

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE 08/14-15/05 MEETINGS OF THE USCF EXECUTIVE BOARD IN PHOENIX, AZ

The new Executive Board met briefly in closed session after the end of the Delegates' Meeting at 3:10 PM on Sunday, August 14, 2005, after which they held an open forum in the room where the Delegates met. The primary topic was election of Board officers.

The open forum was called to order at 4:24 PM by President **Bill Goichberg**. He read the results of the election of officers. Vice President **Don Schultz**, Vice President for Finance **Joel Channing**, Secretary **Robert Tanner**, and Member at Large **Greg Shahade** were also present at the dais as was Executive Director **Bill Hall**. Member at Large **Beatriz Marinello** was not present. Others in attendance included: Phyllis Benjamin, Dean Brown, Frank Camaratta, Mike Carr, Joel Channing, Susan Channing, Joan DuBois, Gerry Dullea, Brenda Goichberg, Mike Goodall, Roger Gottschall, Jim Gray, John Hallahan, Charles Hatherill, Cindy Hawkinson, Guy Hoffman, Tim Just, Richard Koepcke, Myron Lieberman, Rachel Lieberman, Spencer Lower, Jack Mallory, John McCrary, James Mennella, Michael Nagaran, Jerry Nash, Mike Nietman, Mike Nolan, Susan Polgar, Aart Rackowitz, Alisa Rackowitz, Tim Redman, Diane Reese, Harry Sabine, Luis Salinas, Justin Sarkar, Teresa Schultz, Steve Shutt, Sam Sloan, Hal Terrie, and Chuck Unruh.

**Bill Goichberg** stated that he was informed that Beatriz Marinello was planning to resign. He indicated that he hoped she reconsiders and proposed the following motion.

**EB 06-001 – Goichberg** – The Board has been informed unofficially of the impending resignation of **Beatriz Marinello** from the Executive Board. We urge her to reconsider this decision. **PASSED 5 – 0.**

**Sam Sloan** asked if she could simply say “I resign”. **John McCrary** noted that Illinois law specifies that resignations are not official unless they are put in writing. **Bill Goichberg** noted that if a written resignation is received a special election must be held for two Board members. It would probably be done in conjunction with the upcoming Delegate election.

**Bill Goichberg** then mentioned several possible subjects for discussion by the Board and asked the audience for any other suggested topics. He indicated that legal and personnel issues such as committee selection, book and equipment sales, sponsorship agreements and personnel matters would be discussed in closed session, while *School Mates*, *Chess Life*, FIDE election, reinstating the BINFO system, communication with State Associations and Joel Channing's visit to Crossville would be open session topics.

**Mike Nolan** asked about procedures for naming committees. **Bill Goichberg** replied that the Board will name the Board liaisons and chairs of the committees. The liaison and chair will name the members. The proposed members will be submitted to the Board for final approval. Most of the time getting Board approval would just be a formality. President Goichberg then polled each Board member to see if there were any objections. There weren't.

**Sam Sloan** asked which contracts have been signed for the Crossville relocation. **Bill Hall** replied that the loan was signed almost three weeks ago. **Harry Sabine** indicated that the city feels agreement was reached through former Executive Director **Frank Niro**'s letter of intent and the land was transferred on July 15, 2003. He referred to the letter from the Crossville City Attorney, which indicated the likelihood of litigation if the USCF reneged. The Board reiterated last October that it would move USCF to Crossville. The two new things are the construction loan and the construction contract.

**Bill Goichberg** pointed out that the Scholastic Council favors the resumption of *School Mates* as a separate magazine. He believes that *School Mates* material should be appropriate for Elementary School through age 12. He also suggested that younger kids receive six issues of *School Mates* with their membership and older kids six issues of *Chess Life*. He wants to overcome the financial problems of bringing back *School Mates*. He mentioned that the current *Chess Life* staff feels they would be overburdened and overworked if they had to put out *School Mates* as well. He needs a full time Editor or part time people for *School Mates*. We should not rely much on *Chess Life* staff. He expected that there would be a cost savings on postage and printing that could help defray the personnel costs. **Mike Nolan** gave the results of a postage and printing cost study of *Chess Life* vs *School Mates*, which was done by Jami Anson a couple of years ago. **Phyllis Benjamin** asked if material from old issues of *School Mates* could be recycled. **Bill Goichberg**

