

## USCF POLICY BOARD PROCEEDINGS

### ACTIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS

The Policy Board considered the following motions between meetings:

**PB 98-53 (Dorsch):** The Policy Board, through the Secretary, will send appropriate condolences to Past President Tim Redman upon the loss of his father. The Policy Board will direct the office to send appropriate condolences and a floral arrangement on behalf of the USCF to the Redman family in sympathy for their loss. **PASSED VIA OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE**

**PB 98-54 (Dorsch):** The May, June Policy Board meeting will be held in Newark, New Jersey, at the host hotel for the 1998 CHESSathon. The office will coordinate with organizer Denis Barry to make the arrangements as soon as practicable. **ONE OBJECTION RECEIVED** (Don Schultz objected on the grounds that the details of the arrangements should be worked out between the office, Tom Dorsch, and CHESSathon organizer Denis Barry.)

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE 05/98 POLICY BOARD MEETING

The Policy Board held its spring, 1998, meeting in Newark, New Jersey, in conjunction with the 1998 CHESSathon. The meeting was held on Sunday, May 31, and Monday, June 1, 1998.

The Board expresses its appreciation to Denis and Doris Barry, organizers of the 1998 CHESSathon, and to Herman Drenth and the New Jersey State Chess Federation for their outstanding hospitality. In addition, the Board thanks the many guests and spectators at the meeting, and the staff members who assisted. Spectators at the meeting included, but were not limited to the following: Denis and Doris Barry, AZ; Barbara DeMaro, NY; E. Steven Doyle, NJ; Herman Drenth, NJ; Dr. Leroy Dubeck, NJ; Steve Immitt, NY; Richard Koepcke, CA/N; Myron Lieberman, AZ; Sonia Lynch, NY; James Pechac, OH; Glenn Petersen, NY; Tim Redman, TX; Sophia Rohde, NY; Sam Sloan, NY; Bob Smith, FL; Carolyn Withgitt, CA/N

### SUNDAY, MAY 31, 1998

#### OPENING

President Donald Schultz called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM on Sunday, May 31, 1998. Herman Drenth, President of the New Jersey State Chess Federation, welcomed the Board and guests to New Jersey.

President Schultz spoke about the 1998 FIDE World Championship, which will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, in December. The USCF has pledged cooperation and support for this event.

Along with FIDE Delegate Steve Doyle and Executive Director Michael Cavallo, President Schultz attended FIDE's Executive Council held in Bled, Slovenia. He stated that he had talks with Kirsan Iljumzhinov and is very hopeful for a good relationship.

The upcoming Olympiad was also discussed.

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Michael Cavallo began his report by introducing a planning budget for the Board to review. Revenues were considered first. Actual eleven-month figures were compared for April 1997 vs. April 1998. In general, the trends are favorable. Increased numbers of regular memberships are projected.

Other items were also considered. The Executive Director stated that we have to be competitive in book and equipment sales. Members are currently being offered a ten percent discount. Sales on the website are rising. We appear to be well positioned for Internet sales.

Newsstand coverage for Chess Life was discussed, and is increasing. The current newsstand price for Chess Life is \$3.75 per issue, or \$45.00 per year.

Tournament Life Announcements have generally been six lines or less. The need for simple acknowledgement forms was discussed.

Open and invitational tournaments were discussed. Some are still in the process of being closed financially. The projection is for all tournaments to be closed by the end of July and in time for the Delegates' Meeting. It appears that there has been a slight decrease in Open tournaments.

Chess Trust administration was examined. A total of \$18,000 was charged this year, while \$8,000 will be charged next year. It is hoped that the Trust will put additional resources into scholastic programs. It is in our best interest to get more donations to the Chess Trust

A break was called at 10:53 AM. The meeting resumed at 11:10 AM.

Expenses were reviewed. Printing costs have been helped considerably by long term agreements. The number of pages in School Mates has been increased from twenty to twenty eight.

