

2006 Delegates' Call



Phyllis Benjamin



US Chess Federation

uschess.org
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Joel Benjamin

2005-2006 Delegates & Alternate Delegates

*Delegate at Large or Additional Alternate Delegates, **Current EB Members, +Former EB Members. (These do not count toward state allocations.)

ALABAMA 1/1

Delegate Frank Camaratta*
 Jack Mallory
 Alt. Delegate Kenneth Sloan

ARKANSAS 1/1

Delegate Stephen Paulson
 Alt. Delegate Bill Beck

ARIZONA 4/4

Delegates Robert Tanner**
 Myron Lieberman*
 Rachel Lieberman*
 Lee LaFrese
 Dave Small
 William Wharton
 Cynthia Hawkinson
 Alt. Delegates Michael Reading
 Steven Kamp
 Spenser Lower

CALIFORNIA NORTH 6/6

Delegates Elizabeth Shaughnessy+
 Jim Eade
 Richard Koepcke
 Mike Goodall
 Eric Schiller
 Hans Poschman
 Riley Hughes
 Alt. Delegates Eric Hicks
 Josh Bowman
 Steve Stacy
 Michael Aigner
 Alex Yermolinsky
 Tony Pabon
 Frank Elley*

SOUTH CALIFORNIA 7/7

Delegates Jerome Hanken*
 Randy Hough*
 John Hillery
 Mike Carr
 Joseph Wagner
 L. Gordon Brooks
 Michael Naragan
 Jay Stallings
 Alt. Delegates Dewain Barber
 Elliot Landaw
 Chris Robert
 John Surlow
 Gerald Blem
 Ron Rezendez
 Charles Ensey
 David Saponara

COLORADO 2/2

Delegates Buck Buchanan
 Dean Brown
 Alt. Delegates Andrew Rea
 Paul Grimm

CONNECTICUT 2/2

Delegates James Celone
 Richard Bauer
 Alt. Delegates Richard Jackson
 Fred Townsend

DELAWARE 1/1

Delegate Phillip Simpkins
 Alt. Delegate Kevin Moss

DIST. OF COLUMBIA DC 1/1

Delegate Vaughn Bennett
 Alt. Delegate Willette Seaward

FLORIDA 6/6

Delegates Joel Channing**
 Don Schultz**
 Gabriel Schwartzman
 Larry Storch
 Harvey Lerman
 Jon Haskel
 Blas Lugo
 Peter Dyson
 Alt. Delegates Bill Cornwall
 Bob Persante
 Franc Guadalupe
 Mike Petersen
 Charles Hall
 Laura Merciez

GEORGIA

Delegates Daniel Lucas
 Scott Parker

Alt. Delegates Thad Rogers
 David Woolf

HAWAII 1/1

Delegate Lawrence Reifurth
 Alt. Delegate Guy Ontai

IDAHO 1/1

William Mabry
 Barry Eacker

ILLINOIS 7/7

Delegates Helen Warren*
 Harold Winston*
 Tim Just
 Albert Chow
 Larry Cohen
 Jim Warren
 Fred Gruenberg
 Bill Smythe
 Alt. Delegates Dmitry Gurevich
 Jim Oberweis
 Roger Birkeland
 Garrett Scott
 Tom Fineberg
 Dennis Bourgerie
 Howard Cohen
 Frank Skoff*

INDIANA 3/3

Delegates Gary Fox
 Dave Frey
 Ken Hamilton
 Alt. Delegates Tom Byers
 Scott Reisinger
 Jay Carr

IOWA 1/1

Delegate Randy Bauer+
 Alt. Delegate Roger Gotschall
 Mark Capron

KANSAS 1/1

Delegate Ralph Bowman
 Alt. Delegate Tom Klamann

KENTUCKY 2/2

Delegates Steve Dillard
 Mike Amos
 Alt. Delegates Rory Fugate
 Noah Kapley

LOUISIANA 1/1

Delegate Anthony Jackson

MAINE 1/1

Delegate Philip H. Lowell
 Alt. Delegate Mark McPheters

MARYLAND 2/2

Delegates Edward R. Westing
 Harry Cohen
 Tom MacNamara
 Larry Kaufman

MASSACHUSETTS 3/3

Delegates Harold Dondis*
 George Mirijanjan
 Gus Gosselin
 Steve Frymer
 Alt. Delegates Maryanne Reilly
 Stephen Dann
 Paul Randazzo

MICHIGAN 3/3

Delegates Fred Lindsay
 Tim Sawmiller
 Toshio Imai
 Alt. Delegates Edward Laurin
 Ben Finegold
 Bradley Rogers

MINNESOTA 2/2

Delegates Phil Smith
 David Kuhns
 Alt. Delegates Ed Conway
 Dan Vojte

MISSISSIPPI 1/1

Delegate Douglas Stewart
 Alt. Delegate Canon Beissel

MISSOURI 2/2

Delegates Selden Trimble
 William Wright

Alt. Delegates Edward Baur
 Charles E. Ward

MONTANA 1/1

Delegate Dan McCourt
 Alt. Delegate Nick Doulas

NEBRASKA 1/1

Delegate Mike Nolan
 Alt. Delegate Ken Kiewra

NEVADA 1/1

Delegate Charles Hatherill
 Alt. Delegate Allen Magruder

NEW HAMPSHIRE 1/1

Delegate Hal Terrie
 Alt. Delegate John Hallahan

NEW JERSEY 4/4

Delegates Anthony Cottell*
 Steve Doyle*
 Leroy Dubeck*
 Maxim Dlugy*
 Joe Ippolito
 Dean Ippolito
 Todd Lunna
 Roger Inglis
 Alt. Delegates Mike Somers
 Joe Lux
 Ron Groseibl
 Mike Khodarkovsky

NEW MEXICO 1/1

Delegate Arthur Glassman
 Alt. Delegate Jeffrey Burch

New York - Downstate 7/7

Delegates Beatriz Marinello**
 Joel Benjamin
 Susan Polgar
 Sophia Rohde
 Sunil Weeramantry
 Carol Jarecki
 Harold Stenzel
 Phyllis Benjamin
 Alt. Delegates Polly Wright
 Sam Sloan
 Ed Frumkin
 Paul Truong
 Joe Felber
 Carrie Goldstein
 Gary Sperling*

NEW YORK - Upstate 3/3

Delegates Bill Goichberg**
 Gerard Dullea*
 Albert Lawrence*
 Karl Heck
 Arthur Bisguier
 Ron Lohrman
 Alt. Delegates Phil Ferguson
 Walter Buehl
 Brenda Goichberg
 Bruce Steffek

NORTH CAROLINA 2/2

Delegates Neil Harris
 Gerben Hoekstra
 Alt. Delegates Rob Morse
 Eugene Davenport

NORTH DAKOTA 1/1

Delegate Michael Sailer
 Alt. Delegate Clifford Berger

OHIO 4/4

Delegates Grant Perks
 Steve E. Charles
 Thomas A Green
 Joe Yun
 Alt. Delegates Riley Driver
 Cuneyd Tolek
 Donald Randolph
 John Miller

OKLAHOMA 1/1

Delegate Frank Berry
 Alt. Delegate James Berry

OREGON 1/1

Delegate Carl Haessler
 Alt. Delegate Clark Harmon

PENNSYLVANIA 5/5

Delegates Steve Shutt+
 Tom Martinak
 Alex Dunne
 Ira Lee Riddle
 Robert Dudley
 Dan Heisman
 Alt. Delegates Stan Booz
 Eric Johnson
 Gregory Vaserstein
 Boyd Reed
 Eric Mark

RHODE ISLAND 1/1

Delegate Frank Del Bonis
 Alt. Delegate Eric Berkey

SOUTH CAROLINA 1/1

Delegate John McCrary
 Alt. Delegate Michael Spohn

SOUTH DAKOTA 1/1

Delegate De Knudson
 Alt. Delegate Dave Knudson

TENNESSEE 2/2

Delegates Harry Sabine*
 Leonard Dickerson
 Alt. Delegates Allen Snow
 Dr. Martin Katahn

TEXAS 11/11

Delegates Tim Redman*
 Luis Salinas
 Selby Anderson
 George John
 Forrest Marler
 Gary Gaiffe
 Alexey Root
 Jim Liptrap
 Brenda Hardesty
 Mario Leal
 Tom Crane
 Enrique Rios
 Alt. Delegates Bruce Donohoe
 Clarence Callaway
 Katie Stone
 Robert Paul Sturgeon
 Mike Simpson
 Drew Sarkisian
 Duane Solley
 William Tompkins
 Steven Young
 Ali Morshedi
 Andrew Thall

UTAH 1/1

Delegates John Minnoch
 Alt. Delegates John Coffey

VERMONT 1/1

Delegates Al Byington
 Alt. Delegates William McGrath

VIRGINIA 3/3

Delegates Woodrow Harris*
 Michael Atkins
 Macon Shibut
 John Campbell
 Alt. Delegates Helen Hinshaw
 Ernest Schlich
 Peter Hopkins

WASHINGTON 2/2

Delegates Fred Kleist
 Duane Polich
 Alt. Delegates Gary Dorfner
 Kevin Korsmo

WEST VIRGINIA 1/1

Delegate Gary Cummings
 Alt. Delegate Charles Waugh

WISCONSIN 2/2

Delegates Mike Nietman
 Guy Hoffman
 Alt. Delegates Arlen Walker
 Andrew Becker

WYOMING 1/1

Delegate Jon Fortune
 Alt. Delegate Alan Cunningham

Schedule for 2006 U.S. Open Workshops & Committee Meetings

Time	9:00	10:00	11:00	Noon	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00
WEDNESDAY August 9	States	Polgar	College Chess	Lunch	TDCC	TDCC/Problem Solving	Senior Chess	Correspondence Chess
	Denker				Outreach			Scholastic Committee
THURSDAY August 10	Executive Board (closed)	Executive Board (open)		Lunch	Ratings	Chess Journalists	Publications	Chess in Ed
	Rules Workshop	Ethics			Chess Trust			Hall of Fame
FRIDAY August 11	MIS/Web site			Lunch	Finance/LMA	International Affairs	Membership Meeting & Staff Forum	
	Women's Chess	Bylaws						
SATURDAY August 12	Delegates Meeting			USCF Awards Luncheon	Delegates Meeting			
	Delegates Meeting							
SUNDAY August 13	Delegates Meeting			Executive Board (open) 3-4:30 PM Executive Board (closed) starts at 6 PM				
	Delegates Meeting							
MONDAY August 14	Executive Board, 9 AM-8 PM							
	Executive Board, 9 AM-8 PM							

Sunday, August 6: Denker Tournament of High School Champions and Polgar Invitational for Girls Reception, 9 AM

Thank you American Chess Equipment for sponsoring the Denker and Polgar Invitational Reception!

Friday, August 11: President's Reception, 7:30 PM

Saturday, August 12: USCF Awards Luncheon Noon

2006 National Scholastic K-12/Collegiate Championship

December 8-10, 2006

Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, 1000 W Buena Vista Drive
Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830-1000, 407-939-1000
Group Reservations at: 407-939-1020, \$120 chess rate

7SS, G/90, 14 sections

Play only in your grade or college section.
December Rating Supplement will be used.
Team Score = total of top 3 (minimum 2) finishers from each school per grade.
1st place individual and team will be National Champion for their grade.

Awards:

Trophies to top 10 individuals & top 5 teams in each Grade. (minimum). Many other class prizes.
Blitz: Trophies in K-6 and K-12 sections, individual and team
Bughouse: Trophies for Bughouse, 1-25th place
Every player receives a commemorative item!

Opening Ceremony: 12/8, Friday, 12:30 pm.

Rds: Friday, 1pm-6pm; Saturday, 10 am-2-6 pm;
Sunday, 9 am-1 pm.

Awards Ceremony: Sunday, 4:30-6 pm

Special round times for K,1 sections:

Friday, 1:30-5:30 pm;
Saturday, 10:30 am-2:00-5:30 pm;
Sunday, 9:30 am-1:30 pm.

On-site registration: 12/7, 9 am-9 pm &
12/8, 9 am-noon.

\$20 change fee for roster or section changes
after 11/10 or any on-site changes.

Side events:

Bughouse: Thursday, 11 am

On-site entry only Thursday, 8 am until noon,
\$20 per team.

Blitz: Thursday, 5 pm, on-site entry until 4 pm,
Entry in advance \$15 until 12/6, On-site entry \$20.
Registration available www.uschess.org

Simul: Friday, 9 am with GM Susan Polgar —
Register onsite only.

Awards ceremony for the Bughouse and Blitz:
Saturday, 8 am

Team Rooms are limited, contact Diane Reese
events@uschess.org

Registration information:

USCF membership is required and must be current. You may pay USCF membership with your entry.

Adult: Please check our Web site (uschess.org) for Adult and Young Adult options. Advance entries must include player's name and all fees to be accepted. Roster changes are considered new entries and will be charged according to date received. List name, address, phone, section, grade, school (even if no team), coach's name, e-mail, birth date, USCF ID #, USCF expiration (enclose USCF dues if necessary) and rating. Players must be eligible to play in accordance with USCF Scholastic Regulations. **Please bring clocks.**

Ent: "K-12/Collegiate Champ." c/o USCF, PO Box 3967 Crossville TN 38557-3967.

For more info or to register online: www.uschess.org.

Please make all checks payable to USCF.



Name _____ USCF ID # _____ Rating _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

School _____ Grade (or college section) _____

Bye Requested: Rd 1 2 3 4 5 6 1/2-pt bye available if requested in advance (except Rd 7)

USCF Membership Dues: Please go to www.uschess.org for appropriate membership category and rates.

Entry Fees: \$40/participant postmarked by 11/10, \$60/participant postmarked by 11/24, \$75 after 11/24 or \$80 on site. (Add \$5 for phone entry.) **Blitz entry:** \$15 until 12/6.

Amount Enclosed: Entry Fee \$ _____ Blitz Fee \$ _____ USCF Dues \$ _____ **Total Enclosed \$** _____

In advance: Make checks payable to: U.S. Chess Federation (USCF).

On site: Make payments in Cash, by Money Order, or Credit Card.

MASTER CARD DISCOVER AMEX VISA V-Code (last 3 digits on the signature line) _____

Number _____ EXP. ____/____ SIGNATURE: _____

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On the cover: 2005 U.S. Open co-champion Joel Benjamin and his mother Phyllis Benjamin. Both have a long history as USCF Delegates and are current New York (downstate) delegates. Joel has a new column on uschess.org, “Ask GM Joel.”

USCF MISSION STATEMENT

USCF is a not-for-profit membership organization devoted to extending the role of chess in American society. USCF promotes the study and knowledge of the game of chess, for its own sake as an art and enjoyment, but also as a means for the improvement of society. It informs, educates, and fosters the development of players (professional and amateur) and potential players. It encourages the development of a network of institutions devoted to enhancing the growth of chess, from local clubs to state and regional associations, and it promotes chess in American society. To these ends, USCF offers a monthly magazine, as well as targeted publications to its members and others. It supervises the organization of the U.S. Chess Championship, an open tournament held every summer, and other national events. It offers a wide range of books and services to its members and others at prices consistent with the benefits of its members. USCF serves as the governing body for chess in the United States and as a participant in international chess organizations and projects. It is structured to ensure effective democratic procedures in accord with its bylaws and laws of the state of Illinois.

DELEGATES MEETING

Nominations for Delegate Committees — Bylaws, Ethics and LMA Management can be submitted directly to the USCF Executive Assistant, Pat Knight, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557-3967. Please send them no later than July 31 in order to allow enough time for the executive assistant to receive them before departing for the Delegates Meeting. They may be sent by fax to 931-787-1238, e-mail pknight@uschess.org, or regular mail. Nominations will also be accepted at the meeting.

Production: Typesetting and proofing: Jean Bernice, Diana Krautter, Michele Stowe, Pat Knight, Daniel Lucas and Glenn Petersen.

Photo Credits:
Photo of Joel Benjamin by John Henderson
Photo of Phyllis Benjamin by Jami Anson

Cover Design: Larry Ball, Q-Ball Creative

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Vice President	VP Finance	Secretary	Member-at-Large
Bill Goichberg chessoffice@aol.com PO Box 249 Salisbury Mills, NY 12577	Don Schultz chessdon@aol.com No. 703, Beachwalk E. 3201 S. Ocean Blvd. Highland Beach, FL 33487	Joel Channing joel@channing corporation.com Suite 200 5520 PGA Blvd. Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418	Robert Tanner rtanner@aol.com PO Box 171 Gilbert, AZ 85299	Beatriz Marinello beatrisschess@aol.com c/o USCF PO Box 3967 Crossville, TN 38557

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Bill Goichberg

A year of change

Since the new Executive Board took office last August, USCF has undergone many changes. Perhaps the most important of these is our redesigned Web site at uschess.org, which boasts a modern look, improved content under our Web Content Editor, former U.S. Women's Champion Jennifer Shahade, and better organization. We expect our new Web site to attract many more non-members than our current site, and do a better job of motivating them to join the Federation.

Under new Editor Daniel Lucas, *Chess Life* also has a new look that has been welcomed by most members I have heard from, though some disappointment has been expressed by those whose favorite columns have been dropped or moved to our Web site. The magazine will now have fewer columns but more feature articles, and I expect the latter to cover much of the ground previously taken care of by the columns. *Chess Life* has sold poorly on newsstands, especially in recent years, but we are hoping that our new look will change this. And, advertising revenue, which has declined substantially since early 2005, should benefit.

Scholastic members age 12 or below now have their own magazine, *Chess Life for Kids*, edited by former *Chess Life* Editor Glenn Petersen. This new publication appeared in April, ending a period of more than three years without a separate USCF scholastic magazine. Unlike our previous effort, *School Mates*, which covered up to age 15 and had a problem appealing to wide age differences, our new scholastic publication focuses mainly on elementary school players. Dues for these players have been lowered by \$2 and the "Economy Scholastic" no-magazine option, which under various names has through the years always damaged our membership totals, has been abolished. The cost of the age 12/below Scholastic Membership, paid online through an affiliate, is just \$13, the same as the discontinued Economy Scholastic.

Age 15 or below, a group much more likely to try non-scholastic play than the younger one above, still has a \$19 option with six issues of *Chess Life* per year. Some have suggested that these players be required to obtain Youth membership with a monthly *Chess Life* for \$25, but I fear that having to charge new players \$6 more would lose members by causing many affiliates to no longer USCF-rate their junior-high and middle-school tournaments.

Another recent change was the return of the Tournament Membership for the first time in about 15 years. The main idea behind this membership is to allow players to enter small, low-entry fee tournaments with only a \$10 dues payment, though there is also a \$20 version intended mostly for major events. We don't sell many TMs, but that's fine, as if they were very popular this could hurt our membership totals. They address organizer fears that a high required dues payment will damage attendance; the benefit to USCF comes not from the TMs themselves but from other memberships that result from an increase in rated events. If you ever hear anyone say, "I don't hold USCF-rated tournaments because players won't pay \$49 dues," please inform that person that for 4-round or shorter events, week-night tournaments, or quick chess, no one need pay more than \$10 for dues, and for other events \$20.

Why no surplus?

When the new Board took office, we adopted a budget predicting a slight loss for the year of about \$23,000. The

outgoing Board's proposed budget was not much different, and I wondered why USCF had shown a six-figure surplus for two straight years in New Windsor, yet now that we were in low-cost-of-living Crossville, there was no realistic way to project a surplus. The answer is apparently a number of factors:

We added personnel to provide better service, hopefully leading to more members — a Scholastic Director late in the 2004-05 fiscal year, and a Web Director anticipated for 2005-06 and since hired.

We paid \$50,000 as budgeted for 2005-06 to redesign and upgrade our Web site and magazine. I believe this will prove to be a wise investment.

We now need about \$65,000 per year to pay for our mortgage. We have started to save on New Windsor rent and utilities, but that number was only about \$20,000.

Our B & E outsourcing deal has not produced as much income as the \$350,000 minimum originally contracted for, probably about \$125,000 less in 2005-06 if we include sales concession rights recovered from ChessCafe and sold to others. However, in 2003-04 we had a large surplus despite hardly any benefit from this outsourcing, which occurred only in the final two months of the fiscal year. We did our own sales for most of that year, probably at a loss, but did have \$132,000 more in membership revenue than the following year, 2004-05.

Compared to 2004-05, our sales revenue was probably off almost \$100,000 in 2005-06 because the renegotiated contract with ChessCafe gave them more relief in outsourcing years two and three than in year one. As of this writing I don't have a reliable figure for membership revenue in 2005-06, but it seems down somewhat from the previous year.

We moved to Crossville mainly to take advantage of its low cost of living, and expected to save over \$100,000 per year on personnel as a result of the move. This has not happened, mainly for two reasons: 1) Our employees in Crossville who replaced people in New Windsor, as a group, are not being paid less than those they replaced, but slightly more. 2) We expected to save on benefits due to the move, but this has not happened because almost everyone in Crossville has paid their share to opt in for benefits, while in New Windsor more than a third of the employees had other coverage so did not opt in for benefits.

Our audited report for 2005-06 is expected to show a substantial loss, most of this resulting from write-offs that should have been done in previous years. For 2006-07 we expect a much better financial result as we are cutting staff, the magazine and Web site upgrades are paid for, and we expect to reap the benefits. It is not an Olympiad year, and we will no longer have New Windsor office expenses.

Our membership trend: some good news

Eight months ago, I wrote in *Chess Life* that in the year between 9/04 and 9/05, Adult memberships had declined by 2%, Youth by 7%, and Scholastic by 12%. This was quite a switch from the nine-year period 9/95 to 9/04, during which Adult declined 35% while Youth rose 42% and Scholastic gained 41%.

Since then, the good news is that we have turned around that alarming Youth and Scholastic trend. Following are Youth totals for the end of each fiscal year and calendar year. The asterisk (here and below) indicates the final total before the dues raises of January 1, 2003 and resulting sharp drop in membership.

	May 31	Dec 31
1999	12,129	12,910
2000	12,506	12,289
2001	12,040	12,317
2002	11,682	12,338*
2003	11,585	11,531
2004	11,080	10,597
2005	10,071	10,295
2006	10,112	

And Scholastic totals (regular plus economy) for the same period:

	May 31	Dec 31
1999	27,675	29,632
2000	30,541	33,814
2001	33,999	36,605
2002	37,367	42,265*
2003	39,977	40,307
2004	37,357	35,353
2005	32,574	33,311
2006	32,293	

So Youth is up at fiscal year end, compared to one year before, after five straight losing years, while Scholastic is down just 281 in the same period after losing about 4800 and 2600 in the two previous years.

More good news — the new Family Membership initiated in the summer of 2004 is USCF's fastest growing category. We don't have exact numbers by age, but had 1463 additional family members on 5/31/05 and this has more than doubled to 2996 on 5/31/06. That's a gain of 1533 additional family members, and as about 85.5% of them appear to be age 20 or below, that means probably about 1310 more players of Youth or Scholastic age. So overall it seems that both Youth and Scholastic have grown in the past year, with our total Under 20 membership rising by about 1070.

Here is further evidence of a favorable trend in the past year — the total of all membership categories:

	May 31	Dec 31
1999	84,160	86,299
2000	86,109	88,569
2001	87,956	90,005
2002	89,282	94,937*
2003	90,637	89,925
2004	85,856	83,091
2005	80,334	81,792
2006	80,623	

And after losing about 4800 and 5500 in the past two 12-month periods ending May 31, we are up by 289 this year, an excellent turnaround.

OK, so what about Adults? Unfortunately, this category continues to decline. Here are 2004-2006 figures for Adult plus Economy Adult, Prison and Blind:

	May 31	Dec 31
2000	27,629	27,040
2001	26,613	26,123
2002	25,427	25,465*
2003	24,400	23,396
2004	22,836**	22,230
2005	22,051	21,752
2006	21,114	

Here the double asterisk shows the beginning of the special \$38 dues rate for new or long-expired members, March 2004. During 12/31/03 to 5/31/04, of 560 members lost, 407 were lost in January and February, before this special rate was introduced.

