



Skerries Chess Club

Cumann Fichille na Sceirí



www.skerrieschess.com

Short Yearbook for 2019/20 Season **with AGM minutes in bold**

Agenda and Contents for Annual General Meeting, 8th Sept. 2020

- 1) Chair/Secretary/Membership/PRO reports
- 2) Notices
- 3) Tournament Controller's report
- 4) Team Captains' Reports – will add later when leagues are finished.
- 5) Teams for next year
- 6) Junior officer's report
 - a) Community Games
- 7) Garda Vetting
- 8) LCU GDPR form
- 9) Coaching
- 10) Rating
- 11) Webmaster's report
- 12) Treasurer's Report (only in paper copy of minutes)
- 13) Fees
- 14) AGM of LCU
- 15) AGM of ICU
- 16) AOB
- 17) Election of officers:
- 18) Prizes for Club Championships and Board Prizes

Chair/Secretary's/Membership Officer's/PRO's Report – John Loughran

Attendance at AGM

The AGM was held on Zoom due to COVID restrictions.

11 members attended (John & Mary Loughran, Paschal O'Shea, Enda Joyce, Karthick & Krishiv Thoppe, Áine Doran & Jack Moore, Dan Aldridge, Mark Allidine, Owen Johnston), down on 27 last season, but not bad considering we were on Zoom.

Progress since Foundation

Now near the end of our 8th season. Founded on 2/10/2012. Three teams in Leinster leagues.

Membership and Attendance

45 members (+1 compared to last season).

24 Adults (+5) and 21 juniors (-3) including 8 girls (+4) and 13 boys (-8).

High turnover of members. 19 new members (+10) replaced those leaving at the end of last season including 6 new adult members and 13 new juniors. 18 members left last season. Turnover of 19 last season.

Average attendance on Tuesday nights was 18 (-8) before the physical club closed after 13th March. Max was 27 just before lockdown.

Team Competitions – (will add full reports later)

With 2 – 3 matches remaining the Leinster leagues were suspended in March 2020 due to COVID. They were proposing to finish them at the start of this season using a central venue and social distancing and then the second wave of infections stalled this idea.

First team (captain John Loughran) have two matches left in Div. 2 (Heidenfeld Trophy) of Leinster leagues. We came third in the 2018/19 season in Div. 3 but were promoted to Div 2 as Dun Laoighire's Div 2 team opted to drop to Div 3 to make way for their Div 1 team who were relegated, thus avoiding problems for them having two teams in Div 2. We are facing relegation to Div 3.

Second team (captain Enda Joyce), are currently mid-table in Div. 5N (BEA North) which is good given their promotion 2 seasons ago. 3 matches remain to be played.

Third team (captain Dermot Murphy) are currently mid-table in Div 6N (Bodley North) having struggled to fill the team this season. 3 matches remain to be played.

The Killane Shield cup knockout competition was not held this season.

National Club Championships has been postponed until December 2020.

Skerries entered a team of 6 in the Hibernian Online Chess League which ran from April to June. We came 2nd in the Thursday League with a 45 min + 30 sec time control.

We entered a team of 4 in the World Chess 2020 online rapid tournament (10 min + 5 sec) and enjoyed it despite losing most of our games.

Links to most leagues are on the Teams and Links pages on the website.

Novices league did not take place in 2020.

Mick Germaine Cup – Sunday 8th December 2019 in Elm Mount. We were unable to field a team this year. Full report on website and summary below.

Community Games – In the Dublin finals this year we came 4th in the U13s and were unable to field an U16s team.

Highest attendance on club nights: John Loughran (32) and Joe Dunne (29).

Notices: John Loughran

Having moved to St. Patrick's Senior National School on 22nd May 2018, the club went online during the initial COVID restrictions after 10th March. We continue online at present but will organised garden chess on Tuesdays at 2.45 pm as we did on 39th June outside 59 The Park, Skerries Rock, while weather permits.