With regard to book and equipment sales, improvement on sales, but not necessarily on margins, is projected. Most prices remain the same. Catalogs are sent out in Chess Life. Scholastic catalogs have also been mailed.

Website expenses and enhancements were considered. Mike Cavallo stated that he would like to see more simulcast over the Internet. Internet sales are driven by changes in the marketplace. An additional \$10,000 was added to web services.

With regard to personnel, some positions are being shifted in order to give increased support to other positions. The goal is to use staff in the most effective manner. The responsibilities of the position of Scholastic Director are growing rapidly. A cost of living adjustment of 3% to 5% for staff is projected.

Other expenses were reviewed. Professional fees have been cut, and it is expected that these cuts will continue. Chess Life production equipment has been upgraded, and the new phone system is complete. The Executive Director stated that we have made significant improvements in the areas of bad debt and inventory.

With regards to insurance, some policies have been dropped at considerable savings. Executive Assistant Barbara DeMaro was commended for her handling of insurance issues.

Mike Cavallo expects that credit card fees will be lower. Policy Board expenses have been lower.

The Executive Director proposed the following motion:

**PB 98-55 (Cavallo):** The budget is accepted with a change of \$10,000 added to web services and appropriate corresponding changes made to bottom line figures. **PASSED 7-0**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Tom Dorsch stated that an aggressive growth policy is needed, and that he is concerned that we may lose members to the Internet Chess Club.

In other matters, Treasurer Dorsch recommended the hiring of a number two individual in the office, and flexibility in the budget. He also encouraged the formation of a contingency fund.

Executive Director Michael Cavallo was asked about his thoughts regarding reduction of Adult Dues. He stated that he would offer a promotional membership involving a reduction of ten percent to any individual who signs up with a minimum one-year automatic renewal and that it would become available beginning September 1, 1998. The Executive Director further stated that this would be good for the long-term growth of the organization.

Treasurer Tom Dorsch recommended a \$35 online credit card renewal that he stated would help in lowering processing costs.

Foreign assets were discussed. The Finance Committee voted 4 – 1 to hold onto our foreign assets.

A five-year plan will be written and presented to the Delegates for review. Treasurer Tom Dorsch, President Donald Schultz, and Executive Director Mike Cavallo were named to form the subcommittee that will write the plan.

A break was called at 12:55 PM. The Board went into closed session at 1:20 PM.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Recipients for awards given by the Policy Board were selected. Recipients are as follows:

- Chess City of the Year Peoria, AZ (Mayor John Keegan)
- Committee of the Year Internet Committee (Doris Barry, AZ, Chairperson)
- Distinguished Service Award Glenn Petersen, NY
- Frank J. Marshall Ambassador Award Grandmaster Arthur Bisguier, NY
- Meritorious Service Award James Bolton, CT; Richard Verber, IL
- Organizer of the Year Bob Tanner, AZ
- Outstanding Career Achievement Award Steve Frymer, MA
- Grandmaster of the Year Award Grandmaster Joel Benjamin, NY
- Special Services Award Harold Stenzel, NY; Gary and Addie Prince, NJ

Congratulations to the Awards recipients, and a special thanks to each of you.

The following motion (based on recommendations submitted by Donald Schultz and Denis Barry) came from closed session:

**PB 98-56 (Board)** The "*Honorary Society of Chess Mates*" is herewith established. The five charter members are Leah Koltanowski, Nancy Edmondson, Nina Denker, Carrie Marshall, and Ethel Collins.

Each charter member will receive duplicate plaques, one to the recipient and the other to their corresponding mate at the Hall of Fame.

Additional members are elected each year, during the annual Delegates' Meeting, by a committee composed of those past USCF Presidents present at the meeting. The USCF President, at the time, serves as the liaison to the committee. Each member receives a certificate of recognition from the USCF.