With probably another 100 or so adults gained among

family members in the year ending 5/05 and 220 gained in the year ending 5/06, we lost about 700 members each year — not good, but far better than the 2,069 members lost in calendar 2003 after the dues raise.

What to do about dues?

Our Adult dues are too high, and I have been proposing to lower them since 2004. Reducing Adult dues should result in substantial financial benefit in the long run, but just as the last dues raise made money the first year, but was on its way to being a long-term disaster before the \$38 special membership slowed our decline, a dues decrease is likely to lose money in its first year and be profitable only in the third year and after.

I would like to see Adult dues go back to \$40. This would not be a \$9 decrease because if we did this, we wouldn't need the \$38 new/returning special membership any more, so those would go up by \$2. On the average, such a decrease would probably be about \$7. I think that this would be a sound long-term move, but in its first year it would likely cost us about \$60,000. Like the Board before it, the current Board does not wish to incur such a current expense, so has not lowered dues, which it has the power to do through promotional memberships.

We have been facing a vicious cycle. At our current adult dues level, membership continues to decline, which in turn causes clubs and tournaments to fold, which produces further membership decline, etc. We urgently need to turn this cycle around, but since our finances are not as good as we would like, we wait until they are better. But they never seem to be good enough, and it's hard to have strong financial results when Adult membership keeps declining.

Perhaps our modernized Web site and magazine will give us sufficient financial help in the coming year to enable a dues decrease. Already, some are saying that we can't decrease dues until we see the effect of this modernization. I wonder, will they say there should be no dues decrease if adult membership improves because we don't need it, and no dues decrease if adult membership declines because we can't afford it?

My approach is the opposite: We should lower dues soon because we must break the vicious cycle. If Adult membership booms as a result of our Web and magazine modernization, then we are financially sound and can afford to have lower dues for long-term benefit. If Adult membership continues to decline, then the first-year loss from a dues decrease may force us to access our line of credit, but what else are we to do? We should not tolerate the continued erosion of our valuable Adult membership base while we wait for the perfect moment to take this long overdue step.

LEGAL EXPENDITURES 2005-2006

LUCAS AND MERCANTI, LLP	
Copyrights	\$2,850.00
RIDGER, WEINGER, AND FRANKEL	
Peterson	3,168.81
Ballot Issues	1,552.50
Susan Polgar/Chess Café	1,469.00
Bennett Case	2,535.02
Chess Central	165.00
ATTORNEY CARR MALONEY, PC	
Lawyer: Bennett Case	10,000.00
HARRY SABINE	2,281.93
Chess Café	
Bennett Case	
KCF Agreement	

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by Bill Hall

The past year has been an interesting, challenging and fast-paced adventure. I would like to begin by saying it has been a pleasure serving you, and I look forward to what lays ahead. My tenure began last June, a couple of days after the ballot printing problem and in the middle of a few other controversies. Things have not slowed down since. We, as an organization, have accomplished many goals in the past year, and yet, there is much more that we can accomplish.

My purpose here is to convey some of what we have achieved and to communicate some of the plans that I have in mind for moving forward. For the bulk of the financial information, I refer you to the VP of Finance Report and for membership analysis, to the President's report. This year we:

- Negotiated a credit as reimbursement for the Quebecor error in printing the ballots, so the net result was no additional expense was incurred. This also led us to better ways to handle the balloting process for this year.
- We have implemented many cost-saving measures. With the help of Joel Channing, we reduced the cost of our D & O Insurance by \$10,000 per year. Acting CFO Peggy Stephens found new solutions for managing our credit card fees for an expected savings of \$15,000 annually. She also discovered previous overpayments in workman's compensation insurance for which we received a substantial rebate. We have realized an annual savings of \$3,500 in commercial insurance. Our new co-mailing program with *Chess Life* will give us an estimated \$12,000 in savings, and we will save several thousand from entering into a three-year agreement with Quebecor. Judy Misner was instrumental in finding cost effective printing for our renewal postcards and membership cards with savings in the tens of thousands.
- The USCF now has a newly constructed headquarters and has consolidated operations with the move of the Publications Department to Crossville.
- The Kasparov Chess Foundation was the official sponsor of the men's and women's Olympiad Teams resulting in \$40,000 in funding. Both teams produced fine results with the women finishing a respectable 4th and the men coming through in the clutch to take the Bronze Medal. Several individuals gave generously to the effort and ICC was a supporting sponsor with a \$5,000 contribution. I would like to offer a special thanks to all who supported this effort.
- We have refined and improved many of the office procedures. Our Financial Department is working properly for the first time in years with monthly bank reconciling and a watchful eye toward details. The staff has undergone substantial cross-training, which help to keep overtime to a minimum and maximize flexibility.
- We have reinstated some programs from the past. The Membership Appreciation Program and Tournament Memberships have returned.
- *Chess Life* and the USCF Web site have undergone substantial redesigns.
- Thanks to Mike Nolan's efforts, we have had online tournament entries for almost a year, and we continue to see a significant transition to online membership processing and tournament rating. We have made a concerted effort for improving the accuracy of the information in our member database, including entering an agreement with a company to produce a Life Member's

Directory. This is an optional directory that will allow us to verify, validate, and collect Life Member information at no cost to us. We continue to improve the percentage of members for which we have a valid e-mail address, and make significant strides to utilize appropriate technological improvements in the way we do business.

- We reintroduced a stand-alone scholastic publication, *Chess Life for Kids*, with Glenn Petersen as the Editor.
- Dan Lucas is now our Director of Publications and we hired Jennifer Shahade as our new Web Editor.
- We have demonstrated a dedication to sound fiscal management, delivered on financial performance on a cash basis in accord with the budget from last year, and bring to the Delegates a responsible proposed balanced budget for this year. Beyond this, as I promised at last year's Delegates meeting, we have been making payments to the LMA fund corresponding to Life and Sustaining membership sales.
- We have seen some noticeable improvement to membership trends.

We have had a busy year and I would like to thank the employees that make this all possible. When you get the opportunity, I encourage you to thank them for their tireless efforts for our Organization. Some interesting facts about the current USCF staff that you contact in Crossville, TN:

- Collectively 129 years and nine months of USCF experience,
- Collectively 334 years of chess-playing experience,
- Four expert-rated players in the office,
- Eight players rated over 1600,
- Seven tournament directors on staff with over 220 tournaments directed.

Looking to the future, we have many things in the works to grow and improve our Organization.

- While we have trimmed expenses, we will continue to run as tight of a ship as is possible. That being said, we must now turn our attention to growing revenue. The areas that I have targeted for revenue generation are sponsorships, endorsements, membership, and advertising.
- In addressing our membership issues, I have targeted a three-fold strategy of regain, obtain, and retain. The Web and magazine redesign, as well as the launch of *Chess Life for Kids*, target all three aspects. We have developed and are test marketing a Membership Pilot Project targeted at organized scholastic groups and school systems in order to reach out to new members.
- We will continue to have a focus on improving and enhancing services for our members. One particular area is services that we can provide for our organizers and affiliates. I envision the USCF offering many promotional services for those organizing tournaments. We have established an online TLA system and will be expanding the options associated with it, including transitioning for most TLAs in *Chess Life* and *CLAK* to be submitted online. We are planning to offer TLA e-mails, and we are developing TLA search capabilities based on a distance from your zip code. The newly redesigned membership cards include a middle section for printing Tournament Announcements for tournaments local to the player. The lifeblood of this organization is the affiliates, organizers, and coaches that are driving our membership. We have to continue to find ways to make their life easier and their efforts even

- more successful.
- We must improve communication within our organization. We have developed the *USCF Executive News* in order to fill the need for the former *Executive Board Newsletter* and parts of the Ratings Supplements. My plan is to stop producing printed Rating Supplements by the 2007 calendar year. I am sure this will be controversial; however, we have made many strides to move the USCF out of the technological dark ages and this is another step that must be made. We spend over \$20,000 per year producing these printed supplements. They are currently available online in a timely fashion in a printable format. In eliminating the printed supplements, we allow ourselves the ability to consider transitioning to monthly rating lists. The more responsive our ratings are the more accurate and reliable they will be for our members.
- Mike Nolan is currently working on an e-mail distribution system to ease the communication between committee members and among committees themselves.

The better our communication is within our organization, the more participation we will see, and thereby we will improve retention. Our members are our best asset.

- Lastly, we must focus on Image. We must improve the image of chess in general within society and, most importantly, we have to improve the image of the United States Chess Federation. Constant personal attacks and promoting ridiculous rumors and half-truths on the Internet, although promulgated by a small handful, destroys our Organization's image which has devastating effects on the value of our endorsement and advertising, as well as undermining the desire of people to be members and involved in our governance process. If we do not collectively address this problem, all of our efforts will consistently be undermined and the USCF will never realize its potential. Again, it has been a pleasure serving you this past year, and I look forward to seeing you in Chicago.

USCF PATRON PROGRAM

You can now support American chess activities and get a tax deduction, as well as recognition around the world in *Chess Life* magazine! If you donate **\$50** or more, you'll see your name printed in *Chess Life* six times per year. Names of patrons will also be printed in USCF's Annual Report, and those donating at least **\$150** will be invited to a special conference with the USCF President and Executive Director during the U.S. Open.

Contribute at least **\$1500**, and your name will also appear monthly in a special *Chess Life* box on the same page as our Executive Board and Professional Staff.

Names of all patrons will also be listed on the USCF Website for a year, with Gold Patrons and Gold Benefactors honored on the home page.

All Patron Program donations will be used for USCF projects consistent with the U.S. Chess Trust's activities: scholastic chess, junior chess, prison chess, and U.S. representation in international events.

Mail your contributions to: Chess Trust, PO Box 838, Wallkill, NY 12589. To qualify for your tax deduction, please make your check or money order payable to the U.S. Chess Trust, and identify the check as a contribution to the USCF Patron Program.

GOLD BENEFACTORS (\$15,000 or more) Who will be first in this category?

GOLD PATRONS (\$5,000 or more)

Mitchell Denker

SILVER BENEFACTORS (\$1500 or more)

John Dozier - Oklahoma Chess Foundation - Anonymous Donor from New Jersey

SILVER PATRONS (\$500 or more)

John Campbell - Karl Irons - Alan LaVergne - John McCrary - Jon Edward Quinn - Roger Spero

BENEFACTORS (\$150 or more)

William Bradley - Michael Cherry - Walter Clark - David R. Doemland - Roy Eikerenkoetter - David Finizie K. Michael Goodall - Paul Hock - Agnes Hunsicker - A. Frederick Judson - Frederick Lohr - Andrew Metrick Arthur Montgomery - D.M. Scott - Robert M. Snyder - James Wheeler - Michael Wilson - Harold J. Winston

PATRONS (\$50 or more)

Bruce Arnold-Roksandich - Andrew Batchelor - Britain Beezley - Robert Burke - Daniel Cohen - Robert Daniti Albert Epstein - Joseph Farrell - Ursula Foster - Leon Haft - Leon Hariton - Tim H. Jelmeland - Louis Huntington, Jr. Herbert Jacklyn - Donald Kaiser - Stephen Kenton - Martin Katahn - Allen Kaufman - Kurt Landsberger - Philip Lehpamer - Donald Lubben - Robert Lynch - Michel McBride - Paul McGinnis - John Musser - Richard Neapolitan Michael Neshewat - Susan Noden - Gregory Novak - Samuel Paisley - Kalev Pehme - Steven Palmert - Anthony Podolski Wayne Praeder - John Reed - Thomas Richardson - William Robinson - Kenneth Rogoff - Carol Ruderman Randall Ryan - Edward Sampson - Gilbert Saulter - Francis Schott - Mark Smith-Soto - Stephen Smith - Douglas Southon - Robert Strickler - Dan Terrible - James Theile, Jr. - Imre Toth - Ira Wilkow - Jean Worley

VP of Finance Report *by Joel Channing*

Introduction

No matter which side you were on, the civil war (of southern [northern?] aggression) is over. We have built and occupied our new headquarters in Crossville and, with few exceptions, we are consolidating our personnel there. We are focused on reinvigorating our organization and creating strong financial controls, which, if maintained, will help ensure that we never again face financial shocks like we experienced in Los Angeles a few years ago.

Financial Reports

Although, from a cash perspective, it appears that 2005-6 will be a near break-even year; the financial reports will reflect a significant loss for the year. This is because we have taken significant write-offs of some very old bad debt and monies not received under old contracts. These losses stem from our completion of the ChessCafe renegotiation, a settlement with Games Parlor in which we were pleased to receive half of a debt feared to be without value, and writing off a large number of smaller debts from years ago. We are now basically engaged in house cleaning that will give us a more realistic picture of our finances going forward. The most difficult situation we had to deal with was the ChessCafe renegotiation. Internet competition had eroded margins significantly and the vendor was withholding monies in order to get USCF to renegotiate the deal. When the new Board took office in August about four months of commissions due to the Federation were unpaid. After intense negotiations and consideration of an alternate proposal, we agreed to lower the vendor's corporate guarantee, which we considered uncollectible, and converted it to a more realistic and collectible personal guarantee. Our largest one-time expenditure this year has been the investment we have made in our products and services, particularly the magazine and Web site redesign. The audit is scheduled to begin in late June and the report should be available on the Web by early August and, of course, in Chicago.

Cash Management

Upon assuming the position of VP of Finance, I began working with Bill Hall, and more recently, a former COO and CFO, to create a detailed cash flow reporting and projection system. The USCF historically has relied on an accrual accounting system. We have had considerable debate over cash versus accrual accounting, and it is true that both are needed in order to have a complete financial picture. Nevertheless, USCF is not a publicly traded stock company and, except for the mortgage on our headquarters, we have no external debt. In fact, the major problem from which we are just recovering had nothing to do with accruals or write-offs. It happened because an ED was not paying attention to the balance between sources and applications of cash, and it was allowed to grow to catastrophic proportions due to the lack of a system that would facilitate the involvement of a group of people in monitoring our cash flow. We are streamlining the chart of accounts into a logical system — it grew like topsy with little or no logic up till now. We have created a format for detailed cash flow reporting and soon we will be using Report Writer to automatically

generate the reports, which will be shared quarterly with the Board and the Finance, Audit and LMA Committees. I estimate it will take another year to have this system up and running to the point where we can begin to rely on it. In the interim, we have been updating our cash flow projections monthly and circulating them to the Board and the Committees quarterly. I don't like the use of political buzzwords, but this is real Transparency.

Life Member Assets

There were a few important actions that occurred this year regarding the LMA. Due to some interruptions in expected cash flow, primarily involving ChessCafe, we established a line of credit of \$150,000 secured by LMA CDs. In September, we utilized \$100,000 of this and paid it back in full in November after the settlement. In May we obtained a permanent mortgage loan for the newly constructed headquarters in Crossville. The loan totals \$615,000 in two components. The first component is in the amount of \$465,000 with a 15-year amortization schedule and a fixed note rate of 6.8%. This loan includes \$50,000 for furniture and is secured by the building and the fixtures. The second component is in the amount of \$150,000 at a floating rate of prime minus f% with a mandatory principal reduction of \$10,000 per year. It is secured by \$150,000 of LMA funds which we deposited at the lender's bank and, to the extent other funds do not become available, will be drawn down to pay off the second component of the mortgage loan. We can afford this financing package and it will give us six-figure savings over the life of the loan compared to a 20-year conventional loan. Since October, we have contributed \$36,850 to the LMA fund from sales of Life and Sustaining memberships. This brought the LMA fund up to about \$550,000, from which the aforesaid \$150,000 was transferred to the mortgage lender's bank.

To the Future

Last year's budget was slightly negative. The Executive Board is presenting the Delegates with a balanced budget for 2006-7. Achieving this entailed some hard decisions regarding a combination of streamlining and cuts. Although we believe we are operating more efficiently, we will be studying the cost of our operations in greater detail this year, including detailed allocation of personnel expense to our various activities (tournaments, etc.). Therefore, in looking to the future, we believe that focus on revenue growth is our first imperative. We must accomplish this by first growing membership. One of the ways to bring this about is by entering into strategic alliances — helping others to promote chess and themselves while we enhance our visibility and grow our membership (and maybe make some money too). We have executed a letter of intent and are working on an agreement with AF4C regarding the promotion of their program for elementary school curricula, and we are currently in the discussion phase with several other groups. Our recent Retreat convinced us that we have tremendous potential. The Retreat indicated some ways that we can be more effective by working together, and we have already begun to respond.

USCF STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT *by Joel Channing*

May 6, 7, 2006

Retreat Summary

Introduction

In late 2005, U.S. Chess Federation Board members Joel Channing and Don Schultz created and promoted the concept of gathering a consortium of individuals and organizations that were influential in the game of chess in the United States and bring them to a two-day event to collectively share ideas on the current state of the game and its potential future under the auspices of the United States Chess Federation. Those in attendance were:

Bill Goichberg	USCF Executive Board, President
Don Schultz	USCF Executive Board, Vice President
Joel Channing	USCF Executive Board, VP of Finance
Robert Tanner	USCF Executive Board, Secretary
Beatriz Marinello	USCF Executive Board, At Large Member
Bill Hall	USCF Executive Director
Jon Haskel	Florida Chess Association
GM Joel Benjamin	Representing Professional Chess Players
Joel Berez	Internet Chess Club (ICC)
Jerry Hanken	Chess Journalists of America
Michael Khodarkovsky	Kasparov Chess Foundation
Mikhail Korenman	Chess For Peace
Daniel Lucas	Editor of <i>Chess Life</i>
Gil Luna	Chess Hall of Fame
Mike Nolan	Information Consultant
Rourke O'Brien	American Foundation For Chess, President
Tim Redman	Representing College Chess
Stephen Shutt	Scholastic Council
Harold Winston	Chess Trust

Guided by a professional facilitator, the group explored the current state of the game and the organizations most responsible for its continued growth and development. From this, a picture emerged regarding the key issues that would affect the success of the growth of the game and of the U.S. Chess Federation as its governing body.

This report is a summary of that discussion and the implications for the future.

Current State of the Game

Because the makeup of the group included a diverse cross section of organizations and players involved in the game of chess, a baseline discussion of the current state of the game was conducted. As a result of that discussion, the group reached consensus on the following:

The game can be broken down into the following demographic groups:

1. Scholastic Youth
2. Adult Casual Players
3. Tournament Players (including professionals)
4. Internet Players
5. Chess Educators and Organizers

The current profile of each of these groups was then discussed:

1. Scholastic Youth:
 - a. Strong in the elementary school level up to the 6th grade.
 - b. Weakened its interest in the middle school.
 - c. Remained relatively stable in the high school years.
 - d. Dropped off dramatically in the college age.
 - e. Equal percentages of high income and low income-with middle income not proportionately represented. It was concluded that this basically mirrored the geographic distribution of scholastic programs. Typically, high income school districts and low income school districts were active in recruiting and utilizing chess as a positive learning experience.

2. Adult Casual Players (including clubs):
 - a. This group is flat until the age of 30 and then begins to pick up.
 - b. The group has started to get considerably older with a significant number of casual players in their 60s.
 - c. A large number of these players fell into the "club" category that enjoyed the social experience of the game as much as the game.
 - d. They were sometimes intimidated by the concept of "tournament play."
 - e. They were predominately white.
3. Tournament Players (including professionals):
 - a. This group had a very large number under the age of 17 and a large number over the age of 40, with the other age categories all but non-existent.
 - b. It was disproportionately foreign born and Jewish.
4. Internet Players:
 - a. All ages were participating.
 - b. Typically a pretty sophisticated player.
 - c. Very international.
 - d. Growing at a substantial rate.
5. Chess Educators and Organizers:
 - a. Educators were typically school teachers participating in a scholastic youth program. They commonly possess a relatively low skill set for the game of chess but recognize its educational benefits.
 - b. Organizers typically start as players. They are usually white. The ranks of professional organizers are

thinning as it is more difficult to make the events profitable.

With this current picture in mind, the questions of how and why this demographic is changing were discussed. Again, consensus was reached on the following:

1. Scholastic Youth Chess is only as good as the support that the school administration gives it. If it is valued, the game is perceived as good and is usually strong and successful.
2. Without the backdrop of school support, the value of the game drops off to the potential player.
3. The emphasis schools have now placed on outcome based education has created a "test based" school curriculum with less and less time for chess.
4. Chess has not successfully made the case with the U.S. school system that it can be an essential tool for cognitive development and group problem solving activity. While research is being conducted in this area, it is not necessarily being embraced as a means for this end.
5. High school life factors have changed so that even though chess is becoming more popular, it is, to some degree, still seen as geeky and not cool.
6. Parents tend to underrate chess as a valuable tool in their child's education and/or extracurricular schedule.
7. Even in the schools where chess is valued, program implementation is limited by the number of instructors that have the knowledge to get the participants past the basics.
8. After school programs are designed around other-than-chess programs as instructors tend to adopt "quicker paced" programs.
9. There is tremendous competing interest for family time, which affects both the youth player and the middle aged causal player.
10. Internet play is the only major segment of the game growing in participation, with millions of players, but there is still hesitation by some in the chess establishment to accept it as a regulated and accepted form of the game.

Current State of the Association

The United States Chess Federation is the official governing body for the game of chess in the United States. Since this retreat was commissioned by the Executive Board, it was important to take a snap shot of the Organization, since as part of this strategic report we would be making recommendations on the role of the Federation in the future life of the game of chess.

The demographic perceptions of the experts in the room regarding the game of chess were then compared against the reality of the demographics of the Federation. For the most part, the Federation membership statistics mirrored the demographic perceptions contained earlier in this report. To summarize, they were as follows:

1. Membership was strong at the scholastic level through the 6th grade where it began dropping off until high school where it stabilized until 17. After the age of 17 it dropped off substantially until the age of 30 where it began to grow again until peaking at age 49. While membership started to decline again after 49, it did so at a slow and steady rate.
2. Interestingly, at the peak age of 49, two thirds of those members were current members and one third were life members. And of the two thirds that were current members, over half had been members for over 20 years. This indicates that members captured after college and before their 40's remained loyal to

their membership through their lifetime.

3. Clearly the demographics show that the largest number of members come on board during their school years and the largest number of members failing to renew their membership also happens during their school years.
4. This reinforces the notion that there is little brand loyalty to the Organization before the age of 30 as membership is seen as a requirement to play the game and not necessarily as a tool for their development in the game or in necessary life/education skills.
5. Retention rates improve with the age of the member. Membership sales represent 60% of the current budget used to fund the operations of the organization. This is important from both a membership recruitment and retention perspective.

For the most part, prospects join the USCF if they are interested in participating in tournament play and maintaining a player ranking. Once that interest wanes, there is currently little reason to remain loyal to the Organization and maintain their membership. Because the Organization has had a continual stream of prospective new members through the scholastic and tournament play programs, there has been little need to be concerned about the churn rate of the Organization. With competing interests for their time and competing organizations for their membership dollar, the Organization is recognizing the need to provide greater membership value to the member and create greater membership loyalty.

Other key components of the USCF's operation include a monthly print magazine, sales (via a subcontractor) of chess books and equipment, tournament organization and sponsorship, production and management of rating schedules, Web production, administrative expenses and overhead expenses.

Environmental Scan

Before beginning the discussions of key strategies for improving for the game and the Organization, it was necessary to conduct an environmental scan. This scan would help identify trends or issues that were outside the control of the Organization but that could affect the success of any of its future strategies.

The following were identified as important outside influences that would need to be considered:

1. The world is flat: leveling the playing field for people, resources and information.
2. Bricks and mortar costs are skyrocketing.
3. Print costs are escalating.
4. International leadership.
5. Diversity of the classroom.
6. Declining number of baby boomers.
7. Decreased financing for professional players.
8. Increased accountability at schools.
9. Demographic bubble.
10. Celebrity-obsessed country in a game with few celebrities.
11. Perceived decline in the amount of individual free time.
12. Need for constant entertainment.
13. Need for fast and furious in a game that's slow and thoughtful.
14. Potential child abuse issues with teachers, instructors and clubs.
15. Litigious society.
16. Competition from other chess related organizations for their time and money.

