

2025 PPHB Report

The funding for the committee's previous grants of financial assistance has traditionally come from organizers and tournament directors, in the form of payments made in conjunction with the tournament rating fees. These payments are primarily made for Grand Prix tournaments, to augment the level of Grand Prix points awarded by the tournament to the top finishers. On occasion, additional smaller contributions have also been included with the rating fee payments for smaller events as well.

The Committee has approved payments for ongoing medical expenses for one applicant this year. The applicant incurred expenses in connection with representing US Chess at an international event. The Committee wishes a speedy recovery for the applicant.

The committee's report has traditionally included this excellent summary of the PPHB provided by previous chairman, IM John Donaldson:

"This amount has made the difference in many ways, from providing physical therapy not covered by medical insurance to supplying a safety net for those in danger of being forced to live on the street. The aim with the latter has been not only to meet a short-term need but also find a long-term solution. This has included assisting individuals apply for Veterans Benefits, SSI, or state and county programs as appropriate. All those granted assistance were able to get back on their feet and lead productive lives.

It behooves US Chess to look after its aging generation of professionals. We certainly owe these players a big debt of gratitude for their collective support over the decades."

The Professional Players' Health and Benefits Claims Committee is grateful for the support of the Delegates, the Executive Board, and the US Chess office staff in its efforts.

Respectfully submitted for the US Chess Professional Players' Health and Benefits Claims Committee