### **PASSED 7-0**

A break was called at 3:45 PM. The meeting resumed in Open Session at 4:00 PM.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (continued)**

Following closed session, Executive Director Michael Cavallo continued his report. Software packages for the new computer systems were reviewed. The USCF has two operations, book and equipment sales and memberships. The goal is for the new accounting package to be more flexible and have more power. Mike Cavallo stated that Richard Koepecke (CA/N) will go to the office to examine software packages and offer recommendations. Thanks, Richard.

### **MOTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING**

At this time, the following motions were considered:

**PB 98-57 (Dorsch):** It is recognized that it is important, valuable, and in the best interests of the USCF for

members of the Policy Board to increase their knowledge of new developments in the areas of Rules and Director Certification; to improve their understanding of Rules and Director Certification; and to inform themselves about Rules and Director Certification in order to perform their review responsibility in accord with Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest #39, BRC Bylaws Article XIII (DM 84 –30 in BINFO 97 – 278). Therefore, the PB liaison (s) to the Rules Committee and to the Tournament Director Certification Committee shall arrange to have the decisions by these Committees timely introduced into the BINFO system for circulation to and review by all members of the Board. **PASSED 7-0**

**PB 98-58 (Dorsch):** Policy Board members will be included on the distribution list for press releases.

**PASSED 7-0**

**PB 98-59 (Dorsch):** WHEREAS the provision of free advertising or free editorial space to a tiny number of large organizers is welfare for the influential few; and WHEREAS special designations (such as "heritage") are a ruse to gain profitable subsidies for organizers of this country's most profitable tournaments;

And WHEREAS it is unfair to the overwhelming majority of organizers/ affiliates to employ their dues money to increase the profitability of the richest few organizers/ affiliates;

And WHEREAS the USCF Bylaws [Article II (B)(2)] require that "no part [of the Federation's] contributions, dues, or net income shall inure to the benefit of any individual...";

THEREFORE the only tournaments which shall receive free editorial promotion or advertising space in Chess Life must meet all three of the following criteria:

- The tournament must be a USCF national event.
- The tournament must be awarded through open bidding.
- The USCF must be a percentage partner in the profit of the tournament. MOTION NOT VOTED ON

PB 79-13, WHICH DEFINED American Classic Tournaments, was discussed, as was the concept of special benefits for special tournaments. Member-At-Large Fan Adams offered the following substitute, which was accepted:

**PB 98-60 (Adams):** PB 79-13 is revoked. **PASSED 4 – 2 - 1**

(Adams, Dorsch, Eade, Schultz in favor; Lieberman, Scott opposed; Goichberg abstained)

Please note: PB 79-13 was later reinstated without mandated special benefits. It was determined that the Editor would make editorial decisions. Member-At-Large Jim Eade offered, but then withdrew the following motion: *All Board motions involving the content of Chess Life are revoked.*

The next motions were as follows

**PB 98-61(Schultz):** Transportation, hotel, and per diem expenses are authorized for Blue Ribbon Chairman Mr. Woody Harris so that he can participate in the Blue Ribbon implementation discussion at the US Open in Hawaii. MOTION TABLED

Secretary Rachel Lieberman offered a friendly amendment that reimbursement be for transportation only. It was accepted. Treasurer Tom Dorsch raised the point that this may not impact whether or not Mr. Harris will attend the meeting. After some discussion, Member-At-Large Garret Scott moved to table.

**PB 98-62 (Scott):** PB 98-61 is tabled. **PASSED 6-1**

(Dorsch, Eade, Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz, Scott in favor; Adams opposed)

**PB 98-63 (Goichberg):** The Policy Board creates a new national tournament, the US Amateur Three Player Team Championship. The first such event will be held between May and November 1999, and the bidding deadline is October 15, 1998. Bids from areas lacking existing US Amateur team tournaments will be preferred. The Events Committee is asked to make any suggestions it believes appropriate regarding tournament format. **PASSED 5 – 0 –2**

(Adams, Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz, Scott in favor; Dorsch, Eade abstained)

### **CHESS LIFE**

Editor Glenn Petersen gave a report to the Board and answered questions from spectators. Some discussion took place regarding recommendations and features for the magazine. The Editor stated that every year he makes a plea to the Grandmasters asking for schedules and recommendations for ways in which Chess Life can assist them. He needs their responses in order to provide coverage for them.