The Future of the Game

The group then brainstormed possible ideas to consider

when developing the strategic direction of the USCF for the future. Through this process many ideas were tendered and were ultimately consolidated into the following:

1. The success of chess as a youth scholastic program will be tied to the ability of the chess world to develop and demonstrate that chess has a place in the educational curriculum as a key to cognitive skill development and problem solving.
2. There is potential to grow the game as a spectator sport by utilizing television and a format edited for quicker more entertaining commentary and celebrity involvement.
3. The game needs to be promoted to the casual player as much less complicated and intimidating than it is currently perceived to be.
4. The long term future of chess depends upon the various chess organizations understanding that they share the same mission and finding ways to partner towards that end.

The Future of the USCF

With this information, the group began the task of assessing the mission and the goals of the United States Chess Federation as it relates to the future of the game of chess.

After much discussion, it was determined that the mission of the USCF was **to promote the game of chess and govern its play**. The goals of the organization could be broken into ones related to promotion or ones related to governance.

In the area of **PROMOTION** of the game, it was determined the USCF should:

1. **Promote the game of chess as:**
 - ... **a part of our culture and quality of life,**
 - ... **an important contributor to the development of critical thinking skills,**
 - ... **a valuable component to our overall education system,**
 - ... **a competitive game/activity.**

These key promotion goals could be accomplished through an implementation plan with three key components:

Information and Research
Education
Publicity

Information and Research

- The USCF should identify research results that identify chess as a contributing or direct influence in cognitive-skill development, critical thinking or other-related positive intellectual development.
- The USCF should support research efforts in this area by providing testimonials, letters of support or other related services to funding agencies that support such research, or partner with organizations requesting funding for program implementation based on this research.
- The USCF should disseminate research results to its members and related partner organizations to support their initiatives in achieving the goals stated above.
- The USCF should partner with all education-related chess organizations to convene an annual conference on a college campus that highlights and promotes the latest research developments in this area.
- The USCF should then publish the conference material as a compendium of information on the topic and make it available to the chess world.

Education

- The USCF should support all partner chess organizations in their attempts to develop and implement school curricula that embrace the game of chess.
- The USCF should provide education for school teacher-based programs to develop a better level of promotion in the schools.

Publicity

- The USCF should reach out to all its partner chess organizations and develop joint print material promoting the same message for the promotion of the game, reiterating key messages and displaying a unified promotion of the game.
- The USCF should develop a plan to court the sports writers of the world to begin preaching the message of chess as a game.
- The USCF should investigate television as a medium to grow the spectator appreciation of the sport.
- The USCF consider hiring a public relations firm to manage and promote the activities of the United States Champion in attempt to elevate its status.

In the area of **GOVERNANCE** of the game, it was determined that the USCF should:

2. **Govern the game of chess by:**
 - ... **consistently administering the rules and arbitrating when necessary,**
 - ... **administering the rating system,**
 - ... **providing support for the development of the profession.**

These key governance goals could be accomplished through an implementation plan with three key components:

Endorsements
Certifications
Players

Endorsements

- The USCF should actively sanction tournaments and communicate those tournaments to their membership and the public on a routine and timely basis.
- The USCF should develop a standardized methodology to endorse chess-related products and publications that assist in the governing of the game.

Certifications

- The USCF should develop a plan to increase the number of certified coaches and tournament directors to promote greater opportunities for tournaments and programs.
- The USCF should develop a plan to acknowledge and recognize the efforts of coaches and tournament directors who have contributed to orderly governance of the rules of the game.

Players

- The USCF should seek to strengthen the support given to national and international teams to elevate their status as important components of the game of chess.
- The USCF should target mid range rated players as a keenly interested audience and seek ways to feed them more direct information on tournaments, tips to improve their game, and opportunities to learn from the professionals.

In order to successfully achieve the goals outlined above, new financial resources will need to be developed or existing ones redirected. Since membership currently represents

60% of the current income of the organization, targeting this area for improvement would greatly enhance this fund development. With that in mind, the group recommended the following strategies.

Membership Recruitment

The goal of the group after analyzing the membership information provided earlier was to **develop a recruitment strategy that spanned the spectrum of the chess-playing public by partnering where possible and targeting where the highest probability for success already existed.**

These strategies included:

- Partnering with other chess membership organizations to promote membership in the USCF.
- Actively engaging the National and State Education Associations and the Association of College and Universities International by sponsoring their events and providing bulk membership opportunities.
- Upgrading the USCF Web site and partnering with Internet organizations to cross promote membership in the USCF.
- Partnering with Internet chess organizations to develop new and different sanctioned tournaments which promote and include membership in the USCF.
- Work with state affiliates and clubs directly to help improve the club experience.
- Develop non-traditional tournament opportunities like coffee shop teams, Chess for Rookies or virtual chess in person, all of which include membership in the USCF.
- Develop a membership program for 55+ adult communities that includes membership and instructional material with suggested field trips to enhance the experience. Sell through senior organizations like AARP or senior publications.
- Partner with AARP or AAA to provide membership in USCF as part of their membership package.
- Develop the rating system to include lifetime recognition so that seniors will not be disincentivised from playing in tournaments.
- Send out free copies of *Chess Life* to targeted groups for a complimentary period. Then sell a 12-month subscription that includes a free USCF membership and a free chess set.

Membership Retention

The goal of the group after analyzing the membership information provided earlier was to **increase the perceived value of membership in the organization so renewal was automatic, thereby bridging the gap from scholastic to adult.**

These strategies included:

- Developing an enhanced welcome package that provided information about national events and tournaments.

- Providing a membership card which included important numbers and products for easy access.
- Sending out a three-month welcome package which includes information about clubs and instructors in their immediate area.
- Developing a program to communicate with the new members when they reach certain benchmarks ... Congrats, you played in your first tournament certificate ... Congrats your rating has gone up 100 points this year certificate.
- Use the enhanced publication as a reason to communicate with the member ... here it is ... then, do you like it ... then, what else would you like to see in it, then, here's a new column, etc.
- Develop an e-mail newsletter that communicates more timely information about new products or publications or tournaments.
- Provide greater value by adding membership in other organizations as a benefit of renewing.
- Mine existing data base to determine members who are at high risk not to renew (no tournaments lately, little activity in ranking, etc) and target them for communication. Newest benefit. New club in the area ... something.
- If TV show ever gets off the ground, develop internet site for members only that gets them inside information about the show, its stars, the moves that let the winner win, etc.

At the conclusion of the retreat, it was agreed that many great ideas had been suggested for the growth of the game and specifically the United States Chess Federation's role in that growth. These strategies must now be discussed by the Board and enhanced by the staff to develop a targeted action plan with timelines.

The gathering of this auspicious group of chess professionals and experts was the first of its kind in the United States. While each brought different expertise to the table, all of the individuals in attendance were united in their love of the game and passion for its continued success. Considerable debate occurred on the road to take to garner that success. Providing a venue to air and channel that debate is what great organizations do.

A clear theme that should not be lost in the next couple of months as this information is now distilled into actionable items is that the future growth of chess in the United States is truly dependent upon a unified approach to achieving that growth. Partnering is the key to that strategy. Duplication of effort is a waste of precious time and resources. Defining and accepting each other's area of expertise and cooperatively using it to enhance the game is good for the game. And, isn't that what this endeavor was all about?

U.S. CHESS TRUST REPORT *by Chairman Harold J. Winston*

The U.S. Chess Trust is a federally tax-exempt 501(c)(3) Massachusetts Trust which supports chess nationwide. Your donations support many worthwhile charitable causes.

The Chess Trust is proud to support school and junior chess nationwide by donating chess sets and boards to schools, providing some free USCF memberships to needy students, and by backing American participants in recognized international junior and youth competitions. The Trust also supports the U.S. Olympiad teams. We are also proud of the Scholar Chessplayer Program, which gives scholarship awards to high-school seniors based on academic and chess achievement. The Trust also contributes to the Collegiate "Final Four." With the generous assistance of the Denker family, the Trust has for many years supported the Arnold S. Denker Tournament of High School Champions. I am pleased to acknowledge that Arnold's son Mitchell has increased the family contribution this year to raise the prize fund. Jack Mallory, Chairman of the Denker Committee, has done a fine job handling the tournament. The Trust also donates to the Susan Polgar Tournament for Girls, held concurrently with the Denker, organized by Susan Polgar and Paul Truong. In cooperation with the New Jersey State Chess Federation (NJSCF), the Trust donated chess sets to Americans serving in our armed forces abroad in the Chess for Vets program that Herman Drenth of New Jersey has handled.

The Trust continues to benefit from the wise counsel of our Chairman Emeritus, Harold Dondis of Massachusetts and from the advice of our Treasurer, Steve Doyle of New Jersey. Last August, Tim Redman, who has guided the magnificent chess program at the University of Texas at Dallas, was elected our Vice President for Chess in Education. Sunil Weeramantry, who has done so much for scholastic chess, was elected our Vice President for Scholastic Chess. We "lost" two Trustees because they were elected to the USCF Executive Board: former Scholastic VP Robert Tanner and Joel Channing. Their service is missed. All our Trustees serve without compensation.

One unusual event occurred this year: Former U.S. Champion Yasser Seirawan was inducted into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame at an overseas location: the Olympiad at Turin, Italy at the end of May. The Trustees had approved his induction last August, but there were a lot of problems arranging the initial induction, although several locations in the United States were considered. Traditionally, inductions take place at the U.S. Open and also at the Hall of Fame. When other possibilities did not work out, Yasser requested

that this be done at the Olympiad and the induction was done by Tim Redman on behalf of the Trust. Holding the induction abroad was an exception to our policy that should not be repeated. I expect that another induction at the World Chess Hall of Fame and Sidney Samole Museum, in Miami, Florida, can also be held next March. I urge anyone reading this report who has not visited the museum to do so. It is a fine showcase for chess due to the work of Shane Samole, Al Lawrence, Gil Luna, Sharon Samole and others, and supported by the U.S. Chess Trust.

Our Managing Director, Barbara DeMaro, an independent contractor, has worked on a number of important projects this year, including, soliciting donations and matching grants, maintaining financial records, administering the Samford Fellowship fund, processing requests for chess sets and free memberships and coordinating with our supplier, Excalibur, and processing donations. Barbara has successfully worked on having our donors remembering to include the Trust in their wills.

I attended the National High School Championship in Milwaukee in April, 2006, and presented one of the Scholar Chessplayer Certificates and met with members of the Scholastic Council to discuss the Trust's support of scholastic chess. Last August I was pleased to speak about Arnold Denker at the Denker-Polgar reception, arranged by Dewain Barber (S. CA), and also join with Mitchell Denker and his son Dylan in awarding the Denker Prizes at the Denker-Polgar prize ceremony. I want to thank Trustee Leroy Dubeck for obtaining a stock donation for the Trust.

Our annual meeting is open to the public. Please join us at the annual Trustees meeting on Thursday afternoon August 10, 2006, at 1:00 p.m., at the Double Tree Hotel in Oak Brook, Arizona. To contact the Trust, email our Managing Director Barbara DeMaro at bduscf@aol.com or e-mail me at HJWinston@aol.com.

I thank Treasurer Steve Doyle (NJ), Chairman Emeritus Harold Dondis (MA), President Shane Samole (FL), Secretary Myron Lieberman (AZ), and all the other Trustees and officers: Chess in Education Vice President Tim Redman (TX), Scholastic Vice President Sunil Weeramantry (NY), Assistant Treasurer Jim Eade (N.CA), Leroy Dubeck (NJ), Mitchell Denker (FL) Joe Ippolito (NJ), and Dana Belcher (NY) for their work in the past year. The Trustees represent all sections of our nation. Donations should be made out to U.S. Chess Trust and can be sent to U.S. Chess Trust, PO Box 838, Wallkill, NY 12589, Attention: Barbara DeMaro.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 7-8, 2006 USCF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

Sunday, May 7

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM on Sunday, May 7, 2006. All Board members were present except Beatriz Marinello who arrived shortly thereafter. Joel Berez, Executive Director Bill Hall, Jerry Hanken, Jon and Jeff Haskel, Executive Assistant Pat Knight, Mikhail Korenman, Secretarial Assistants Myron and Rachel Lieberman, Publications Director Dan Lucas, IT consultant Mike Nolan, Tim Redman, Marvin Rogan, and Harold Winston attended for at least part of the meeting.

VP of Finance Report – VP of Finance Joel Channing mentioned that cash flow is now being tracked monthly, after which he presented a review of the budget. The latest cash-flow projection update indicates that we're close to a break-even result for the year and that there has been no negative cash flow. The budget was discussed. Among the income items explored were the building and mortgage, tournament income (including a \$30K redirection of SuperNationals income and the comment that tournament income was down \$20K), and sponsorships. Among expenses discussed were promotional expenses (up \$3K due to fundraising expenses), personnel, tournament expenses (FIDÉ events were a significant expense this year), building expenses (including insurance), moving and consolidation expenses (including the cost impact of consolidation of data and telephone communication).

It was noted that some book and equipment inventory remains.

There was a concern about safety for the World Youth, which is scheduled to be played in Georgia. Beatriz Marinello indicated that the venue would be changed; however, Don Schultz pointed out that FIDÉ has announced it will be there and suggests that we should protest that it is an unsafe location. Harold Winston mentioned that the Trust has budgeted \$7K to \$9K for the World Youth, which counts as a sponsorship toward the \$50K budgeted for 22 players for the event. There was concern that \$50K was too high. Beatriz Marinello indicated that budgeting a maximum of 10 players and up to 5 to go with them should be sufficient.

Joel Channing asked Bill Hall to confirm details for the \$50K amount and other budget items that have been addressed prior to the continuation of the budget discussion on Monday.

Joel Channing suggested that everyone should be willing to go online to obtain rating supplements. Those few people who want a printed copy should be charged a small fee to cover the cost of printing small quantities of the supplements. Things should be handled online whenever possible. He expressed the need for a solid CFO, which would impact the personnel budget. He pointed out that there are problems with meeting deadlines and communication. He is committed to work with Bill Hall to identify dates and items as he asks for them so that deadlines can be met. He mentioned that Bill Hall is putting in a lot of extra time that he shouldn't need to do. He believes that a strong CFO could alleviate these problems.

Mike Nolan did a lot of work to track memberships and he provided the information. Multi-year members were at 10% in 1999, now they constitute over 15%. Mike indicated that the distribution of revenue from multi-year memberships was about right and that he is working with Bill Hall to revise the chart of accounts to easily track multi-year memberships.

President's Report – President Bill Goichberg mentioned

that we are looking forward to the new look of *Chess Life* and the Web site. The new Web site is due June 15.

Executive Director's Report – Executive Director Bill Hall announced that we are now in the new building in Crossville.

Membership dropped by 1800 last month, which was a smaller drop than experienced last year.

Status of previous action items: Bill Hall asked Myron Lieberman to look into what was needed for a microphone for recording meetings. After studying the problem areas and requirements, Myron Lieberman indicated that there were three options. They included: (1) Obtain a specialized microphone that could be used with recorders or computers. He tested two such microphones at the meeting; (2) Obtain a recording system that includes hardware and software designed for recording meetings on computers. Information on such a system was provided to the office; and (3) Use a simple PA system to amplify the sound in the room and record normally. This has the added advantage of allowing everyone in the room to hear clearer but portability must be considered. Feedback would also be an issue. He mentioned that the details on each option were available on request.

Harry Sabine's letter has been circulated. Joel Channing pointed out that the building would be hard to sell, because zoning limits it to industrial use or for a national membership organization.

Players at their floor who play in a match are now identified monthly. There were no players that would have qualified in April. Thirteen players have been identified over the past several months. They were notified of the change in the rules that might enable them to request a lowering of their floor. Two of them responded with a protest about the rules change. Four were Original Life Masters.

Mike Nolan addressed the issue of the backup plan. He indicated that people are being trained in Tennessee. There are onsite and offsite backups in New Windsor and Tennessee. Progress is being made on documentation.

Bill Hall wants to do a survey in several issues of *Chess Life* and on the Web, as well as to conduct online polls.

Rating of variations was reviewed. Bughouse may be ratable under a separate rating system soon. Mike Nolan is in favor and indicates it would not be a problem, but the Ratings Committee isn't interested. Rating Fischer Random was also considered, but it would create other difficulties and its popularity isn't high enough to justify action at this time.

Joel Channing asked about the yields on our accounts. Bill Hall will get back to him with the specific yield information. He also asked about signatories. Bill Hall indicated that the banks did not have a problem with the CFO being a signatory, but agreed that it may be reasonable to not have the CFO as a signatory on our accounts.

In response to a question from Joel Channing regarding military chess, Bill Hall said that military status tracking requires staff time, and information is hard to obtain. He proposes that an e-mail list be maintained and military personnel can volunteer to let us communicate with them. Mike Nolan suggested that affinity groups be set up on the Web. This would not only enable communication with military personnel, but also with others interested in military chess issues. This information is not on any forums. We need to look at how to collect and update data as well as what to do with it. Jon Haskel suggested that if we charge military members \$1 less you will find out who they are.

Myron Lieberman supported Mike Nolan's idea of affinity (special interest) groups and pointed out that computer user groups have had success with their "SIGs." When someone joins or renews, it would be a good opportunity to ask their interests by having them check off some major interest categories and have an "other" choice where the member can state any interest that isn't on the list. It should be noted that many national professional organizations routinely do this. Perhaps we can learn of some new areas where there is significant interest. Such information can also be obtained through the polls that Bill Hall mentioned.

Mike Nolan announced that the online BINFO system is up and running. He has received two complaints. One was someone who had difficulty with an attachment and the other was a complaint about the number of confidential BINFOs.

Joel Channing mentioned that the retreat was even better than he expected and suggested that Casey Steinbacher, who was the facilitator for the retreat, might be able to come to Chicago and work with the state representatives.

Bill Hall went to three banks as well as looking at other options for the building loan. His recommendation was to go with the Sun Trust Bank. They require a \$150K line of credit which drops \$10K/year. The total amount of the loan would be \$561K, which includes the line of credit with its favorable interest rate and the conventional loan of \$410K at 6.8%. The conventional loan is paid off in the 12th year. Only the line of credit would be secured by the LMA. The following motion was made by Bill Hall with amended wording by Joel Channing:

EB06-066 – Hall/Channing – The Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to enter into, contingent on LMA approval, the agreement for a permanent loan with Sun Trust Bank with a base amount of \$410K, and the understanding that no more than \$150K of LMA assets would be encumbered. However, if the LMA is not in agreement, the Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the same bank for a 20-year amortized loan of \$561K at a rate of 6.8% **PASSED 5-0.**

The Board recessed at 3:43 PM and resumed in closed session at 4:09 PM. No motions arose from closed session and the meeting recessed at 6:08 PM.

Monday, May 8

President Bill Goichberg called the meeting to order in closed session at 9:21 AM on Monday, May 8. No motions arose from closed session and the meeting resumed in open session at 1:13 PM.

Among those present were the Board, Bill Hall, Jerry Hanken, Jon Haskel, Pat Knight, Myron and Rachel Lieberman, Dan Lucas, and Marvin Rogan.

Bill Goichberg indicated that a dues reduction is a central way to promote membership. Discussion was deferred. He mentioned that they were still working on the budget.

Bill Goichberg then brought up the subject of the FIDÉ election and his e-mail motion that was deferred to this meeting. Rachel Lieberman read motion 06-065, after which extensive discussion followed. The discussion will be appended to these minutes.

EB06-65 – Goichberg – Whereas: 1. The USCF Executive Board unanimously endorsed the candidacy of Bessel Kok for FIDÉ President, and we feel that his election is very important for the promotion of chess in the USA and the world,

2. The Executive Board subsequently, at its February meeting, endorsed the candidacy of Beatriz Marinello for FIDÉ General Secretary of the Americas,

3. Beatriz Marinello had voted for the Board endorsement

of Bessel Kok. However, on April 4, she wrote to the Board about the FIDÉ election, "I will remain neutral and willing to work with the administration that wins." On April 6, she wrote, "I view my position as someone who is acting in the best interest of the Organization. Maintaining a neutral position, in my opinion, does not affect the votes of other federations." On April 9, she wrote, "I do not believe that the USCF position is to obligate people to actively campaign for a particular candidate."

4. USCF policy, as recently reaffirmed by the Executive Board, is that our FIDÉ representatives are required to support USCF positions on FIDÉ issues.

5. We believe that in a democracy, supporting the best qualified candidate in an election is appropriate and does not constitute a refusal or inability to work with a different candidate, should the one we are supporting fail to be elected.

6. We believe that to have a USCF representative advocating a neutral position in discussions with representatives of other federations will undermine our support for the candidacy of Bessel Kok.

Therefore, we ask Beatriz Marinello to consider accepting one of the following two positions:

A) She agrees to affirmatively advocate the candidacy of Bessel Kok, to the best of her ability, in any election discussions she may have with the representatives of other federations.

B) She withdraws her offer to represent USCF at the upcoming Turin FIDÉ meeting and her candidacy for General Secretary of the Americas. In the event she chooses not to attend these meetings, USCF will reimburse her for any nonrefundable travel expenses.

If Beatriz does not endorse one of these positions within three days of the passage of this motion, the USCF endorsement of her candidacy for General Secretary of the Americas is hereby rescinded, and FIDÉ shall be notified that we oppose her nomination. **PASSED 3-0-2** with Beatriz Marinello and Robert Tanner abstaining. Please note: This motion was introduced by e-mail prior to the meeting and retains its e-mail motion number. Highlights of the discussion follow.

After the vote, the Board took a four-minute break at 2:05 PM and resumed at 2:09 PM. Beatriz Marinello returned at 2:21 PM.

The recent U.S. Championship was then discussed.

Complaints were received about obscene language being used in Internet posts by USCF Committee members. Bill Goichberg indicated that committee members are representatives of USCF and they should adhere to standards. Joel Channing suggested that these situations can be handled on an individual basis without creating rules and forms. He said that common sense is good enough and any further discussion should be in closed session.

Review of recent USCF actions:

Life Titles are on Mike Nolan's list of things to do.

Bill Hall indicated that some savings were achieved through Glenn Petersen's review of *Chess Life* postage.

Bill Hall said that he would give Susan Polgar one-half page in *Chess Life* for her girls' team as a one-time deal. He has an e-mail but no written agreement. Joel Channing asked what if she claims it is permanent. Without a signed agreement we're in court. Bill Hall will make sure there is a signed contract. Joel Channing emphasized that this must be done.

Bill Goichberg said that we should go back to the old system of rating foreign FIDÉ events.

It was noted that organizers pay a flat fee of \$35 for registration for every FIDÉ event.

Bill Goichberg reviewed the system of identifying players at their floor who haven't had good results lately and noti-

fyng them that they can request that their floor be lowered if they so choose.

Joel Channing has communicated with Hal Terrie re: the Ethics Committee. He received a corrected document from Hal Terrie regarding Ethics Committee procedures and indicated that he believes it is correct.

Don Schultz moved to refer the following motion to the Ratings Committee:

EB06-067 – Schultz – Players age 60 years and older who have not played in a (USCF-rated) tournament in at least three years will not lose rating points in their next two events. **REFERRED TO RATINGS COMMITTEE 5-0.**

Jerry Hanken presented two motions recommended by the U.S. Open Committee. Committee liaison Bill Goichberg sponsored the motions, which were worded:

EB06-068 – Goichberg – Effective as soon as feasible, USCF shall solicit and consider bids for future U.S. Opens. The Executive Director may, at his or her sole discretion, decline all bids in any year and have the event organized internally. **PASSED 5-0.**

EB06-069 – Goichberg – The previous practice of recognizing five years or more of playing in the U.S. Open shall be resumed. **PASSED 5-0.**

EB06-070 – Schultz – Robert Tanner is appointed FIDÉ Zonal President. **PASSED 4-0-1** with Robert Tanner abstaining.

EB06-070 – Tanner – Bill Kelleher is renamed FIDÉ Delegate. **PASSED 5-0.**

Possible appointments to various FIDÉ Commissions and other assignments were discussed. A complete list was not finalized at this time.

FIDÉ Priorities include the Argentina bid for the 2010 Olympiad and retention of zones in the FIDÉ structure.

Outreach Committee Chair Myron Lieberman noted two new Outreach developments.

