



MINUTES

Hull and East Riding Chess Association (Registered Charity 1155858)

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Hull and East Riding Chess Association: Held in the James Reckitt Reading Room, Hull Central Library. Thursday 16th January 2025.

Present: Graham Chesters (chair), Keith Porteous, David Atkin, Douglas Vleeshouwer, Richard Atkinson, Steve Thrower, Andrew Bettley, Dan Malbon, Chris Matthews (trustees); Richard Coates (observer, Beverley).

1. Apologies for absence: *Derek Sheppard*
2. Minutes of the committee meeting of 7th November 2024 – accepted as correct and complete
3. Matters arising (not otherwise on the agenda)
 - 3.1 New trustee (item 4.2) – Dan Malbon was appointed as trustee for a period of three years, pending satisfactory completion of applicable paperwork.
 - 3.2 Transfer of Treasurer’s responsibilities (item 6) – DV reported that he has access to the HERCA bank account, as will DA in due course; that the registered address with the bank needs to be renewed; that his access to investment information is in the process of being secured; and that the ECF insurance has been renewed. **Action - DV**
 - 3.3 HERCA membership update (item 7.1) – KP reported that his checks on players in HERCA events had revealed that all had joined HERCA, a small number after having been reminded. It would be useful to remind clubs that their new members need to become HERCA members too if they are to play in our events. There are currently 136 senior members of the Association, which is a significant fall, due to Withernsea no longer being active within the Association, and non-club players not renewing their HERCA membership in large numbers. This makes it difficult to assess our progress in growing the chess-playing numbers. Clubs are to be asked if they could let us know the number of their non-HERCA members, for census purposes. **Action - KP**
4. Trustee posts – KP reported that his call for expressions of interest in becoming a trustee, or otherwise helping with Association work, had produced no response. The suggestion of forming a group of volunteers to work collectively on chess in the community activities was adopted, and some likely candidates for this group were identified.
5. HERCA website – DM reported on his analysis of website use: it receives an average of 200 visits per day; an average of three pages are viewed; popular pages are the contacts page and competitions page; the HERCA logo does not appear on the site; navigation can be difficult; menu access is not altogether clear. He has made contact with Alacrify, to ascertain how changes to the site can be made, and by whom. He has made some alterations to ease important links, and

he invites trustees to give him up-to-date information about such things as recent competitions, and other thoughts about what would improve the site. Other points made include:

- Do we want to have a forum on the site for the posting of members thoughts?
- We should give careful thought to the overall branding of the site, in line with other Association products such as publicity material.
- We could add a link to the ECF ratings list for HERCA players
- We could link the website to the Facebook page.
- The front page banner (the Humber bridge) is not really appropriate.
- Would a small group of trustees be a helpful source of ideas and advice to DM as developments progress?

DM has a PowerPoint presentation dealing with some of these ideas, which he will circulate to trustees. All are invited to submit ideas for the site to DM. **Action – DM/all**

DM was warmly thanked for all the work he has already done.

6. Chair's Business – none

7. Treasurer's Report – DV spoke to his circulated report, and small number of detailed questions were clarified. The grant from the Brignall Trust is expected later this month. The investment stands at £198 434, as at 31/12/24. The overall return for 2024, including capital growth and the £5000 taken out, was 5.04%.

8. Charity and Trustee Matters (GC/KP)

8.1 Constitutional review (please refer to the appendix to these minutes) – it was agreed that the best approach to having any final drafts of the constitution and bye-laws formally approved by members is to present them at an Extraordinary General Meeting, and that this could be combined with the usual Rules amendments EGM providing there are not too many of the latter.

The circulated document, "Proposed changes to Governance documents: Constitution, Bye-laws and Playing Rules" was discussed. The proposed amendments, largely driven by the need to rationalise the documents in the light of some recent changes, such as the formal affiliation of organisations, were all approved. A more substantial addition is section 34, concerning disputes. This clause was also adopted, but with the inclusion in the second part, to do with a dispute with the Association as a whole, of the possibility of a dispute with a member as well as with an affiliated organisation.

The document will now go to club representatives for comment. **Action – KP**

8.2 Communications and Marketing Strategy – the circulated paper was considered. KP highlighted the point that ordinary communication with HERCA members is proposed to be by email: there are only a couple of members who have not provided an email address, and it was felt that asking club secretaries to pass on messages to such people is an acceptable alternative. The possible role of an open forum for members was again raised (see 5, first bullet point, above): this is something that would reward further consideration. **Action – KP**

9. Strategic Leads Competitions (DV)

9.1 Rapid tournament – DV summarised his circulated report, indicating that this was a success, especially in the light of the poor weather which resulted in the withdrawal of a significant number of players. The newly introduced under 1300 section was noted

KP

as successful, attracting as it did a number of younger players who otherwise would not have been able to enjoy such an event as much.