### **US CHAMPIONSHIP**

Sophia Rohde, Chairperson of the US Championship Committee, came before the Board to make recommendations regarding the tournament and to ask for Board input regarding changes. Format was discussed. In general, the Board favors the current system. As the 1998 Championship is a FIDE Zonal Event, Sophia Rohde stated that her committee would devise a formula for determining the US qualifiers and needs to know the number of seeds as soon as possible. She also stated that the Committee requested at least a 6% increase in funding (prize fund). The following motion was proposed:

**PB 98-64 (Board):** The prize fund for the US Championship will be increased by \$10,000 in the 1998 – 99 budget. **PASSED 7-0**

Please Note: It was determined that the money could be proportionately divided between the overall US Championship and the Women's Championship.

The following items, introduced by Sophia Rohde, were referred to Mike Cavallo:

- State-of-the-art chess and demonstration equipment (such as touch sensory boards and digital clocks) should be available for the US Championship.
- The Committee would like to have the matter of sponsorship for the US Championship re-examined.
- The US Championship should be covered in Chess Life, as well as promoted to other "mainstream" outside media.

Executive Director Mike Cavallo stated that he would examine the concept of every Grandmaster having a separate page and picture on the USCF website.

### **INTERNET COMMITTEE REPORT**

Doris Barry, Chairperson of the USCF Internet Committee, gave a report to the Board in which she stated that the Tournament Administrator program is being rewritten. Richard Koepcke (CA/N), a member of the Internet Committee, led a discussion regarding the Tournament Administrator program. He stated that the long-term goal is to put it on the website, as well as make it available through the office. A set of Tournament Administrator specifications, written by Richard Koepcke, was distributed.

Swiss Sys, a pairing program developed by Thad Suits (MT), was also discussed. The Internet Committee recommended that the USCF purchase Swiss Sys in order to provide another option to members.

### **FIDE ISSUES**

A break was called at 6:17 PM. The Board went into closed session at 7:00 PM to discuss USCF representation in FIDE. Motions resulting from these discussions were read aloud on Monday morning. (Please refer to PB 98-65, 98-66, and 98-67).

### **WORKING DINNER**

The meeting re-opened at 7:46 PM for a working dinner. Jim Pechac (OH), Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented a report prepared by Mike Carr (CA/S) and himself, regarding the financials from the 1997 K – 12 Championship. Some funds were lost from this tournament, and more formal accounting procedures were recommended. Steve Doyle (NJ) addressed the group on this issue.

The meeting was recessed at 9:13 PM.

### **MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1998**

President Donald Schultz opened the meeting at 9:00 AM. The first item of business was the reading aloud of three motions that had come from closed session discussions Sunday evening. (Note: Garrett Scott's vote was recorded after the fact).

**PB 98-65 (Board):** The Policy Board endorses Steve Doyle for a position on the FIDE Presidential Board in the forthcoming FIDE election in 1998. **PASSED 7-0**

**PB 98-66 (Board):** The Policy Board appoints Tim Redman as Counselor for the 1998 FIDE Congress

**PASSED 7-0**

**PB 98-67 (Board):** Following the advice of Steve Doyle, the Policy Board appoints Tim Redman as FIDE Delegate, to take office during the 1998 FIDE meeting, at an appropriate time. **PASSED 7-0**

### **US OPEN – RENO**

President Donald Schultz requested that the office obtain the necessary commitments for needed backup space to handle the 1999 Delegates' Meeting. He also requested a designation of the rooms that will be used for the meeting workshops.

