



EACF 2025 Annual General meeting Webmaster's report

The EACF website has been running all year on the new Ionos VPS service, with significantly greater memory and storage capacity than the previous hosting service for a reduced cost, now £2.40 per month for the EACF.

An upgrade to the (free) current server Linux operating system was applied in mid-January. This required a planned shutdown for about 30 minutes at midnight one night, and was carried out as planned without problems. The upgraded system is working correctly, and will remain fully supported until April 2029. Users did not see any changes to their normal activity arising from this upgrade.

A remaining issue continues to be the deliverability of automatic emails from the system to users requesting new passwords or password resets, because some internet service providers (“ISPs”) sometimes reject these emails as suspected spam without any warning to the user making the request. For those awkward ISPs an alternative free email delivery relay service has been adopted (from a company based in New Zealand) which appears to have mitigated the problem, though this relay service isn’t a universal solution because it only allows a relatively modest number of free emails each month.

The website as a whole has now passed well over 5 million hits, and is getting around 1 million more a year. As before, the largest proportion of these visits by ‘real’ users (as opposed to robot web-crawlers) is to the “Day” view of the Court Booking System

Court Booking System

During the year an enhancement to the function of the Court Booking System which significantly simplifies the editing of repeat bookings for club administrators was developed and implemented.

The system usage remains stable at around the same level that it reached towards the end of the Covid outbreak a few years ago, about 40,000 booking entries per year:

