

## **ACTIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS**

The Policy Board ratified its actions taken between meetings, including the following actions taken since the February meeting:

PB 96-45: Per the recommendation of Mark Glickman, a change is made in the value of K in the updating formula described in Section 6 of the 1994 Ratings Committee report from K=8 to K=2, assuming the USCF does not receive FIDE results more frequently than every six months. If the USCF were to receive the information more promptly after an event is completed, the change would be to make K=4. PASSED VIA OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE.

PB 96-46: The USCF will make a \$10,000 contribution to make possible the 1997 US Masters. PASSED VIA OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE

PB 96-47: For the 1997 US Championship and Women's Championship the prize fund shall be \$90,000 and the total budget shall be \$115,000. PASSED VIA OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE.

## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE 05/96 USCF POLICY BOARD MEETING**

The May, 1996, meeting of the Policy Board was held in Newburgh, New York. The Board would like to express its thanks to the many guests who attended the meeting, including but not limited to the following:

Doris Barry, Tony Cottell, Tom Dorsch, Joan Dubois, Carol Jarecki, Alan Kantor, Eric Johnson, Larry King, Myron Lieberman, Sonia Lynch, John McCrary, Larry Parr, Jim Pechac, Glenn Petersen, Gary Prince, Holly Prisco, Don Schultz

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1996

The Policy Board met at the Ramada Inn in Newburgh, New York. On Saturday morning, the meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM by President Denis Barry. Executive Director Al Lawrence welcomed the group to Newburgh.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Executive Director Al Lawrence, Director of Operations George Filippone, Treasurer Frank Camaratta and Jim Pechac, Chairman of the Finance Committee, contributed to this report. Treasurer Frank Camaratta stated that as of this date the USCF has a loss of approximately \$12,000 - \$13,000. He also stated that he met with the new auditors just prior to the Policy Board meeting. By the next fiscal year the USCF should be in compliance with GAAP.

### **REVENUES**

Revenues generated from memberships were reviewed. Youth memberships have seen the largest growth this year. This would indicate that there has been conversion from scholastic to youth membership. Income generated from regular memberships contributes significantly to the budget. Scholastic growth has slowed somewhat.

The fourth quarter of 1996 has been stronger than the other quarters. Additional revenues can be expected due to the fact that Informants are now legal to sell and the new clock is expected to be available shortly.

For the coming year a 5% increase in sales of books and equipment is projected. In addition, income will be generated from electronic services. One major factor is that Interplay Productions is expected to market "US Chess" as part of a games package on such services as AOL, Genie, etc. This games package is expected to be available to approximately 12 million people. It will also be available on the USCF web site. USCF will receive royalties for use of the name.

The Chess Trust has announced that it will return 90 percent of the income generated from Scholastic chess to USCF for Junior tournaments (i.e. World Youth and others).

Coming events were discussed. The FIDE knockout tournament is uncertain. The Interzonals could take place instead. Money was budgeted for whichever of those events happens, and for the FIDE Senior. In addition, money was budgeted for the FIDE Olympiad. Allowance was made for the Women's Team to have a coach. Money was also budgeted for the Euro - Disney Tournament and other Youth events..

A great deal of time was spent discussing the coming Kamsky-Karpov match, set to take place in Elista, Kalmykia, beginning June 5. The sum of \$5,000 was put into the Master's budget for this event. The Board asked that an additional \$5,000 be added for promotion of the event. Grandmaster Arnold Denker will go to Elista to assist during the match. A top priority is for the moves to be available live on the USCF Web site.

Note: As of June 6 the match began and was carried on the USCF Web site.

A recess was called at 11:50 AM and the entire group went to Al and Daphne Lawrence's new home for lunch. The meeting was called back to order at 2:30 PM. The following motion was PASSED BY ACCLAMATION:

PB 96-48 (Board): The Policy Board expresses its thanks and appreciation to Al and Daphne Lawrence for their gracious hospitality. PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

## **EXPENSES**

For the coming year, electronic expenses are expected to be fairly minimal by comparison with revenue.

Rent is a new expense. Separate quarters (approximately 3,500 square feet) are being leased for Chess Life and other publications. The plan is to expand the current warehouse space by removing a wall that separates it from the former publications quarters and adding that space (approximately 1,800 square feet) to the warehouse.

Telephone expenses are up due to evening and Saturday sales.