9.2 HERCA competitions – DA referred to his circulated report, summarising to say that this season’s competitions are progressing well.

10. Lead Junior Academy – CM reported on a recent regional meeting of Chess in Schools and the Community. CSC is expecting to receive a grant which will enable it to expand its operations, probably being able to accommodate 15 to 20 new schools in our region, with a 33% discount on the normal costs, during 2025-26. Such an expansion, if HERCA is to be involved, would require more coaches to be involved than are currently.

The schools primary chess league is about to get under way.

11. Lead Chess in the Community – GC reported on the plans for the Harry Potter event. It will take place on the evenings of February 21st and 22nd, at Hull Central Library. GC will circulate further details.

The Association has been approached by the Humber well-being club which is run at the community centre by the Humber bridge. It is hoped to run a weekly or fortnightly drop-in chess morning. GC is to canvas for volunteers to support this initiative. **Action – GC**

12. ECF/YCA Matters – the Yorkshire League AGM is to take place at Anlaby library on June 28th.

13. Any other notified business – a question was raised regarding the finals date for the HERCA individual competitions: this has yet to be arranged.

14. Date of next meeting: March 20th, 2025.

Planned meetings for 2025:

May 15th

AGM June 24th

KP

Proposed changes to the Constitution

	Current Constitution	Amended constitution	Notes
Introductory Statement	There is no introductory statement	<p>INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT</p> <p>The Hull and East Riding Chess Association (HERCA) is an unincorporated charity registered by the Charity Commission (No. 1155858) in 2014 under the then name Hull and District Chess Association. The charity is required to comply with the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision). The Constitution is based on a template provided by the Charity Commission.</p>	The current constitution is silent on what kind of charity we are (unincorporated) and on its origins.

<p>3. Objects</p>	<p>The advancement of amateur sport by promoting the game of Chess for the benefit of the residents of Hull and District (defined as that area bounded on the south by the River Humber, on the east by the North Sea, and inland by the boundary of the County of East Yorkshire), “the Beneficiaries”;</p>	<p>The advancement of amateur sport by promoting the game of Chess for the benefit of the residents of Hull and the East Riding (“the Beneficiaries”);</p>	<p>The change of name from HDCA to HERCA means that there is no need to define ‘district’.</p>
<p>8. (1) Membership of the charity ¹</p>	<p>(b) Junior membership is open to individuals under 18. Junior membership does not carry any voting rights and does not entitle the junior member to any of the rights and responsibilities</p>	<p>(b) Junior membership is open to individuals under 18. Junior membership does not carry any voting rights and does not entitle the junior member to any of the rights and responsibilities associated with Full Membership. Junior members</p>	<p>Additional sentence to clarify that junior members change status after their 18th birthday.</p>

¹ Membership of the HERCA Facebook community is excluded from this constitution. Facebook members are not members of the charity.

	associated with Full Membership	automatically become full members on their 18 th birthday.	
8 (2)	Affiliated Organisations	Members and Affiliated Organisations	Words added to reflect better the content.
8 (2) (b)	Individual members of affiliated organisations shall be full or junior members of the charity.	Individual members of affiliated organisations have the right to apply to become full or junior members of the charity.	For General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) purposes, consent for HERCA to use personal data cannot be given automatically via a third party. Individuals need to apply to become HERCA members.
8 (5)	Membership is not transferable to anyone else.	Delete. Membership is not transferable to anyone else.	Unnecessary.
8 (6)	The trustees must keep a register of names and addresses of the members.	8 (5) The trustees must keep a register of names and contact details of the members.	Change allows for collection of email addresses.

<p>8 (7)</p>	<p>Copies of the Association's Constitution will be supplied to any club or person, on request, by the General Secretary. A reasonable fee may be payable.</p>	<p>8 (6) Copies of the Association's Constitution, Bye-Laws and Playing Rules will be supplied to any affiliated organisation or person, on request, by the General Secretary. A reasonable fee may be payable.</p>	<p>Changes extends the service to the key governance documents. The response to any request can direct enquirers to the website.</p>
<p>9 Termination of membership of the charity</p>	<p>Membership is terminated if:</p> <p>(1) the member dies or, if its affiliated organisation loses its affiliation or ceases to exist;</p> <p>(2) the Trustees shall have the power to remove an organisation's affiliation should it not meet the agreed affiliation criteria.</p> <p>(3) the member resigns by written notice to the charity</p>	<p>Membership is terminated if:</p> <p>(1) the member dies or, if its affiliated organisation loses its affiliation or ceases to exist;</p> <p>(1) the member resigns by written notice to the charity</p> <p>(2) the Trustees shall have the power to remove an organisation's affiliation should it not meet the agreed</p>	<p>Deletion of current (1) and (2), and clause within (3).</p> <p>Since HERCA membership for members of affiliated organisations is no longer automatic, loss of affiliation is not a reason to terminate HERCA membership. Disaffiliation is covered in proposed new bye-law.</p>

