
NORTHERN COUNTIES CHESS UNION FOUNDED 1899

28 June Annual General Meeting – LMS Assistant Report

At the 2025 AGM, my job title was changed from Rating Officer. Bryan Bainbridge is the actual rating officer, as far as the ECF are concerned, as unlike me he is what we used to call a grader; and Bryan is the County Championship Controller for the NCCU.

I thought the Rules meeting we had in August, to agree the revised County Championship Rules, went well. There were good discussions to reach agreement on the new rules, and the captains seemed happy with the final agreed version. It's certainly better to do this than spend time at the AGM debating rule changes, in my view.

I wasn't sure that the Fixtures meeting we had in September went as smoothly. From my perspective, although I had enough information to complete setting up the LMS, there were some fixtures not discussed, and it seemed a bit confusing. There were no fixtures until November, possibly too many in March, and some bunching of fixtures in between. I appreciate there's a very busy schedule with congresses, 4NCL and the Yorkshire League.

I wonder if we could adapt the process by following something I experienced in the MCCU. Counties were issued a form as part of their entry. This covered a number of questions, one of which was if counties wished for any of their county teams to play on the same day e.g. spreading the venue costs by hosting say the u2050 and u1650 match concurrently. Another was for counties to list dates they were unavailable, either for any of the teams, or dates when specific teams couldn't play e.g. a clash with junior events for the u1450 team.

As far as I can tell, the LMS has run smoothly, and all the games played have been correctly rated. If anyone has found any errors or issues, please let me know.

I am happy to answer questions by email in advance of the Meeting.

Mick Norris
8 June 2026