replied that it can be done. **Steve Shutt** said he was hoping for something better. He wants to look at other publications aimed at a range of ages. He agrees with **Phyllis Benjamin** but doesn't want to rely too heavily on former *School Mates* articles or the new publication would look too much like the old publication. He apologized for **Beatriz Marinello's** absence. He indicated that she simply needed to get some rest as she will be going to Germany for the FIDE meeting. **Sam Sloan** asked whether the Economy Scholastic Membership would be abolished as soon as a separate magazine was published. **Bill Goichberg** replied not necessarily but they would have a right to do so. **Sam Sloan** asked what job **Beatriz Marinello** would have at the FIDE meeting in Germany. **Robert Tanner** replied that she is acting as a counselor for us and she is the General Secretary for the Americas. **Mike Nietman** indicated that the Scholastic Council would work with *School Mates*, write guidelines, and look at other publications for kids of the same age such as *Boys' Life* and *Sports Illustrated for Children*.

**Bill Goichberg** asked the audience what changes they would like to see in *Chess Life*. He reaffirmed that **Glenn Petersen** is the Editor and currently **Gerry Dullea** is acting Editor. Improvement of the magazine is a priority. **Greg Shahade** will meet with **Paul Hochman**, an expert in magazines. President Goichberg emphasized the importance of the Board receiving suggestions now, before that meeting.

**Spencer Lower** said that the magazine is the best it has ever been. **Mike Nolan** said that the magazine, as it currently exists, is aimed at the 1800+ player, of which there are about 4,000 active and 6,000 total. The average adult player is rated considerably below that. He indicated that three separate magazines are needed. One for the serious player, one for the casual player, and one for the scholastic player. **Sam Sloan** disagreed with the 1800+ aim. **Mike Goodall** asked to whom the Editor answers. **Bill Goichberg** replied the Editor reports to the Executive Board (EB). **Robert Tanner** noted that the Editor works for the EB but works closely with the ED. **Don Schultz** asked **Mike Nolan** for a clarification. **Mike Nolan** replied that the EB hires and fires the Editor, but the Editor can report to the Executive Director (ED), who is the publisher and can submit material to the Editor. **Bill Goichberg** added that the Editor is not in a position to refuse material submitted by the ED, although there have been various relationships between the Editor, the EB and the ED in the past. **Frank Camaratta** noted that in the nineties the Board passed a rule that the Executive Director was the publisher but was hired and fired by the Board. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to make suggestions about the magazine. His personal opinion is that the magazine was too hard core and needs to be more general, with more history and general interest material. **Chuck Unruh** pointed out that a small portion of the magazine should contain material like opening theory for the hard core players, in order to retain the hard core players, while allowing space in the rest of the magazine for material of more general interest. **Frank Camaratta** asked about archiving *Chess Life* on the Internet to facilitate research. **Mike Nolan** has discussed this with both Gerry (Dullea) and Glenn (Petersen). One thing we need to research carefully is whether or not we have the right to put previously published articles on the Internet due to copyright or contract issues. Another issue is whether the archive would be available to members only or to anyone. **Don Schultz** said that *Chess Life* should be more human interest and build up American players. High quality photos should be used. He believes that this approach will help boost newsstand sales. **Steve Shutt** said that he likes to go over games. **Greg Shahade** indicated that he thinks the magazine is not up to the standard that it should be. It should reach out to all. He also pointed out that most *Chess Life* columnists are no longer active players and there is not enough content on current players. There are a number of very strong players in this country that nobody knows anything about. He used **Lev Milman** of NY, an 18 year old player with a 2538 rating, as an example. We should focus on current players and make people more aware of them and their games and accomplishments. **Joel Channing** pointed out that although people objected to the Tim Taylor article, it was a fresh perspective and it was interesting. He has talked to strong players in a relaxed environment and found that they have good stories to tell that anyone might enjoy. He said that he skips parts of the magazine because they are above him, but he reads the letters to the Editor and other general interest material. He said the magazine does not look current. He thinks the website and the magazine should fit together. When he visits Crossville he plans to see how each person functions and how to best communicate. Then we can put together a more current method for getting things done. **Phyllis Benjamin** suggested that *Chess Chow* might be a good role model. **Greg Shahade** mentioned that when he was young that was one of his favorite magazines. Note: Mine too (ML). **Mike Goodall** said that he assumes they are in communication with the Publications Committee.