	<p>unless, after the resignation, there would be less than two members; any sum due from the member to the charity is not paid in full within six months of it falling due;</p> <p>[(4) This clause and its subclauses concerns removal of membership by a resolution of the trustees.]</p>	<p>affiliation criteria.</p> <p>(3) unless, after the resignation, there would be less than two members; any sum due from the member to the charity is not paid in full within six months of it falling due;</p> <p>(2) the member ceases to maintain registration as a member</p> <p>(3) [No change to existing Clause 9 (4) except numbering]</p>	<p>New (2) allows for periodic renewal of membership and accepts non-renewal as a form of resignation.</p>
<p>10 (6) General meetings</p>	<p>Further regulations relating to the calling of an extraordinary</p>	<p>Further regulations relating to the calling of an Extraordinary General Meeting</p>	<p>Renumber current (6) as new (7).</p>

	<p>general meeting shall be set out in bye-laws of the charity in accordance with subclause 33(2)(d) of this constitution.</p>	<p>(EGM) shall be set out in bye-laws of the charity in accordance with subclause 33(2)(d) of this constitution. (Becomes (7)).</p> <p>New clause (6) If members of the association wish to call for a vote of no confidence in the Executive Committee, this call must be made in writing to the General Secretary, supported by (a) a signed petition of 20 full members detailing names, contact details and signatures, as well as (b) the names of the proposed new officers to replace the serving officers. The vote will be held through a properly convened general meeting.</p>	<p>The new clause (6) has been transferred from the current Playing Rules 4.10. The call for a Vote of No Confidence in the Executive Committee may arise from circumstances outside the remit of the Playing Rules.</p>
<p>11 (5) Annual General Meeting (AGM)</p>	<p>(5) Consider and vote upon any amendments to the playing rules</p>	<p>(5) Consider and vote upon any amendments to the constitution, the</p>	<p>Added 'bye-laws' to complete key</p>

	applicable to the charity's (Playing Rules), unless these have already been considered and voted upon during an EGM during the current winter season, or to the constitution.	bye-laws and playing rules, unless these have already been considered and voted upon during an EGM during the current winter season.	governance documents. Tidying.
11 (6) Annual General Meeting	(6) Determine the annual subscription for individual members and affiliated organisations.	(6) Determine the annual subscription for HERCA team competitions, individual members outside affiliated organisations and, if necessary, affiliated organisations.	Changes recognise current practice
12 (5) Notice	(5) The notice must be given in writing by the General Secretary to the members through affiliated organisation secretaries and to the trustees.	(5) The notice must be given in writing by the General Secretary to the members, to affiliated organisation secretaries and to the trustees.	Giving direct notice to members recognises their independent status as members of the charity.
12 (7) Notice	(7) Members' proposed	(7) Members' proposed	Application of rule to bye-laws.

	amendments to the constitution shall be made, in writing, to the General Secretary at least twenty-eight days before the date of the Annual General Meeting	amendments to the constitution and bye-laws shall be made, in writing, to the General Secretary at least twenty-eight days before the date of the Annual General Meeting	Separate process is already in place for changes in playing rules.
12 (8) Notice	(8) The only exception to the above rule shall be that at general meetings amendments to proposals for rule and constitution changes may be made with the consent of the original proposer and at the Chairman of the meeting discretion. The Chairman of the meeting will determine that an amendment is that and not a new rule.	(8) The only exception to the above clause 12 (7) shall be that at general meetings amendments to proposals for constitution, bye-law and playing rule changes may be made with the consent of the original proposer and at the Chair of the meeting's discretion. The Chair of the meeting will determine that an amendment is that and not a new constitutional clause, bye-law or playing rule.	Application of the principle to all three key governance documents.