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There was some discussion regarding an Ethics complaint that has been filed against Tom Dorsch by Bill Goichberg, following a series of Internet postings. Member-At-Large Jim Eade requested that the complaint be withdrawn on the grounds that any decision by the Ethics Committee can be appealed to the Policy Board. In addition, the Code of Conduct passed at the 1997 Delegates' Meeting has no enforcement provision until the Delegates name the committee.

It was suggested that the complaint be given to the Board for review. Another suggestion was to work with a mediator acceptable to both parties. No Board actions were taken at this time.

**ACTION ITEMS**

Board Action Items were reviewed. Please note: Some items have been removed from the chart. Completed items are listed (prior to being removed) for the record.

**Revised June 11, 1998**

**BOARD MEMBER ACTION ITEMS**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>WHO/WHEN</b>
8/97	Don Schultz and Bill Goichberg will continue to explore options re: Doubles.	The intent is to spotlight Doubles as a way to increase participation in chess, particularly among females.	Don Schultz Bill Goichberg Ongoing
11/97	Changes to the employee handbook will be circulated.	Copies were distributed to the Board.	Completed.
11/97	The matter of separate Chess Coach awards will be examined.	This will be discussed at the Scholastic workshop in August.	Garrett Scott 8/98
2/98	An activity requirement for Olympiad participation will be considered.	Jim Eade and Don Schultz will submit a proposal to the Board that will include men as well as women.	Jim Eade Don Schultz 8/98
2/98	A national mailing was targeted to City Park and Recreation Departments	130 letters were sent re chess events and clubs as safe haven for children and adults.	Rachel Lieberman Completed
2/98	The Treasurer will present special reports to the Board.	The LMA was discussed. A report on the Chess Trust is forthcoming.	Tom Dorsch 8/98
2/98	Input from the Master's Affairs and Scholastic Committees will be sought re the Life Achievement Proposal of the Ratings Committee	Master's Affairs feedback will be forthcoming. Scholastic feedback was mixed. In general, elementary schools were in favor; secondary schools	Jim Eade

	and the Policy Board Life Achievement Addendum.	were opposed to the Life Achievement Addendum.	Garrett Scott  8/98  (See PB 98 - 34)
2/98	Feedback was sought from the Ratings Committee. The issue is item 3 of the Policy Board Life Achievement Addendum	The Rating Committee proposal (except for display language) will be put on the Agenda for the Delegates' Meeting.	Bill Goichberg  8/98
2/98	Feedback was sought from the Scholastic Committee. At issue is PB 98-50 re Home Schooled Teams and ways to integrate them into national scholastic events.	The Committee acknowledged that the movement is growing. The Board endorsed the concept of Home Schooled teams participating in national scholastic competitions.	Garrett Scott  Completed
5/98	An Internet Chess League made up of approximately ten teams is planned for the fall.	League play is planned for fall, 1998. This is a project of the Internet Committee.	Tom Dorsch  8/98

**BOARD MEMBER/ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION ITEMS**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>WHO/WHEN</b>
5/97	Tom Dorsch will assist Mike Cavallo to upgrade phone and computer systems.	The new phone system has been installed. The new computer system is being installed.	Tom Dorsch  phone-completed  8/98 computer
8/97	Jim Eade will recommend that the Annual Report be split into a corporate report and a report for the Delegates. Completed	The Secretary and office will produce a special <u>PBN</u> with May minutes, the Agenda for the Delegates' Meeting, and other items.	Rachel Lieberman  8/98
11/97	Garrett Scott and Mike Cavallo will review the Volunteer Intern Program. Several volunteers have already made contributions.	This has been done in the past on a project by project basis, and will be done in the future on an as needed basis by the office.	Garrett Scott  Completed
11/97	Fan Adams & Mike Cavallo will draft a five-year plan for the Delegates' Meeting. Fan Adams has prepared recommendations.	Mike Cavallo, Don Schultz, and Tom Dorsch will develop the plan.  It will focus on needs and goals. Fan Adams will assist.	Don Schultz  Tom Dorsch  Fan Adams  8/98



11/97	Jim Eade and Mike Cavallo will develop a draft list of ED criteria.	The list was reviewed by the Board at the May meeting.	Jim Eade Completed
11/97	All PB expenses will be listed in the <u>PBN</u> .	Going forward, all expenses paid by the office will be listed.	Rachel Lieberman Ongoing
2/98	Garrett Scott (Scholastic Comm) and Mike Cavallo will examine the concept of a scholastic rulebook.	The Committee saw this as a worthwhile project. The project will be continued if copyrights permit.	Garrett Scott 8/98
5/98	Feedback was sought from the Finance Committee and the Grandmaster Affairs Committee re: payments to Grandmasters	The fund contains \$80,000. This amount is too small for payments. Options will be explored to build up the value of the fund.	Tom Dorsch Mike Cavallo 8/98
5/98	Methods will be developed to correct (sandbagging) problems caused by inaccurate ratings or extraordinary rating fluctuations.	The Ratings Committee will develop recommendations, along with the Executive Director and Technical Director.	Bill Goichberg Mike Cavallo Ernie Schlich 8/98

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ OFFICE ACTION ITEMS**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>WHO/WHEN</b>
8/97	Mike Cavallo will write a policy re suspensions. Completed.	A procedure has been written and distributed for Board review.	Mike Cavallo 8/98
8/97	Input is being sought from USCF members in two areas: Governance (OMOV) and Random Feedback.	Members were given an opportunity to provide feedback re OMOV. Results will be tabulated June 18. Random feedback surveys are forthcoming.	Mike Cavallo Ongoing
2/98	USCF will partner with outside organizations and agencies to develop discounted membership programs.	A discounted adult membership that could be applied to members as well as outside agencies was proposed. (See Treasurer's Report)	Mike Cavallo Completed
2/98	The Chairman of the Ratings Committee was requested to poll the committee.	In an effort to increase the accuracy of Quick Chess ratings, the k will be increased from .6 to 1.0.	Mike Cavallo 8/98

5/98	Feedback was sought re the recommendation that: changes in USCF rules since the publication of the rulebook will appear in the TLA section of <u>Chess Life</u> .	The Publications Committee felt that outside legislating of <u>Chess Life</u> should not occur. Ensuring whether this happens will become the responsibility of the office.	Mike Cavallo Ongoing
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With regard to the issue of dollar-floors and sandbagging, the following motion was proposed:

**PB 98-68 (Goichberg):** The Ratings Committee will develop, in consultation with the Executive and Technical Directors, methods to test the reliability of rating information, with the goal of detecting and correcting situations where a member's rating is inaccurate due to errors in the tournament report or extraordinary fluctuations in results.

This proposal is in response to the Board's desire to abolish dollar-floors when an acceptable alternate method to combat sandbagging is found. **PASSED 7 - 0**

With regard to the issue of Home Schooled Teams (PB 98-50) the following motion was proposed:

**PB 98-69 (Eade):** The Policy Board endorses the concept of Home Schooled teams participating in national scholastic competitions. **PASSED 6 - 0 -1**

(Adams, Dorsch, Eade, Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz in favor; Scott abstained).

A break was called between 10:50 AM and 11:21 AM.

### **MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

Member-At-Large Garrett Scott recommended that word-processing be made available during Board meetings.

The concept of a stenographer preparing transcripts of Policy Board meetings was discussed. Transcripts would be distributed to Board members. This issue will be discussed further at the Delegates' Meeting.

### **AMATEUR TEAM FINALS**

The 1998 Amateur Team Finals will take place over the Internet. For this year the office has determined that over the board competition is too expensive.

As it was lunchtime (12:00), the Board and spectators participated in a working lunch.

### **PERSONNEL AND COMMITTEE MOTIONS**

Jim Eade offered the following motions regarding personnel and committees, with discussion and rewording in some cases: (Please Note: Some motions that were originally submitted were withdrawn).

**PB 98-70 (Eade):** The Executive Director is encouraged to employ event organizers as part of the organization's long term strategic initiatives. **PASSED 7 - 0**

**PB 98-71 (Eade):** The Executive Director is encouraged to solicit the input of the appropriate committee(s) prior to taking an action such as increasing a Tournament Director's certification level. **PASSED 7 - 0**

**PB 98-72 (Eade):** USCF Committees, excepting those appointed by the Delegates, exist to advise and recommend, but may not make any ruling that affects the status of any member without ratification by the Board, office, or Delegates. REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS AN ACTION ITEM.

**PB 98-73 (Eade):** The Policy Board will vote on the retention, hiring, or firing of lawyers and accountants at the May Board meeting. Any issues or objections must be resolved no later than the Board meeting, which convenes immediately prior to the Annual Delegates' Meeting. **PASSED 7 - 0**

**PB 98-74 (Eade):** All substantive committee decisions or recommendations will be circulated via the BINFO system. **PASSED 7 - 0**

**PB 98-75 (Eade):** All Board directives or instructions to committees, or the committee's chairperson or liaison will be circulated via the BINFO system. **PASSED 6 - 1**

(Adams, Dorsch, Eade, Lieberman, Schultz, Scott in favor; Goichberg opposed)

**PB 98-76 (Eade):** Rating floors, including those earned via the organization's Original Life Master policy, may be removed at the Executive Director's discretion. **PASSED 7 - 0**

### **SENSORY BOARD DISPLAY DEVICES**

Member-At-Large Jim Eade advocated for the use of Sensory Board Display Devices. The standard is TASC. Executive Director Michael Cavallo stated that this is not immediately feasible. It was acknowledged that this could popularize chess.

A break was called at 1:09 PM. The meeting resumed at 1:40 PM.

### **EARLY DEPARTURE FROM PB MEETINGS**

Member-At-Large Garrett Scott left prior to resumption of the meeting. The Board determined that, going forward, any Policy Board member who leaves before the adjournment of a meeting shall forfeit their right to participate in votes that take place after they leave. This decision was made based on the fact that the Board member was not available to participate in discussions prior to the vote.

### **KASPAROV VISIT TO ARIZONA**

Secretary Rachel Lieberman discussed the recent visit of Garry Kasparov to Peoria, Arizona. The event featured a spectator oriented simultaneous exhibition, a press conference where the questions were not screened, an address to the Peoria City Council, and a High School tournament that offered \$6,000 in college scholarships to the top seniors. Approximately 250 spectators were present at the exhibition. Among the participants were a radio personality who broadcast his comments live and 8 year old Anthony Conyers (who faced his second world champion in 2 weeks). As there were no video facilities, a photo album from the event was made available to the Board.

### **AOL AS THE PB INTERNET PROVIDER**

Executive Director Michael Cavallo and Member-At-Large Garrett Scott will obtain AOL accounts. All other Board members have AOL accounts.

### **OUTREACH REPORT**

Rachel Lieberman reported that the following new developments are taking place in the USCF Outreach movement:

The National Retired Teachers' Association is compiling a book for national distribution to its 2700 local affiliates. The goal is to make their members aware of volunteer opportunities throughout the country. The USCF has been selected to be one of ten partners who will be given space in the book. We will have two sides of one page. The office will submit copy.

Chess will be included in programs offered at CDC target schools in Kansas City. Professional evaluation will follow.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) will have a motion on the agenda of its annual meeting endorsing chess as a tool for prevention and stating that the AAP supports cooperative efforts with the USCF. This has already passed on a state and regional level.

Several packets of information have been sent to high profile individuals.