**Don Schultz** said that tomorrow the Executive Board (EB) will discuss the FIDE elections and asked for input regarding whether or not the US should endorse **Anatoly Karpov** for FIDE President. He said that there are two elements to the FIDE elections. The President of FIDE and the layer below him. The EB is for

a complete change. Current President **Kirsan Iljumzhinov** is expected to run again. **Anatoly Karpov** may run. Another possibility is **Bessel Kok**, whom we also like, but is less likely to run. He noted that to win a FIDE Presidential election against Iljumzhinov you need a lot of money and a lot of name recognition. **Greg Shahade** asked whether we should support someone that we may not believe is the best candidate if that person has the best chance of unseating the current President. **Sam Sloan** said that Karpov is not liked in FIDE and he does not see Karpov as the right person. **Robert Tanner** pointed out that there could be consequences to our players if the US supports a losing candidate. He noted that if Karpov committed to run he would be an attractive candidate. **Joel Channing** pointed out that fear of retribution can often delay or eliminate actions that need to be taken and keep an undesirable regime in place. **Don Schultz** pointed out that **Sam Sloan** is very familiar with FIDE, but that he disagrees with **Sam Sloan** regarding Karpov. Mr. Schultz pointed out that that **Anatoly Karpov** has built a successful chess school in the US in Kansas and that he initiated an International Chess for Peace program that will bring **Mikhail Gorbachev** to the US as part of a program that involves **Anatoly Karpov** and **Susan Polgar**. He pointed out that Karpov is modest and shy but was under pressure from the Communists. Whether or not to support his candidacy would depend on with whom he runs.

**Spencer Lower** asked **Don Schultz** to explain the title of his book Fischer, Kasparov, and the Others. **Don Schultz** replied that Karpov does not meet the level of Fischer and Kasparov. He also pointed out that he was told that if the names Fischer and Kasparov were in the title the book would have higher sales. He related a story regarding Karpov's willingly sitting uncomfortably in the back seat between two other people in a full car instead of expecting the more spacious and comfortable front seat. He said that is evidence that Karpov is a modest human being.

**Bill Goichberg** then asked the audience for topics they want to discuss. **Roger Gottschall** asked about the Olympiad teams for next year. **Robert Tanner** explained that the Men's and Women's team each have four members and one alternate. The Kasparov Chess Foundation made an offer to sponsor both teams. **Greg Shahade** said that we need to support youth. **Hikaru Nakamura** should have been on last year's team. **Sam Sloan** indicated that FIDE has no Parliamentarian. They will try to eliminate any other candidate. Find out the rules and follow them. **Robert Tanner** said that there are no Robert's Rules. Candidates are submitted in advance. **Sam Sloan** said that Kamsky and Nakamura became top US players, but neither was on the US team. There should be a wild card position where the Board chooses one or two players. Nakamura should be on the team. **Greg Shahade** indicated that if Nakamura was not playing the Russian players would have been the best on the team, but that is not a negative. **Joel Channing** said that the teams should make the selection. The best choices can be made by the players themselves. The best players should be on the top boards, but at lower boards there is room for deciding based on who might be the best team player. The previous Board had different agreements. He indicated that the previous Board had come close to an agreement with the Kasparov Chess Foundation. After he and **Don Schultz** talked to **Michael Khodarkovsky**, he believes we are very close to an agreement that will be acceptable, but we need something in writing soon. **Don Schultz** said that he and **Joel Channing** met with **Joel Benjamin** and will meet with **Larry Christiansen** next. **Michael Khodarkovsky** has been receptive to the players' suggestions.

The Board agreed to meet at 7:15 PM in closed session. President Goichberg asked if there were any other questions.

**Sam Sloan** asked about the Natrol endorsement. **Bill Goichberg** replied that Beatriz has already answered the question and it's time to move forward.

The Open Forum was adjourned at 5:45 PM. President Goichberg noted that there would be meetings the following day but was unsure of if or when the meeting would be in open session. He thanked those who attended the open forum.

The Executive Board then went into Closed Session at 7:24 PM on Sunday, August 14, 2005, to consider committees and a number of other issues. The meeting recessed at 9:00 PM to reconvene at 10:00 AM the following day. No motions were proposed at this time.

