



CHESS ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND INC

Affiliated with the Australian Chess Federation Inc
Member of the Sports Federation of Queensland Inc
ABN 95 728 873 325

Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 9 June 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Venue: Zoom Meeting

1. Attendance

Present

- Tony Dowden
- Ronald Bourke
- Matt Gilpin
- Mark C. Stokes
- Doug Williams
- Henry Slater-Jones
- David Esmonde

Apologies

- Gail Young
- Iago Roche-Maxwell

The meeting was declared open at **7:05 PM**.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes of Council Meeting – 14 April 2026

Motion: That the minutes of the previous Council Meeting be accepted as presented.

Mover	Secunder	Abstentions	Result
Ron Bourke	Henry Slater-Jones	Tony Dowden, Doug Williams, Matt Gilpin	Carried

Note: Council agreed to adopt a flexible agenda order to accommodate the later attendance of Andrew Fitzpatrick and the limited availability of Henry Slater-Jones.

3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

3.1 Renewal Dates and Family Membership

Rohan provided a progress update. Active member information can be obtained; however, distribution of this information to tournament organisers remains the primary challenge.

Action: Matter remains in progress. Update to be provided at the next Council Meeting.

3.2 CAQ Email Accounts

David requested office bearers contact him regarding the configuration and activation of CAQ email accounts.

3.3 QJETS

Discussion deferred to Item 6.4.

3.4 Executive Positions

Donna McGettigan advised by email dated 7 June 2026 that, due to ongoing commitments, she was resigning as Treasurer effective immediately.

David Esmonde indicated his willingness to be considered for appointment as Secretary.

Outcome: Matter deferred to a Mini Council Meeting scheduled for 16 June 2026.

3.5 Bank Account Access Changes

Tony Dowden provided clarification regarding difficulties encountered in becoming a bank signatory.

4. Reports

4.1 President's Report

Tony Dowden presented a verbal report focusing on improving meeting efficiency and the potential use of subcommittees to address complex matters.

Motion: That the President's Report be accepted.

Mover	Seconder	Result
Tony Dowden	Mark C. Stokes	Carried

4.2 Treasurer's Report

David Esmonde presented a summary of correspondence from Donna McGettigan and noted her travel to Montesilvano, Italy, for the World Juniors.

4.3 Membership Secretary's Report

Rohan Pyne reported:

- Over 200 members activated since the previous meeting.
- Total active membership now stands at 1,087.
- Progress on the Membership Tournament Tool.

Motion: That the Membership Secretary's Report be accepted.

Mover	Seconder	Result
Rohan Pyne	Ronald Bourke	Carried

4.4 Ratings Officer's Report

Gail Young was unavailable due to hospitalisation.

David advised that:

- Three Grand Prix events have been submitted for rating.
- The Linglong Cup has also been submitted.

Action: Seek an Assistant Ratings Officer to provide support and succession planning.

4.5 Junior Chess Coordinator's Report

Henry Slater-Jones reported:

- Isaac Liu has achieved the Candidate Master (CM) title.
- Queensland will have three representatives at the World Youth Chess Championships:
 - o Micah Young
 - o Elaina Qiang

- o Isabella Guan
- Matthew Jia and Clarissa Liu will attend the FIDE World Cadets Championships in Batumi.
- Updates on the upcoming Queensland Junior Championships and QJETS proposals.

4.6 Regional Liaison Officer's Report

Mark C. Stokes reported:

- Strong participation at the Bundaberg Open
 - Grand Prix aim to increase regional players appears to be working.
 - Attendance at newly affiliated club Innisfail Chess Club is healthy, with 20–30 players attending club nights.
-

5. Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

1. Letter to ACF Secretary regarding the ASTC 2026 bid.
 2. Email from Matt Zhang and Michelle Li regarding the Brisbane Rapid.
 3. Gardiner Chess correspondence dated 16 April 2026 regarding Queensland Interschools reporting and financials.
-

6. Ratification of Email Decisions

6.1

Nil.

7. General Business

7.1 CAQ Grand Prix

Three events completed, with two event results now published on the CAQ website.

Action: David to obtain the Bundaberg Open Vega file.

7.2 Paid Membership Pro (PMP)

- David spoke of the need to speak with Sam Buckley on the PMP renewal dates. Any auto payment should be carefully managed.