<p>12 (10) Notice</p>	<p>(10) The General Secretary shall notify in writing no later than fourteen days before the date of the Annual General Meeting members through the affiliated organisations, club secretaries, individual members, and the Executive Committee of the agenda of the Annual General Meeting together with details of all proposals for amendments to the constitution or the Playing Rules.</p>	<p>(10) The General Secretary shall notify members in writing of the agenda of the Annual General Meeting [deletion of 'through the affiliated organisations, club secretaries, individual members, and the Executive Committee of'] no later than fourteen days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. This will include details of all proposals for amendments to the constitution, bye-laws and the playing rules, unless these have already been considered and voted upon during an EGM during the current winter season.</p>	<p>Giving direct notice to members recognises their independent status as members of the charity.</p> <p>Application to all three key governance documents.</p>
<p>12(12) Notice</p>	<p>(12) Unless otherwise resolved, any amendments to the constitution</p>	<p>(12) Unless otherwise resolved, any amendments to the constitution and bye-laws shall take</p>	<p>Application of rule to bye-laws. Separate process is already in</p>

	shall take effect from the end of the meeting at which they are approved.	effect from the end of the meeting at which they are approved.	place for changes in playing rules (see 12 (13))
13(2) Quorum	<p>(2) A quorum is:</p> <p>a) fifteen members (excluding junior members)</p> <p>b) one tenth of the total membership (excluding junior members) at the time, whichever is the greater.</p>	<p>(2) A quorum is fifteen members (excluding junior members), of whom five must be non-trustees.</p> <p>b) one tenth of the total membership (excluding junior members) at the time, whichever is the greater.</p>	With total membership increasing, the quorum under sub-clause (b) will likewise increase. The new quorum will give greater chance of a general meeting going ahead. The additional condition helps to ensure that the trustees don't exert an overwhelming influence.
17 Representatives of affiliated clubs	Representatives of affiliated clubs	Representatives of affiliated organisations	Consistency
17 Representatives of affiliated organisations	(1) An affiliated chess club where the majority of its members are full members of	(1) An affiliated organisation where the majority of its members are [delete 'full'] members of	Deletion of 'full' removes discrimination against an

	<p>the charity may nominate any person to act as its representative at any meeting of the trustees of the charity.</p>	<p>the charity may nominate any of its HERCA members to act as its representative at any meeting of the trustees of the charity. The representative shall be entitled to attend in an observing capacity only with the right to contribute to debates through the Chair.</p>	<p>organisation that has a strong junior membership. The representative does not have to be a full HERCA member. It opens the possibility of a junior voice at Executive Committee meetings.</p> <p>The final sentence has been transferred from a later clause, 18 (4)</p>
<p>18 (4) Officers and trustees</p>	<p>(4) and one nominated representative member from each affiliated organisation (in accordance with clause 17 (1) shall be entitled to attend, in an observing capacity only at each meeting convened by the trustees with the right to</p>	<p>(4) and one nominated representative member from each affiliated organisation (in accordance with clause 17 (1) shall be entitled to attend, in an observing capacity only at each meeting convened by the trustees with the right to</p>	<p>This is already covered in 17 (1) – see above.</p> <p>The removal of the current 18 (4) entails the renumbering of subsequent subclauses under 18.</p>

	contribute to debates through the chair.	debates through the chair.	
19 (2) Appointment of Trustees	(2) The trustees may appoint any person who is willing to act as a trustee.	(2) The trustees may appoint any person who is willing to act as a trustee, subject to that person not being disqualified from acting as a trustee by virtue of sections 178 and 179 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision).	Legal requirement.
27 Minutes	The trustees must keep minutes of...	The trustees must keep for a minimum of six years minutes of...	Good practice. In some cases, Charity Commission requirement.
28 (1) Accounts, Annual Report, Annual Return	(1) The trustees must comply with their obligations under the Charities Act 2011 with regard to:	(1)The trustees must comply with their obligations under the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that Act) with regard to:	There have been modifications to the 2011 Act, with which we must comply.

28 (3) Accounts, Annual Report, Annual Return	No clause 3.	(3) If anyone requests a copy of the charity's most recent annual report in writing and agrees to pay a reasonable fee required to cover the costs (if any), the charity trustees must provide the report within 2 months of the request date.	Annual reports must be made available to the public.
32(3) Notices	(3)A member who does not register an address with the charity or who registers only a postal address that is not within the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to receive any notice from the charity.	(3) A member who does not register contact details with the charity or who registers only a postal address that is not within the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to receive any notice from the charity.	Allows for email addresses.
33 Rules	33 Rules	33 Bye-laws and Playing Rules	To cover all three key governance documents

