motions for consideration at that meeting shall be given.

8.3 If a motion is rejected at an EGM, the cost of hiring a room for the EGM shall be borne by the proposer of the motion. The Executive can require a suitable deposit to be paid in advance of the EGM, to be returned if the motion passes.”

8.4 The other rules of this Constitution applicable to general meetings shall also be applicable to Extraordinary General Meetings.

(Proposed by the Executive)

Amendment 1: To remove the last sentence from motion 6 subsection 8.1

Proposed: Kevin O’Flaherty

Amendment 2: Motion 6 comes into force after the AGM and does not have retrospective application.

Proposed: Pete Morriss

Amendment 3: To reject motion 6 and change the required number from 30 to 50 members in article 8.1.

Proposed: Paul Cassidy

Seconded: Bernard Palmer

26 for

1 against

Amendment 3 is passed.

Proposed: To reject motion 6 and change the required number from 30 to 50 members in article 8.1.

Motion 6 with amendment 3 passed

7. To amend Article 8: Extraordinary General Meetings

That 'Article 8. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS' be removed from the ICU Constitution. If not then the recent EGM called by Gabriel Mirza and over 30 registered ICU Members should be allowed to take place.

(Proposed by Anthony Fox)

Motion 7 Seconded: Pat Fitzsimons

Amendment motion 8 to “The recent EGM called by Gabriel Mirza and over 30 registered ICU Members should be allowed to take place.”

Proposed: Ted Jennings

Seconded: Anthony Fox

Anthony withdraws the motion

8. To amend Article 8: Extraordinary General Meetings

Addition of a new article into the constitution after 8.2 (and subsequent changing of article 8.3 to 8.4 where mentioned in the constitution):

8.3 Upon receipt of these 30 valid signatures, the Executive must allow the EGM to proceed as above, regardless of the purpose of the EGM.

(Proposed by Bernard Palmer)

Seconded: Paul Cassidy

Amended: 30 members to 50 members

Proposed: Bernard Palmer

Seconded: Paul Cassidy

16 for 9 against

Bernard withdraws the motion

Proposal: Motions 9 to 21 to be rejected and for the incoming executive will look at these items and put these forward at an EGM.

Proposed: Pat Fitzsimons

Seconded: Bernard Palmer

Passed by majority

~~9. To amend Article 9: Membership of Executive Committee~~

~~Addition of a new article into the constitution after 9.1 c (and subsequent changing of article 9.1 d to 9.1 e where mentioned in the constitution):~~

~~“9.1 d. If they have been previously found guilty of breaching the ICU constitution or bye laws, requires a 2/3rds super-majority of valid voting members endorsing their candidacy; and”~~

~~(Proposed by Kevin O’Flaherty)~~

~~10. To amend Article 9: Membership of Executive Committee~~

~~9.2 Delete “Membership Officer” to read:~~

~~9.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Rating Officer, Membership Officer, Development Officer, Junior Officer, Tournament Director, Public Relations Officer, FIDE Delegate, Women's Officer and of one member nominated by each of the Provincial Unions.~~

~~(Proposed by the Executive)~~

~~11. To amend Article 9: Membership of Executive Committee~~

~~I propose that the position of Womens Officer be changed to that of a non-executive position.~~

~~(Proposed by Gearóidín Uí Laighléis)~~

~~12. To amend Article 9: Membership of Executive Committee~~

~~“9.4 If no candidates have been validly nominated for a particular position, the Chairman shall accept nominations from the floor. If more than one candidate is validly nominated, a secret ballot shall be held among these candidates and the candidate attracting the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected.”~~

~~to-~~

~~“9.4 If no candidates have been validly nominated for a particular position, the Chairman shall accept nominations from the floor. **These nominations are required to comply with article 9.1 (except article 9.1 b and 9.1 d).** If more than one candidate is validly nominated, a secret ballot shall be held among these candidates and the candidate attracting the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected.”~~

~~(Proposed by Kevin O’Flaherty)~~

~~13. **To amend Article 9: Membership of Executive Committee**~~

~~Renumbered 9.5 to 9.7 as 9.6 to 9.8, and insert a new clause:~~

~~9.5 In voting for a member of the Executive Committee, when one or more candidates have been proposed one option shall always be “None of the above”. If “none of the above” obtains most votes, the chairperson shall reopen nominations; the candidate(s) proposed in the previous vote may not stand again. If no further candidates are proposed, or the vote again goes to “none of the above”, the position shall be declared vacant and filled as in 9.7 [was 9.6].~~

~~(Proposed by Pete Morriss)~~

~~14. **To amend Article 9: Membership of Executive Committee**~~

~~9.6 In the event that there are no candidates for an Officer position at the Annual General Meeting, after nominations have been sought from the floor, the incoming Executive will have the power to nominate a member of the Union to carry out these duties. This power shall also apply in the event of casual vacancies arising over the course of a year.”~~

~~to~~

~~“9.6 In the event that there are no candidates for an Officer position at the Annual General Meeting, after nominations have been sought from the floor, the incoming Executive will have the power to nominate a member of the Union to carry out these duties. This power shall also apply in the event of casual vacancies arising over the course of a year. **These nominations are required to comply with article 9.1 (except article 9.1 b and 9.1 d)**”~~

~~(Proposed by Kevin O’Flaherty)~~

~~15. **To amend Article 9: Membership of Executive Committee**~~

~~Removing article 9.7 and amending article 9.6 from "9.6 In the event that there are no candidates for an Officer position at the Annual General Meeting, after nominations have been sought from the floor, the incoming Executive will have the power to nominate a member of the Union to carry out these duties. This power shall also apply in the event of casual vacancies arising over the course of a year."~~

~~to~~

~~"9.6 In the event that there are no candidates for an Officer position at the~~

~~Annual General Meeting, after nominations have been sought from the floor (or a casual vacancy occurs during the year), the Executive must advertise this vacant position to members giving 3 clear weeks notice. For a candidate to be valid, they must be seconded by an Executive member, comply with article 9.1a, not hold more than one position on the Executive and have not been voted off the Executive. The Executive must fill this vacancy with a valid candidate and if only one person applies that person must be accepted"~~

~~(Proposed by Bernard Palmer)~~

~~16. To amend Article 10: The Executive Committee~~

~~10.3 Delete last sentence ("If the Committee so resolves, it shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting of the Committee to any member of the Committee who being resident in Ireland is for the time being absent from Ireland"). Add instead "The Executive may make decisions by an email vote between meetings. Any such decisions shall be recorded in the minutes of the next committee meeting." To read~~

~~10.3 The members of the Executive Committee may meet together for the dispatch of business, adjourn or otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by majority vote of those present and voting. In the event of a tie the presiding Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. If the Committee so resolves, it shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting of the Committee to any member of the Committee who being resident in Ireland is for the time being absent from Ireland. **The Executive may make decisions by an email vote between meetings. Any such decisions shall be recorded in the minutes of the next committee meeting.**~~

~~(Proposed by the Executive)~~

~~17. To amend Article 10: The Executive Committee~~

~~Insert a new clause, after 10.7:~~

~~If any elected member of the Executive, in the opinion of the majority of the other members of the ICU Executive, shall not have fulfilled his or her duties, that member shall, at the discretion of the Executive, be deprived of their position."~~

~~(Proposed by the Pete Morriss)~~

~~18. To amend Article 10: The Executive Committee~~

~~Insert a new clause, after 10.7:~~

~~If a member of the Executive, in the opinion of the majority of the Executive, is not performing their duties in a satisfactory manner, they may be voted off same.~~

~~Always providing that this judgement is in accordance with natural law, eg, that the precise grounds for their expulsion is provided to them in advance, etc.~~

~~(Proposed by Bernard Palmer)~~

~~19. To amend Article 10: The Executive Committee~~

~~Insert a new clause, after 10.7:~~

~~The Executive shall adopt a Code of Practice governing the actions of Executive members. If any elected member of the Executive, in the opinion of the majority of other members of the ICU Executive, shall be judged to be in significant breach of that Code of Practice, that member shall, at the discretion of the Executive, be deprived of their position.~~

~~(Proposed by the Pete Morriss)~~

~~20. To amend Article 10: The Executive Committee~~

~~Insert a new clause, after 10.7:~~

~~The ICU executive publish executive meeting agendas at least 7 days before an executive meeting and executive meeting minutes at most 21 days after each meeting on the ICU website. These minutes will only be available for fully paid ICU members.~~

~~(Proposed by Darko Polimac)~~

~~21. To amend Article 10: The Executive Committee~~

~~Insert a new clause, after 10.7:~~

~~The Executive Officers (listed in article 9.2) publish officer reports on the ICU website once every 4 months.~~

~~(Proposed by Darko Polimac)~~

D. Motion to Change the Junior Eligibility Criteria

23. To amend section 3

To amend

“3. A player qualifying under 1 above must also fulfil the following minimum activity criteria: 12 ICU rated games in Ireland in the two years preceding the start date of a representative international tournament for which s/he is selected to play for Ireland and participation in at least one of the two Irish Junior Championships or the Irish senior championships preceding the start date of the representative international tournament for which s/he is selected to play for Ireland.”

TO

“3. A player must also fulfil the following minimum activity criteria: 12 ICU rated games in Ireland in the two years preceding the start date of a representative international tournament for which s/he is selected to play for Ireland and participation in at least one of the two Irish Junior (i.e. under age) Championships or one of the two Irish Chess Championships (Senior tournament only) preceding the start date of the representative international tournament for which s/he is selected to play for Ireland.”