The meeting resumed in Closed Session at 10:08 AM on Monday, August 15, 2005. Present were Board members Bill Goichberg, Don Schultz, Joel Channing, and Beatriz Marinello. Board members Robert Tanner and Greg Shahade were not present at the start but arrived later in the meeting. Also present were

Executive Director Bill Hall, National Event Coordinator Diane Reese, MIS Consultant Mike Nolan, and Secretarial Assistant Myron Lieberman.

The meeting continued in Closed Session throughout the day, with recesses for lunch from 12:55 PM to 2:10 PM and for dinner from 5:46 PM to 7:22 PM. Secretarial Assistant Rachel Lieberman arrived when the meeting resumed at 7:22 PM. Board Members Robert Tanner and Greg Shahade were absent. Greg Shahade arrived later in the meeting. Robert Tanner indicated that he could be reached by cell phone if necessary and did not return. The Closed Session ended at 8:39 PM.

The Board then met in Open Session at 8:48 PM. Present were Board members Bill Goichberg, Don Schultz, Joel Channing, Greg Shahade, and Beatriz Marinello; Executive Director Bill Hall, and Susan Channing, Myron and Rachel Lieberman, and Teresa Schultz.

A Board motion to name Committee Liaisons was presented by the Board. A few committee chairs were also named, but most chairs would be decided after further Board consideration. Please note that the Office Liaisons have not yet been named. The motion **PASSED** 5 – 0 with Robert Tanner absent.

**EB 06 – 002 – Board** – The Board names the following liaisons and chairs for the 2005 – 2006 USCF Committees.

**SUMMARY OF USCF COMMITTEES FOR 2005 – 2006**

Please note: This list is a full summary as of 08/15/2005 and includes committees appointed by the Delegates as well as those appointed by the Board.

**DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES**

The Delegate Appointed Committees choose their own chairs, generally after the meeting. Chairs that have been chosen and reported as of the time of this meeting are included.

Please note that the Election Committee replaces the Election Procedures Committee and the Electronic Voting Committees.

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Board Liaison</u>	<u>Chair(s)</u>	<u>Members</u>
Audit Committee Grant Perks	Joel Channing		Tony Cottell, Jon Haskel,
Bylaws Committee Hough, George John, Kitts, Richard Koepcke, Myron Lieberman, John McCrary, David Mehler, Robert Persante, Ernie Schlich	Bill Goichberg	Co-chairs Mike Nolan and Harold Winston	Guy Hoffman, Randy Gary
Election Committee Harris, Harry Alternates: 1. Ernie Schlich, 2. Myron Lieberman	Bill Goichberg	Chair - Mike Nolan	Roger Gottschall, Woody Sabine.
Ethics Committee Carr, William James Menella, Kenneth Sloan, Bill Smythe, Hal Terrie, Andrew Thall	Joel Channing		Richard Buchanan, Michael Deer,
LMA Management Carr, Leroy Peter Dyson, Fred Townsend	Joel Channing		Dewain Barber, Michael Dubeck,

**BOARD APPOINTED COMMITTEES**

Please note that the Celebrities, Clubs, Tournaments, and US Open Committees are new this year.

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Board Liaison</u>	<u>Chair(s)</u>	<u>Members</u>
Celebrities Committee	Greg Shahade		

Chess in Education	Beatriz Marinello		
Clubs	Bill Goichberg		
College Chess	Beatriz Marinello	Co-Chairs James Stallings and Zachary Cohn (see below for members)	
Correspondence Chess	Bill Goichberg		
Cramer Awards	Don Schultz		
Denker/Polgar	Greg Shahade		
Finance Committee	Joel Channing	Chair-Randy Bauer	
Hall of Fame Committee	Robert Tanner	Chair - Harold Winston	Arthur Bisguier, Jeremy Hilbert,
	Gaige, John		
	Al Lawrence, John McCrary, Shane Samole, Jennifer Shahade, one Executive		Board representative.
International Affairs	Robert Tanner		
Internet/MIS/website	Greg Shahade		
Military Chess	Joel Channing		
Outreach Committee	Joel Channing	Chair - Myron Lieberman	
Publications Committee	Greg Shahade		
Ratings committee	Bill Goichberg		
Rules Committee	Robert Tanner		
Scholastic Council/Committee	Beatriz Marinello		
Senior Committee	Don Schultz		
States Committee	Robert Tanner		
Survey Committee	Don Schultz	Chair - Tony Pabon	Tom Claman, Charles Hatherill, Cindy Hawkinson, Fred Kleist, Jack Mallory, Murlin Varner, Sunil Weeramantry
TDCC	Robert Tanner		
Top Players Committee	Greg Shahade		
Tournaments	Bill Goichberg		
US Open Committee	Bill Goichberg		
Women's Chess	Beatriz Marinello		

Please note that the College Committee was approved by the Board at the May, 2005, meeting. Members, with e-mail addresses, are:

Allan Sherman  
Ana DeMahy  
Anish Das Sarma  
Arthur Izak-Damiecki  
Christopher Tam  
Derek Thompson  
Eugene Godoretskiy  
James Stallings Co-Chair-faculty  
Kathryn Au  
Mikhail Korenman  
Pawan Patel  
Renee Garcia  
Scott Caplan  
Tim Redman  
Tundi-Daro Mott  
Sunthar Premakumar  
Vyacheslav (Steve) Gorodetskiy  
William Gallagher  
Yining Ni  
Zachary Cohn Co-chair

Next to be considered was a motion that arose out of Closed Session to endorse a ticket in the FIDE election. Additional discussion took place regarding the exact wording and the following motion was

offered:

**EB 06 – 003 – Board** – The United States Chess Federation understands that Anatoly Karpov is running for FIDE President and will include an American on his ticket. We support this ticket. **PASSED** 3-0-2 with Beatriz Marinello and Greg Shahade abstaining and Robert Tanner absent. Beatriz Marinello stated that she decided to abstain because she is a member of the FIDE Board and decided to take no position.

Executive Director **Bill Hall** brought up another motion that arose from Closed Session. The motion was needed to authorize the Executive Director to accept the line of credit described in a letter from the Cumberland County Bank. The letter is appended below.

**EB 06 – 004 – Board** – The Board directs the Executive Director to accept the commitment letter for a line of credit for \$150,000 dated 08/15/05 contingent upon approval by the Life Member Assets Committee. The Board also authorizes the Executive Director and the Vice President of Finance to jointly execute the loan documents and to authorize the disbursement of funds. **PASSED 5-0** with Robert Tanner absent.

**Greg Shahade** expressed concern with the state of the USCF website. **Bill Hall** indicated that Mike Nolan has done a wonderful job and the improvement of the website is a priority. A discussion of hardware and software followed.

**Joel Channing** asked about accounting software, which led to a brief discussion.

The next USCF Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for the weekend of 11/05 – 11/06, 2006, in Crossville, TN.

The Open Session meeting was then adjourned at 9:22 PM.



P. O. Box 749, Crossville, TN 38557  
(931) 484-2221

William T. Startup, III  
President

Cumberland County Bank anticipates no costs at closing.

Cumberland County Bank will require annual Income (Receipts) and Expense Statements not later than sixty days after the close of the Federation's fiscal year. Also required will be resolutions from the Federation which authorize the borrowing and designate the individuals authorized to sign all loan and collateral documents.

This letter has stipulated substantially the terms and costs of the contemplated line of credit. Our commitment will expire unless accepted by September 30, 2005.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W T Startup III".

W.T. Startup, III  
President/and CEO

WTS/pg

August 15, 2005

Bill Hall, Executive Director  
U.S. Chess Federation  
P.O. Box 3967  
Crossville, TN 38557

Dear Mr. Hall:

Cumberland County Bank is pleased to commit a working capital line of credit to the U.S. Chess Federation subject to the rates, terms and conditions as contained herein:

Amount: \$150,000.00  
Term: To mature in 1 year with interest payable monthly.  
Collateral: Assignment(s) of Certificate(s) of Deposit totaling at least \$150,000.00 with maturity dates on or after the maturity date of the line of credit.  
Interest Rate: One and one-quarter percent (1.25%) above the rate which the Federation earns on the Certificate(s) of Deposit.  
Personal Guaranties: None required  
Other: The Certificate(s) of Deposit used as collateral must be issued by Cumberland County Bank or its affiliate, Bank of Putnam County, Cookeville, Tennessee.