<p>33 (1) Bye-laws and Playing Rules</p>	<p>(1) The trustees may from time to time make rules or bye-laws for the conduct of their business.</p>	<p>(1) The trustees may from time to time make playing rules or bye-laws for the conduct of their business.</p>	<p>Clarification.</p>
<p>33 (2) (a)</p>	<p>(2) (a) the admission of members of the charity (including the admission of organisations to membership) and the rights and privileges of such members, and the entrance fees, subscriptions and other fees or payments to be made by members;</p>	<p>(2) (a) the admission of members of the charity (including the admission of organisations to affiliated status) and the rights and privileges of such members, and the entrance fees, subscriptions and other fees or payments to be made by members;</p>	<p>The revised bye-laws include a section on affiliation.</p>
<p>33 (2) (e)</p>	<p>(2)(e) the keeping and authenticating of records. (If regulations made under this clause permit records of the charity to be kept in electronic form and requires a</p>	<p>Delete. (If regulations made under this clause permit records of the charity to be kept in electronic form and requires a trustee to sign the record, the regulations must specify a method of recording the</p>	<p>Authentication is achieved by formal approval of minutes, whether hard copy or electronic.</p>

	trustee to sign the record, the regulations must specify a method of recording the signature that enables it to be properly authenticated.)	signature that enables it to be properly authenticated.)	
33 (3-5)	<p>(3) The charity in general meeting has the power to alter, add to or repeal the rules or bye-laws.</p> <p>(4) The trustees must adopt such means as they think sufficient to bring the rules and bye-laws to the notice of members of the charity.</p> <p>(5) The rules or bye-laws shall be binding on all members of the charity. No rule or bye-law shall be inconsistent with, or shall affect or repeal anything</p>	<p>(3) The charity in general meeting has the power to alter, add to or repeal the playing rules or bye-laws.</p> <p>(4) The trustees must adopt such means as they think sufficient to bring the playing rules and bye-laws to the notice of members of the charity.</p> <p>(5) The playing rules or bye-laws shall be binding on all members of the charity. No playing rule or bye-law shall be inconsistent with, or shall affect or repeal anything contained in, this constitution.</p>	Clarification.

	contained in, this constitution.		
34 Disputes	If a dispute arises between members of the charity about the validity or propriety of anything done by the members under this constitution, and the dispute cannot be resolved by agreement, the parties to the dispute must first try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation before resorting to litigation.	If a dispute arises between members of the charity or between affiliated organisations about the validity or propriety of anything done under this constitution and bye-laws (but not including matters relating to Playing Rules) or HERCA operating policies and procedures, the Executive Committee shall attempt to resolve the dispute by agreement. If agreement cannot be reached between the parties, then the Executive will establish an examining panel consisting of three trustees (not conflicted by reason of membership of a particular affiliated	The new clause provides a process for the resolution of disputes at different levels but outside disputes around playing rules (which are dealt with in the Playing Rules).

		<p>organisation) and two unconflicted full members of the charity. The panel's decision will be subject to appeal. Any appeal will be considered by the Executive Committee (excluding those trustees on the examining panel and others conflicted by reason of membership of a particular affiliated organisation). The Executive Committee's decision will be final.</p> <p>If a decision of the HERCA Executive Committee is challenged in writing by an affiliated organisation or an individual HERCA member, then a dispute arises. The trustees, if they are unable to resolve</p>	
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		<p>the dispute, will appoint a panel of three impartial trustees, and five other impartial members who are not trustees, to investigate the issue thoroughly and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee, which may or may not involve a change to the original decision. The recommendation will include a full report on what the panel considers to be relevant evidence. The Executive Committee will give full consideration to this recommendation, and then make a final decision on the matter.</p>	
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<p>35 (6) Interpretation</p>	<p>(6) Sections 350 - 352 of the Charities Act 2011 apply for the purposes of interpreting the terms used in this clause.</p>	<p>(6) Sections 350 - 352 of the Charities Act 2011 (as subsequently amended) apply for the purposes of interpreting the terms used in this clause.</p>	<p>Legal requirement.</p>
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Proposed changes to the Bye-laws

	Existing Bye Law	Proposed changes
Title	THE HULL & DISTRICT CHESS ASSOCIATION	THE HULL & EAST RIDING CHESS ASSOCIATION (HERCA)
Extraordinary General Meetings	<p>7. The Written Statement should be comprised of three columns recording respectively:</p> <p>(1) the names of the requisitioning members in block letters;</p> <p>(2) the normal signatures of the above members; and</p> <p>(3) the name of each such member's club.</p> <p>8. The Written Statement should specify clearly the agenda items appear on the agenda of the extraordinary general meeting to be called.</p>	<p>7. The Written Statement should be comprised of three columns recording respectively:</p> <p>(1) the names of the requisitioning members in block letters;</p> <p>(2) the normal signatures of the above members;</p> <p>(3) the contact details of each member.</p> <p>(8) The Written Statement should specify clearly the agenda items to appear on the agenda of the extraordinary general meeting to be called.</p> <p>(</p> <p>9) A Written Statement to discuss items previously discussed at an extraordinary general meeting under rule 1(4) of these bye-laws, clause 10(5) or clause 10 (6) of the constitution of the charity is required</p>