Outreach Committee member Fernando Moreno announced that the National Teacher of the Year award was presented to Kimberly Oliver, a colleague of his at Broad Acres Elementary School in Montgomery County, MD. She is a Kindergarten teacher and Fernando Moreno is working with her to include chess in her presentations to education teachers throughout the U.S. He is looking for helpful resources. We suggested the A&E film “Knights of the South Bronx,” but it is not yet available for sale by A&E, so we suggested that he contact David McEnulty. Alexey Root suggested that Leslie and Steve Lipschultz, who produce David McEnulty’s software, might help. They not only provided the movie but also offered to help the effort with other resources. Thanks, Alexey, and special thanks to Leslie and Steve Lipschultz. Please note: Anyone who can offer helpful Chess in Education resources for Fernando Moreno and Kimberly Oliver should contact Fernando or the Outreach Committee.

After two unsuccessful attempts to get past the screeners at the National Stamp Advisory Council, we have received notification that our third try has passed the screening phase and will be considered by the Council. They are currently working on issues for 2009.

Joel Berez indicated there was a demand for play on the Web using regular USCF ratings.

Bill Goichberg said this should be referred to the Ratings Committee, and also moved to have the Rules Committee develop rules that will assure safeguards.

EB06-071 – Goichberg – We ask the Rules Committee to consider developing a set of rules for regular rated online play which will assure necessary safeguards. **PASSED 5-0.**

The meeting went into closed session and resumed in open session at 4:55 PM. The following motions came out of closed session.

EB06-072 – Marinello – In view of the Board passing a motion withdrawing its support of my nomination for General Secretary of the Americas, I move to reconsider the endorsement of Bessel Kok. **FAILED 1-4.**

A proposal for providing office furniture for the Crossville office was received from Ivan Allen Workspace and distributed to the Board. It illustrated the furniture involved and included quotations for both the furniture and financing.

EB06-073 – Channing – Move to accept the proposal for office furniture from Ivan Allen Workspace with five-year financing as presented by the Executive Director. **PASSED 4-0** with Beatriz Marinello not present.

EB06-074 – Board – The Board authorizes the following awards:

Award/Recipient(s)

Chess City of the Year: Crossville, (TN), Palm Beach Gardens (FL)

Chess Club of the Year: St. George, UT, Chess Club

Chess College of the Year: U of CT School of Engineering, Texas Tech

Committee of the Year: International Affairs

Distinguished Service Award: Mike Nolan

Frank J. Marshall: Ambassador Shaun Alexander

Grandmaster of the Year: Ildar Ibragimov, Anna Zatonskih

Honorary Chess Mates: Jim Warren, Delores Wagner, Elizabeth Tanner

Gold Koltanowski Medal: America’s Foundation for Chess (AF4C)

Meritorious Service: Jim Brotsos, Jon Haskel, Wilder Wadford, Jon and Barbara Fortune

Organizer of the Year: Cris Collinsworth Foundation

Outstanding Career Achievement: Gus Gosselin, Fred Goldhirsch/Doug Bellizzi, David McEnulty, Jerry Weikel

Scholastic Service: Tim Redman

Special Services: Kim Cramer, John Donaldson, Mikhail Korenman, Greg Shahade

Tournament Director of the Year: Walter Brown

Special Friend of USCF: Phil Haley

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 PM.

VOLUNTEER EXPENSE REPORT

Paid during the fiscal year ending May 31, 2006

NAME	CAPACITY	TOTAL AMOUNT
Tim Hanke	Executive Board	\$ 306.02
Greg Shahade	Executive Board	343.30
Beatriz Marinello	Executive Board	4,993.64
Steven Shutt	Executive Board	363.40
Elizabeth Shauhnessy	Executive Board	2,404.80
Don Schultz	Executive Board	1,460.59
Joel Channing	Executive Board	987.59
Robert Tanner	Executive Board	1,479.57
William Kelleher	FIDÉ Representative	1,820.33

ADVANCE AGENDA FOR THE 2006 USCF BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

OAK BROOK, IL AUGUST 12-13, 2006

Note: All motions in this advance agenda have been taken verbatim from the submissions of individual Delegates. The publication of any motion herein does not constitute an endorsement, agreement, or position by the USCF of anything included or implied in any such motion.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY USCF PRESIDENT – BILL GOICHBERG

Moment of silence in memory of those of the chess community who have passed on.

II. ROLL CALL OF DELEGATES

ADM 06-01 (Bill Goichberg, NY): The Delegates re-elect as Delegates-at-Large those whose terms are expiring or have expired and who are present at this meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND STANDING RULES, MINUTES OF THE 2005 DELEGATES MEETING AND APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN.

ADM 06-02 (Harold Winston, IL): Moved, that the minutes of the 2005 Delegates Meeting as published in the Executive Board Newsletter #1 for 2005-2006 be accepted.

ADM 06-03 (Bill Goichberg, NY): Moved that Mike Nolan be appointed parliamentarian.

ADM 06-04 (Robert Tanner, AZ): The Delegates approve the advance agenda for the 2006 Delegates Meeting and approve the Standing rules as printed in the Delegates Call.

IV. CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

ADM 06-05 (Robert Tanner, AZ): Moved that Special Elections to fill two vacancies on the Executive Board be ratified. The new EB members will take office immediately.

ADM 06-06 (Robert Tanner, AZ): Moved that the delegate board elections for 2007-2008 term be certified. The new Delegates will take office at the conclusion of this meeting.

V. RATIFICATION

ADM 06-07 (Harold Winston, IL): The Delegates ratify all actions of the Executive Board appearing in the Minutes published in the *Executive Board Newsletter*, and the *Delegates Call*, since the conclusion of the 2005 Delegates Meeting.

VI. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND STAFF

- A. Report of the President (Bill Goichberg)
- B. Report of the Executive Director (Bill Hall)
- C. Report of the VP of Finance (Joel Channing)

ADM 06-08 (Board): The 2006-2007 budget as presented by the Vice-President of Finance is adopted.

- D. Report from the Director of Publications (Daniel Lucas)
- E. Report of the Chairman of the U. S. Chess Trust. (Harold Winston)

VII. REPORT OF THE FIDE DELEGATE AND ZONAL PRESIDENT

- FIDE Delegate (Bill Kelleher)
- FIDE Zonal President (Robert Tanner)

VIII. ELECTION OF DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Audit Committee Election
Bylaws Committee Election
Election Committee Election
Ethics Committee Election
LMA Committee Election

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Due to time restraints, all Committee reports will be included in this year's "Delegates Call" or distributed as hand outs at the meeting.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Motions referred to EB, ED

ADM 05-23 - DM 05-26 (Mike Nolan, NE) Modify Article VI of the Bylaws to add the following section to the Bylaws: Section ___:

Restrictions. Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as paid USCF employees, paid consultants or as vendors of goods or services to the USCF during their actual tenure on the Executive Board and for a period of one year after their board service ends. Except as noted below, this shall not affect a board member's ability to organize or direct USCF-rated events or to serve as an officer or owner of a USCF affiliate. Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as the chief TD for USCF National events during their tenure on the Board and for a period of one year after their board service ends. Elected members of the Executive Board may not serve as the organizer of a USCF national event (or as an officer or owner of a USCF affiliate serving as the organizer of a USCF national event) during their actual tenure on the Board and for a period of three years after their board service ends unless the agreement to serve as the organizer of that national event was signed prior to that person's becoming a candidate for election to the Executive Board. State chapter and not-for-profit affiliates with Board members who are also on their board are exempt from this restriction. In unusual circumstances, elected Executive Board members may be assigned tasks dealing with day-to-day operations of the USCF. No compensation for these tasks beyond the reimbursement of direct out-of-pocket expenses may be paid. **REFERRED to the Executive Board and the Bylaws Committee.** The current Board is urged to adopt this code for its members.

ADM 05-24 - DM 05-29 - (Mike Nolan, NE): Modify Article VI of the Bylaws to add the following section to the Bylaws: Section ___: Recalls. The Delegates may initiate a recall of an elected Executive Board member by a 2/3 majority vote of a motion on the advance agenda of an Annual or Special Delegates Meeting, by a 3/4 majority vote of a motion not on the advance agenda of an Annual or Special Delegates Meeting, or by petitions signed by 3/4 of the Delegates in lieu of a meeting of the Board of Delegates.

The Voting Members may initiate a recall of an elected Executive Board member by petitions signed by 15% of the voting membership based on the membership numbers at the end of the most recent fiscal year, i.e., May 31. The USCF Secretary shall have two weeks from the date the petition is received by the USCF office to determine if a recall petition is valid. A recall may not be initiated on a Board member during the first six months or the last six months of that member's term of office. Once a recall

motion has been passed or a recall petition certified as valid, a recalled Executive Board member shall be given 15 days to decide whether to resign or to be the subject of a recall election. If the recalled Executive Board member resigns, the recall motion or petition becomes moot upon the resignation of the board member.

The recall motion must give the reasons for the recall, for which reasons will be published in *Chess Life* exactly once, along with an optional statement of no more than 500 words from the Board member being recalled. These statements shall appear in the issue of *Chess Life* closest to when the voting in the recall election begins.

To be affirmed, the recall shall require $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote of the Voting Members' participation in a recall election, such election to be held under conditions similar to those for regular or special Executive Board elections. At least 1500 Voting Members must participate in the recall election in order for the results to be valid. If the Board member being recalled is serving as the USCF Secretary, the Executive Board shall appoint another Board member to serve as the Secretary for the purposes of conducting the recall election.

If the motions or petition recalling the Board member does not specify a date for the recall election voting to begin, the Executive Board shall schedule such an election to commence no more than 120 days after the recall election voting to begin, the Delegates or the recall petitions are certified. The date for counting the votes in the recall election shall be no more than 52 days after the day that voting begins.

Until the votes in the recall election are counted, the recalled Executive Board member retains all right and privileges of a Board member. Once the recall votes are counted, if the recall is affirmed the Board member is immediately removed from the Executive Board and a vacancy exists on the Executive Board. **REFERRED to the Bylaws Committee.**

NDM 05-35 – DM 05-15 re: NDM 04-33 DM 04-29 (Steve Doyle, NJ; Harold Winston, IL; Bill Goichberg, NY)
Individual Membership Plans:

Adult: 1 year: \$45; 2 years \$82; 3 years \$117

Youth: 1 year: \$23; 2 years \$41; 3 years \$ 59

(Under 20 years old)

Scholastic: 1 year: \$19; 2 years \$32; 3 years \$ 44

(Under 15 years old)

Affiliate Commissions \$2 per membership. Online discounts \$2 per membership. \$10 discount for those over the age of 65.

Please note: The proposal has the effect of ending the offering of new Life, Senior Life, and Blind Life memberships. Adults and Youth Members get 12 issues of *Chess Life*. Scholastic Members get 6 issues. **REFERRED** to Board, Finance, Scholastic.

Please also note that only passage by the Delegates can eliminate any membership category specified in the Bylaws. This motion was referred, it did not pass.

NDM 05-40 – DM 05-34 Elizabeth Shaughnessy (CA-N) – The highest finishing female in the Senior Open is seeded into the U.S. Women's Championship. **REFERRED to the Executive Board with input from the Women's Chess and Senior Chess Committees.**

NDM 05-44 – DM 05-38 Sam Sloan (NY-D) – If an Executive Board member resigns within five months before a Delegates Meeting or during the Delegates Meeting, then the Delegates at this meeting will elect a Board member to fulfill the empty spot until the following year by which time a new election can be held. **REFERRED to the Bylaws Committee.**

ADM 06-09 (Harold Winston, IL) Pursuant to Article III,

Section 9 of the Bylaws, the Delegates have reviewed the promotional memberships offered by the Executive Board in 2005-2006 and authorize their continuance.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

ADM 06-10 (Harold Winston, IL; Tim Just, IL; and Bill Goichberg, NY)

The Delegates elect Michael Nolan a Delegate-at-Large for his many services to chess.

(This requires a $\frac{3}{4}$ Delegates vote at 2 consecutive annual meetings of which this would be the first.)

ADM 06-11 (TDCC Committee) IA and FA changes to TD Certification

Tournament Categories

14. Category I.

A tournament held in the United States that will be submitted to both FIDE and USCF for rating.

a. FIDE events that award title norms for GMs, IMs, WGMs, and WIMs and will be submitted to FIDE for rating must be directed by an International Arbiter (IA), Federation Arbiter (FA), or a Senior, or higher, certified TD, supervised by an IA.

b. FIDE events that do not award title norms but will be submitted to FIDE for rating must be directed by a TD certified at the Senior level or higher who has the FIDE endorsement and whose level is appropriate for the expected size of the event.

24. Limitations.

A Club TD may not be the Chief TD for USCF Grand Prix, Category N or Category I tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A, B, or C tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 50 players. Computer assisted Club TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 60 players with the aid of one assistant TD. **IA and FA experience credit of any kind is unavailable at Category I tournaments.**

28. Limitations.

A local TD may not be the Chief TD for Category N or Category I tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A or B tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 100 players. Computer-assisted local TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 120 players with the aid of one assistant TD.

43. Qualifications.

The USCF will submit a title application for the International arbiter and FIDE arbiter titles for current USCF members who are certified at the Senior, ANTD, or NTD level and meet all the following requirements. FIDE requires that an IA applicant must already hold the title of FA. Applicants will pay all fees regarding this process:

a. Thorough knowledge of the *Laws of Chess* and the FIDE Regulations for chess competitions;

b. Absolute objectivity, demonstrated at all times during his or her activity as an arbiter;

c. Sufficient knowledge of at least one official FIDE language for FA and obligatory knowledge of the English language, minimum at conversation level, and of chess terms in other official FIDE languages, for IA.

d. Experience: USCF Senior TD and chief or deputy arbiter in at least four Category I events documented by the appropriate title norm certificate signed by a current IA or FA and governed by the FIDE Laws of Chess and Rules of Play such as the following:

- d1. The final of the National Adult Championship (not more than two);
- d2. All official FIDE tournaments and matches;
- d3. International title tournaments and matches;
- d4. International chess festivals with at least 100 contestants.

ADM 06-12 (TDCC Committee) Closes a loophole in TD Credits that may be claimed.

Add the following to Tournament Director Certification:

The Local Director

26. Experience Requirements.

g. Only one experience credit as a section chief is allowed in multiple-sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same day may be defined as sections of the same tournament.

ADM 06-13 (TDCC Committee) New wording to reflect IA and FA title requirements.

Add the following to The Senior Director 30. Experience Requirements. (page 249-250):

d. A current International arbiter (IA) or FIDE arbiter (FA) meets Senior TD experience requirements if:

- 1. The IA or FA status is verified by FIDE.
- 2. The IA or FA states they are relocating to the United States from a foreign country.
- 3. The IA or FA is a USCF member.
- 4. The IA or FA is at least certified as a USCF Club TD.
- 5. The IA or FA has satisfactorily assisted at a minimum of three USCF Category C tournaments under the supervision of a Senior TD totaling at least 200 players.
- 6. The IA or FA has satisfactorily assisted at least one Category D tournament and satisfactorily submitted the rating report.
- 7. The IA or FA has an established USCF rating.

ADM 06-14 (TDCC Committee) Closes a loophole in TD Credits that may be claimed.

The Senior Director

30. Experience Requirements.

d. Only one experience credit as a section chief is allowed in multiple-sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same day may be defined as sections of the same tournament.

ADM 06-15 (TDCC Committee) Closes a loophole in TD Credits that may be claimed.

The Associate National Director (ANTD)

34. Experience Requirements

e. Only one experience credit as a section chief is allowed in multiple-sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same day may be defined as sections of the same tournament.

ADM 06-16 (Jon Haskel, FL) 22C6. Full-point byes after half-point and zero-point byes.

A full-point bye should not be assigned to a player who has previously taken or committed to a half-point *or zero-point* bye unless all others in the score group have already had a bye or a no-show forfeit win. **See also** 28L, Full-point byes.

ADM 06-17 (Jon Haskel, FL) 28L4. Full-point byes after half-point and zero-point byes.

A full-point bye should not be awarded to a player who has previously taken or committed to a half-point *or zero-point* bye unless all others in the score group have already had a bye or a no-show forfeit win. **See also** 22C, Half-point byes.

ADM 06-18 (Leroy Dubeck, NJ; Ronald Groseibl, NJ; Herman Drenth, NJ; Dean Ippolito, NJ; Joe Ippolito, NJ; Roger Inglis, NJ; Ken Thomas, NJ; Hal Sprechman, NJ; George Phoenix, NJ; Todd Lunna, NJ; Pete Tamburro, NJ) Each USCF affiliate shall receive one free Tournament Life Announcement of up to 8 lines in *Chess Life* for each USCF-

rated chess tournament that is conducted by that affiliate.

ADM 06-19 (Mike Nolan, NE; Harold Winston, IL) Add to Article IX, Sundry Bylaws, a new section:

“For purposes of the Bylaws, a tournament director at a national tournament who is not already a USCF employee shall not be considered a USCF employee.”

Rationale: This wording clears up some confusion this year concerning whether TDs at national tournaments are considered employees for bylaws purposes.

ADM 06-20 (Mike Nolan, NE; Harold Winston, IL) Add to Article VI, Section 3:

“Executive Board votes may be taken by e-mail provided at least five days are allowed for discussion. As soon as all Executive Board members vote, the Board vote is official.”

Rationale: E-mail voting rules for the Executive Board should be spelled out.

ADM 06-21 (Harold Winston, IL; Mike Nolan, NE; Bylaws Committee) Add to the Executive Board Standard of Conduct Delegate Action of Continuing Interest 27 (2) (A)

“An Immediate family member is a spouse, a sibling, a child, or a parent.”

Rationale: The Executive Board Standards of Conduct use the term “immediate family member” without defining the term and it should be defined for clarity.

ADM 06-22 (Harold Winston, IL; Mike Nolan, NE; Bylaws Committee)

Add to Executive Board Standards of Conduct Delegate Action of Continuing Interest 27. (2) (A), the following:

“However, an immediate family member may continue to receive financial compensation if such compensation results from an agreement made prior to the Board member becoming a candidate.”

Rationale: To be fair an immediate family member of an Executive Board member should not be penalized if the compensation results from a prior agreement.

ADM 06-23 (Harold Winston, IL; Mike Nolan, NE; Richard Koepcke, NCA) Add to Article VI, Section 1 of the Bylaws, Executive Board Composition:

“No Executive Board member may be a full time or part time salaried or hourly USCF employee except for the USCF Executive Director serving as a non-voting member.”

Rationale: The Bylaws prohibit employees from being candidates for the Executive Board but should also prohibit them from serving on the Executive Board.

ADM 06-24 (Mike Nolan, NE) The USCF will pay FIDE title fees for players earning the IM or GM title, including processing fees for IMs and GMs changing their country or registry to USA (but just once for any one player), all other title fees (including arbiter titles) are to be paid by the person requesting and receiving the title. Players who have qualified for titles such as FIDÉ Master or Candidate Master will be notified by the USCF of their eligibility.

ADM 06-25 (Mike Nolan, NE) State chapters that do not submit a list of nominees for Delegates from their state (or indicate that they do not intend to nominate anyone for Delegate to represent their state) by May 1 of a State Delegate election year will be deemed to have resigned as the State Chapter for that state. A State Chapter that lets its USCF affiliate lapse for more than two calendar months will be deemed to have resigned as the State Chapter for that state.

ADM 06-26 (Mike Nolan, NE) Effective January 1, 2007, the USCF will not submit an event held in the U.S. to FIDÉ for rating or approve norms earned at an event held in the U.S. if that event has not been registered as a FIDÉ event with the USCF in advance of when the event begins. (A form will be available on the USCF Web site for this purpose.)

Appropriate registration fees may be charged for registering FIDÉ events.

ADM 06-27 (Mike Nolan, NE) A TD who submits FIDÉ norms or a FIDÉ-rated event for processing by the USCF more than two weeks after the last day of the event will be fined \$50 for each seven days (or fraction thereof) that the report is late (defined as the number of days between the event ending date and the date of submission to the USCF) and will not be permitted to register any new FIDÉ events with the USCF or submit any events with the USCF for rating by FIDE until the fine is paid.

ADM 06-28 (Mike Nolan, NE) Add to Article V, Section 6A of the Bylaws, paragraph 3, dealing with the naming of Additional Alternate Delegates: Any Additional Alternate Delegates who are listed by the USCF as residents of the state for which they have been named as Additional Alternate Delegates will have priority over any Additional Alternate Delegates who are not listed as residents of that state.

ADM 06-29 (Mike Nolan, NE) All Delegate mandates and Board directives regarding free TLAs in *Chess Life* are rescinded. Affiliates are encouraged to use the USCF's Online TLA Service.

ADM 06-30 (Mike Nolan, NE) Except as contained within the Bylaws, all existing Delegate mandates and Board directives regarding the editorial content of *Chess Life* (and/or *Chess Life for Kids*) are rescinded. (Comment: This excludes the candidate information required for Executive Board elections, and other governance matters, such as calls for nominations and calls for ADMs.)

ADM 06-31 (Tim Just, IL) The U.S. Masters will be renamed: The Helen Warren U.S. Masters.

ADM 06-32 (Grant Perks, OH) **Rating List & Supplements:** The Executive Board is authorized by the Delegates to publish annually the ratings of active players in *Chess Life* and to make available by download a bi-monthly or monthly Supplement. By request, any member or affiliate who wishes to pay may receive a copy of the Annual Rating List and Supplements via mail at cost.

ADM 06-33 (Guy Hoffman, WI) Replace the language of Article VI, Section 9 with the following: If a vacancy occurs on the Executive Board, the Executive Board may decide to fill the vacancy by a Special Election in accordance with Art. VI, Section 5B. If two or more vacancies occur, the Executive Board will instruct the Election Committee to hold a Special Election in accordance with Section 5B.

ADM 06-34 (Mike Carr, SCA; E. Steven Doyle, NJ; Leroy W. Dubeck, NJ) In Article VII Section A (4) add after "The LMAC is responsible for managing the Life Member Assets." No life member asset may be encumbered or spent without prior approval of a majority of the LMAC.

ADM 06-35 (Rules Committee) Rule 15A: Change current wording to: The player must first make the move, and then record it on the scoresheet.

ADM 06-36 (Rules Committee) Add Rule 43: A scoresheet is

any piece of paper, electronic, or mechanical recording device that allows a player to comply with Rule 15A. Electronic scoresheets are subject to certification guidelines as published by the USCF. An electronic scoresheet not so certified is not considered standard and may only be used at the discretion of the tournament director.

Often a pre-printed scoresheet has spaces indicating players' names, event, other game-related information, spaces for the recording of the moves, result and the signatures of the players.

If a scoresheet is provided by the event, then that scoresheet is the standard used for that event.

If a scoresheet is not provided by the event, then an alternate scoresheet is allowed provided it meets the rules established in 15A.

If an event, even when it provides scoresheets, does not require that a copy of the score be submitted, then the TD may allow the use of an alternate scoresheet.

If an event requires that a copy of the score to be submitted, the TD may require the use of the scoresheet provided, or may accept an alternate method of providing that score.

A TD may require the use of the provided scoresheet, or may allow non-standard scoresheets to be used even if one is provided.

ADM 06-37 (Tim Just, IL): All parents, coaches, and non-staff members are restricted from being in the chess tournament room at National Scholastic tournaments while play is in session.

Rationale:

Concern 1: At the National Youth Action 2004 a coach assaulted a TD. The police were called. The coach had his USCF membership suspended. The coach is currently in litigation with USCF over this. We are lucky a coach has not assaulted a child so far.

Concern 2. Non-staff members continually take up staff time with false claims. The scholastic staff then does not have time to deal with the concerns of the kids. Concern 3. At a recent National Scholastic event a parent/coach that was given access to the floor ignored the TD staff and stood on a chair from which he fell and hurt a student.

By restricting non-staff members at National Scholastic events from being on the playing floor while play is in progress, the concerns above are relegated to almost non-existent. The staff can attend to the kids, costly lawsuits are avoided, USCF memberships do not get suspended, TDs and kids do not get attacked on contracted USCF hotel areas, and the kids do not get hurt by careless adults.

ADM 06-38 (Bill Goichberg, NY) The Bylaws are amended as follows.