John Loughran and Marco Mancosu still need to act as assistant arbiters at two FIDE rated tournaments to complete their qualifications as National Arbiters.

See www.icu.ie then click on Calendar to see the calendar of all upcoming events in Ireland. Or on our website www.skerrieschess.com click on Links > ICU then Calendar.

Stocktake: see last year's yearbook.

Tournament Controller's Report - Internal tournaments - John, Marco

Results of all tournaments played are on our website under Tournaments menu. We held the Autumn and Turkey Tournaments, the latter concurrent with the Skerries Community Games. We finished the Club Championships just after lockdown, online. We ran Rapid tournaments online and a Blitz championships but no handicap or novelty events were held as these are hard to play online.

Teams for this season

How many teams we field this season will depend on what is organised and the evolving restrictions due to COVID.

Junior Officer's Report - John Loughran

Community Games

In the Dublin finals this year we came 4th in the U13s and were unable to field an U16s team due to a lack of players U16. The team was managed by John Loughran and Dan Aldridge. We started with elbow knocks as it was early in the COVID restrictions before schools closed. The kids were delighted with their medals and enjoyed it. The games were a lot closer than the results indicate. Full picture report under Teams on website.

Community Games Dublin Finals 2020											
Results of Skerries Teams, held in Malahide Parish Centre, Sun 1st March 2020 at 4-7pm.											
U13s		Mgr: Clodagh Zomer, JL, DA		Round	1	Round	2	Round	3		
Opponents:			Stillorgan		Malahide		Marley Grange		Total	Games	
Rating	Seed	Name	Board	Score	Board	Score	Board	Score	Score	Played	
666	1	Bláithín Aldridge	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	3	
672	2	Ziggy O'Connor	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	3	
579	3	Mary Loughran	3	0	3	0	3	0	0	3	
522	4	Róisín Burke	4	0	4	0	4	0	0	3	
573	5	Jack Power	5	0	5	1	5	0	1	3	
428	Sub	Millie O'Connor	6	0	6	0			0	2	
400	Sub	Áine Loughran	7	0	7	0			0	2	
										Skerries won	
Game Points				0	1	0	1	4th place medals			

Garda Vetting

Any club which comes into contact with children is required to ensure that all its members are Garda Vetted. That includes adult playing members, teen members and parent supervisors, at least one parent of each junior.

We began our Garda Vetting process in the 2018/19 season and it is nearly complete for current members.

When a new member or parent supervisor joins the club they will be given a Vetting Invitation Form. They need to complete this basic information (name, address, date of birth) and accompany it with two forms of valid ID – one of which must include current address.

The Vetting Contact Person keeps a copy of this and submits the details online to the National Vetting Bureau. Usually within 10 days the vetting subject receives an online link to the online vetting application form which they need to complete within 3 weeks. If they do not complete it, we need to start the process again so it is essential that they get it done as soon as possible. Within several weeks a disclosure is then sent to the Skerries Chess Club Vetting Contact Person. This is kept on file. Vetting is valid for three years. There is a fee of €5 per vetting which the club pays. If any member would like to see a copy of their vetting disclosure please contact the Vetting Contact Person – see Contacts on website.

LCU GDPR form: John Loughran

All members who play in the Leinster leagues must sign a form to say that they consent to their details being stored by the LCU and ICU for the purposes of running leagues and tournaments. Most have signed.

Webmaster's report: John Loughran

www.skerrieschess.com was set up in November 2012 with over 69 000 visits to date (11 000 last year). Hosting costs around €30 annually. The tournament controllers John Loughran and Marco Mancosu uploaded the pairings and results for each tournament weekly. The ratings officer Fred Harte updates the ratings on the website weekly, usually within a day or two. Members can review all their results this season. We also have a facebook page: f:skerrieschess and a WhatsApp group. Parents' rota on website. Child Protection and Safety too.

