

Meeting
of the
Executive Committee
of the
Oxford University Chess Club

Present Members

Andrew Rogozinski, Worcester College – President

George Dumitrescu, Lady Margaret Hall – Vice-President, Acting Secretary

Aloysius Lip, Christ Church – Treasurer, IT Officer (and many more)

Kevin Henbest, Department of Chemistry – 2nd team captain

Boris Gusev, St Hilda's College – 3rd team captain

Ben Greenbury, Jesus College – active member (promoted to Cuppers League Officer)

Main points of the meeting

- **150th ANNIVERSARY:**

There are two options for the date: either 6th week of Hillary (approximately 29th of February) or 2nd week of Trinity (9th-10th of May)

We also need some matches for the Congress (5 matches), and the dinner should be during Sunday of the respective weekend.

We should decide who should be in the committee of organising the Congress (around 5 people taking care of catering venue, a suggestion would be a room in Lincoln, which has the required capacity).

- **The location of the home matches of the ODCL:**

For the first team: Balliol College

For the second team: St. John's College: The Old Lecture Room

For the third team: St. Hilda's College: Rosalind Hill Room in CBB

- **The approximate of active members:**

Defined as those that play in one of the three Oxford teams in the ODCL, or participate in the Wednesday casual chess meetings

Useful for sponsorship purposes, gaining collaboration offers

Agreed at least 50 members.

- **Teaching Sessions:**

The intermediate and beginners' classes are taught by Victor Vășieșiu and Filip Mihov

Also, a new idea that came up in the meeting is creating a group chat for advanced groups so that they can discuss (or directly analyse) interesting games or tactics.

- **PUCL:**

The last round of the preliminary stage is this Saturday, on 07.12.2019, and at the moment we are short of people (as many students will leave UK for the holidays)

This was later resolved through text as we decided not to send a 3rd team and solely send members of the 1st and 2nd team. The former of these qualified, the second sadly missed out.

- **Gathering more members for the 3rd team:**

We should encourage more members to play for the ODCL, as at the moment there have been some problems in gathering players (in the 2nd team, but especially in the 3rd team)

- **Reimbursement of the travel costs:**

Boris: can reimbursement be provided for the away matches of the ODCL? Would persuade more players

Aloysius: we can reimburse players (only if they are members) for the travel costs, especially for the away matches that are quite far away (maybe taxis for some of the matches, e.g. Witney, where it takes almost 30 mins to get from the bus station to the venue).

- **Teaching sessions in schools:**

Dan: agreed to advertise chess lessons in schools (and teach them).

Also, we can have some schools' tournament, but we need to thoroughly think about this.

- **Tournaments during winter holiday:**

We noted the following upcoming tournaments that ought to be made aware to OUCC members:

Cowley Christmas Tournament, maybe some online rapid or blitz tournament with the OUCC members.

- **Inter-university Tournaments:**

Dan Abbas can take care of gathering members for the next matches/tournaments (BUCA, matches vs Imperial, LSE or Warwick)

- **Seconds' Varsity:**

George Dumitrescu will take care of organising the next Seconds' Varsity against Cambridge (a match between second years), during next term.

- **League Cuppers:**

Ben Greenbury agreed (and already started) to organise the League Cuppers between Oxford Colleges

The event will start next term and there are still some aspects to be solved (such as time control, system of playing i.e. Round Robin, Swiss)

Multiple teams are allowed to participate from the same college, and there are around 15 teams from various colleges participating

- **Varsity match vs Cambridge**

At the moment, we still need to gather information on this.

- **Visiting GMs**

The committee resolves to aim for at least one visiting GM event per term

- **Appointment of a Women's Officer**

The committee notes the dire gender ratio of attendance of club meetings and participation in League and inter-university club matches. Whilst matches frequently feature some female members of the team, club meetings can reach 0% in female attendance.

Notes: the specific allocation of some places in the Hou Yifan simul to female players

Aloysius: suggests that we do this for all our visiting GM events, not just for the Hou Yifan event because of her unique status as female world champion

Other suggestions: look into creation of 'Women's Officer' position with sole aim to create more opportunities and attract greater membership for the female chess-playing community in Oxford