

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Executive Board Open Meeting, Wednesday, October 18, 2023

1. Purpose. This document captures the minutes of the Executive Board (EB) Open Session Meeting held via Zoom on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. The EB's online meetings normally are held on the second Tuesday of each month, but schedule conflicts for several EB members warranted rescheduling to the October 18 date.
2. President Randy Bauer called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm Eastern time.
 - a. He called the roll and the following EB members were present:
 - Randy Bauer (IA), President
 - Kevin Pryor (FL), Vice President (VP)
 - Chuck Unruh (OK), VP of Finance
 - Mike Hoffpauir (VA), Secretary
 - John Fernandez (MO), Member at Large
 - Lakshmana (Vish) Viswanath (TX), Member at Large
 - Leila D'Aquin (LA), Member at Large
 - Carol Meyer, Executive Director (ED)
 - b. David Hater, Member at Large, was not present and was unable to attend.
3. President Bauer asked the members present whether they had any new conflicts of interest to disclose. There were none.
4. President Bauer recognized VP of Finance (VPF) Chuck Unruh for a short financial update. VPF Unruh noted that US Chess's finances remain solid due to strong membership and activity across the adult and scholastic community, noting that revenues are "above budget" by about \$270,000. By comparison, investments are under attack due to rising interest rates, but US Chess's diverse portfolio (especially the CDs) is helping mitigate negative impacts. VPF Unruh and ED Meyer noted that US Chess is filling vacant positions, with the Director of Programs position being a current opening. ED Meyer said she is impressed with the resumes she has seen, and she expects to begin interviewing in the next 1-2 weeks followed by on boarding the selected person before the end of January 2024.
5. President Bauer noted that this week has been very busy. The EB heard an appeal on Monday, Oct 16, and on Tuesday, Oct 17, the EB met with the US Chess Scholastic Council in one of the Council's two annual meetings with the EB.
6. The Executive Board went into Closed Session at 8:16 pm.
7. The EB reconvened in Open Session at 9:30 pm Eastern time. President Bauer mentioned that the Board will meet in-person in St. Louis on 1-3 December at the US Chess Office. In addition, the Secretary read the following two motions prepared during Closed Session:
 - a. **EB24-019 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to permanently ban IM Alexey Diulger, US Chess ID 14584110 (a/k/a Alex Dugler and Alexey Diulgher), from membership in the US Chess Federation for violations of US Chess Safe Play Guidelines;

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to permanently ban IM Diulger, FIDE ID 13900730, from using his International Master title to gain entry into any US Chess-rated event; and, to permanently bar him from attending any US Chess-rated tournaments or activities sanctioned by the US Chess Federation. The Executive Board further moves to report IM Diulger's activities to FIDE (the World Chess Federation) and the Moldovan Chess Federation.

PASSED 7-0, with David Hater not present.

- b. **EB24-020 – BOARD:** The Executive Board accepts the recommendations of the US Chess Recognitions Committee to nominate IM Jeremy Silman, Charles Henry Stanley, and Bruce Pandolfini for induction into the US Chess Hall of Fame. The Executive Board further recommends two-time US Champion GM Patrick Wolff and Correspondence World Champion Jonathan Edwards for induction into the US Chess Hall of Fame.

PASSED 7-0, with David Hater not present.

8. Having heard no further business President Bauer introduced a motion to adjourn which was seconded and unanimously approved at 9:34 pm Eastern time.

Prepared by: Mike Hoffpauir, EB Secretary