General repairs and maintenance were discussed. The building is overcrowded, and has many needs, among them a new roof and repairs to the outside block. The air conditioning was replaced at a cost of \$19,000. In addition, there is a need for a new furnace. The driveway needs to be sealed in several spots and the exterior woodwork is rotting. Jim Pechac addressed the Board on the concept of expensing out repairs at a set rate per year. Money for general repairs is included in the budget.

Executive Director Al Lawrence and Director of Operations George Filippone addressed the Board on the problem of overcrowding at the USCF building. They stated that Operations has no way in which to grow in the current quarters. Space limitations are so severe that records are being stored in a large storage bin outside the building. The shipping/receiving dock is jammed with incoming shipments. The Executive Director and Director of Operations stated that the real need is to purchase a new building and put the current building up for sale. Executive Director Al Lawrence and Treasurer Frank Camaratta discussed the concept of borrowing money from the LMA for a down payment to purchase a new building. The money would be repaid with interest. The proceeds of the sale of 186 Rte 9W would go directly to the LMA account

Another serious need is for computer and system upgrades. Director of Operations George Filippone has researched the possibility of procuring or leasing a server with software that will integrate most operations functions. This will make a major difference in time spent on data entry and will increase overall efficiency.

Fixed asset expenses were reviewed. The procurement of a color printer for Chess Life would be helpful. Other needs include bar code equipment for shipping and line printers for all departments.

Treasurer Frank Camaratta discussed the need for a contingency fund that would be 2% of budget. He stated that such a fund would provide a buffer.

Personnel expenses were discussed, and are approximately 23.7% of budget.

Executive Director Al Lawrence gave this personnel status report:

*Because a significant deficit has been a threat throughout this year, USCF employees have foregone normal salary adjustments. Management has taken on additional duties as attrition occurred. For example, Sales Supervisor Gloria Johnson has managed both her department and Membership Services since Assistant Director Judy Misner took over the vacant position of Warehouse Supervisor. George Filippone has assumed the additional duty of Warehouse Manager. Associate Director Holly Prisco and Executive Director Al Lawrence have divided up the duties of another vacant, full-time management position, Publications Supervisor.*

*The staff must have a salary adjustment soon, and vacant positions must be filled as quickly as possible after the start of the new fiscal year. Personnel expenses cannot continue to fall below 25.5% of total budget.*

Please note: Last year personnel expenses were 25.5% of total budget.

The need for a full time Controller was discussed. The current plan is to hire a Controller as soon as possible after July 1.

The meeting was recessed at 4:15PM in order to take a tour of the USCF office.

SUNDAY, MAY 26, 1996

## RECONSIDERATION OF PB 96-25 AND 96-29

The meeting was called to order by President Denis Barry at 9:10 AM. The first item on the agenda was reconsideration of PB 96-25: *The Policy Board authorizes the expenditure of \$30,000 from the LMA as landlord of the building to be used by June 30, 1996, for necessary capital improvements on the office building.* PASSED 5-2 (Adams, Camaratta, Ferguson, Gruenberg, Snead for; Barry, Lieberman opposed.)

A vote to reconsider passed. After some discussion the motion was reworded as follows:

PB 96-49 (Camaratta): The Policy Board recommends to the Delegates the expenditure of \$30,000 from the LMA as owner of the building to be used for the necessary capital improvements to the office building  
PASSED 6-0-1 (Adams, Camaratta, Ferguson, Gruenberg, Lieberman, Snead for; Barry abstained)

President Denis Barry issued the following statement:

*I abstained on this motion for the following reasons:*

- *Operations does not have the right to access money from LMA without the approval of the Delegates.*
- *The Fixed Asset Group of the LMA Management Committee was not consulted and has not reported as charged "advising the committee on establishing and maintaining a pro-forma lease arrangement between the LMA and USCF operations regarding land and building, spelling out the rights and responsibilities of the landlord and the tenant."*
- *To date operations has saved \$547,000 in rental fees because of the present Free Rental Arrangement. I cannot recommend that LMA also be responsible for repairs of the building, especially as a means of balancing the budget.*

The Board also voted to reconsider PB 96-29: The Policy Board authorizes the Executive Director to list the USCF building for sale at \$537,500. PASSED 7-0

The motion was reworded as follows:

PB 96-50 (Camaratta): The Policy Board recommends to the Delegates that the Executive Director be authorized to list the USCF building for sale at \$537,500. PASSED 6-1 (Adams, Camaratta, Ferguson, Gruenberg, Lieberman, Snead for; Barry against).