In Article III, Section 3, change "Scholastic Membership" to "Junior Membership" and "Scholastic Member" to "Junior Member."

Create a new Article III, Section 4, which is the same as the existing Article III, Section 3, except that dues are reduced from \$19, \$35 and \$52 to \$17, \$33 and \$48.

Renumber the other sections of Article III, and references to sections of Article III in the Bylaws, appropriately.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

BYLAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHESS FEDERATION CURRENT THROUGH THE 2005 USCF DELEGATES MEETING

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the corporation shall be the United States Chess Federation (USCF) also known as the United States of America Chess Federation, commonly known as US Chess.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

Section 1. The purpose of the Federation shall be educational and instructional, to broaden and develop chess as art and recreation, as a significant element of culture in America. The Federation shall cooperate with schools, colleges, hospitals, military bases, community centers, recreation departments, and other groups and institutions, in teaching chess, conducting tournaments, and other activities. The Federation shall disseminate information through its publications and representatives, and the Federation shall select the official USA representatives in all international chess affairs. The Federation shall encourage and support chess programs for handicapped individuals and the participation of handicapped in chess activity, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by handicapped individuals in all chess competition.

Section 2. The Federation is pledged:

To operate exclusively for educational, recreational, and social welfare purposes;

That no part of its contributions, dues, or net income shall inure to the benefit of any individual, except that trophies or prizes awarded in the course of its educational and promotional program shall not be so construed;

That the Federation is not operated for profit and that neither principal nor income of any of its funds may be used in any attempt to influence legislation;

To promote the study and knowledge of the scientific game of chess;

To foster the development of players and to help those who seek to become masters;

To encourage the formation of chess groups, clubs, and associations;

To hold a tournament no less often than once every two years for the Chess Championship of the United States and to confer upon the winner of such tournament the title "United States Chess Champion"; and

To hold an open tournament every summer in the United States.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Regular Membership. Any person may become a Regular Member of the Federation upon payment of \$49 which includes a commission of up to \$4, \$90 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$5, or \$130 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$5. This may also be referred to as Full Adult Membership.

Section 2. Youth Membership. Any person under 20 years of age and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits his or her membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Youth Member of the Federation upon payment of \$25 which includes a commission of up to \$2, \$49 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$4, or \$70 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$5

Section 3. Scholastic Membership. Any person under 15 years of age and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits his or her membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Scholastic Member of the Federation upon payment of \$19 which includes a commission of up to

\$2, \$35 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$2, or \$52 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$3. This membership includes a subscription to an appropriate publication.

Section 4. Special Membership. A blind person may become a Special Member of the Federation upon payment of 25% of the regular membership rate. Any person who is incarcerated in a penal institution of the United States may become a Special Member upon payment of 25% of the regular membership rate.

Section 5. Senior Membership. A person who has passed his or her 65th birthday (and who is a resident of the United States or if he or she submits his or her membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Senior Member of the Federation upon payment of 75 % of the regular membership rate.

Section 6. Family Membership Plans.

Family Plan 1—\$64, includes parents and their children under age 20 in the household (living at one address). Also includes any full-time college students up to age 24.

Family Plan 2—\$35, includes all children under age 20 in the household (living at one address).

Family Plan 1 & 2 includes 12 issues of *Chess Life*

Section 7. Life Membership. Any person may become a Life Member of the Federation upon payment of \$1000 dues. Any person age 65 years or older may become a Life Member by payment of \$500 dues, or one half of the Life Member rate then in effect. Any blind person may become a Life Member upon payment of \$250 dues. The Federation may require reasonable confirmation of eligibility from time to time as a condition to continuation of Life membership.

Section 8. Sustaining Membership. Any person may become a Sustaining Member of the Federation upon payment of dues equal to twice the current rate for Regular Membership plus a surcharge of \$15. After 10 such timely payments, a Sustaining Member becomes a Life Member, except that the rate for Sustaining Member automatically changes with each dues change for Regular Members.

Section 9. Promotional Memberships. In order to facilitate the development of membership promotion, the Executive Board may authorize special promotional membership terms and rates for limited periods of time to determine their feasibility by trial; such terms and rates shall be subject to review annually by the Board of Delegates.

Section 10. Rights and Privileges. Each Life, Sustaining, Regular, Senior, Special, and Youth member shall be entitled to receive a regular copy of *Chess Life*. Each Scholastic member shall be entitled to receive an appropriate USCF Publication. Economy memberships do not include a subscription to any publication. Each member shall be entitled to have his or her tournament play officially rated, to participate in the Annual Membership meeting, and to enjoy all other rights and privileges of membership not herein enumerated. Members and Affiliates with mailing addresses outside the United States may be charged an additional fee to cover extra costs.

Section 11. Revocation of Membership. The Executive Board, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 12, may revoke or suspend the membership of any member for good cause. The USCF Ethics Committee may recommend suspending or revoking the membership of any person by applying the procedures established by the Board of Delegates in the USCF Code of Ethics.

Section 12. Revocation of Membership or Affiliation. In the event that the Executive Board shall revoke or suspend

the membership of an individual or affiliate pursuant to Article III, Section 11, or Article VIII, Section 5, it shall, prior to taking such action, give to the individual or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed action. Within said time said individual or affiliate may submit in writing to the Executive Board reasons why such actions should not be taken. The Executive Board may thereafter, if it sees fit, act upon the written suggestion or set a date for a hearing to be held at or prior to the next Annual Meeting of the Federation, but before the meeting of the Board of Delegates. Any person or affiliate aggrieved by any action of the Executive Board may appeal to the Board of Delegates at the said Annual Meeting if the action is taken at the said meeting, or at the next meeting of the Board of Delegates. The Board shall affirm, reverse, or modify the action of the Executive Board. Only Delegates present in person may vote on any such appeal. If the Ethics Committee recommends the suspension or revocation of a member through application of the USCF Code of Ethics, the appeals procedure established in the Code of Ethics shall be applicable, and the remaining provisions of this section shall not be applicable to that case.

Section 13. Annual Membership Meeting. The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the membership, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purpose of hearing reports and making suggestions to the Board of Delegates. Twenty-five members present in person shall constitute a quorum. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting. Participation and voting by members at the Annual Membership Meeting shall be limited to those members physically present. Participation through the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted.

Section 14. The actual dollar amount of all other membership dues categories shall be calculated according to the factors indicated in Sections 4, 5, 8, and 10, with the "regular" membership dues as the base amount from which all other dues amounts are determined. All dues amounts shall be rounded to the nearest dollar, with 50 cents being rounded up the next higher dollar amount.

ARTICLE IV: VOTING MEMBERS

Section 1. Responsibility. The Voting Members are responsible for electing the Executive Board and the Delegates and Alternate Delegates that represent their state. An insert containing nominees and voting instructions shall be inserted in an appropriate issue of *Chess Life*.

Section 2. Definition. Any current member residing in the USA who is 16 years of age or older as of the time of an election is a Voting Member. For a regular or special election, the membership must be current through the last day of the month in which balloting is to begin and the member must have reached 16 years of age by May 31 in the year in which the election is being held.

Members not receiving *Chess Life* who are 16 years of age or older at the time of a regular or special election may request a ballot by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to the current USCF office address before the 15th day of the month in which balloting is to begin. Members not receiving *Chess Life* who wish to vote must furnish their date of birth to the USCF office.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DELEGATES

Section 1. Responsibility. The Board of Delegates is responsible for the management of the USCF. It shall formulate general policy, adopt the annual budget, and write the Bylaws.

Section 2. Number. The Board of Delegates shall be composed of the Executive Board members, the Delegates at

Large, and 125 Delegates, apportioned among the states in proportion to their resident USCF membership as of November 1 of the year prior to Delegate elections, except that each state with thirty or more members must have at least one Delegate. Each state with 1000 or more USCF members must have at least two Delegates. In addition, any Executive Board member-elect who is not already a Delegate becomes a Delegate immediately upon certification of the election result.

Section 3. Alternate Delegates. There shall be 125 Alternate Delegates, with each state having one Alternate Delegate for each Elected Delegate. All Life Voting Members under previous editions of these Bylaws shall automatically become Additional Alternate Delegates if they are not elected as Delegates.

Section 4. Nomination. Members may be nominated for Delegate from the state in which they reside by submission of either a nomination from the official State Chapter to the Election Committee postmarked on or before February 1st of an Election Year, or a petition bearing the signatures of 10 USCF members who are residents of their state postmarked on or before April 1st of an Election Year. State Chapters shall submit an ordered list of nominees and the ballots shall list the State Chapter nominees in that order. Ballots shall indicate which candidates were nominated by their state chapter and they shall appear ahead of other nominees. A candidate petition may nominate only one candidate, who must consent to nomination by either signing the petition or by notifying the Secretary. State Chapters shall obtain the consent of all candidates they nominate.

Section 5. Election. Delegates and Alternate Delegates for each state shall be elected by the Voting Members of their state. At the discretion of the Executive Board, ballots for that purpose shall either be mailed directly or included in an issue of *Chess Life* and mailed prior to June 10. Ballots to be returned no later than July 20 of a year in which there is an election so that the ballots can be counted no later than August 1. Ballots shall be authenticated by use of official mailing labels provided with the ballots. Candidates nominated by their state chapter shall be designated as such on the ballot. Electronic voting may be used in addition to the ballot in *Chess Life*.

Voting Members are allowed to vote for up to the designated number of Delegates for their state or voting district. An ordered list shall be created listing candidates in the order of votes received, highest first. A candidate must receive at least one vote to appear on this list. From this list, the designated number of Delegates shall be elected from the top of the list and the designated number of Alternate Delegates elected from the remaining candidates on the list.

Once the list of Delegates and Alternates has been certified by the Board of Delegates (pending the breaking of any ties by the State Chapter as described below), any vacancies resulting from the death or resignation of an elected Delegate or Alternate shall be filled by the State Chapter as specified in Article V, Section 6A of the Bylaws.

The ordered list of candidates shall also serve as the initial ordered list for filling vacancies at any meeting of the Board of Delegates' Meeting as specified in Article V, Section 6A.

Delegates shall serve a term of two years commencing at the conclusion of the Delegates meeting at which their election is certified. Ties shall be broken by the President of the State Chapter in which the tie occurs. If the President of the State Chapter has not responded by October 1st, or if the President is involved in the tie, the other officers in the State Chapter shall be contacted and asked to break the tie. The response received by November 1st from the highest ranking Officer (in order, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, members at large) shall break the tie. If no

response is received, any other official contacts for the State Chapter as provided on their latest affiliate renewal shall be contacted and asked to break the tie. If no response is received by December 1st, the tie shall be broken by the Executive Board. Elections for Delegates shall be held every even-numbered year starting in 2000. A member may not cast more than one vote for any person. Upon resolution of the Board of Directors of a State Chapter, communicated in writing to the USCF Secretary prior to April 1st of an Election Year, a state may be divided into two voting districts for the purpose of ensuring geographic representation. The resolution must specify how the division is to be made and how many Delegates and Alternate Delegates will be allocated to each district. The allocation shall be roughly proportional to the USCF membership in each district. Only voters from a district can vote for the Delegates and Alternate Delegates from that district.

Section 6. Miscellaneous

A. Vacancies. If one or more Delegates from any state are not present or are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, the ordered list for that state is used to fill the Delegate vacancies for that meeting. The regularly elected Delegates continue in office for the remainder of their term.

The state president or senior state officer present may add names to the end of the ordered list for the purpose of seating Delegates at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates. If a Delegate dies or resigns during the term of office, the vacancy shall be filled for the duration of the term of office in accordance with the ordered list. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate moves from the state of residence, that person shall be deemed to have resigned as Delegate unless the State Chapter indicates otherwise.

Vacancies in the position of Delegate or Alternate Delegate for any state chapter, including those resulting from the promotion of an Alternate Delegate to Delegate, may be filled by the state chapter for the remainder of the term, provided that such appointments are placed at the end of the ordered list for that state chapter.

If no Delegates or Alternate Delegates are elected by a state, vacancies exist which can be filled by the State Chapter.

B. Executive Board Members as Delegates. Any Executive Board member who completes his or her term without reelection to the Executive Board, remains a Delegate until the conclusion of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates in the year following the completion of the Board term, except that if he has Delegate status for that period under another provision of these Bylaws, this provision shall not apply. Any former Executive Board member receiving Delegate status by the provisions of the preceding sentence shall not be a Delegate on the ordered list of any state, and shall not be replaced if he dies or resigns the position.

C. USCF Membership requirement. To serve as a Delegate, an individual must have a current membership as of the first day of the Delegates' Meeting.

D. Current USCF employees may not serve as Delegates. USCF employees are accorded the right to speak at the annual Delegates' Meeting.

Section 7. Annual Meeting. The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the Board of Delegates, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purposes of hearing annual reports, installing officers, and considering other USCF business. A quorum shall consist of one third of the whole Board of Delegates present in person. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting and shall mail to each Delegate, between thirty and forty days before the Annual Meeting, a notice of the meeting and an agenda. Only those certified as Delegates, including any Alternates who have been elevated to

Delegate through the death or resignation of a Delegate, may submit motions for the advance agenda. Motions not having a Delegate present as a sponsor or co-sponsor when reached in the meeting shall be deferred to the end of the meeting. Chairs of Delegate or Executive Board appointed committees may submit motions on behalf of their committees. Sponsors are encouraged to add their rationale to Advance Delegate Motions.

Section 8. Special Delegates Meeting. Special Delegates meetings can be called by the President or by more than half the members of the Executive Board. Notice of a meeting and its purposes and an agenda must be sent by mail to all delegates and alternate delegates at least 30 days before the meeting. Additional notification may be provided by e-mail or FAX. The notice and agenda shall also be placed on the USCF website at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. The special Delegates meeting has authority to act upon advance agenda items but does not have the authority to take action unrelated to the advance agenda items.

All Executive Board members shall have at least 7 days advance notice before the notice of the meeting is sent. Items can only be placed on the advance agenda by the President or any two Executive Board members.

A quorum shall consist of one third of all Delegates and Delegates will be certified in the same manner as at the Annual Delegates Meeting.

If the meeting notice so provides, the meeting can take place by teleconference at advance designated sites announced in the call of the meeting. Delegates must be present in person at a meeting site.

Section 9. Delegates at Large. Delegates at Large shall consist of the following:

A. All USCF Presidents who have served at least two consecutive years, upon completion of their term and are so elected by a majority of the Board of Delegates.

B. Those individuals who have rendered distinguished service to chess and who are elected by at least a 3/4 vote of the Board of Delegates at two consecutive Annual Meetings by a motion on the advance agenda for both meetings. The number of individuals in this category shall not exceed twenty.

The term of the Delegates at Large shall commence at the Annual Meeting at which they achieve Delegate at Large status and continue for three more Annual Meetings. A Delegate at Large whose term is expiring or has expired may be elected to a new term.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. Composition. The Executive Board shall consist of seven members elected for staggered terms of four years. The Executive Director serves as a non-voting member of the Executive Board, with the right to debate and make motions, but without the right to vote. All Executive Board members are national officers of the USCF.

Section 2. Functions. The Executive Board shall manage the affairs of the Federation, including employment and other contracts, between meetings of the Board of Delegates and shall perform other duties as specified in these Bylaws. The Executive Board shall be subject to the authority of the Board of Delegates, and none of its acts shall conflict with actions taken by the Board of Delegates. The Executive Board's direction to the staff shall generally be given by the USCF President.

Section 3. Meetings. The Executive Board shall meet at least twice per year, the day and place to be fixed by vote of that Executive Board. Special meetings, including conference telephone calls or Internet conference meetings, may be called by the President or upon the written request of any three members of the Executive Board. Reasonable

efforts to notify all Executive Board members of the meeting shall be made by mail, fax, telephone, e-mail, or other means approved by the Executive Board. The minutes of the Executive Board shall be sent to all USCF Delegates and Alternate Delegates, and posted on the USCF's Internet web site, within six weeks of each meeting. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the elected members of the Executive Board present in person or participating in a conference telephone call or Internet conference meeting. The affirmative votes of at least three different Executive Board members will be required to approve any action, as long as there are at least four members on the Executive Board.

All meetings of the Executive Board, including conference calls, shall be recorded in their entirety with a clear, permanent record by a means determined by the Executive Board. All Executive Board members shall receive copies of any audio tapes or video tapes of meetings within two weeks of those meetings. Any person wishing to obtain copies of audiotapes may do so at cost. The public portion of the permanent record will be available on the web-site within a month of the meeting record.

Section 4. Nomination. Any USCF member not a current employee of the USCF is nominated for election to the Executive Board upon submission to the Election Committee of the following January 10 of an election year:

A valid nominating petition containing the signatures of thirty or more Voting Members. A nominating petition listing more than one candidate is not valid.

A filing fee of \$250 made payable to the USCF

A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and that they will serve if elected.

An employee of the USCF may not be nominated for election to the Executive Board.

The Election Committee shall have advertised a call for nominations in the issue of *Chess Life* published no later than November 20 of the year prior to an election year and shall publish a list of all duly-submitted nominations in the issue published not later April 10 of an election year.

Once a candidate is certified, the candidate may purchase labels of Voting Members at the same rate as affiliates. These labels may only be used for campaign purposes.

Section 5. Elections

A. Regular Elections. Executive Board members shall be elected by the Voting Members. At the discretion of the Executive Board, ballots for that purpose shall either be mailed directly or included in an issue of *Chess Life*, and mailed prior to June 10. Ballots are to be returned no later than July 5 of a year in which there is an election so that the ballots can be counted no later than July 20. Electronic voting may be used in addition to the ballot in *Chess Life*. Ballots shall be authenticated by use of official mailing labels provided with the ballots. The ballot shall list all duly submitted nominations. Each voting member may vote for as many persons as there are Executive Board positions to be filled. The persons receiving the largest vote totals shall be elected to the available Executive Board positions. The ballots shall be returned by mail to an independent agency, and counted by an independent agency, or by the Election Committee, or by tellers appointed by the Election Committee prior to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates. Ties, if any, shall be broken by a secret ballot vote of the Delegates present in person at that year's Delegates meeting, taken at the time that election results are certified. The election of Executive Board members shall take place in odd-numbered years starting in 2003.

B. Special Elections. The Election Committee will decide the schedule for a Special Election for the Executive Board, using the deadlines and dates for a regular election as a guide for scheduling reasonable intervals for announcing the special election and calling for nominations, the date for

candidate petition filings and the date for mailing the ballots via *Chess Life* or direct mail. The requirement for candidate statements and election supplements may be reduced to having this information in a single issue of *Chess Life*. The Board may choose to waive any filing fees for a Special Election.

C. The Election Committee, shall by January 15 of an election year for a regular Executive Board election, choose a date on which ballot counting shall be performed, which date is to be no earlier than July 20 and no later than the Wednesday prior to the annual meeting of the Board of Delegates. For a special election, the Election Committee shall choose a date for ballot counting no later than 90 days prior to that date. Ballots shall be authenticated by use of voting member information to be provided with or printed on the ballots. All properly authenticated ballots that have been received by the date designated for counting the ballots shall be counted. The Election Committee shall designate an address for the return of ballots at the time the date of counting ballots is set.

Section 6. Election of Executive Board Officers. At an organizational meeting immediately following the conclusion of the Delegates' Meeting at which regularly scheduled Executive Board election results are certified, the Executive Board shall elect among itself the following officers: President, Vice President, Vice President for Finance, and Secretary. The term of each officer shall be for two years, except that upon a vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of its membership, the Executive Board may at any time meet in person or by teleconference and elect new officers. A vacancy in the office of President shall be immediately filled by the Vice President. A vacancy in another office elected by the Executive Board shall be filled by majority vote either temporarily until the Executive Board meeting following the next Delegates' Meeting or for the full unexpired portion of the office's term as the Executive Board shall choose.

Section 7. Terms of Office. The terms of office of the Executive Board members shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and shall continue for four years, except as provided in Section 9 of this article. The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and shall continue for two years. No individual shall serve more than eight consecutive years on the Executive Board. No person shall serve as USCF President more than four consecutive years.

Section 8. Duties

President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, and Executive Board; carry out all requirements of these Bylaws, represent the Federation officially on occasion, and report annually to the Board of Delegates.

Vice President. The Vice President shall execute the duties of the President when the President is unable to serve and perform such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or the President on its behalf.

Vice President for Finance. The Vice President for Finance shall obtain records of the financial affairs of the Federation, report to the Board of Delegates, and counsel and assist the Executive Board on financial affairs. The Vice President for Finance shall review and have the right to comment on all financial reports, including all financial information presented in interim and annual reports, prior to publication and release.

Secretary. The Secretary shall review Minutes of all Executive Board meetings, Delegates' meetings, and membership meetings. The Secretary shall post these minutes, after Executive Board review, on the USCF website and shall mail the Minutes to all Delegates and Alternate

Delegates within six weeks of the meetings. The Executive Board shall determine a means of recording all meetings. The Secretary shall act as the custodian of the corporate seal, ensure that the annual report is filed with the Secretary of State of the state of Illinois, and perform such other duties as are prescribed by these Bylaws.

Members at Large. Members-at-Large of the Executive Board shall have such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or by the President on behalf of the Executive Board or as prescribed by these Bylaws.

Section 9. Vacancies. The Election Committee will decide the schedule for a Special Election for the Executive Board, using the deadlines and dates for a regular election as a guide for scheduling reasonable intervals for announcing the special election and calling for nominations, the date for candidate petition filings and the date for mailing the ballots via *Chess Life* or direct mail. The requirement for candidate statements and election supplements may be reduced to having this information in a single issue of *Chess Life*. The Board may choose to waive any filing fees for a Special Election.

Section 10. Candidate statements and advertising. Each duly nominated candidate who has met the requirements established in Section 4 is entitled to a 150 word statement plus photo in the issue of *Chess Life* published no later than April 10 of the election year, plus reasonable and equitable space on the USCF website. Election supplements shall accompany or be inserted in issues of *Chess Life* published no later than May 10 and June 10 of the election year. Each duly nominated candidate who has met the requirements established in Section 4 is entitled to one-half page of space in each election supplement. The purchase of additional campaign space in the election supplements or other USCF publications is prohibited.

Article VII: Other Officers, APPOINTEES, AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. Officers appointed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall appoint an Executive Director and a Publications Director. The Executive Board shall also give approval to the hiring of a chief financial officer (CFO) by the Executive Director.

Section 2. Duties of Appointees. The duties of Officers appointed by the Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and other Executive Board appointees shall be set forth in written memoranda by the Executive Board. Copies of said memoranda shall be added to the minutes for dissemination to the Delegates.

Section 3. Committees.

A) The Board of Delegates shall appoint the following Standing Committees:

1) Audit Committee. The Audit committee shall consist of 4 persons; one Exec. Board member, normally the Vice President for Finance appointed by the Exec. Board, and two members elected by the Delegates from among the Delegates and Alternate Delegates who are knowledgeable and, where possible, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or a Certified Management Accountant (CMA). The duties of the Committee shall be:

a) To advise the EB on the appointment of the External Auditors, the audit fee, the provision of any non-audit services by the External Auditors and any questions of resignation or dismissal of the External Auditors.

b) To discuss, if necessary, with the External Auditors before the audit commences the nature and scope of the audit.

c) To discuss problems and reservations arising from interim and final audits and any questions the External Auditors may wish to discuss (in the absence of management, where necessary.)

d) To consider and advise the EB on the establishment of the internal audit service and Head of Internal Audit, if any.

e) To review the internal audit plan, to consider major findings of internal audit investigations and management's response and to promote coordination between the Internal and External Auditors and to advise the EB and the Delegates accordingly.

f) To keep under review the effectiveness of internal control systems and, in particular, review the External Auditors' Management Letter, the Internal Annual Report and management responses and to advise the EB accordingly.

g) To monitor the performance and effectiveness of external and internal audit.

h) To consider, if necessary, the draft of the Audited Financial statements.

i) To monitor annually or more frequently, if necessary, the implementation of approved recommendations arising from internal audit reports, external audit reports and management letters and to advise the EB accordingly.

j) To oversee arrangements made by the Executive Board for the internal audit service and the External Auditors to examine the agency-wide financial statements.

k) To advise the Executive Director, as requested.

l) To report, as appropriate, to the Executive Board.

m) To advise the Delegates as requested and to report, as appropriate, to the Delegates

2) Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee shall choose its own chair.

3) Election Committee. The Election Committee shall consist of four members appointed by the Delegates, except that members of the Executive Board may not be appointed to the committee. The Delegates may name who would replace any member of the committee who resigns or otherwise leaves the committee. The committee is responsible for the conduct of and shall preside over Federation elections. No member of the Election Committee may be a candidate for the USCF Executive Board during his or her service on the Election Committee or may campaign on behalf of or make an endorsement for or against any candidate for the Executive Board. The Committee shall choose its own Chair.

4) Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee shall choose its own chair.

5) Life Member Assets Management Committee (LMAC). The LMAC is responsible for managing the Life Member Assets. The LMAC shall consist of the Vice President for Finance and six to eight others elected by the Delegates. The LMAC shall choose its own Chair and may appoint other committees to assist it in its work.

B) The Delegates may appoint any other committees as needed. The Executive Board may appoint such subcommittees of the Board or committees as it deems appropriate.

C) Except as provided elsewhere, in the event of a vacancy on a Delegate-appointed Committee, the committee and Executive Board may appoint a replacement. Such appointment requires a 2/3 majority of each of the remaining committee members and the Executive Board.

D) No individual member can chair more than one of the following three committees at the same time: Audit, Finance, or LMA.

E) No individual other than the VP for Finance can serve on more than two of the following committees at the same time: Audit, Finance, or LMA.

Section 4. Counsel. Legal Counsel shall be appointed by the Executive Board.

None of the National Officers (including members of the Executive Board and Executive Director) shall be officers of other sports organizations recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee as a national governing body.

ARTICLE VIII: ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS

Section 1. State Chapters. Every state (the District of Columbia being treated as a state for all Federation purposes and Northern and Southern California being treated as separate states for all Federation purposes) shall be entitled to have an affiliate designated as the State Chapter, provided that any state having more than 5000 members may have two state chapters divided along geographical lines. Credentials of affiliates applying for designation as State Chapters submitted before June 1 shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates with recommendations, if any, one month before the next Annual Meeting. Credentials submitted after June 1 shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates one month before the Annual Meeting of the following year.

Section 2. Functions. Each State shall guide the chess activity within the state in a manner that provides representation to all groups of chessplayers within its state. Each State Chapter shall nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates as provided in Article V Section 4 of these Bylaws. Each State Chapter shall fulfill other responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may from time to time designate.

Section 3. Affiliates. Any organization of chessplayers may affiliate with the Federation upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chessplayers who are exclusively scholastic players may affiliate with the Federation as a Scholastic Affiliate upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chessplayers who are incarcerated in a penal institution may affiliate with the Federation as a Prison Affiliate upon the payment of the fee of \$15 per year. Affiliation does not constitute the affiliate as an agent of the USCF for any purpose.

Section 4. Rights and privileges. Each affiliate shall:

- a) Receive a subscription to *Chess Life*.
- b) be entitled to conduct USCF-rated tournaments in accordance with USCF tournament rules;
- c) be privileged to issue Federation memberships per Article III above, and to collect and forward to the USCF headquarters the membership application forms and associated dues amounts due therefrom.

Section 5. Revocation. The Executive Board may, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 12, revoke or suspend the affiliation of any affiliate for good cause shown.

ARTICLE IX: SUNDRY BYLAWS

Section 1. Authority. These Bylaws have been adopted by the Delegates under the authority of the charter issued to the United States of America Chess Federation by the State of Illinois.

Section 2. Amendment. These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or a Special Delegates' meeting except that any proposal not specifically included in the Delegates' advance agenda shall require a 2/3 majority vote to pass.

Section 3. Office. The registered office of the Federation shall be at such address in the State of Illinois as is designated by the Executive Board.

Section 4. International Affairs. The Federation is the official USA unit of FIDE and shall be represented officially in all FIDE affairs by a Permanent Delegate appointed by the Executive Board.

Section 5. Publications. *Chess Life*, a periodical, or its successor publication, is designated an official publication.

Section 6. Fiscal period. The Fiscal period shall be the year ended May 31.

Section 7. Fund Depositories and Disbursements. All funds, other than Life Member Assets, shall be deposited in one or more federally insured depositories, or other vehicles approved by the Executive Board, disbursable only by withdrawal authorized by two or more of the following:

President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director, and such senior staff as the Executive Board shall designate. The Executive Board may authorize petty cash accounts, whose amounts may not exceed \$500.00, and disbursable only by check signed by one of the above, or any two employees approved by the Executive Board.

Section 8. Accountants. Early in each fiscal year the Executive Board shall engage properly qualified independent certified public accountants to review the Federation's accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The choice of accountants shall be subject to ratification by the Board of Delegates.

Section 9. Encumbrance.

A. No asset of the Federation may be encumbered without the approval of the Executive Board or Board of Delegates, except as provided in Section 10 below, and any mortgage, loan, or borrowing agreement must be signed by at least two of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director.

B. The building and land cannot be encumbered, liened, or mortgaged in any fashion without action by the Delegates at a regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose, except as provided in Section 10 below.

Section 10. Life Member Assets Management.

Borrowing of an aggregate of more than \$200,000 is possible only when:

1. The Executive Director certifies that there is a need for such borrowing.
2. The Executive Board approves of the borrowing.
3. The Life Member Assets Management Committee approves of such borrowing.
4. A report shall be made to the Delegates in the Annual Report describing the funds borrowed and repaid during the past year.

Section 11. The Federation will publish an annual report within four months of the end of the fiscal year. The report will contain, among other things, a complete presentation of the audited financial statements.

Section 12. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Each member of the Board of Delegates, national officer (hereinafter "officer"), and employee of the corporation now or hereafter serving as such, shall be indemnified by the corporation against any and all claims and liabilities to which he or she has or shall become subject by reason of serving or having served as such director, officer, or employee or by reason of any action alleged to have been taken, omitted, or neglected by him or her as such a director, officer, or employee; and the corporation shall reimburse each such person for all legal expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with any such liability, provided, however, that indemnification shall be limited to cases in which such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal act or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; and provided further, however, that as a member of the Board of Delegates such a person shall only be indemnified for his or her acts or omissions at an Annual or Special Meeting of the Board of Delegates and not for any local or other activities.

To the extent that a director, officer, or employee of the corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection therewith.

Any indemnification against any and all claims (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that

indemnification of the director, officer, or employee, is proper in the circumstances because he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Such determination shall be made (A) by the Board of Delegates by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors who were not parties to such action, suit, proceeding, or claim, or (B) if such a quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable, a quorum of disinterested directors so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion.

The right of indemnification herein above provided for shall not be exclusive of any rights to which any director, officer, or employee of the corporation may otherwise be entitled by law, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, or employee, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of such a person.

The corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, or employee, or agent of the corporation, against any liability asserted against him or her and incurred by him or her in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liability under the provisions of this article.

Section 13. Ratification of Voidable Acts. Any transaction questioned in any suit brought by any member on the grounds of lack of authority, defective or irregular execution, adverse interest of any director, officer, employee, or

member, nondisclosure, miscomputation, or the application of improper principles or practices of accounting may be ratified before or after judgment by the Board of Delegates and, if so ratified, shall have the same force and effect as if the questioned transaction had been originally duly authorized, and said ratification shall be binding upon the corporation and its members and shall constitute a bar to any claim or execution of any judgment in respect of such questioned transaction.

Section 14. Reliance on Records. Each officer, member of the Board of Delegates, or employee shall in the performance of his or her duties be fully protected in relying in good faith upon the books of account or reports made to the corporation by any of its officials, or by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or by an appraiser selected with reasonable care by the Board of Delegates, or in relying in good faith upon other records of the corporation.

Section 15. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be used at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, Executive Board, in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules which have been adopted.

Section 16. Eligibility for International Competition. Eligibility criteria for international competition may not be more restrictive than the eligibility criteria established by the internationally recognized Chess Federation.

Section 17. Non-Discrimination. Participation in chess shall be open to athletes, coaches, trainers, team captains, managers, seconds, and analysts without discrimination.

Revision Date: 03/12/2006

GOLD & SILVER AFFILIATES

PRICE REDUCED!

GOLD

Any affiliate that has submitted at least 50 USCF memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or is the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Gold Affiliate. These most loyal USCF boosters will be honored in a special list in larger type in Tournament Life each month. Gold Affiliation costs \$350 per year.

SILVER

Any affiliate that has submitted at least 25 USCF memberships during the current or previous calendar year, or is the recognized State Affiliate, is eligible to become a Silver Affiliate. These affiliates will be recognized for extra effort on behalf of USCF in a special list in Tournament Life each month, giving the affiliate name, state, and choice of either phone number, email address, or website. Silver Affiliation costs \$150 per year.

GOLD AFFILIATES

Polgar Chess Center

103-10 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, NY 11375
718-897-4600, PolgarChessClub@aol.com,
www.SusanPolgar.com, www.SusanPolgar.com,
www.SusanPolgar.blogspot.com

New Jersey State Chess Federation

c/o Roger Inglis, 49-A Mara Rd., Lake Hiawatha, NJ 07034
973-263-8696, rwij@njoychess.com, www.njscf.org

Continental Chess Association

PO Box 249, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577 845-496-9658,
chesstour@aol.com, www.chesstour.com

SILVER AFFILIATES

Oklahoma Chess Foundation,

www.OKchess.org

Michigan Chess Association,

www.michess.org

Orange Crush Chess Club (IN),

akakarпов1@nw.net

Quebec/US Chess (VT),

charlesaronowitz@sympatico.ca

Delegate Actions of Continuing Interest

1. **Sites of USCF-Sponsored Tournaments.** Since the U.S. Chess Federation is open to all players, regardless of race, sex, creed, religion, or national origin, and is interested in promoting chess among all groups, all tournaments sponsored by USCF are to be conducted at sites accommodating the right to play of all USCF members. (1960)
2. **Tournament Coordination.** The USCF shall exert its influence through its Regional Vice Presidents and Officers to coordinate and schedule sanctioned tournaments sponsored by regional or state chess organizations (without conflict of time and place). (1964)
3. **Speed of Rated Games.** Any change in the speed of rated games requires approval by the Board of Delegates. (1971)
4. **Meeting Information.** USCF Delegates shall be informed well in advance of the Annual Meeting of Board of Delegates of any substantive matters known to be on the advance agenda for the Delegates Meeting.
5. **Monthly Rating Supplements.** The Executive Board is authorized by the Delegates to publish annually the ratings in *Chess Life* and to publish monthly [later changed to bi-monthly] a supplement (with the biannual issue to be cumulative) to be sent to every affiliate, and to any other member who wishes to pay the cost of reproduction. (1972) (2002)
6. **Annual U.S. Championship.** It is the intent of the Board of Delegates that a U.S. Championship be held annually. (1972) (1982) (1983 — with \$25,000 budgeted each year)
7. **Adjournments at U.S. Opens.** In the U.S. Open, the players shall not be compelled to adjourn if both players and the tournament director agree to play on for one more time-control period.
8. **Executive Board Minutes.** Approximately four times per year, the Secretary shall mail to the Delegates copies of the minutes and records of all votes of the Executive Board held during the period. (1973)
9. **Unfinished Delegate Business.** All motions not acted on by the Delegates at the Annual Meeting that deal with matters which the Executive Board can act on under the Bylaws, shall by acted upon by the Board. These actions shall be reported in the *Executive Board Newsletter* and at the next year's Delegates Meeting. (1978) Motions limiting the Executive Board or disagreeing with the decisions made by the Executive Board shall automatically retain their place on next year's Delegates Agenda. (1980)
10. **Smoking.** Tournaments which prohibit smoking in the playing room of a USCF-rated tournament shall be so indicated in the Tournament Life Announcement in *Chess Life*. Smoking is prohibited at the following National Tournaments: U.S. Open, National Open, U.S. Amateur, U.S. Junior Open, U.S. Class. There shall be no smoking permitted in any contract areas of all national scholastic tournaments. (1998)
11. **State Chapter Recommendations.** For the text of these recommendations on State Chapters, see *Policy Board Newsletter* #4 of 1980-81.
12. **USCF Regions and Regional Vice President Recommendations.** For the text of these recommendations, see *Policy Board Newsletter* #4 of 1980-81.
13. **Paid Tournament Directors at National Tournaments.** No Executive Board member shall serve as the paid TD of more than one USCF National Tournament or International Tournament during a calendar year unless the same opportunity has been declined by all non-members of the Executive Board who are qualified to direct the tournament. (1975) No Executive Board member shall be awarded a paid directorship or concession at a National Tournament on which he/she participated in the award vote, except in the case of an uncontested bid. An Executive Board will not be restricted in the number of awarded paid directorships or concessions received at any National Tournament when the award vote and the acceptance of a paid directorship or concession for the National Tournament occurred before the Executive Board member was elected to office. (1984, 1993, 1994)
14. **Teller's Procedures.** Unless some independent agency handles the election, provision shall be made to allow the tellers to properly fulfill their duties unencumbered by the burdens of a large-scale public meeting.
15. **Tournament Cancellation.** Tournaments announced in *Chess Life* may not be cancelled unless the cancellation notice appears in *Chess Life*. Cancellations which occur too late to appear in *Chess Life* are permitted only if it is physically impossible to hold the tournament (for example, in the case of extreme weather conditions). Cancellations for any other reasons without notice are not permitted. Disappointing advance entries do not constitute a valid reason for cancellation. Organizers violating this rule shall be prohibited from listing their tournaments in "Tournament Life" or advertising in *Chess Life* for 3 years. Exceptions can be made by the USCF President or Executive Director in extreme circumstances. (1979) (2002)
16. **Chess Life.**

Goals and Implementation. The goal of *Chess Life* shall be to promote the United States Chess Federation and chess in the United States and the world. *Chess Life* shall be the journal of record of chess play in the U.S.

As the Federation's most important means of communication to its members, and as the Federation's most visible service, the magazine should be as attractively and professionally produced as resources allow, making use of photography, artwork, cartoons, and other graphic devices, as warranted.

Mindful of our members and potential members, the wide range of playing strengths and interests represented therein, and our overall goal, *Chess Life* should present a comparable range of subject matter. Instructional analysis (aimed at a variety of skill levels), correspondence chess, reader opinion, non-technical (i.e., historical articles, fiction) and human-interest material (i.e., interviews), rules changes, national and international news, and providing coverage of international, national, and regional events, are suggested, but do not delimit areas of concentration.

Consistent with our stated goal, advertising in *Chess Life* is a service to readers as well as a significant source of revenue. The editor and publisher (Executive Director) will be responsible for ensuring that the overall advertising content in *Chess Life* and subject matter are appropriate. The editor and publisher, in their best

judgment, have discretion to refuse any advertisement.

Composition of Chess Life. The following items shall be required *Chess Life* content:

Chess Life should provide a regular section for announcements of upcoming tournaments. This Tournament Life section should be well-organized, informative, and as helpful as possible in order to encourage participation in USCF-rated events, particularly USCF titled events, Grand Prix events, and American Classic events.

In contested elections to the Executive Board, *Chess Life* shall publish a campaign statement of up to 110 words for each candidate in the July issue.

The January issue of *Chess Life* shall contain an annual rating list for over-the-board players.

The April issue of *Chess Life* shall be the yearbook issue, containing general information about the USCF and about chess governance and activity in the U.S. Suggested content includes, but is not limited to, such things as names and addresses of significant individuals and organizations, top and busiest lists, and historical data.

Responsibility. Journalism is a public trust which is best served by the protection of the public interest and the preservation of the credibility of the publication. The reader's right to know is best served when given accurate and complete, unbiased, and factual reporting. Opinion must never be confused with fact.

Criticism must be supportable by factual evidence. The purpose and nature of such criticism must be demonstrably in the public interest and not serve merely to harass or discredit. Fairness dictates that a person whose actions are criticized must be given the timely opportunity to explain those actions or reply to the criticism, although practical considerations may not permit concurrent response.

The editor is hired by the USCF Executive Board. The editor will be accountable to the publisher for the performance of his duties in a timely, responsible, and professional manner. The performance of the editor, with respect to the stated goal of *Chess Life*, will be subject to periodic review by the Executive Board. (1991)

Yearbook (Annual Yearbook in Chess Life). The Annual Yearbook be restored to either March, April, or May issue of *Chess Life*. (2001)

Delegate Info (Chess Life Publication). The issue of *Chess Life* that appears in the March, April, or May shall contain the names and contact information of current USCF Delegates and Alternate Delegates. (2001)

17. **Free Membership to Grandmasters and Woman Grandmasters.** USCF membership shall be awarded to International Grandmasters, including Women Grandmasters, when it is determined by the Executive Director that a player is registering with FIDE as an American player; or when an American player is awarded the title by FIDE. (1980, 1991)
18. **Profits from Scholastic Tournaments.** Any profits generated by National Scholastic Tournaments that are earned by USCF will be retained by USCF and earmarked for Scholastic Chess. (1998)
19. **Calling the Question.** At USCF Delegates meetings, the practice of a speaker calling the question immediately after speaking to the merits of a motion shall not be permitted. (1993)
20. **Review of DMs.** At every Executive Board meeting, the

Executive Board shall review the resolutions passed by the last annual Delegates' meeting to make certain those resolutions are being enforced. (1993)

21. **Supplemental Motions.** All supplemental motions presented to the Delegates that are printed and received before the Delegates meeting contain a rationale or discussion by the sponsor, limited to 50 words. (1993)
22. **Choosing Committees.** It is the sense of the Delegates that committee chairmen shall be fully consulted prior to selection of committees and there shall be continuing consultation concerning committee membership and work through the liaison. (1994)
23. **Presenting Committee Reports.** All annual committee reports not published in the annual report will be presented to the Delegates after the published committee reports have been presented to the Delegates and will be limited to a ten-minute presentation. (1994)
24. **Distributing Committee Reports.** All printed committee reports distributed at the Delegates meeting shall be offered to all Delegates who express an interest in the reports before copies are left unattended for general pickup. No reports may be left unattended until after the committee presentation to the Delegates has been completed. The presentation is to include mention that the printed reports are available and copies are to be handed to any Delegate that asks for them. (1994)
25. **Investment of Life Membership Assets.** The LMA Committee shall establish an investment policy that is expected to produce an aggregate return equaling or exceeding 6% on its invested assets (excluding the USCF office building). (2002)
26. **Personnel.** All Board-approved changes to employee compensation will be subject to a vote of the full Board and the vote will be recorded in open session. The text of any Board-approved change to employee compensation will be recorded as a confidential BINFO item.
27. **Standards of Conduct for the USCF Executive Board.** The USCF Board of Delegates establishes the following standards of conduct for Executive Board members in the performance of their duties:

Any Board-approved change to an employee incentive plan must be finalized no later than 90 days after the plan has been approved. Any Board-approved employee contract must have the signature of no fewer than one officer and one other Board member. Board-conducted employee reviews must be discussed and written before presented. (1997)

General Principles. Members of the USCF Executive Board have responsibilities of the highest order for the promotion of chess and for stewardship of the resources of the USCF. In the execution of these responsibilities, they are expected to act lawfully and in accordance with USCF policy, and to adhere consistently to the principles of fairness, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. They are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner throughout the performance of all duties, contributing thereby to maximum effectiveness in the achievement of the goals of the USCF.

(1) Executive Board members are expected to contribute to the functioning of the Board as a cohesive unit, with information flowing comfortably among all its members. Actions that interfere with comfortable and open communication among all Board members should be avoided.

(a) All Board members have the right to receive all information pertinent to the making, monitoring, and imple-

mentation of USCF policy. Board member(s) should not withhold full and accurate information from other Board members, when that information is relevant to Board decisions or potential decisions. Where decision-making authority has been given to a specific officer by the Board or the Bylaws, that officer must keep all Board members fully and accurately informed of all decisions made and factors influencing those decisions.

(b) All Board members have the right to be involved in the determination of all Board decisions. A Board majority has no authority except as a majority vote within the context of a properly called Board meeting. Board decisions must result from discussions in which all Board members have had the opportunity to participate.

(c) Board members are responsible for contributing to constructive communication within the Board. Board members are responsible to communicate directly with each other whenever there is misunderstanding or ill will, making strenuous efforts to resolve the issue amicably through such communication, before making the dispute public.

(2) Executive Board members must be motivated solely by the best interests of the USCF in exercising their duties. Any potential conflict of interest, whether due to financial, political, personal, geographical, organizational, familial, or other considerations, must be prevented from affecting any Board member in the discharge of his or her duties.

(a) Except where noted below, no Executive Board member or a member of his immediate family may receive financial compensation from the USCF for any reason, except for standard reimbursement of expenses, during his tenure on the Board, or for two years after completing his tenure if such compensation results from bids accepted or agreements made by the Board during his tenure. In claiming expense reimbursement, a Board member must claim only that portion of expenses that were incurred in non-political activities that were a legitimate exercise of the Board member's duties. Any unusual expenses for which reimbursement is questionable must be referred to the full Board for consideration. Board members are expected to exercise all reasonable frugality in incurring expenses to be reimbursed.

(b) No Executive Board member, or a member of his immediate family, may profit financially from organizing or directing a national tournament or activity organized or co-organized by the USCF, or from any business activity of the USCF, if the Executive Board or the USCF business office is involved in determining the arrangements; such restriction applies during the Board member's tenure and for two years thereafter, with respect to actions taken during his or her tenure on the Board. This provision does not apply if the bid, and all relevant financial arrangements, were finalized before the member was elected to the Board, and are not changed to his advantage during his tenure.

(c) No Board member may participate in consideration of bids for any event or for any expenditure of USCF funds if he or his immediate family member has any office or other interest in any entity offering a bid. He is required to inform the Board whenever there is a conflict of interest. However, the Board member may provide information on behalf of such a bid, provided that his opportunity to provide information is the same as for those involved in other bids. The Board member with a potential conflict of interest may not make or second motions, enter into debate or discussion in the capacity of a Board member, or vote on the bids or on

any issue reasonably related to the bid consideration. If consideration of the bid involves sensitive matters that require a closed session, a Board member who has a potential conflict of interest may not attend the portion of the closed session involving that bid, unless all parties representing competing bids are permitted to attend.

(d) Any Board member who believes that he or another Board member may have a conflict of interest on any matter is expected to inform immediately all members of the Board.

(e) A Board member should not pressure any USCF employee by means of stated or implied threats to employment. Specific criticism of other USCF employees should be conveyed discreetly to the Executive Director.

(3) The Executive Board is responsible for conducting business in an efficient, constructive, and open manner.

(a) All actions taken by the Executive Board must be consistent with the Bylaws of the USCF, and with all policy established by the USCF Board of Delegates.

(b) Executive Board members must respect the dignity of all persons in all statements and actions. Any derogatory and/or sarcastic statements attacking an individual in a personal manner, or intended to bring scorn or ridicule on an individual, shall be considered out of order at any and all times in an Executive Board meeting, whether in open or closed session. Any angry and heated exchanges in a Board meeting should be considered out of order. The Chair of the meeting shall be responsible for promptly ruling such utterances out of order, or any member may raise a point of order to that effect. Personal differences must be privately resolved without disturbing the efficient conduct of USCF business in a Board meeting.

(c) A closed session should be held only when the best interests of the USCF are definitely served by doing so. Examples of when closed sessions are proper would include the discussion of matters that are legally sensitive, issues involving sensitive negotiations, or matters in which the privacy rights of any individual may be at risk. Closed sessions should not be scheduled to permit the airing of heated or derogatory comments, which should be out of order in any meeting discussion, or to avoid the necessity of Board members' dealing with unpopular issues publicly. The Board may invite other persons into the closed session if such persons possess special information or expertise needed by the Board, but a certified Executive Board candidate who is not currently on the Board should not be included in a closed session unless all Board candidates present at the meeting are also invited.

(d) Board members should be sensitive to the feelings of volunteers and staff members whose names may be mentioned, or whose work may be criticized, during Board discussion.

(e) All Board members must strictly observe confidentiality of closed sessions. In the case of a conference call, the Board members must clearly understand what portions of the call are considered open or closed, for the purpose of determining what information in the call must be considered confidential.

(f) When appointed by the Delegates, the USCF Ethics Committee may consider an allegation by any USCF member that an Executive Board member has committed significant violations of this code of conduct. The

Ethics Committee may, if it determines that such violations have occurred, either warn the Board member or recommend actions, such as recall of the member, to the Board of Delegates in accordance with the Bylaws of the USCF. (1997)

28. The Code of Ethics of the United States Chess Federation.

Purpose and Scope

1. The purpose of this code of ethics is to set forth standards to which the conduct of players, tournament directors, sponsors, and other individuals and entities participating in the affairs of the United States Chess Federation (USCF), including tournaments and other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF, should conform; to specify sanctions for conduct that does not conform to such standards; and to specify the procedures by which alleged violations are to be investigated and, if necessary, the appropriate sanctions imposed.

2. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics are not equivalent to criminal laws and procedures. Rather, they concern the rights and privileges of USCF membership, including, but not limited to, the privilege of participating in tournaments, events, or other activities as a member of the USCF.

3. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics shall apply only to: (a) actions and behavior by members of the USCF that occur in connection with tournaments or other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF; and (b) individuals and entities acting in an official capacity as officers or representatives of the USCF. Each member of the USCF and each participant in a USCF activity shall be bound by this code of ethics.

The USCF Ethics Committee

4. The USCF Ethics Committee is appointed in accordance with procedures consistent with the Bylaws of the USCF. The committee exists to consider allegations of unethical conduct at or in connection with events sanctioned by the USCF, and allegations of unethical conduct involving the USCF and its activities, in accordance with the standards and procedures contained in this code. The committee will exercise all other duties as may be assigned by the Bylaws or by action of the USCF Board of Delegates.

Standards of Conduct

5. The actions and behavior of individuals participating in USCF activities, or in events sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF, shall be lawful and in accordance with all USCF rules and regulations, and consistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. The following is a list of examples of actions and behavior that are considered unethical. The list is not intended to be exhaustive, and any action or behavior that is unlawful or violates USCF rules and regulations, or is inconsistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others, may be considered to fall within the scope of this code of ethics.

(a) Intentional violations of tournament regulations, or of any other regulations pertaining to USCF activities and goals, particularly after being warned.

(b) Cheating in a game of chess by illegally giving, receiving, offering, or soliciting advice; or by consulting written sources; or by tampering with clocks; or in any other manner.

(c) Deliberately losing a game for payment, or to lower one's rating, or for any other reason; or attempting to induce another player to do so. Deliberately failing to play at one's best in a game, in any manner inconsistent with the principles of good sportsmanship, honesty, or fair play.

(d) Deliberately misrepresenting one's playing ability in order to compete in a tournament or division of a tournament intended for players of lesser ability; players with foreign ratings are expected to disclose those ratings.

(e) Participating in a tournament under a false name or submitting a falsified rating report.

(f) Participating in a tournament while under suspension.

(g) Purposely giving false information in order to circumvent or violate any rule or regulation or goal recognized by the USCF.

(h) Attempting to interfere with the rights of any USCF member, such as by barring someone from entering a USCF-sanctioned event for personal reasons. Generally, no individual should be barred from a USCF-sanctioned event for which he or she meets the advertised qualifications, without appropriate due process, and for behavior inconsistent with the principles of this code and/or the rules of chess. If a ban on future participation is imposed, the individual should be notified of the ban prior to his attempting to appear at future events.

(i) Violating federal, state, or local laws while participating in activities that are associated with the USCF.

Procedures

6. Any USCF member may initiate procedures under this code of ethics by filing a complaint in a timely manner with the USCF Ethics Committee. In the case of any accusation that does not fall clearly under the "Standards of Conduct" above, the Ethics Committee shall have the authority to decide whether the alleged conduct is within the scope of the code of ethics. In the case of each alleged violation that is within the scope of the code of ethics, the following steps shall occur in a timely manner:

(a) A factual inquiry shall be made by the Ethics Committee, assisted as necessary by the USCF staff. Previous findings of the Ethics Committee or other USCF entities may be included among the evidence considered by the Ethics Committee, if relevant to the circumstances of the present case. As a part of such an inquiry, any person accused of unethical conduct shall have the right to examine the evidence against him or her, the right to respond to the accusation, and the right to produce written evidence in his or her behalf.

(b) Appropriate sanctions, if any, shall be recommended by the Ethics Committee. In recommending sanctions, the Ethics Committee may consider any previous ruling or finding of the Ethics Committee, or other USCF entity, pertaining to the past conduct of the person being sanctioned. In recommending sanctions, the person being recommended for sanctions must be informed. Any person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall be promptly notified.

(c) Except as specified in 6(e) recommended sanctions shall be deemed final unless appealed to the Executive Board by the person or persons upon whom the sanctions have been imposed, or upon the initiative of any member of the Executive Board. Such an appeal must be made within 30 days of the date that notification of

recommended sanctions occurred, except that the Executive Board may extend the deadline for appeal if in its judgment an unavoidable delay in communications or other valid cause prevented a timely appeal. If an appeal has not been filed by the deadline the recommended sanctions shall be placed into effect.

(d) Upon appeal, a review of the facts and the appropriateness of the recommended sanction shall be undertaken by the Executive Board. The person against whom the sanction has been recommended, as well as the person filing the initial complaint, shall be given notice of the time and place the Executive Board will review the case. The person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall have the right to appear before the Board and present evidence. In all appeals the recommended sanctions imposed by the Ethics Committee shall not be in effect until the appeal hearing is completed. The recommended sanctions shall be either confirmed, modified, or revoked by the Executive Board.

(e) If the person against whom sanctions have been recommended is a member of the USCF Executive Board, he or she may not appeal the sanctions to the Executive Board, but may appeal to the USCF Board of Delegates at its next scheduled meeting.

(f) If any member of the Ethics Committee or of the USCF Executive Board has a conflict of interest of any kind that might preclude objective participation in the consideration of any case, that person may not act in the capacity of a committee or board member on the case.

Sanctions

7. The following are some of the sanctions that may be imposed as a result of the procedures specified above. In unusual cases, other appropriate sanctions may be imposed, or these sanctions may be varied or combined.

(a) Reprimand. A determination that a member has committed an offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. A reprimand automatically carries a probation of at least three months, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probation, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.

(b) Censure. A determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. Censure automatically carries a probation of at least one year, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probationary period, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.

(c) Suspended sentence with probation. A determination is made that the member has committed an offense warranting discipline. When the discipline is imposed and execution thereof suspended, such suspension shall include probation for at least six months longer than the discipline imposed. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during this period, unless otherwise decreed, the original discipline shall be added to such new discipline as may be imposed for the new offense.

(d) Suspension. Suspension is a determination that the member has committed an offense warranting abrogation, for a specified period of time, of all membership rights and privileges.

(e) Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed an offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the USCF Executive Board or by the USCF Board of Delegates.

(f) Exclusion from events. This is a more selective determination that a member has committed an offense warranting abrogation of the right to participate in certain specified events or activities.

8. If the person being sanctioned is a member of the USCF Executive Board, the Ethics Committee may recommend no sanctions other than censure or reprimand, but may also recommend to the Board of Delegates other actions.

9. In the case of every sanction that involves suspension or expulsion, a member may not hold any office in the USCF or participate in any capacity in any event or activity sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF.

10. The USCF Business Office shall be informed in writing of all official recommendations by the Ethics Committee, and shall record any recommendations. The USCF Business Office shall inform the Executive Board of any sanctions recommended.

29. FIDE Policy. The U.S. Chess Federation adopts the following position:

The U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) endorses the concept of a strong world organization of chessplayers, which supports a system of competitions for the strongest players in the world culminating in a valid world championship. The USCF also firmly embraces the principles of freedom of action and freedom of speech that are the foundation of the American way of life. In accordance with these principles, the USCF adopts the following position with respect to the FIDE Commerce proposal as it has been presented:

1. The USCF cannot accept any regulation that limits journalistic freedom or freedom of expression for any individual, or interferes with the efforts of free enterprise to promote chess. The USCF cannot recognize a censure, boycott, sanction, or other restrictive or punitive action that contradicts our principles of freedom of action, speech, or the press, or that is imposed for behavior that does not violate the USCF's Code of Ethics.

2. The USCF must reserve the right to recognize or withhold recognition of any world championship event or title, in accordance with the principles established by our Board of Delegates regarding the validity of the world championship title. The USCF endorses the principle of compromise in helping to bring about a universally accepted world championship.

3. The USCF endorses working toward a more logical program of high-profile tournaments and toward cooperative Internet ventures, and might be willing to consider entering contractual arrangements toward those ends. Questions of open accounting and of legitimacy of funding must be addressed prior to any such arrangement and as part of any such arrangement.

4. The USCF considers that conflict-of-interest issues must be satisfactorily addressed in any plan to grant economic interest in any venture to any person or organization within FIDE, or any organization affiliated with FIDE, or to give voting rights to any individual or organization whose financial gain would be affected by the exercise of such voting rights.

5. The USCF considers that any plan to be put into

effect must have the approval of the FIDE General Assembly and must not be inconsistent with the principles in this position statement.

6. The USCF Delegate or representative to FIDE is instructed to act in accordance with this motion.

- 30. Delegate Meeting Dates.** The Delegates meeting will be held no later than the first full weekend of August. This requirement is in effect for all U.S. Opens for which dates had not been set as of August 2000. (2000)

No round of the U.S. Open may be scheduled to conflict with the Delegates Meeting. (2001)

- 31. EB Transcripts and Minutes.** The following procedure was adopted for the documentation of the proceedings of Executive Board meetings:

1. The Secretary or his or her designee shall prepare Minutes based upon the documentation of motions in the transcripts of the meeting and submit them to the Executive Board for comments, corrections, and/or suggestions.

2. The Secretary or his or her designee shall consider the comments made by the Executive Board and may revise the Minutes where appropriate. Any deviation from the transcript must be indicated with an explanation and a reference to the transcript. The transcript must be available concurrently.

3. The transcript of all Open session meetings are to be posted on the USCF website as soon as practical, so that anyone who has any questions can access the basic documentation for all motions and can access Open session discussions that are not likely to be in the published Minutes. Since any motions made in Closed session must be voted in Open session as well, the Open session transcripts will be sufficient to document all motions.

4. The transcripts are to include all Open session activity. The stenographer must record everything until the meeting is actually adjourned. No motions are to be voted on the absence of the stenographer. If it is not on the Open session transcripts it did not happen! (2000)

- 32. Binfo System.** In the interest of both history and accountability, the Board information (BINFO) system should be maintained and used in the following manner:

1. The Executive Board and Executive Director will place documents relating to their decisions and discussions in this record system.

2. An effort will be made to include all relevant documents bearing on the making of USCF policy and other decisions.

3. At the request of any single Executive Board member or the Executive Director, a document will be placed in the system.

4. BINFO documents may be classified as confidential, using strict, documented criteria.

5. Classified BINFO's will be reviewed periodically for declassification. This will include but not be limited to documents now in the system and placed there by previous Boards.

6. Non-classified documents will be supplied to members on request; a reasonable duplication fee may be charged.

7. Binders of non-classified documents will be maintained at the USCF office and will be available on request to visiting adult members to examine while in the office.

8. Updated, descriptive indexes of the BINFO system will be available on the USCF website in the most expeditious manner possible, and available in hard copy on request for a reasonable duplication fee. (2000)

9. Non-confidential BINFOs are to be made available electronically without cost to any Delegate or Alternate Delegate that asks to receive them. This is to be done by making them available on the USCF website in a public area and/or setting up a read-only mailing list and adding to the list anyone who wants to receive the BINFO's via e-mail. (2001)

- 33. U.S. Open Scheduling.** The U.S. Open shall finish no later than August 15th. (1999)

- 34. Scholastic Chess.** The USCF shall have a full-time Scholastic Director, working in consultation with the Scholastic Committee. The job description and workload priorities of the Scholastic Director will be developed jointly by the Scholastic Committee and the Executive Director.

The Finance Committee shall include at least one member recommended by the Scholastic Committee.

The USCF shall implement an income and expense system, which separately identifies scholastic chess activities. (1999)

- 35. ADM votes on the Website.** The final decision of the Board of Delegates on ADMs shall be recorded and published on the USCF website. All available information regarding the vote shall be included. (1999)

- 36. Ballots.** Ballots shall contain only a candidate's name and state. No titles, credentials or other honors shall appear on ballots. (1999)

- 37. World Championship.** The U. S. Chess Federation officially recognizes the following principles regarding the World Championship of Chess:

1. The title of World Champion is a symbol of the recognition given by the chessplayers of the world to the most skilled chess competitor at any point in time. As such it cannot logically be an object of property subject to ownership.

2. It follows from point one that the title of World Champion, to be valid, must be conferred by an organization representing the world's chessplayers. The Championship must be awarded as the result of a system of competition, which is fairly and objectively organized to determine the strongest competitor at that point in time. Such a competition must eliminate, to the extent possible, the effects of luck or other factors irrelevant to skill.

3. The U.S. Chess Federation directs its leadership and its representatives to strive to help create a unified system of competition for the World Championship that is fully consistent with principles one and two. (1998)

- 38. Committee Actions.** 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 Executive Board, Office or Delegates. (1998)

- 39. Delegate Committees.** All newly-created Delegates Committees must have a statement of purpose defining their function. (1998)

- 40. LMA Annual Report.** The LMA Management Committee shall publish an annual report showing the performance of the fund's investments, the investments owned, the investment strategy, and an assessment of investment risks. (1998)

- 41. Based on Prizes.** Effective January 1, 1999, all tourna-

- ments without exception advertised in *Chess Life*, *Tournament Life*, or elsewhere shall be required to pay at least 50% of any based-on prize advertised if the prize fund is over \$500. Based-on prizes in tournaments with an advertised total prize fund of \$500 or less must be paid in proportion to turnout. Minimum penalty for violation of this rule shall be disqualification from advertising in *Chess Life* for one year. Additional penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the Executive Director. If a tournament is affected by an act of God, then the organizer may appeal to the Executive Board. Exceptions can be made by the USCF President or Executive Director in extreme circumstances. *Chess Life* shall print no display ads for "based-on" tournaments which mention the "based-on" prize fund without indicating that this prize fund is based on entries. (1998) (2002)(2004)
- 42. Volunteer Expenses.** A summary of all reimbursements to each member of the Executive Board, International Delegations, and all other volunteers shall be published in the Executive Board Newsletters and on the USCF website. (1990, 1998)
- 43. Executive Board Newsletter.** The EBN shall include prompt reports of actions taken by the membership, quarterly state-by-state membership statistics, quarterly USCF financial information, financial outlines of national tournaments completed each quarter, notice of major changes in staffing assignments, prompt reports of actions proposed or taken by FIDE that directly affect the USCF or its members, and USCF committee reports when available. A five-year graph charting USCF membership statistics in all categories shall appear annually in the EBN. (1990)
- 44. Membership Accounting.** 90% of the income from life memberships and 50% from sustaining memberships shall be deposited directly in to the LMA. Services provided to life and sustaining members shall be funded quarterly. (1996, 1999)
- 45. Bylaws Committee.** To aid the Delegates and the Executive Board in informed decision making, the Bylaws Committee shall advise the Executive Board and the Delegates concerning both the substance and the wording of proposed bylaws changes. (1987)
- 46. Drug Testing.** The Delegates believe that drug testing is unnecessary in chess and urge FIDE to limit testing only to events where it is absolutely essential for qualification into the Olympic Games. (2001)
- 47. Candidate Disclosure (Executive Board Candidate Disclosure).** Executive Board candidates are asked to disclose if they are employed full time or are a candidate for full-time employment with any organization that is a vendor for the USCF, a competitor to USCF in any area, or has any significant other business interest (including substantial ownership of a business) that could be affected by decisions made by the USCF. Failure to disclose these interests would not disqualify a candidate from running, but could affect the voters' evaluation of the candidate. (2001)
- 48. Delegates Call (Report in Delegates Call).** A report on compliance or noncompliance with the previous year's Delegate Motions will be provided in the Delegates Call each year. (2001)
- 49. Delegate Elections (Ballots and State Elections).** Ballots should indicate that voters may vote for up to as many persons as there are positions to fill. To minimize ties, State Chapters are encouraged to nominate more persons than there are positions to be filled. Each ballot will specify the number of Delegate positions for each state. (2001)
- 50. Committees (No Pay for Committee Members).** Members of USCF Committees shall not be paid for committee work without authorization of the Delegates. They may continue to receive reimbursement for expenses. (2001)
- 51. Rating Lists (Via Hard Copy or Electronic).** Rating Lists (annual lists and supplements) can be received via hard copy or electronic media at the discretion of the affiliate or subscriber at no additional cost. (2001)
- 52. USCF Regions.** Executive Board election results shall once again be tabulated by region, beginning in 2003. There shall be twelve regions, each consisting of the same states that the region included before the discontinuation of regions. (2002)
- 53. Financial Reports on Website.** Comprehensive USCF financial reports including at least a balance sheet and statement of all activities will be posted on the USCF website on at least a quarterly basis. (2002)
- 54.** The border between Northern and Southern California shall be set along county lines. Where San Luis Obispo, Kern and Inyo are the northern most counties of Southern California, and Monterey, Kings, Tulare, Fresno and Mono are the southern most counties of Northern California. The USCF may use zip codes to approximate this border. The two California State affiliates are responsible for maintaining the zip code mapping used for this border approximation. (2005)

2005-2006 USCF COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Grant Perks, Chair, Gperks2@aol.com

Bylaws Committee:

Harold J. Winston, Co-chair, HJWinston@aol.com; Michael Nolan, Co-chair, nolan@tssi.com

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Jack Mallory, Chair, JackMallory@juno.com

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Ethics Committee:

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Finance Committee:

Randy Bauer, Chair, Randybauer2300@yahoo.com

Hall of Fame Committee:

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International Affairs Committee:

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LMA Management Committee:

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Military Committee:

Master Sergeant Steven Rollins, Chair,
marinechess@yahoo.com

Outreach Committee:

Myron Lieberman, Chair, azchess@cox.net

Publications Committee:

Randy Hough, Chair, randalldough@yahoo.com

Ratings Committee:

Mark Glickman, Chair, mg@math.bu.edu

Rules Committee:

David Kuhns, Chair, e4e5@direcway.com

Scholastic Council/Committee:

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Stephen Shutt, Co-Chair, stephenshutt@yahoo.com

Senior Committee:

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Kingsgambit50@earthlink.net

States Committee:

Guy Hoffman, Chair, schachfuhrer@hotmail.com

Survey Committee:

Tony Pabon, tpabon@earthlink.net

Tournament Director Certification Committee:

Tim Just, Chair, timjust@comcast.net

Top Players Committee:

Greg Shahade, Chair, gregshahade@yahoo.com

U. S. Open Committee:

Jerry Hanken, Chair, jerryhanken@aol.com

Web Site Committee:

Phillip Smith, smithphillip@usinternet.com

Women's Chess Committee:

Susan Polgar, Chair, SusanPolgar@aol.com

USCF REPRESENTATIVES TO FIDÉ

FIDÉ Vice President:

E. Steven Doyle, 17 Stonehenge Road, Morristown, NJ 07960

Delegate:

Bill Kelleher, 20 Melendy Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472

Zonal President:

Robert Tanner, 1722 East Diamond Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bylaws Committee

Co-Chair, Harold J. Winston (IL)

The Bylaws Committee is charged by the Delegates with reporting on both the substance and form of proposed bylaws changes. (DM 87-21) Additionally, the Committee traditionally has made recommendations on issues relating to governance. Mike Nolan (NE) and I serve as co-chairs. I thank Guy Hoffman (WI) for his work this year, including revising the Bylaws to incorporate changes made at the 2005 Delegates meetings.

This year the Delegates referred three items to our committee. First, DM 05-26 seeks to include conflict of interest rules for Executive Board members within the Bylaws. That subject is currently addressed in the Executive Board Standards of Conduct. The new proposal, as drafted, basically sets a period of actual tenure plus one year during which EB members cannot be a paid USCF employee, consultant, or vendor, nor chief tournament director of a national tournament. A longer period of actual service plus three years is provided during which EB members cannot organize a USCF national tournament. An exemption is provided for agreements signed before the EB member became an EB candidate and in "unusual circumstances" EB members may be assigned operational duties but only expenses may be compensated for such duties.

By a vote of 9-1-1, the Committee supports adding such language to the Bylaws. There are two splits on our Committee on specific aspects of this proposal. The Committee was polled on what the basic restriction time period should be: seven favored actual service plus one year, two favored actual service only, one favored the full term an EB member was elected to, whether or not they actually served that full term. One committee member strongly opposed the full term restriction and indicated their second choice was actual service. Historically, our practice was based on actual service, so that resignation from the Executive Board avoided any conflict. Three Committee members oppose the longer period of actual service plus three years barring organizing a national tournament and another member thought the three-year limit was appropriate for chief TD of a USCF national tournament, not for organizing a national tournament.

The second referral, DM 05-29, was a provision for recall of Executive Board members.

Our Committee split down the middle on that proposal, 5-5. Opponents believed the proposal unnecessary since six EB members have proved workable and EB members have changed by resignation. Under Illinois law any recall must involve a vote of the persons who elected the EB members and the procedure would be cumbersome.

The third referral was DM 05-38, providing that Executive Board vacancies caused by resignations within five months before a Delegates meeting or at the Delegates meeting be filled for one year by a vote of Delegates present at the annual meeting. The Committee was divided on whether this was a good idea, voting four in favor and six against, with one abstention. Opponents pointed out that when two vacancies occur a vacancy election is already mandated and that persons acting as Delegates at the annual meeting are sometimes not even on the original Delegate and Alternate Delegate lists. The Committee further considered if the Delegates wish to make the change what the cutoff date for resignations should be. The Committee considered three possibilities: (a) any time prior to the end of the Delegates meeting; (b) a month in advance of the Delegates meeting so

persons could know in advance that such an election would take place at the meeting; or (c) by the end of the first day of the delegates meeting. The Committee preferred a month in advance over any time by a 5-4 vote.

The Bylaws Committee also considered some new issues brought to the attention of the Committee and its co-chairs. The Committee was polled on the question of whether being a paid tournament director at a national tournament made a person a USCF employee for purposes of the bylaws and the Committee consensus was that it did not. A bylaws amendment is being proposed to specify that being a paid director at a national tournament does not make a person a USCF employee solely because they are being paid to direct at such an event. By a vote of 9-2-1, the Committee favors this as a helpful clarification. One opponent considers the motion too specific. At President Goichberg's suggestion, the Committee has drawn up wording clarifying how e-mail voting on the Executive Board can take place, allowing a five-day period before the vote is final unless all votes are cast before then. Two Committee members prefer seven days to five days. That proposal includes a second sentence spelling out that: "As soon as all Executive Board members vote, the Board vote is official." The Committee voted 7-3 in favor of keeping that second sentence.

Two resolutions the Committee discussed relate to the Executive Board Standards of Conduct (Delegate Action of Continuing Interest 27) and the resignation of an Executive Board member. First, for clarity, the Committee unanimously endorses defining the term "immediate family member," used in the Standards. Our wording specifies: "An immediate family member is a spouse, a sibling, a child, or a parent." Next, to make sure an election result does not unfairly impact an immediate family member of a candidate, the Committee also unanimously believes the Executive Board Standards of Conduct should include the following wording: "However, an immediate family member may continue to receive financial compensation if such compensation results from an agreement made prior to the Board member becoming a candidate."

Finally, there is a proposal by my co-chair to specify in the Bylaws greater flexibility to allocate Chess Life space for Executive Board elections. Almost half of the Committee favored this proposal (4-2-5) with the remainder appearing to believe the change is unnecessary as the existing bylaws allow the Executive Board to increase Chess Life space if desired.

Co-chair Mike Nolan and I also responded to various inquiries from the USCF Executive Board and from USCF members.

Our Committee will try to review any other new Delegate bylaws or governance proposals for the 2006 Delegates agenda. Please join us at the Bylaws Workshop on Friday morning August 11, 2006, at the Doubletree Hotel in Oak Brook, Illinois. To contact the Committee, please e-mail me at: HJWinston@aol.com.