(Proposed by Desmond Beatty)

Seconded: Darko Polimac

Amendment passed by majority

E. Other Motions

24. That the ICU should bestow honorary membership of the Union for life on J.J. Walsh, in accordance with 11.2 of the ICU Constitution.
(Proposed by the Executive)

Seconded: Kevin O'Connell

Vote passed by majority

Motion 25 and 26 are discussed together

Seconded: Kevin O'Connell

Amendment: Motion 26 changed to read The Irish Women's Champion, Irish Veteran's Champion, Irish Intermediate Champion, Irish Open Champion are automatically nominated to play in the Irish Championships irrespective of rating, provided they were crowned champion in the previous 14 months.

Proposed: Desmond Beatty

Seconded: Kevin O'Flaherty

25. Players in the Irish Chess Championships may have the rating requirement ignored provided they are nominated by:
- The ICU Executive (maximum 3 players)
 - The Junior Officer (maximum 3 players who must be under-18)
 - Provincial delegates (maximum of 1 player per province)
 - The tournament organisers (maximum 1 player)
- (Proposed by Kevin O'Flaherty)

26. The Irish Women's Champion, Irish Veteran's Champion, Irish Intermediate Champion, Irish Open Champion are automatically nominated to play in the Irish Championships irrespective of rating.
(Proposed by Kevin O'Flaherty)

Motions 25 and 26 passed by majority

27. The time limits for the Irish Championship be changed to 1hr 40 mins per player then a further 40 minutes to be added to each player at move 40 plus a 30 sec increment from the start
(Proposed by Peter Cafolla)

Proposed is not present but Jonathon O'Connor speaks for this motion

Seconded: David Fitzsimons

Motion passed by majority

28. Executive size and structure

That the incoming Executive shall consider changes to the Executive Committee size, role and structures and to prepare proposals for the necessary constitutional amendments to be put to an EGM in sufficient time to have the new constitution in place for the 2015 AGM.

(Proposed by Kevin O'Connell)

Notes to the motion:

1. Not everyone agrees, but in my view (based on my 36+ year experience), the Executive is too large.
2. Management (or attempted management) by committee is far from ideal.
3. I see no good reason for the FIDE & ECU Delegate to be a member of the Executive.
4. The same applies to the Chairman of ICU-TRG (our Trainers' body) and ICU-ARB (our Arbiters' body).
5. Individuals and or other bodies (not sub-committees) should be tasked with specific jobs, like Delegate, Training, etc.

Motion withdrawn by Kevin O'Connell

29. The executive minutes are published at most 1 year after the date of the executive meeting. The executive may redact sensitive information from the published minutes.

(Proposed by Kevin O'Flaherty)

Seconded: Bryan Toben

Motion passed by majority

30. As the ICU Junior officer recommended that Pat and David Fitzsimons be appointed as team coaches for the 2014 Glorney/Gilbert events in Scotland, the ICU should recoup the expenses of approximately €700 incurred by the parents of players to bring the two coaches to the event.

(Proposed by Pat Fitzsimons)

12 for 7 against

Vote passed by majority

31. chess players privacy should be respected when it comes to taking photos or making a video at chess venues as we live in an internet age and these photos or videos can be accessed by any member of the public , some icu regulation needed in this matter to protect players like me who are camera shy

(Proposed by Shahram Nikrow)

Motion withdrawn by Shahram Nikrow

32. Electoral Cycle
That the incoming Executive shall consider changes covering the electoral cycle with a view to making the standard cycle a two-year one starting in 2016. The Executive shall prepare proposals for the necessary constitutional amendments to be put to an EGM in sufficient

time to have the new constitution in place for the 2015 AGM. Assuming passage through the EGM of the constitutional changes, an appropriate motion to be put before the 2015 AGM, so that the new cycle may commence in 2016.

(Proposed by Kevin O'Connell)

Notes to the motion:

1. One year is simply too short and has led, increasingly, to problems. There has been an acceleration of these difficulties during my 36+ year involvement with the Executive.
2. A two year cycle is a step in the right direction.
3. Ultimately (yes, it's probably still a long way off) we will be associated with (or a member of) our National Olympic Committee, by which time we should have shifted to a 4-year cycle synchronized with the NOC. Hence starting our new 2-year cycle in an even numbered year (the more easily later to synchronize with the Olympic cycle).
4. Many details will need to be considered, not least elections in odd-numbered years to cover the case of vacancies, but such things have no place in the motion as such.

Motion receives support from the AGM to put this item to the incoming executive

33. The person who will be designated to be HOD (Head of Delegation) or Coach to any of the Juniors International Tournaments (respective WYCC/EYCC/EUYCC/Glorney) to deal with the correspondence & forms related to that competition and just with the assistance of the ICU Treasurer

(Proposed by Gabriel Mirza)

Motion failed – no seconder

Membership Officer

Nominations taken from the floor for membership officer

No nominations – post remains vacant

8. AOB

Melyvn King address the AGM to ask why the ICU wouldn't support a members' complaint to the FIDE ethics committee.

The chair explains why the ICU executive didn't support the complaint.

Meeting closes at 8.25pm