President Denis Barry issued the following statement: *I voted NO for this motion to put the building up for sale. It concerns me that adequate alternate methods have not been appropriately addressed. The full cost for warehousing books and equipment has still not been submitted as requested by Board members.*

*Outsourcing could be a cost effective alternative, leaving available space in our present building. There is a glut of business properties as well as a depressed real estate market in the New Windsor-Newburgh area.*

*LMA would probably not realize the value on its investment. With the additional anticipated repair costs (\$109,000) required to put the building in marketable condition, LMA would come out with a net loss. Operations proposes buying a new building before the present one is sold, encumbering the Federation for many years to come. Before taking these actions we should be sure that we have carefully viewed all of the options. I have seen no indication that operations has done so.*

*Budget discussions continued. A great deal of time was spent on the Computer Maintenance and Programming line. This goes back to the need for computer and software upgrades to save staff time and increase efficiency. Director of Operations George Filippone addressed this issue and will issue a formal report to the Board.*

Although fiscal 1997 is an eleven month year, there will be four Policy Board meetings.

A planning budget was developed for approval by the Delegates.

PB 96-51 (Board): The Policy Board accepts the budget and recommends it for approval by the Delegates. PASSED 7-0

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Denis Barry spoke about several tournaments that took place during the year. He stated that the Chess In The Schools International was well organized and well directed. Every day of the event 50 - 150 children were bussed in to observe while Grandmasters played. The following motion was proposed:

PB 96-52 (Barry): The Policy Board applauds the Chess In The Schools program. PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

The National Elementary School Championship was also discussed. Held in Tucson, Arizona, it broke all records with more than 1700 players, and was organized by Lee LaFrese and Paul Gold. The National High School Championship, held in Somerset, New Jersey, was organized by Steve Doyle. The National Junior High School Championship was held in Orlando, FL and organized by Steve Miller. The Board expressed its appreciation to the organizers for their efforts.

President Barry discussed the Kamsky - Karpov match. The original venue was Baghdad, Iraq; however, the match is now planned for Elista, Kalmykia. The Policy Board gave a round of applause to Denis Barry for his efforts in securing the match. The following motion was proposed:

PB 96-53 (Board): The Policy Board congratulates and supports Gata Kamsky, and we recommend that he win the match. PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

This concluded the President's report.

## **SCHOLASTIC GUIDELINES AND CHESS TRUST**

Member-At-Large Robert Ferguson addressed the Board on scholastic input. The scholastic community would like to field people to attend scholastic events. In addition, they would like to have those expenses earmarked for the administration of the Chess Trust spelled out. The office has committed to do this. No action was taken on the Scholastic guidelines.

The meeting recessed at 11:03 AM and resumed at 11:21 AM.

## **BINFO SYSTEM**

Secretary Rachel Lieberman introduced the concept of placing BINFO summaries on the USCF Website. The following motion was introduced:

PB 96-54 (Lieberman): A list of all non-confidential, non-copyrighted documents added to the BINFO system on or after January 1, 1996, shall be placed in an archive on the USCF Web site. The Web site should have an online order form for requesting copies of BINFO documents. PASSED 7-0

## RECONSIDERATION OF PB 96-34

The Board voted to reconsider PB 96-34: In round robins or matches a player may not gain rating points against a player currently at his rating floor. PASSED 7-0

The following motion was proposed:

PB 96-55 (Adams): PB 96-34 is tabled. PASSED 5-2 (Adams, Barry, Ferguson, Lieberman, Snead for; Camaratta, Gruenberg opposed).

## CHESS LIFE

Chess Life Editor Glenn Petersen submitted a planning schedule for a one-year period. Covers and feature articles for the coming year were reviewed. The Board took the position that there should be maximum coverage of the Kamsky - Karpov match.

Chess Life has a newsstand circulation of 6000 copies. The goal is to increase that number.

At 12:21 PM there was a recess for a working lunch. The meeting was called back to order at 12:56 PM.

Chess Life talks continued. There was some discussion about controversy in the magazine. Some people felt that both sides should be presented if a controversial article is going to be printed. Grandmaster Patrick Wolff has submitted an article for Chess Life. There was general agreement that controversial material can be good, however fact must clearly be distinguished from opinion.