	<p>9. A Written Statement to discuss items previously discussed at an extraordinary general meeting under rule 1(4) of these bye-laws or clause 10(5) of the constitution of the charity requires to be signed by in excess of 50 members of the charity.</p> <p>10. If the Executive Committee fail to call an extraordinary general meeting when requested to do so by means of a validly prepared Written Statement, within 28 clear days of receipt of the same the members may proceed to call an extraordinary general meeting but in doing so they must comply with the provisions of the constitution of the charity.</p>	<p>to be signed by in excess of 50 full members of the charity.</p> <p>(10) If the Executive Committee fail to call an extraordinary general meeting when requested to do so by means of a validly prepared Written Statement, within 28 clear days of receipt of the same the requesting members may proceed to call an extraordinary general meeting but in doing so they must comply with the provisions of the constitution of the charity.</p>
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<p>Team Entry</p>	<p>11. All new teams entering the charity's league shall be placed in the lowest division, unless decided by the Trustees</p>	<p>Delete.</p> <p>11. All new teams entering the charity's league shall be placed in the lowest division, unless decided by the Trustees</p>
<p>Appeals Procedure</p>	<p>12. Appeals against decisions made by an officer (an Appeal) shall be made in writing to the General Secretary in the first instance, stating the nature of the grievance and naming all other parties directly involved in the dispute from which the appeal has arisen.</p> <p>13. On receipt of an appeal the General Secretary will inform the president who will appoint a sub-committee of Trustees, consisting on no less than 3 and no more than 5 Trustees</p> <p>who are demonstrably independent of the matter of the appeal. The President should also appoint a Trustee to chair the appeal panel.</p> <p>14. The General Secretary shall set a date for the hearing to determine the Appeal (Appeal</p>	<p>(11) Appeals that are allowed under the Constitution, the Bye-Laws and the Playing Rules shall be made in writing to the General Secretary in the first instance, stating the nature of the grievance, the grounds of the appeal and naming all other parties directly involved in the dispute from which the appeal has arisen.</p> <p>(12) On receipt of an appeal the General Secretary will inform the Executive Committee who will appoint an appropriate panel and a chair of the panel, taking account of conflicts of interest.</p> <p>(13) The General Secretary shall set a date for the hearing to determine the Appeal and inform all interested parties accordingly.</p> <p>(14) All parties have the right to attend or be represented at an Appeal Hearing in which they are involved.</p>

	<p>Hearing) and inform all interested parties accordingly.</p> <p>15. All parties have the right to attend or be represented at an Appeal Hearing in which they are involved.</p> <p>16. All parties to an Appeal Hearing shall inform the General Secretary of their nominated representatives.</p> <p>17. An officer whose decision is subject to an Appeal may attend but not vote at the Appeal Hearing.</p> <p>18. The General Secretary shall inform all parties to the Appeal of the outcome and the grounds on which the decision has been made. However, the decision of the sub-</p>	<p>(15) All parties to an Appeal Hearing shall inform the General Secretary of their nominated representatives.</p> <p>Delete. 17. An officer whose decision is subject to an Appeal may attend but not vote at the Appeal Hearing.</p> <p>(16) The General Secretary shall inform all parties to the Appeal of the outcome and the grounds on which the decision has been made. However, the decision of the panel is final</p> <p>(17) All parties to the Appeal may accept a verbal report or request one in writing.</p>
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	<p>committee is final.</p> <p>19. All parties to the Appeal may accept a verbal report or request one in writing.</p>	
<p>Affiliation to HERCA</p>	<p>No existing bye-law</p>	<p>(18) This bye-law addresses the process of affiliation for organisations.</p> <p>(19) To be recognised as an affiliated organisation, the applicant organisation must be based in Hull or the East Riding. It will be expected to help HERCA achieve its charitable aims as approved by the Charity Commission: firstly, the advancement of amateur sport by promoting the game of chess for the benefit of the residents of Hull and the East Riding; secondly, the provision of facilities for the learning, teaching and playing of chess for the benefit of the beneficiaries with the objects of improving conditions of life. The organisation may do this primarily through its own activities but also through supporting and promoting local chess events organised by the HERCA and its partners.</p> <p>(20) More specifically, an applicant organisation must be able to</p>

