**The Tom Wise Memorial Knockout Cup and the Jeremy Burnett Plate (together referred to as ‘the Cup’**), i**ncluding Individual Championship. (Passed at AGM August 2021)**

**Cup Rules**

These rules shall apply to the cup competition. If they are inconsistent with the league rules the cup rules shall prevail.

The Match Organizer (MO) is the competition organizer. He shall ensure the draws are made and appropriate entries made on the website. He shall also administer all aspects of the cup.

The Tom Wise Memorial Cup shall be open to players of all rates.

The Jeremy Burnett Plate shall be open players rated under 1682 on 30th September provided that, prior to its commencement, the MO may vary the grading limits if appropriate.

A player for a team entered in the Jeremy Burnett Plate may also play in a team entered in the Tom Wise Memorial Cup in the same season.

Any club entering a team in the league may enter team(s) in the Cup and all such teams shall comprise five players.

In any season a player may play only for one team entered in the Cup.

If necessary the MO may hold a preliminary round.

The MO shall set the venues for all matches and set a completion date and ensure publication on the website.

Matches shall be played at the club venue of the first drawn team provided that the club:

is able play the match in accordance within the date specified and

 if it cannot, the club shall provide an alternative venue for its match.

The time limit for games shall be the same as the league.

After team lists have been exchanged, the captains shall toss and the winner shall choose the colour of pieces for his team on the odd numbered boards.

The league rules relating to board order and rates shall apply.

If a captain is present at the start time and neither his opposing captain nor any other player in the opposing team is present, then he shall be deemed to have won the toss.

If a match is tied on game points then the winning team shall be determined as follows:

the team having played the fewest games with the white pieces shall progress; and

if the teams remain tied, then the team with the lowest total cumulative rating points as at 30th September for all players shall progress. (League rules re un-rated players apply).

The decision of the MO is final.

**The Individual Championship**

The Executive Committee will appoint an “Individual Organizer” (IO) who is responsible for organizing the championship.

He shall ensure the draws are made and the appropriate entries made on the website. He shall also administer all aspects of the cup.

There will be three sections:

            The Open, without a grading restriction;

            The Major, for players rated under 1825 ECF; and

            The Minor, for players rated under 1600 ECF.

The winner of each section shall be determined after a seven round Swiss system of play.

In the event of a tie at the conclusion of the competition the championship shall be shared.

The latest ECF grading list current at the start of the competition shall be utilized for determining any grading or other prizes. League rules re un-rated players apply and an un-rated player will be given an estimated rating.

Entries for these competitions shall:

state their name, current rating and section being entered;

be accompanied by the prescribed entry fee; and

be submitted by 24 September in each year.

Within 7 days of the closing date for entries, the IO shall consider whether the number of entrants in any one or more sections is appropriate, if not the IO may:

Combine a section or sections;

Revise the grading limit of a section;

Reduce the seven round Swiss system; or

Adopt an all-play-all system.

Any entrant may withdraw from the championship before playing a game and shall have his entry fee refunded.

The IO shall make the draw for the first round of the championship by the 1st October and make the draw for subsequent rounds as soon as possible after completion of the previous round. Each round will normally be about 4 weeks in duration and the IO will specify the date by which each round must be completed.

Any player defaulting two games in succession or three games in total shall be eliminated from the Championship.

Within 7 days of publication of the draw on the website, the player of the black pieces shall contact his opponent to agree a date for their game.

The game time control shall be the same as for the league and it shall be played at the club venue of the player drawn with the black pieces. If not possible then it shall be played at the club venue of the player of the white pieces. However both players may agree another venue.

If the players cannot agree a date, or contact with the opponent has failed within 14 days of such publication, then the IO shall be informed and he shall set a date for the game.

If no date is set for a game and if neither player has defaulted the game to the other, then it shall be deemed void.

Both players are responsible for notifying the IO of the result of the game and if the IO does not receive the result before the end of that round he may declare it void.

In any dispute the decision of the IO is final.