## FIDE

Member-At-Large Fan Adams discussed the recent FIDE conference that was held in Utrecht and attended by 16 European nations, the US, and Canada. The conference was held in response to the Baghdad bid for the FIDE World Championship. The meeting was convened by the Royal Dutch Chess Federation. Recommendations from the meeting were printed in a summary:

1. All Federations not satisfied with the decisions, actions, and services of the FIDE administration and officers should withhold their payments to FIDE with the exception of those payments for services really received (e.g. for titles) or to maintain the membership rights.
2. In relation to the coming election of the Presidential Board a Nomination Committee will be formed which shall make a proposal for a Presidential ticket....Members of the Committee shall be Ditt, Gelfer, and Loewenthal.
3. .FIDE should be preserved; however, a Committee is appointed to evaluate alternatives to the present situation....Members of the Committee are as follows: Adams, Ditt, Einarsson, Loewenthal, and Makarov....

Member-At-Large Fan Adams stated FIDE is an example in which one member one vote has not worked. Alternatives for FIDE governance were discussed.

## US CHESS ONLINE STATUS REPORT

Myron Lieberman, Chairman of the Computer Communications Committee, and Gary Prince, USCF Webmaster, contributed to the report. George Filippone also contributed.

Computer Communications issues were discussed. The Board stressed that the premium Web site must be established, the uschess.org domain which was registered last September, should be used, and a secure server must be obtained. Urgency was placed on web coverage of the Kamsky - Karpov match, an online

catalog, and online processing of catalog sales, memberships, rating reports/fees and other financial transactions. The office responded immediately to this and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Please note that the Kamsky -Karpov match is being covered on the USCF Web site ([www.uschess.org](http://www.uschess.org)). Response has been very good. After 4 games the web site has been accessed over a quarter of a million times. Special thanks to all who have helped make this milestone a reality. The US Championship, the US Amateur playoffs, and other major events will also be covered on the web site..

George Filippone stated that one thing that we get from the Interplay online agreement is access to 12 million people through the major online services.

At 3:00 PM the Board went into closed session to discuss legal issues. Tom Dorsch, David Rider, Hanon Russell, and Don Schultz, were present during the closed session. The meeting was open once again at 6:30 PM. The following motions arose:

PB 96-56 (Board): The Policy Board gives the Executive Director the authority to enter into a multi-year contract regarding a new children's chess product. PASSED 7-0

PB 96-57 (Board): The Policy Board recommends to the Delegates approval of the following recommendations from the Chairman of the Legal Task Force and outside Counsel: Reorganize the corporate structure of the USCF which may include, but not necessarily be limited to, a change in the state of incorporation. PASSED 7-0

## TOURNAMENT STANDARDS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Member-At-Large Bill Snead presented the Tournament Standards Subcommittee Report. The first issue was that of qualifying for the World Youth. The Board felt that a player should play in the lowest age category for which they qualify. Jennie Frenklakh is still under sixteen and could play in the under sixteen category. The following motion was proposed:

PB 96-58 (Snead/ Lawrence): In the World Youth Championships participants will be invited to the youngest age categories for which they qualify. PASSED 4-0-3 (Barry, Camaratta, Lieberman, Snead for; Adams, Ferguson, Gruenberg abstain).

As it was 7:00 PM, a working dinner break was called. The meeting resumed at 7:10 PM.

The next issue on the Tournament Standards Subcommittee Report was that of the supplement used for scholastic chess. The February rating supplement should be used for future Spring Nationals, and must be used for the Supernationals to be held in the Spring of 1997.

The Board discussed the fact that the Rules Committee clarified the wording of several rules changes passed in Concord: Because PB 96-42 listed the original wording of the rules as passed in Concord, the sense of the Board was to accept the changes as published in the February rating supplement. A listing of the rules follows:

### Rules Effective January 1, 1996

5E Replace the current language with the following: "The standard timers for games not concluded by a sudden death time control are either a digital clock with time-delay capability or a mechanical apparatus consisting of two clocks that tell time by means of hands moving on a dial (analog clocks). See Chapter 4, 'Equipment Standards', for further discussion of clocks."

5Fa Add a new section:

**5Fa.** The tournament director has the right to shorten the basic time control, in minutes, by the time delay used, in seconds. Examples: Clocks for G/60 with 5-second time delay (t/d5) may be set at 55 minutes instead of 60; G/30 t/d5 may be set at 25 minutes and still be rated as G/30; G/10 t/d3 may be set at 7 minutes.

“There is no requirement to advertise this option in advance. It may also be used for games starting later than the official starting time of any particular round even when not used otherwise.”

