



# London Chess Club

Kiwanis Seniors' Community Centre  
78 Riverside Drive, London ON

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Demmery	<i>phone number redacted</i>	<i>email address redacted</i>
Leroy Gibson	<i>phone number redacted</i>	<i>email address redacted</i>
Mike Harris (Chair)	<i>phone number redacted</i>	<i>email address redacted</i>
Michal Wiraszka	<i>phone number redacted</i>	<i>email address redacted</i>
Edgar Zapata	<i>phone number redacted</i>	<i>email address redacted</i>

## PRESIDENT

Hardik Shrestha	<i>phone number redacted</i>	<i>email address redacted</i>
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## VICE PRESIDENT

Gregory Wei	<i>phone number redacted</i>	<i>email address redacted</i>
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## TREASURER

Gerry Litchfield	<i>phone number redacted</i>	<i>email address redacted</i>
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## TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Ryan Sarson	<i>phone number redacted</i>	<i>email address redacted</i>
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## MISSION STATEMENT

"The London Chess Club strives to empower all skill levels, enrich lives, and enhance our community by providing a safe environment, fostering respect, encouragement, and skill developing, forming bonds through a shared love of chess."

## MEASUREABLE GOALS

- Ensure club seating capacity, review each quarter
- Ensure leadership and administration have the resources that they need
- Seek opportunities to support youth chess
- Seek opportunities to support London community
- Define the number of active, classical, blitz events each year, and record participation
- Effectively communicate to all members
- Expand technology
- Hold CFC-rated tournaments



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Meeting was held on **Tuesday, Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024, 6:00PM – 7:00PM**. Michal Wiraszka ran the meeting and took minutes; all members of the Board of Directors apart from Steve Demmery were present; LCC President Hardik Shrestha and Vice President Gregory Wei were also present.

## Meeting Minutes

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1. Proposal to alternate club tournaments between opens and sectionals, and potentially mix up cut-offs in the sectionals
  - Majority of club members have reacted positively to the introduction of sectional tournaments – Section A (1700+), Section B (U1700), and Section C (U1300)
  - U1700 and U1300 cut-offs can be adjusted to ensure minimum number of participants is fulfilled in each section (~12 minimum required for SwissSys software)
  - The club will host an open tournament at least once every 3 months for the minority of members who prefer opens
2. Proposal for awarding this year's lifetime achievement awards to three long-time members of the club (two of whom are deceased)
  - All in agreement on the recipients
  - Edgar will look into individual trophies for the 3 recipients, as well as a plaque to display at Kiwanis (will need to confirm with the centre) for all recipients' names to be added to
3. Proposal for a WhatsApp group chat to socialize, set up online matches, discuss LCC-related events, etc.
  - All in agreement on setting up a WhatsApp group as a sort of public noticeboard, where posts can only be made by admins; Hardik to look into setting up the group
  - All in agreement that any unofficial club social groups should be left for the club members to set up privately – this will avoid the burden of having to moderate the chats
4. Proposal for new club logo & branding:  
Any adjustments to Michelle's designs? Have a couple variations club members can vote on?
  - Board decision to maintain old knight and chessboard design, replace Canada text with the red maple leaf on the knight, shorten London Chess Club to London Chess, and potentially include the website domain (as londonchess.ca) below the image
  - Michal to contact Michelle about preparing some mock-ups of this new proposed design in a few colour variants
5. Proposition of selling club merchandise:  
Considerations about maintaining not-for-profit organization status?
  - All in agreement that merchandise will be a great way to help promote the club, so long as we keep profit margins at a minimum
  - Different design variants (with text, without text, coloured image, black and white, etc.) will be considered for different pieces of merchandise



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- Will continue discussion at next meeting once new club logo & branding (4. above) have been confirmed
6. Michal to give an update on the club website
- Total cost of running the website, up until end of March 2024 comes to CA\$153.36 (US\$114.45 @ 1.34 average exchange rate = CA\$153.36):
    - **May 2022 – November 2023** --- US\$16.92
    - **December 2023** --- US\$32.61, which includes annual fee for londonchess.ca domain (US\$13.00/year)
    - **January 2024** --- US\$21.64
    - **February 2024** --- US\$21.64
    - **March 2024** --- US\$21.64
  - Will continue discussion RE: transfer of archived data & further phasing out old londonchessclub.ca website at next meeting
  - Michal to submit invoice to Gerry for up to end of 2024 (forecasting continued US\$21.64 monthly cost)
7. An update on the club's financial health
- LCC Treasurer Gerry Litchfield not present during meeting; others present confirmed that the club's finances remain healthy
8. An update from Edgar RE: the club's relationship with Kiwanis (any upcoming rental agreement changes, continuing to use the gym space every Thursday, and generally any issues the centre may have raised since the last meeting)
- Rent paid up on time, and no changes with regard to the club having permission to continue making use of the centre's gym every Thursday evening
  - A few members of the board and executive committee have brought up the incident of one member who allegedly broke 2 or more chairs at Kiwanis
  - This member has already been spoken to and given multiple verbal warnings about their outbursts; Hardik to draft a written warning and hand the letter to said member
  - All in agreement with regard to how to handle disruptive members at the club in the future – an important decision given the club growing at an unprecedented rate, which means more new members at the club, some of whom may turn out to be disruptive to others
9. Appeal to improve communication between executive team, board members and Kiwanis in order to avoid miscommunications and allow time for members to be informed of important changes (e.g. club closures) ASAP
- All in agreement that we should make an effort to better communicate important club-related news within our board and executive committee channels
  - The new 'public noticeboard' WhatsApp group will facilitate communicating important club updates to any members who don't have a habit of checking the website on a regular basis