		<p>demonstrate (by written confirmation) that it has adopted identified HERCA policies (or has its own equivalent).</p> <p>(21) It should also be able to provide a valid insurance certificate for its venue to give protection to those taking part in HERCA events (for example, league matches).</p> <p>(22) It should also agree that it will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give its paid-up members the opportunity to become members of HERCA (including paid-up junior members) and facilitate the task of the General Secretary who needs to be informed of current membership and individuals' contact details (as a charity HERCA is legally obliged to retain contact details of its members) • pay fees, as agreed at the HERCA AGM for team participation in HERCA leagues, as recommended by the Treasurer • abide by any rulings of the HERCA Executive Committee made within its powers as outlined in the HERCA Constitution • abide by the rules of competition as determined from time to time by
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		<p>HERCA and published in the HERCA playing rules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote the Code of Conduct for players of the HERCA. <p>(23) Designation of an organisation as affiliated will be a decision of a panel of the Executive Committee, convened by the General Secretary. The reason why any application is not approved will be formally explained to the applicant organisation which has the right of appeal. The appeal will be heard by those trustees not involved in the original decision. The decision of the appeal panel will be final.</p> <p>(24) Affiliation is terminated if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The affiliated organisation ceases to exist • The affiliated organisation decides formally to leave the Association. • The affiliated organisation is judged by a panel of the Executive Committee convened by the General Secretary to no longer meet the criteria for affiliation or to have behaved in a way that brings the Association into disrepute. Any decision to disaffiliate an organisation on these grounds is subject to appeal. The appeal will be heard by those trustees not
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		involved in the original decision to disaffiliate. The decision of the appeal panel will be final.
Code of Conduct (Trustees and Officers)	Existing code not included in the Bye-laws.	<p>(25) Trustees/Officers are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a sound and up-to-date knowledge of the organisation and its environment • attend meetings and other appointments or give apologies • prepare fully for meetings and for all work for the organisation • actively engage in respectful discussion, debate and voting in meetings • act jointly and accept a majority decision • work considerately and respectfully with all, respecting diversity, different roles and boundaries, avoiding giving offence • respect confidentiality • act within the governing document and the law • act in the best interests of the organisation as a whole • manage conflicts of interest effectively

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not gain materially or financially unless specifically authorised to do so • acknowledge that a substantial breach of the Code can result in removal from trusteeship; in the case of Officers in removal from office.
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Proposed changes to the Playing Rules

	Existing text	Proposed text
4.0 Disputes and Queries	<p>4.1 During a match Team Captains (or their deputy in their absence) are regarded as joint Arbiters. However, players are expected to try to resolve any issue between themselves in the first instance, especially if one or both Captains are also playing in the match. In the event Captains' assistance is required, whilst they are playing a game and if it is their move, then they are entitled to stop their own clock for the duration of dealing with the issue (New - AGM 2019).</p> <p>4.2 If a player completes an illegal move, the opposing player should pause the clock and add 2 minutes to his/her time, in accordance with the Laws. If the player</p>	<p>4.0 Disagreements</p> <p>4.1 If a disagreement over a suspected breach of the Laws occurs, the Captains are jointly responsible for deciding how to proceed. If a disagreement occurs between the Captains, a concise written report should be submitted to the Tournament Controller to resolve the dispute.</p> <p>4.2 During a match Team Captains (or their deputy in their absence) are regarded as joint Arbiters. However, players are expected to try to resolve any issue between themselves in the first instance, especially if one or both Captains are also playing in the match. In the event Captains' assistance is required, whilst they are playing a game and if it is their move, then they are entitled to stop their own clock for the duration of dealing with the issue (New - AGM 2019).</p>