Coaching

We had some great ideas for coaching including the following. The challenge will be to implement them.

Coaching on Zoom for juniors, starting at 7 pm with e.g. John, Dan preparing a 20 minute session. This could also be done for adults and could include more contributors I hope.

Coaching via YouTube by Mark with videos prepared which kids can work through in advance.

Other methods include:

using Skills Cards to monitor progress

doing lessons on chesskid.com

doing puzzles on chesskid.com, chess.com etc.

Other ideas from last year:

mixing handicap games earlier in the season with rated games,

use Zoom to comment on and predict moves from a live game between strong players.

Developments since last AGM

Three digital boards were purchased which allowed us to broadcast some of our league matches live. See homepage to see which ones were broadcast. It provided a useful coaching tool as we were able to try to predict the moves from the adjoining room.

Rating

Fred was unable to make the AGM due to technical issues (a power cut!) but is willing to continue to rate our results weekly as before.

Ratings: Skerries, Irish Chess Union & FIDE Ratings and Some Predictions – John

John will add a report here later.

Treasurer's Report – Enda Joyce

See end of printed copy of yearbook.

Fees

While the club remains online the fees will be half the usual amount unless the club reopens physically when a supplementary fee may be charged later so that the total fees are the same as last season or less (they were €80 senior, €70 juniors).

Adults: €40, Under 18s/Students: €35. Add €5 to join the ICU with a view to playing in the leagues if you pay this in September, €10 if after this. Subtract €10 for additional family members. Subtract another €10 if a junior member has paid for Gold Membership of chesskid.com.

AGM of Leinster Chess Union

The LCU are proposing to hold their AGM on Zoom soon. Two delegates from each club may attend and vote.

AGM of Irish Chess Union

Will be held on 20th September on Zoom. All may attend. See ICU homepage or <https://www.icu.ie/events/1407>

AOB Items

Dan offered to draft some guidelines or links to same regarding COVID. Enda will check out liability issues with our insurers.

Áine will help organise garden chess for those interested on the green outside 59 The Park, Skerries Rock (K34 YE64) on Tuesdays from 3 pm. Bring your own chess set, sanitiser and table/chair if you need one. Wear warm clothes. We will use WhatsApp to alert to cancellation any Tuesday if the weather is unsuitable.

Karthick suggested having a chess chat, perhaps monthly for about 20 mins on Zoom to discuss general topics of interest in chess and offered to host one session.

Election of new committee

Thanks to all current members of the committee for their efforts in making this such a vibrant and successful club. Current incumbents after posts, re-elected or newly elected in **bold**.

- a) Chair – **John Loughran**
- b) Secretary – **John Loughran**
- c) PR – John Loughran
- d) Webmasters – **John Loughran, Fred Harte**
- e) Tournament controllers – **John Loughran**
- f) Ratings officer – **Fred Harte**
- g) Prizes officer – **Dan Aldridge, Bláithín Aldridge**
- h) Equipment officer / librarian – **Dan Aldridge, Bláithín Aldridge**
- i) Treasurer – **Karthick Thoppe**
- j) WhatsApp coordinator for rota – **Karthick Thoppe**
- k) Parent representative:
- l) Membership officer:
- m) Lead Supervisors (Printer):
- n) Junior officers – **Áine Doran**
- o) Vetting Contact Person – **Áine Doran**
- p) Coaching officer – **Marco Mancosu**
- q) Coaches – Martín, **John, Dan**, Joe, **Paschal, Fred**, Marco, Enda & others (1/2/3)
- r) Club captain – **John Loughran**
- s) First team captain – **John Loughran**
- t) Second team captain – **Enda Joyce**
- u) Third team captain – Dermot Murphy(?)
- v) Cup team captain(s) – **John Loughran**
- w) Novices team captain(s)

Prize Giving Ceremony

There was no prizegiving ceremony but at some stage we hope to mention prizewinners on Zoom. All are on the website under Tournaments > 2019/20.