



# HULL AND DISTRICT CHESS ASSOCIATION

(Charity Number 1155858)

## ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021



This report is written under unusual circumstances. There has been no over the board chess in HDCA events during the year, during which the remaining games of the previous season (2019/20) were abandoned, and a line drawn under all events except the cup and individual tournaments which were near completion. The Trustees have continued to meet, however, and this report is a true representation of the activities of the Charity during the year. Our commitment to deliver public benefit, through our activities, continues, but was necessarily curtailed because of the ongoing restrictions due to the corona virus. Any questions in respect of this report should be made to the President Graham Chesters

The Charity is administered by up to 15 Trustees, who are the officers and committee members of the Association. There were no changes to the Trustees during the year.

### Trustees and Officers of The Charity 2020/2021

President:	G Chesters
Vice President:	A. Bettley
General Secretary:	S. Greep
Treasurer:	G Johnstone
League secretary (and summer league controller)	T Hackett
Fixture Secretary:	D. Sheppard
Tournament controller:	S. Thrower
Congress Organiser:	S Greep
Publicity Officer:	Vacant
Junior Officer:	M. Pollard
Match Captain:	D. Mills (non Trustee)
Trustees without office:	S King, J. Hutchinson, J. Miklevicz, D. Vleeshouwer and W. Wright

The key strategies of the Charity, which inform all our decision making are:

- **Chess Strategy** – the chess ‘promotion and development’ strategy - what we are trying to achieve over the next five to ten years. This is the key strategy document as the other strategies are, in effect, enablers, to provide for us to deliver the Charity’s objects as set out in our Constitution.
- **Investment Strategy** – how we decide to invest our funds, the required return and overall longer term view of our investments. In brief we expect the funds to keep pace with inflation and to

deliver an annual return of £5,000. The capital element of this fund currently stands at £182,000 (see the Treasurers report below).

- **Reserves strategy** – money we will keep aside for ‘emergencies’ and to minimise any short term financial risk from variations in the capital provision of the Charities Investment Funds. We have kept this to a minimum of £2,000.
- **Financial Strategy** – how we are going to spend our income from our investments and other income. A budget-based approach reviewed on an annual basis.

All our strategies and policies are available online and can be seen on our web site. They are also obtainable from the General Secretary. In addition, the web site also contains details of our Child Protection Strategy and Privacy Policy.

## Our Year: A Summary

Chess activity during the year was confined to online events, although at club level Hull Chess Club managed to run a series of live events.

### HDCA Online Team Competition

In October four teams entered this first online Hull & District team league: Hull Chess Club, St Andrews C, Beverley Beavers Online and Beverley A (‘the ‘A’ team), playing each other twice, “home” and “away”, with the time control being the same as the Online 4NCL: 45 minutes + 15 second increment from move 1. The ‘A’ team won the competition, beating Hull CC 3.5/0.5 in the final match to claim the title.

The final standings

Team	Play	Won	Draw	Lost	For	Against	Diff	Points
The A-team	6	4	2	0	16	8	8	10
Hull CC	6	3	1	2	12	12	0	7
St Andrews C	6	1	2	3	10½	13½	-3	4
Beverley Beavers Online	6	0	3	3	9½	14½	-5	3

### Hull 4NCL Congress

Our Congress, joint with 4NCL moved online in October. 178 players took part in four sections -at that time this was the largest online Congress 4NCL had been involved in. A separate online commentary was provided by GM Danny Gormally who also took on local players in an online simultaneous exhibition before the Congress took place. Alex Grice with 4/5 in the intermediate section was awarded the prize for the best local performance. Steve Hodge was third in the Major section.

### Yorkshire League

The Yorkshire Chess Association organised 2 online competitions:

A trial competition, named the Pioneer Online League, started in November 2020. Eight 6-board teams from Yorkshire competed over three rounds, with the winner unusually decided by the total number of board points. The HDCA entered 2 teams. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> team unfortunately ended up bottom of the table due to losses against Huddersfield and Alwoodley A and a draw against Alwoodley B. Our 1<sup>st</sup> team however, won the competition!

Following the success of the Pioneer league, the YCA organised The Farthing Cup, in which the 4 Yorkshire regions competed over 12 boards. East Yorkshire, i.e. the HDCA, ended in third place

### **2020 ECF Under-18 Online County Championship**

In November, the u18 online County Championships were held by the ECF. Douglas Vleeshouwer was asked to captain the team. Each match played over 6 boards, a mix of boys and girls, from 2 different age groups. Locally Philip Wood was invited to play, as one strongest under 11yr olds in Yorkshire and scored a credible 2 out of 4 points.

The team defeated Oxfordshire and drew against Berkshire, and Oxfordshire ending in fourth place.

## **Statement of Financial Activities**

### **Key Financial Highlights**

At the end of the financial year 1st June 2020-31st May 2021, the Association has the following Assets:

Cash in bank: £16,640.83 (including agreed reserves of £2,000)

Investments: £182,279 (invested in a COIF Charities Investment Fund)

Equipment: £6,237 (estimated value) (includes trophies, DGT live boards, digital chess clocks, chess sets/boards, demonstration boards, display and welcome banners, PA unit, projector, printer)

A grant of £2,000 from Hull City Council has been secured for support for 2021 English Chess Federation events in Hull. This grant was received into our bank account on 10 June 2021 (hence outside the date covered by this report).

Chess support activities have been much more limited this year than usual, due to the Covid pandemic restrictions. However, the Association has spent over £1,273 on chess in the region in this financial year. This amount includes support for player and club development, junior chess, arbiter training, individual chess support, and a very small amount of support (£30) for teams playing in the 4NCL online leagues.

A further £558.24 was spent on activities surrounding the Hull 4NCL Online Congress to cover live commentary and a simultaneous exhibition by GM Danny Gormally, and junior coaching.

### **Moving forward**

As we write (August) there has still been no HDCA live chess this year, although plans are underway to resume 'normal' chess at the start of the winter season. The Charity has taken the opportunity to review its plans for the future and has developed an ambitious five-year plan to help deliver our current strategy, beginning with a three month Play Chess Festival that will be underway by the time of the AGM. At the next AGM we hope to be able to report more positively on chess events during the year