**Proposal on Buying Drinks**

Proposed New LDCL Policy to be displayed on the LDCL Website and discussed at the AGM

**Supporting the venues in which we play**

The LDCL is committed to ensuring that we play chess in a sustainable way. We want to properly support the venues and communities of which we are a part. To this end, we have an expectation that adult players will not bring water bottles or other such drinks to venues that have facilities, and will instead purchase a drink. Clubs at which drinks are not available are asked to arrange with the webmaster for this to be indicated on their entry in the league website.

**Matchplay rule amendments**

**Rule 7**

Point D currently reads – Subsequent registrations must be received 7 days before the new player is eligible to play.”

Add to this – “It is the expectation that a player will not be registered for a team if their grade is more than 75 above the grade of the lowest registered member of the club team below that for which they are seeking to be registered. However, recognising that a team’s circumstances can change during the course of the season, such registrations can be deemed acceptable, subject to approval from the LDCL Committee.

– Add a new point “K”

Registration submissions for the club for of which the Registration Officer is a member will be subject to final approval by the League Chairman, or some other Committee member nominated by the Chair, who does not play for the same club as the Registration Officer.

**Rule 19** – current wording: “If any such devices produces a sound…”

Replace with “If any such device is found to be on…”

**New Protocol on Mobile Phone Disputes**

If a player believes that their opponents’ mobile phone is on during the game, the following protocol should be followed.

* The player should highlight to their opponent that they believe their opponents’ phone is switched on.
* If the opponent accepts this, the game is lost.
* If the opponent disputes the fact that his or her phone is on, the clocks should be stopped and the captains or other representative from each team will be called to inspect the relevant phone. At no time between the claim being made and the phone being inspected, should it be touched. Should the owner of the phone do so in any meaningful way, the phone will be judged to have been on and the game will be adjudicated as lost.
* Should the person in question refuse to allow his phone to be inspected, it will be deemed to have been on and the game will be lost.
* If the phone is inspected, the captains or other representatives from each team will make a finding of fact as to whether or not the phone is on. If it is, the game will be lost. If it is not, the game will continue.

Rule 24 (Proposal from Tom Darling)

To put forward for the next AGM. I don’t think our dispute procedures are working as well as they could currently. I recall that Kenilworth’s representative at the last AGM also expressed dissatisfaction with a dispute outcome, so it’s not just a Leamington perspective.

Add the line: “Where one player is claiming a win based on their opponent having violated the rules of chess, the burden of proof is on the accuser. If, after considering the evidence presented, the committee have reasonable doubt as to whether an infraction occurred, they should find in favour of the accused party.”

Add the line: “The committee, in rendering their verdict, should endeavour to address all arguments made by both sides in the dispute. To facilitate this, both sides should clearly list the points they consider relevant while presenting their cases.”