

MCU Secretary's Report 2016

This report provides a summary of main issues dealt with by the Committee over the last year.

1. Following the MCU AGM the Chairman sent a letter to the ICU Chairman on 12th September reiterating the issues and requesting an apology for the unconstitutional treatment of the MCU rep as requested by the AGM.

No apology was offered by the ICU Chairman, Pat Fitzsimons.

2. Therefore, I emailed the following motion to the ICU Secretary on 19th September:
"That the membership of the ICU have no confidence in the current ICU Executive" proposed by myself and seconded by Alan Salsac on behalf of the MCU.

The ICU Chairman rejected the motion as being submitted after the deadline.

I resubmitted the motion pointing out that it was covered by article 7.7 and exceptions 7.7 a) and 7.7 b).

It was again rejected by the ICU Chairman.

3. At the AGM the ICU Chairman refused to accept the no confidence motion although the outgoing Secretary confirmed in his report that he had resigned as he disagreed with this ruling.

The new ICU Executive subsequently accepted that the dismissal of the MCU rep had been unconstitutional.

4. John Alfred organised a junior's competition to run in January 2016. John was running this competition as the Munster Junior Championships. The MCU brought to the ICU's attention that this was being run by an organisation set up by John Alfred with no official recognition. The MCU was clear that it was happy for this competition to be run but that it should not be called the Munster Junior Championships since that was already scheduled to be run in September 2016 by MJCC along with the Munster Championships. Despite lengthy negotiation by the ICU John Alfred refused to change the name.

5. On 31st March 2016 we received a formal complaint from Noel Keating, Secretary of MJCC, about John Alfred, Gabriel Mirza and Sean Phillips who had set up another MJCC, had misappropriated the MJCC bank account and trophies, and proceeded to run what they claim was the Munster Junior Championship. There was also an issue of John Alfred and Gabriel harassing a junior to return a trophy.

Since John Alfred was already under suspension the MCU Committee could take no further action.

The allegations were sent to Gabriel Mirza and Sean Phillips requesting their response on 18th April 2016.

No responses were received.

6. A meeting of the MCU Committee was scheduled for 1st July to discuss these disciplinary issues as well as other MCU topics. Gabriel and Sean were informed of this meeting and

invited to present their responses either in person or by email.

Gabriel responded saying that MCU had nothing to do with the MJCC and that the harassment charge was unfounded.

The committee suspended consideration of issues related to the MJCC funds.

On the other issues the MCU found that promoting a rival MJCC was incompatible with supporting the objectives of the MCU as required by clause 2.2 of the Constitution. Therefore Gabriel Mirza and Sean Phillips were notified that they were expelled from membership according to Clause 6.1.

7. A number of nominations and motions received for the AGM appeared to be questionable. I brought these to the committee's attention. The committee decided that the nominations of Keith O'Rahilly for Chairman and Ryan Fitzgerald for Treasurer were invalid as they were not eligible for membership. The nomination of Bernd Thee for Secretary was invalid since he was not proposed by a valid member.
The motions proposed by Keith O'Rahilly were also deemed invalid as they were not proposed by a valid member.
8. The Munster Chess Union website was updated to provide online entry and live boards for the Munster Championship. It has also been changed to allow reporting of results to the ICU for FIDE rating after each round.
9. There is ongoing work to allow users reset passwords via email and link up all the admin functions for the coming season. This will allow the league controller and arbiter to fully set up new leagues and edit the schedule online without requiring direct database updates.

Ray O'Brien

MCU Secretary

20th July 2016