5Fb Add a new section:

**5Fb.** A game with a mixed time control, e.g. 50 moves in two hours followed by sudden death in 30 minutes, is to use a time-delay clock set with 5-second delay from the beginning of the game, if available. However, if the game starts with an analog clock it should remain, except in the procedure described in rule 14H4E.”

42D Add the following before the current language: “Digital clocks with time delay capability are fully acceptable as tournament equipment. If such clocks are used in competition the providers should explain all relevant operational facts to the tournament director and each opponent; relevant operational facts to be explained include, but are not limited to, the signal at the end of the time control period, any display change from minutes to seconds, and any resetting that occurs at the start of a new control period.”

In the current language, add “ without time delay capability” after “Digital clocks” in the first sentence.

42E Replace the current language with: “Conventional analog clocks and digital clocks with time delay capability are equally ‘standard’ equipment. Both of these are more ‘standard’ than digital clocks without time delay capability, and may be used even if black supplies and prefers a digital clock without time delay capability.”

14He Add a new section:

**14H4e.** When a player having less than five minutes remaining claims a draw on the basis of insufficient losing chances, and the director thinks the claim is neither clearly correct (rule 14H4a) nor clearly incorrect (rule 14H4b) but is instead unclear, the director may place a digital clock with time-delay capability on the game, setting it as follows: The Claimant gets half of his or her remaining time, up to but not exceeding one minute; the opponent’s time is unadjusted; and the time delay is set for five seconds. The claim is treated as a draw offer, which the opponent may accept or deny. If the opponent accepts the draw offer, the game is over. If the opponent refuses the draw offer, the game continues, with the director counting for 50 moves if necessary. Penalties for rule infractions remain standard. The claimant may win, lose, or draw the game.

“This is a recommended option, and is to replace the procedures described in rules 14H4c and 14H4d whenever possible.”

14H1 Add a new paragraph before the current language: “This procedure is not available for games in which a digital clock is being used with time delay, whether the game begins with such a clock or one is added during the game (see rule 14H4e). If such a clock is not being used, or such a clock is being used without the time delay feature in operation, the following procedure is available.”

There was some discussion about the fact that the 1998 US Open will be held in Hawaii and some youngsters might not be able to attend the Denker Tournament if it is also held there. It was determined that this is an issue for the next Board.

## CHESS IN EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Member-At-Large Robert Ferguson discussed the Chess In Education workshops that were held at the Spring Nationals. A workshop is being planned for presentation to the NEA. It will be held in Washington, DC.

One wish of the Chess In Education Committee would be to take the workshop on the road.

## COMMITTEE CHANGES

### The following changes to Committees were proposed

PB 96-59 (Ferguson): Gilbert Gosselin, Danny Kopec, and Beatriz Marinello are added to the Chess In Education Committee. PASSED 7-0
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PB 96-60 (Snead): Jim Eade, Tim Just, and Alexey Root are added to the Club Development Committee. PASSED 7-0
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## NORM AND TITLE ISSUES

Treasurer Frank Camaratta introduced norm and title issues. A majority of the Ratings Committee feels that norms should be in effect for three years, after which they expire. Floors were discussed. The Committee supports eliminating rating floors

A list of titles was presented. This title system was described in the 1994 Ratings Committee report and must be approved before it can be implemented. Another issue is to propose extra criteria for earning titles. There was concern by some that the present norm and title system is not well understood.

Prison ratings were discussed. The recommendation of the Ratings Committee is to disallow any prisoner from appearing on any Top 50 list and to treat their ratings as Provisional based on one game once they no longer have a USCF Prison membership. Executive Director Al Lawrence stated that he would like to refer the issue of prison ratings to Counsel.

No action was taken by the Board. These issues are expected to be presented at the Delegates' Meeting.

## US SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Secretary Rachel Lieberman recommended that the matter of age requirement for the US Senior be referred to the Senior Committee. The following motion was proposed.

PB 96-61 (Lieberman): The matter of age requirement for the US Senior shall be referred to the Senior Committee for report back to the Board at the August meeting. PASSED 7-0
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Note: There is currently an ADM rescinding all changes that were made to the US Senior Championship at the November meeting of the Policy Board.

## TOURNAMENT RE-ENTRIES

Member-At-Large Robert Ferguson brought up the concept of Tournament re-entries. There has been a request for a clarification of Section 28 S in the rulebook. One proposal for wording is as follows: "Any player wishing to re-enter any USCF rated tournament must understand that he or she must abandon any previous schedule or result in that tournament in order to re-enter." This issue will be sent to Carol Jarecki for consideration in the Rules Workshop.

## MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

The One Member One Vote Membership Survey was discussed. Tim Redman, Chairman of the Committee to implement the survey, has a workshop scheduled at the August meeting. He would like to get a consensus from the Delegates and, at the same time, would like to bring them on board with what he has accomplished to date. It was determined that implementation of the survey shall be a matter for the next Board.



## ALTERNATIVE MEMBERSHIPS

The concept of a membership without a magazine was discussed. A majority of the Board feels strongly that all memberships must include a means for the USCF to communicate with its members.

## WOMEN'S CHESS COMMITTEE REQUESTS

The requests made by the Women's Chess Committee were considered. As a result, the following actions were taken:

1. A coach and suitable honoraria were provided for the Women's Olympiad. A stipend was provided for the Women's Interzonal.
2. Jackets will be provided for US Chess teams in international competitions.
3. Players will be notified of national and international coaching assignments.
4. Submissions to the Club Development Newsletter by any group are welcome.

Other requests were reviewed. Women who feel that they may have won less under the new system should contact Al Lawrence. USCF's clear intention is to see that participants do at least as well under the new prize structure. Executive Director Al Lawrence will examine the new prize structure for the US Women's Championship.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

At this time Executive Director Al Lawrence gave his report and covered those issues not previously covered by other discussions.

A "Super Disk" on CD ROM will be made available. It is a cumulative ratings database being developed on CD ROM that will archive all rated players on USCF's database (over 150,000 players).

The Tournament Administrator program will be updated.

Scholastic promotions are currently being offered. The goal is to reach individuals of all ages with the thought of eventually converting them to regular members.

The Professional Players' Health and Benefit Fund still contains \$50,000. It was determined that this is an issue for the new Board.

Suspensions were discussed. Vice President Fred Gruenberg commended Judy Misner for her work with suspensions. The following motion was proposed:

PB 96-62 (Gruenberg): Pending completion of due process, Bob Crenshaw and John DeMastre are suspended. PASSED 7-0

Treasurer Frank Camaratta and Executive Director Al Lawrence will write an ADM to present to the Delegates for the purchase of a new building.

National tournaments were discussed. The 1996 US Open had a problem develop at the last minute with space in the hotel. Helen Hinshaw was able to resolve this problem. The following motion was proposed:

PB 96-63 (Board): The Policy Board expresses its thanks to Helen Hinshaw for her efforts to resolve the conflict that arose with the 1996 US Open. PASSED 7-0

The 1998 US Open was discussed. Although it will be held in Hawaii, the specific hotel has not yet been picked.

Options for the National Open were granted through the year 2000. The following motion was proposed:

PB 96-64 (Board): The Policy Board approves the options for the National Open as requested by Al Losoff and Fred Gruenberg for the years 1998, 1999, and 2000. PASSED 6-0-1 (Adams, Barry, Camaratta, Ferguson, Lieberman, Snead for; Gruenberg abstained).

The 1997 and 1998 US Championships were discussed. Fred Gruenberg had submitted an option for 1997 and 1998; however, he withdrew it due to the fact that it was determined that this will be an issue for the next Board.

The report of the Executive Director ended at this time.

## AWARDS

The Board went into closed session at 9:20 PM to determine awards. The following motion was introduced from the closed session:

PB 96-65 (Board): The following awards are to be presented at the awards banquet in August:

Chess City of the Year	Tucson, AZ; New York City, NY
Committee of the Year	Chess In Education Committee
Distinguished Service Award	Tabled until the August Policy Board meeting
Frank J. Marshall Ambassador Award	Grandmaster Arnold Denker
Meritorious Service Award	Paul Gold, Myron Lieberman
Organizer of the Year	Nicholas Conticello/ Manhattan Chess Club
Outstanding Career Achievement Award	Burt Hochberg
Special Services Award	Herb Hickman, Hanon Russell, Helen Warren
PASSED 7-0	

Note: The Secretary will write to all Awards winners, and we hope to see them at the Awards luncheon in August.

As this concluded all agenda business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 PM in memory of Ed Butler (FL) and Robert Montgomery (TX) and with thanks to Holly Prisco and the staff at the USCF. It was announced that on Monday there would be an opportunity to drive by a potential new site for the USCF.

MONDAY, MAY 27, 1996

The Board and guests had the opportunity to view the outside of two buildings that could be potential new homes for USCF..