### **ADVANCE DELEGATE MOTIONS**

Secretary Rachel Lieberman informed the group that copies of the Advance Delegate Motions received to date were available. Copies were distributed to the Board. They are also being maintained on the ADM web site.

Please note: Comments regarding ADMs will be placed or summarized on the web site. To express comments re any Advance Delegate Motion please send them via e-mail to [REDACTED].

### **"AMERICAN CLASSIC" TOURNAMENTS**

The Board passed the following motions with regard to "American Classic" tournaments:

**PB 98-77 (Lieberman):** The Executive Director, subject to review of the Policy Board, may designate tournaments as American Classics. Such designation shall generally be made only if:

- A tournament has attracted more than 400 players for each of the last three years and is reasonably projected to continue doing so in the following year, and
- A tournament has been organized by the same individual or organization for the last three years.

Designation of an American Classic may be made in the absence of either of the requirements above by the Policy Board in extraordinary circumstances.

It is the responsibility of the organizer to apply for this designation. Continued eligibility for this designation shall be determined by the business office. PASSED 5 – 1

(Adams, Eade, Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz in favor; Dorsch opposed)

**PB 98-78 (Lieberman):** The requirements and benefits of special designation tournaments shall be referred to the Events Committee for review. **PASSED 6 - 0**

### **SENIOR INVITATIONAL**

Vice President Bill Goichberg introduced the concept of a US Senior Closed Championship. Both the Senior Committee and Grandmaster's Affairs Committees have expressed some interest in this concept. Budgets for such a tournament were considered. It was agreed that sponsorships must be sought. The following motion was proposed:

**PB 98 – 79 (Schultz):** The Policy Board favors the concept of the US Senior Closed Championship, pending funding, to be evaluated in Hawaii. **PASSED 6 – 0**

As a new action item, Board members were asked to submit lists of their Top Ten wishes if they had \$35,000 in available funding. The lists will be reviewed by Mike Cavallo, Don Schultz, and Tom Dorsch, and presented to the Board at the August meeting.

### **TD CERTIFICATION UPGRADES**

Vice President Bill Goichberg proposed the following motion:

**PB 98-80 (Goichberg):** PB 98-37 (regarding the Executive Director being authorized to upgrade anyone's TD certification level) is rescinded. **FAILED 2 – 4**

(Goichberg, Schultz in favor; Adams, Dorsch, Eade, Lieberman opposed).

(Please note PB 98-71 in which the ED is encouraged to solicit input from the appropriate committee(s) prior to taking such an action).

### **HIRING OF PERSONNEL**

Executive Director Michael Cavallo submitted the following two motions:

**PB 98-81 (Cavallo):** Stanley Marks & Company is approved as auditor for the Federation. **PASSED 6 – 0**

**PB 98-82 (Cavallo):** Rider et al is approved as the main law firm of the Federation. **PASSED 6 – 0**

The Executive Director stated that he would need to contact Stanley Marks by February.

### **TASC BOARDS**

Member-At-Large Jim Eade re-introduced the topic of TASC Boards. There was some additional discussion on this topic.

### **VOTES VIA E-MAIL**

The Board discussed the matter of taking votes via e-mail. At issue are two items: an appeal submitted by Thad Rogers, and special wording for the August Agenda, regarding lifetime titles, which is to be submitted by Bill Goichberg. Jim Eade submitted the following motion:

**PB 98-83 (Eade):** The Policy Board will vote by e-mail on the appeal by Thad Rogers and the Delegate Agenda wording (regarding Life Achievement Awards) submitted by Bill Goichberg. **PASSED 6 – 0**

(Please note that the Board is currently being polled via e-mail regarding the appeal. Don Schultz and Bill Goichberg abstained on the issue of the appeal and will not be polled. Bill Goichberg's wording regarding Life Achievement Awards has been submitted for e-mail vote by objections procedure.).

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

*Prepared by Rachel Lieberman, Secretary*