- Rohan spoke to extracting the active member information and getting it to the tournament organisers.
- Mark C Stokes spoke to being considerate when billing tournament organisers for inactive CAQ members until the system is able to provide the information.
- David spoke to being more pro-active with tournament organisers; by contacting them directly and emailing a file to them of active members prior to the start of their tournament.

Action: David to report progress at the Council Meeting on 10 August 2026.

7.3 CAQ Website Calendar

Ongoing issues noted. Monitoring to continue.

7.4 Queensland Junior Elite Training Squad (QJETS)

The Queensland Junior Development Committee was established:

- Chair: Henry Slater-Jones
- Members:
 - o Ronald Bourke
 - o Tony Dowden

7.5 DGT Clocks

Council noted 40 DGT used clocks remain in stock.

Action: David to survey clubs regarding demand.

7.6 Publicity

Publicity Committee established:

- Chair: Not appointed as yet.
- Members:
 - o Ronald Bourke
 - o Tony Dowden
 - o David Esmonde
 - o Iago Roche-Maxwell

7.7 Tournament Administration

Tournaments Committee established:

- Chair: IA David Esmonde
- Members:
 - o FA Henry Slater-Jones
 - o FA Tony Dowden

7.8 Vega Training for Arbiters

Matter referred to the Tournaments Committee.

Action: Report to next full Council Meeting.

7.9 Child Safety and Duty of Care

Committee established:

- Chair: Tony Dowden
- Member: Doug Williams

7.10 Alternate ACF Delegate

Mark C. Stokes appointed as Queensland delegate to the ACF Council Meeting on 19 July 2026.

7.11 Support for World Youth Representatives

Applications relating to Elaina Qiang and Isabella Guan to be circulated prior to the Mini Council Meeting.

Action: Level of support to be determined at Mini Meeting 16th June

7.12 Churchie International Financial Matters

Motion 7.12(a)

That the CAQ rescind the invoice for \$3,152.00 that was sent to A.C.E (ABN 44 371 364 594) for the 2025 Zone 3.6 Youth Zonal .

Mover: Doug Williams

Seconder: Mark C. Stokes

Result: Carried

Motion 7.12(b)

That the CAQ send an invoice to Anglican Church Grammar School (ABN 34 243 342 840) for \$3,152.00 for the 2025 Zone 3.6 Youth Zonal

Mover: Doug Williams
Seconded: Mark C. Stokes
Result: Carried

Motion 7.12(c)

That the Treasurer pay A.C.E. \$3,152.00 for titled player entry fees and guarantee against loss associated with the 2026 Churchie International.

Mover: Doug Williams
Seconded: Mark C. Stokes
Result: Carried

7.13 UQ Winter Weekender

Motion: That Council waive the one-month notice requirement and include the UQ FIDE Winter Weekender in the 2026 Grand Prix.

Mover: Ron Bourke
Seconded: Doug Williams
Result: Carried

7.14 ACF Olympiad Appeal

Motion: That CAQ donate \$500 to the ACF Olympiad Appeal.

Mover: Ron Bourke
Seconded: Mark C. Stokes
Result: Carried

7.15 Billing Procedures

Matter referred to the Executive Committee.

7.16 Gold Coast Interschools Levy

Andrew Fitzpatrick joined the meeting at 8:15 PM and provided background information.

Action: David to distribute relevant documentation. Matter to be considered further at the next Council Meeting 10th August 2026.

8. Other Business

8.1 Meeting Schedule

Council supported fixing meeting dates in advance, with meetings to be held on the second Tuesday of every second month.

- Next Council Meeting: 10 August 2026 at 7:00 PM
- Mini Council Meeting: 16 June 2026 at 7:30 PM

8.2 Bank Signatories

Tony Dowden to receive assistance with digital certificate setup. Mark C. Stokes agreed to become a bank signatory.

8.3 Appointment of Assistant Treasurer

Motion: That Mark C. Stokes be appointed Assistant Treasurer and a member of the Executive Committee.

Mover	Seconder	Abstention	Result
Doug Williams	Ronald Bourke	Mark C. Stokes	Carried

9. Closure

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at **9:05 PM**.

Minutes prepared by:

David Esmonde

Acting Assistant Secretary

Chess Association of Queensland Inc.