	<p>does not know how to add time, he/she should pause the clock and request assistance from one of the Captains. If the illegal move has not been noticed by either player, the Laws of chess apply with the Captains acting as arbiters. (New - AGM 2019)</p> <p>4.3 If the falling of a player's flag isn't noticed by the opposing player, the Laws of chess apply with the Captains acting as arbiters. (New - AGM 2019)</p> <p>4.4 If a player conducts an illegal action (rather than an illegal move), e.g. moving the pieces and pressing the clock with different hands or not writing down the moves when the player has more than 5 minutes left on the clock, the opposing player should mention this to the player. The opposing player should also attempt to mention the offence to both Captains as soon as reasonably possible. Where both Captains agree that a player's actions have been disruptive or allowed them to gain time illegally, the Captains should take immediate action. Repeat offences by a player must be reported in writing to the Tournament Controller by both Captains, who may decide the issue a warning to or sanction the offending player. (New - AGM 2019)</p> <p>4.5 If a dispute arises, the Captains are jointly responsible for a decision as to how to proceed. If a dispute cannot be settled between the Captains, each Captain must submit a concise written report of the</p>	<p>assistance is required during the game and if it is the player's fault to stop their own clock with the issue.</p> <p>4.3 If a player completes a move and the opposing player should mention this to his/her Captains. If the player has more than 5 minutes left on the clock, he/she should mention the offence to both Captains as soon as reasonably possible. Where both Captains agree that a player's actions have been disruptive or allowed them to gain time illegally, the Captains should take immediate action. Repeat offences by a player must be reported in writing to the Tournament Controller by both Captains, who may decide the issue a warning to or sanction the offending player. (New - AGM 2019)</p> <p>4.4 If the falling of a player's flag isn't noticed by the opposing player, the Laws of chess apply with the Captains acting as arbiters.</p> <p>4.5 If a player conducts an illegal action (rather than an illegal move), e.g. moving the pieces and pressing the clock with different hands or not writing down the moves when the player has more than 5 minutes left on the clock, the opposing player should mention this to the player. The opposing player should also attempt to mention the offence to both Captains as soon as reasonably possible. Where both Captains agree that a player's actions have been disruptive or allowed them to gain time illegally, the Captains should take immediate action. Repeat offences by a player must be reported in writing to the Tournament Controller by both Captains, who may decide the issue a warning to or sanction the offending player. (New - AGM 2019)</p>
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	<p>matter to the Controller, who may submit the matter to the Executive Committee</p> <p>4.6 In the event of the Tournament Controller receiving a claim concerning a team match or individual game, before issuing a decision which may alter the result, the Tournament Controller will request a concise written report from either the captains or the individual players. The Tournament Controller will make a decision within 14 days. (AGM 2009).</p> <p>4.7 If an appeal is lodged against the Tournament Controller's decision, the player must submit a concise written report to the General Secretary, accompanied by a £20 Bond. This must be done within 14 days of the original decision. The Bond will be reimbursed within 14 days if the original decision is overturned and the appeal is successful. The General Secretary shall then put the appeal before the Executive Committee if a ruling regarding Constitutional matters is required (see constitution rule 34 and bye-laws 12-19). For all other disputes concerning points covered by FIDE rules, the appeal shall be put to an ECF Arbiter. After a ruling is made, at whatever level, there shall be no further right of appeal. (Amended - AGM 2009)</p> <p>Any player found guilty of misconduct by the Hull & East Riding Chess Association Executive Committee may face disciplinary action. This will take effect retrospectively from the AGM of 2012. Any such player will have the right of appeal. (AGM 2013)</p>	<p>4.6 If the Captains can have been disruptive circumstances of the of a written report by Tournament Controller</p> <p>4.7 In the event of receiving a claim of individual tournament which may alter the result will request a concise report from involved (captains for individual players for tournament) Controller will make a decision</p> <p>4.8 If an appeal is lodged against the Controller's decision, (individual) must submit a report to the General Secretary and the decision. The General Secretary shall draw an appeal panel drawn from account conflicts of interest. The appeal is final.</p>
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	<p>4.8 Any captain who is unsure of any point covered in these rules or feels that some point has not been covered, should immediately contact the appropriate Tournament Controller or the General Secretary.</p> <p>4.9 All decisions made by the Executive Committee with regard to disputes are final. If members of the association challenge a decision, they must call for a vote of no confidence in the Executive Committee. This is to be made in writing to the General Secretary, supported by (1) a signed petition of 20 members detailing names, addresses and signatures, as well as (2) the names of the proposed new officers to replace the serving officers. (AGM 2010)</p> <p>4.10 In voting undertaken by the Executive Committee, any parties directly involved in disputes (that is, officers and members playing in the teams concerned, and the Tournament Controller of the competition concerned) are not entitled to vote. The chairperson has the casting vote in the case of an unclear result. (AGM 2010).</p>	
8.0 Promotion and Relegation		8.0 Admission of new relegation
	No clause on admission of new teams	8.1 All new teams ent be placed in the lowes otherwise by the Trus

		[Subsequent clauses r
<p>9.0 Code of Conduct for Players, Observers and Spectators</p>	<p>The code already exists but does not form part of the Playing Rules</p> <p>Original text reads: ‘It is not a set of rules but guidance’. It seems odd to include the code under Playing Rules and then say unambiguously that they are not rules. The new wording suggests that the spirit of the code has more weight than the letter.</p>	<p>This code of conduct a participate in chess ga whether as players or rules but more like gu behaviour in chess loc conjunction with the l</p> <p>Clubs</p> <p>Clubs should ensure th playing equipment are accommodating to the that opposing teams a</p> <p>Clubs, teams, captains</p> <p>The responsibility for clubs, teams, captains every match the home players and remind th rule, and what’s expec games.</p> <p>Players should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act with respect teams, and club p • Respect the need avoid discussions opponent or othe • Avoid conversati their game is in p asking about an c Captain).

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not open snack f at the board. • Avoid distracting through actions • Players who have observers, specta present in the pla <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Adhere to th players. o Ensure that whilst in the o Not under a while the ga o Not interve progress in a o Refrain from are in progre o Refrain from still in play, e <p>Observers (or spectat any of the games still themselves.</p>
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