I thank Mike Nolan and all our other Committee members for their participation: Guy Hoffman (WI), Ernie Schlich (VA), Myron Lieberman (AZ), Richard Koepcke (NCA), Randy Hough (SCA), John McCrary (SC), Gary Kitts (MI), David Mehler (DC), Robert Persante (FL), and George John (TX).

Chess in Education Committee

Co-Chairs, Tim Redman and Alexey Root

Each of us has been busy this year with writing and editing tasks. Alexey Root's book, *Children and Chess: A Guide*

for Educators has just been published by Teacher Ideas Press. It can be ordered from www.lu.com or Amazon.com. Copies will also be available at the book signing announced below. Tim Redman has finished editing *Chess and Education: Select Papers from the Koltanowski Conference* which will be published this summer by The University of Texas at Dallas Chess Program thanks to a generous gift from James Eade, a member and former chair of the UTD Chess Program Advisory Board. *Children and Chess: A Guide for Educators* is the first book to show the connection between foundational principles of education and chess. Curriculum and psychological theories from John D. McNeil, Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, and Howard Gardner are outlined, and applied to the question “why chess in classrooms?” The book of selected papers from the Koltanowski International Conference on Chess and Education held in Dallas in December 2001 presents the state of research in chess and education as it stands at the beginning of the new millennium. In addition to essays drawn from conference papers, Redman commissioned two essays, a critical review of the research on the educational benefits of chess instruction by Fernand Gobet and Guillermo Campitelli, and a descriptive bibliography of works on chess and education by Robert Ferguson.

The main task of the Chess in Education Committee for 2005-2006 was to organize a “chess in education” workshop. The Federation has held chess in education workshops at the U.S. Open in the past, but when Tim Redman became Chair of the Committee in 2001, he decided that dwindling attendance and predictable faces showed that we were preaching to the choir. This year we have decided to hold a workshop that reaches out to Chicago area teachers. That workshop will be held August 7-8, 2006 at the Doubletree Oakbrook Hotel, 1909 Spring Road, Oakbrook, IL 60523. The workshop is sponsored by the United States Chess Federation (USCF), www.uschess.org, and The University of Texas at Dallas, www.utdallas.edu, and has been organized primarily by Dr. Alexey Root. We have publicized it in the Chicago area and will be able to determine from attendance if such a workshop can draw an audience from outside USCF ranks and should become once again a standard feature of the annual USCF Convention.

A list of Committee members and up-to-date workshop information can be found at the Web site [http:// www.thechessacademy.org/USCF_Chess_Education_Committee.htm](http://www.thechessacademy.org/USCF_Chess_Education_Committee.htm).

Special thanks to John P. Buky for creating the Web site, to Luis Salinas and Jim Stallings of UTD for assistance with brochures, and to the USCF staff (in particular Bill Hall, Jerry Nash, Pat Knight, Diane Reese, and Joan DuBois) for their help with the workshop. Chess Life for Kids editor Glenn Petersen and Committee liaison Beatriz Marinello contributed publicity and advice. Chess Life will run a report of the workshop, written by Alexey Root, in a fall issue of the magazine. Thanks to our Committee members for their willingness to serve as speakers and for letting their colleagues know about the workshop.

Workshop description: Participants in the USCF’s Chess in Education workshop are eligible for continuing professional development units (CPDUs) from the Illinois State Board of Education. The intended audience for the workshop is Chicago Public School teachers and other Illinois teachers, as well as parents and chess coaches nationwide. Each of the presenters’ talks relates to the following five priorities for Illinois education: Mathematics, Integrating Technology into Teaching and Learning, Reading, Standards and Assessment, and Counseling/ Special Education. For example, a presenter on technology will show how chess can be used to reach educational objectives through chess programs and chess computers.

Workshop Fee Schedule: \$15 for both days or \$10 for one day. Fees are payable at the beginning of each workshop day.

The Chess in Education Committee anticipates the following schedule of presenters:

Time/Date	8/7	8/8
9:30-10:30	Michael Khodarkovsky www.kasparovchessfoundation.org Beatriz Marinello www.uschess.org	Javier Pinedo www.chessfun.org
10:45-11:45	Mikhail Korenman, John Buky www.thechessacademy.org	F. Leon Wilson www.ChessLearn.com
1:30-2:30	Joseph Eberhard	David Heiser www.RKnights.org Kiran Frey
2:45-3:45	Technology Steve Lipschultz www.schoolchess.com	Fernando Moreno

“**Blueprint curriculum**” by the Kasparov Chess pre-hensive, easily implemented, and scalable solution that allows any school, district, or city to create an environment where large numbers of children are attracted to chess as a school sport.

“**Teaching chess with computers.**” Javier Pinedo, elementary school chess teacher and coach at Rowland Hall-St. Marks private school in Salt Lake City, discusses for one hour the impact of teaching with computer chess programs.

“**Creating, Presenting, and Delivering High Quality Chess Presentations, Print Handouts, and Training Materials for the Non-Graphic Artist.**” F. Leon Wilson, chess instructor and coach with 11 years of experience, demonstrates how to utilize computer chess software such as chess databases, chess playing programs, tournament pairing software, presentation products, and audio-visual equipment (including White boards, LCD projectors, and computers) to enhance the chess teaching and learning experience.

“**Chess: bridging cultures and uniting people.**” David Heiser, President of the Renaissance Knights Foundation in Chicago, discusses for 30 minutes how the Foundation uses chess to transcend nationality, ethnic identity, race, and gender.

“**Chess and the development of leadership skills in children.**” Dr. Kiran Frey, psychiatrist, speaks for 30 minutes about her program, which has been organized to combine chess, philanthropy, and the human spirit.

“**Using Chess in a Counseling/Mentoring Approach for Students.**” Fernando Moreno, School Counselor MCPS, describes his counseling and mentoring approach that uses chess to address several internal assets: values, positive identity, and educational and social competencies. A directory of chess positions which correlate to students’ real-life experiences will be presented, and workshop participants will have the opportunity to practice the approach during this one-hour session.

Book signing. Dr. Alexey Root, Senior Lecturer at the University of Texas at Dallas, sells copies of her 2006 book *Children and Chess: A Guide for Educators* during the morning breaks on August 7 and 8. She presents a talk about her online courses for educators at the FIDE Trainers Seminar August 5-6, at the same location as the August 7-8 Chess in Education workshop.

Correspondence Chess Committee

Chair, Harold G. Stenzel

The Committee had no work this year. Thanks to Committee member Robert Rizzo for his efforts over the last few years in accumulating over 500 games from the Absolute Correspondence Chess Championship. These games are from the last 30 years and are now posted on the USCF Web site.

Cramer Committee

Chair, Pete Tamburro

The Committee as usual will meet in July in New York City to determine the award winners and, as in past years and with past presidents, we have been working in great cooperation with the Chess Journalists of America and their president, Jerry Hanken. A joint release has appeared in *Chess Life*. Also as usual, we have little or no funding for the original award scheme (which was a beautiful trophy and a cash award) since our funding source decided to get greedy some years back. Only due to the efforts of Don Schultz working with the USCF have we been able to still provide the trophy award. We would also like to thank *Chess Life* editor Dan Lucas for his timely support in our operations.

Denker Committee

Chair, Jack C. Mallory

The 21st Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions was contested by 45 state high school champions from 43 states and the District of Columbia. Players came to Arizona from as far away as Alaska and Hawaii.

Sixteen-year-old Trevor Jackson from Louisiana, MacKenzie Molner from New Jersey, and Zhi-Ya Hu from Maryland tied for first place winning \$350 each in prize monies donated in Arnold Denker's memory by his son Mitchell. Trevor also won a four-year scholarship awarded to the winner by the University of Texas at Dallas.

Election Committee

Chair, Mike Nolan

Turin, Italy, May 31 — Writing a report about an election, the most interesting parts of which have not yet taken place, is like reviewing a book based on the first few chapters.

I will update the Delegates in August before asking for the election results to be certified, but for now I want to thank my Committee members for their advice and counsel: Roger Gotschall, Woody Harris and Harry Sabine. Myron Lieberman and Ernie Schlich (who subsequently resigned) were the alternates, and their counsel was also invaluable.

I also want to thank our Chief Teller, Pete Tamburro, for stepping up again.

I especially want to thank Daniel Lucas and Glenn Petersen for their efforts on the ballot production process, complicated by my departure for Europe in mid-May.

Finally, getting ready to hold this election would not have been possible without the unceasing efforts of Pat Knight and others at the USCF office in Crossville.

If this year's election is deemed a success, the people mentioned above deserve most of the credit.

Last year we had better than one in eight voting members participate, so I think one-member, one-vote has been a success. The cost of democracy is not small, this year it is costing nearly \$15,000 to print and mail out the ballots, or about 37 cents per voting member. Electronic voting does not appear to offer any significant savings, though it might increase the number of ballots that would be cast.

Having said all that, I think the Delegates may want to review several aspects of our current governance structure, especially how our state delegate nominations are handled. It took *months* of efforts on the part of the USCF office to get lists of nominees from the state chapters, and even then there are still a few states that submitted no list of nominees. Perhaps we need a better way of getting the delegate candidate lists?

I am also concerned over the need for yet another special election to fill vacancies on the Executive Board, the third such election in the last three 'non-EB' election years.

Ethics Committee

Chair, Andy Thall

The Ethics Committee is alive and well. We ruled on four cases and were able to conclude a fifth case when the parties agreed to withdraw the complaint. We declined to rule on one case which we referred to the Rules Committee. I want to express my thanks to the Committee members for their dedicated work.

Hall of Fame Committee

by Harold J. Winston, Chairman

The Committee discussed candidates for induction into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame. My major task this year was trying to arrange an induction into the U.S. Chess Hall of Fame for Yasser Seirawan who was voted that honor by the Trustees of the U.S. Chess Trust at their annual meeting in August, 2005 in Phoenix, Arizona. Inductions traditionally have taken place both at a U.S. Open at the Awards Banquet and at the World Chess Hall of Fame and Sidney Samole Museum in Miami, Florida. While several times and places were considered, including the U.S. Amateur Team East, the Museum in June, and the 2006 U.S. Open in Oak Brook, Illinois, none worked out for a variety of reasons. Finally, at the request of GM Seirawan, I authorized an induction at the Olympiad in Turin, Italy, which has hopefully been held at a lunch or dinner at which the U.S. teams were present with U.S. Chess Trust Vice President for Education Tim Redman doing the induction on my behalf. This foreign induction should be a one-time departure from our normal procedures as all of us would rather have an induction at a U.S. tournament (preferably the U.S. Open) and another at the Museum. It is my hope that a museum induction can still be arranged, possibly for next March.

I want to thank the persons who have served on the Committee this year: Al Lawrence, Shane Samole, John McCrary, Arthur Bisguier, Jeremy Gaige, John Hilbert, and Jennifer Shahade, as well as Executive Board liaison Robert Tanner.

LMA Committee

Chair, Michael R. Carr

Prior to the move to Crossville, the LMA's only remaining asset was the building in New Windsor. With the move the building was sold and the proceeds (approximately \$518K) were put into two CD's, and the remainder in a Money Market account. The LMA Committee is the custodian of these funds, and any use or lien against them would require LMA Committee approval. During this past fiscal year, there have been two important actions undertaken that have required LMA approval.

The first action occurred last August when Cumberland County Bank committed a working capital Line of Credit in the amount of \$150,000 for a one-year period to the U.S. Chess Federation. As collateral for this Line of Credit, the USCF would assign CD's totaling at least \$150,000. The interest on the LOC would be 1.25% above the rate on the

CD's. The commitment would expire September 30, 2005. The LMA Committee gave it's unanimous approval for the Line of Credit under the terms submitted by Cumberland County Bank in September of last year. The USCF utilized the LOC in September and had paid it off completely in November.

The second action occurred in May of this year. This was regarding the building loan on the Crossville headquarters. The loan would be structured so that the U.S. Chess Federation would put down \$150,000 on the \$560,000 loan. But the \$150,000 would not be a normal down payment. It would be a Line of Credit component. The fixed portion of the loan would be \$410,000, with the \$150,000 portion from LMA funds standing as a line of credit which would drop by \$10,000 a year for 15 years. At the end of the first year \$10,000 would be applied to the principal and the USCF would still have a \$140,000 LOC available. This has the effect of taking a 20-year building loan and fully amortizing it over 15 years. The interest savings on structuring the building loan this way is substantial. Subsequent to this, the bank that is providing the building loan gave us an offer to roll the furniture loan of \$55,000 into the building loan. This portion would be paid off in five years. As the building loan is at 6.8%, and a separate furniture loan would have been at 7.5%, it made sound financial sense to include the furniture loan with the building loan. The LMA Committee gave it's approval for the \$150,000 of LMA funds to be used on the loan.

One other item that requires comment is the Executive office's commitment to increasing the LMA assets. Starting in October of last year, the Executive office is depositing money from Life and Sustaining Memberships into the LMA Money Market account. As of the beginning of May, the LMA accounts had about \$556,000 in them. This is a sign that we are going in the right direction.

Military Chess Committee

Chair, MSgt Steven Rollins (USMC)

The Military Chess Committee is pleased to submit the following report. Our mission remains "to encourage and support the development and growth of military chess players and military-oriented chess events."

A. Completed Tasks

- 1) Sept. 2005 — This year marked a major change in board participants over previous years. Board members introduced themselves to their respective Service Reps to state our mission, make ourselves available for their inquiries, and offer assistance as appropriate.
- 2) Oct. 2005 — 2006 U.S. Armed Forces Open Committee selected. 2006 is the Air Force's turn to host the event. Lt Col Doug Taffinder agrees to chair this Committee.
- 3) Dec. 2005 — USMC launches Chess in a Box program! This was a major effort to promote chess throughout the USMC. HQMC purchased and distributed over 100 sets, pieces and clocks to its major installations with a mandate to hold base-level tournaments. The result was a marked increase in USMC applicants to the 2006 All Marine Chess team.
- 4) Mar. 2006 — Continuing our partnership with the Services and wishing to service as a source of technical excellence for military chess events, the Committee prepared and submitted possible courses of action for the format for the Interservice Chess Tournament.
- 5) Mar 2006 — Chess for Vets combines efforts with the Military Chess Committee! Sets for Vets is an independent, non-profit program designed to provide chess to the VA hospitals and to military personnel. The extremely successful program led by Herm Drenth and the NJ State Chess

Federation agrees to join the Military Chess Committee as a separate subcommittee. The Chess for Vets report is a separate, independent report.

B. Current projects include:

- 1) Create a non-profit organization to support the Armed Forces Open Chess tournament (our national event).
- 2) Identify points of contact in media and military public affairs to maximize the advertising of the U.S. Armed Forces Open and the results of the event.
- 3) Work with the Navy Service Rep for Chess to encourage the "Chess Afloat" program to coordinate chess tournaments for personnel at sea.

C. Requests to the Executive Board Liaison include:

1) Military Discount for Active Duty military chess members.

The Committee believes this would be of great assistance for military members and will aid the USCF by increasing membership. The Committee believes the military community exists as a mostly untapped source of future rated players.

2) Add "Military" to the USCF application. Identifying active duty military members continues to be a challenge. The addition of this criteria to the USCF database will allow the Committee, working with the USCF, to identify, communicate with, and notify rated military members of matters of interest (such as U.S. Armed Forces Open) as well as assist the service representatives in the identification of competitive players for the Interservice Chess Tournament.

3) Encourage liaison between Chess in the School and DODDS. The Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DODDS) makes an excellent audience for Chess in the Schools. An organized and structured chess program with organized scholastic tournaments would make an excellent addition to the DODDS curriculum and create future USCF members as well.

Sets for Vets Report 2006

By Herman Drenth

To USCF members:

Two years ago the NJ State Chess Federation decided to begin the Sets For Vets program with Bill Bluestone as chairman and Dr. Frank Schott, Joe Ippolito, and myself as Committee members. We began the program for NJ, VA hospitals; however, like topsy it just began to grow! I spent many long hours accumulating a list of hospitals until we had a list of 146 VA hospitals with at least one in every state. We sent almost 200 sets to Iraq and Afghanistan. Six chess sets, boards and bags were sent to every hospital totaling over 900 sets. We also realized that many of the wounded vets are bedridden with spinal injuries and therefore purchased and sent 159 chess game computer stations at \$34 each to the hospitals. We thank Aetna Insurance for their contributions that paid for the stations!

The NJ State Chess Federation began the program with a donation of \$2500 that September, followed by \$1,800 collected in the donation jug at the USATE tournament along with donations by Steve Doyle, Dr. Leroy Dubeck, Dr. Frank Schott, Jim Eade and Tim Redman. We had a sizable amount of money. Steve Doyle also announced that Aetna Insurance Co. had donated \$2500 which brought the total to over \$9,000. In May of 2005, the NJSCF had contributed another \$1,000 and Aetna another \$3,000 along with other donations enabling us to complete the goals for the first year. Please note that every dollar is used to purchase chess equipment and, in fact, Committee members have been known to give a dollar or two when we are low on contributions!

We have now begun to supply Braille sets to the hospitals at \$22 each. At this point, 60 sets have been delivered, and

we have also recently sent 15 sets, boards and bags to a Naval base in Africa, 75 sets to Afghanistan, and chess equipment to Marines at Camp Cobra in Iraq.

A special thanks to Hanon Russell at Chess Café for supplying sets and games at great discounts; to Barbara DeMaro at the Chess Trust for processing the many donations; to Joan DuBois, my USCF contact; to Steve Ferrero, editor of Atlantic Chess News and to Glenn Petersen for placing articles in *Chess Life* and helping Joan DuBois to set up the Web site uschess.org/setsforvets; to Carol Jarecki for obtaining clocks; and, to Grandmaster Lev Alburt for his donation of books.

Recently, Steven Rollins, chairman of the USCF Military Committee suggested that it would be good for me to be on his Committee which I agreed to do. Sets for Vets will be independent as before, however, we will help each other out with ideas, etc.

Our goal for the coming year is 100 Braille sets and 200 Chess Master 8000 computers along with more regular sets. Estimated goal is \$5,000!

We now have eight hospitals with chess being taught and are looking for people or chess clubs to adopt a hospital to visit on a regular basis to play chess with the vets and perhaps teach them about the game. One of our members visits and plays chess with a veteran from WWII! All information is on the www.uschess.org/setsforvets.php site.

If interested please contact me, Herm Drenth, at hermaril@aol.com or setsforvets@aol.com. Your contributions are critical to continue the program!

Publications Committee

Chair, Randy Hough

This was a big year for USCF, with *Chess Life* and the Web site being redesigned, hired a new publications director/editor, Daniel Lucas, the publications office moved to Crossville as of June 30 (with no current staff members following), and *Chess Life for Kids* being launched. Unfortunately, following past precedent, the Executive Board did not solicit input from the Committee (except for one member who was hired as a consultant) on any of these changes.

So, for what it's worth: Committee members reached consensus on the new publication (good and overdue) and on the need for the editor's vision to guide *Chess Life* without excessive micromanagement. The substantially revamped website is to be unveiled June 15, after this writing.

The changes to *Chess Life* reached fruition with the June issue (barely available when this report was due), and the verdict of two members who took a hasty look was split. (Utilize your vision, but I sure hope it's consistent with mine!) The introduction of inside color and the increased use of white space (a 50/50 mix is the editor's goal) make the magazine more inviting to the reader, in one member's opinion, and represent a waste of space, in the other's! Typos have not (yet?) been eliminated.

The discontinuation of several regular columns, replaced by feature articles, aroused some concern among the members, but on the whole the Committee seems inclined to give the editor the benefit of the doubt. Elimination of unannotated games also received a positive response.

A majority, however, has serious concerns about the discontinuation of the "journal of record" concept. For instance, lists of prizewinners will be shunted to the webpage, where (depending on its organization) they may be much less accessible to the history-minded among us. A book excerpt in the May issue began "This year" without stating that it was 1972, or providing a context for some political comments in the article.

USCF's members, as *Chess Life* readers, will render the

final verdict, and their reaction should be closely watched. I want to thank Committee members Herman Chiu, Jerry Hanken, Paul Hoffman, Harvey Lerman, Ryan Ko, Ben Marmont, Ira Lee Riddle, and Arlen Walker for their participation.

Ratings Committee (RC)

Chair, Prof. Mark E. Glickman

The Ratings Committee (RC) this year was faced with a host of small but important tasks. In previous years, much of the RC effort involved addressing major issues involving the new rating system, which has completed its fifth year of existence. The tasks this year have been in the spirit of refining and tackling minor aspects of the rating system.

Based on some correspondence with scholastic tournament organizers, we realized that the age-based initial rating formula had become inappropriate for the current group of scholastic players entering the rating pool. Based on some helpful summaries put together by Mike Nolan, we determined a revision of the age-based initial rating formula. We have recommended to the office the following substitutions to the formulas: If a player's age is less than 26 years, then the imputed initial rating should be $50 \times \text{Age}$ ('Age' measured in years). If the player's age is 26 years or older, the initial rating should be 1300. Again, this change reflects the lower average ratings of young players entering the USCF pool.

Two changes to the rating system were made and approved in early March, 2006. The first was raising the 'money' floors from \$1000 to \$2000. In the past, if a player won \$1000 or more as a class prize, the player's rating floor became the rating corresponding to the tournament section upper rating limit. Because it is now more common to win \$1000 compared to when the rule was implemented years ago, the prize threshold was increased to \$2000. The second change was the removal of the half-K option for standard tournaments. As communicated to the RC by the office, very few tournament directors have been exercising the option to run their events as half-K, and the RC felt that there was no theoretically sound basis for rating these events as half-K anyway.

Some members of the RC were involved in extensive correspondence about the rating of matches between players where one of them was at or near his rating floor. The concern was that the opponent of the player at his floor had an opportunity to take advantage of the situation, possibly gaining a large number of rating points, whereas the floored player had no risk of losing points. The suggestion put forth by Bill Goichberg, which appears to be the proposal on the table, is to rate matches in such a way so that players at or near their rating floor would have their floor dropped by 100 points for the match. This would allow the floored player to have a post-match rating that would be below his current floor. Along with this proposal, Bill suggested that two-round events with two players be considered a match for rating purposes.

Last Fall, Mike Nolan provided the RC with ratings data on players who had both FIDÉ and established USCF ratings, and who were active tournament players in the past three years. From this data, we determined a revised conversion formula from the FIDÉ rating scale to the USCF scale. The new conversion is as follows: For FIDÉ rating below 2200, the converted USCF rating is the same. For FIDÉ rating between 2200 and 2600, the converted USCF rating is $\text{FIDÉ} + (\text{FIDÉ} - 2200) / 8$. For FIDÉ ratings above 2600, the converted USCF rating is $\text{FIDÉ} + 50$. We have recommended to the USCF office to begin using these formulas to impute initial USCF ratings for FIDÉ players who have not yet entered USCF events. The RC notes that,

based on our data analyses, the conversion is quite imprecise on an individual basis. Even though the formula prescribes that a 2200 FIDÉ player has a converted USCF rating of 2200, in reality the range of possible USCF ratings for FIDÉ=2200 can be as low as 1800 and as high as 2450. This is the reason that the conversion formula needs to be applied with caution, recognizing the imprecision in the correspondence between the FIDÉ and USCF scales.

Related to the issue of the FIDÉ-to-USCF conversion, there has been extensive discussion on how to make use of the results of FIDÉ events in updating USCF ratings for USCF-rated players that compete in such events. The RC last year worked out a set of formulas to convert tournament summary information that FIDÉ provides in order to update USCF ratings. This method, which can be applied to all FIDÉ events and is not terribly labor-intensive, requires that rating changes are updated using half-K due to the simplifying approximations in the formulas, and due to the imprecision of the rating conversion between FIDÉ and the USCF scales. Bill Goichberg presented an alternative option where a small number of significant FIDÉ events would be rated using the USCF programs, after converting all of the FIDÉ ratings to the USCF scale, and this method would use $0.8 \cdot K$ instead of half-K. The problem with this method is that it could potentially require significant resources to carry out on an ongoing basis. The decision of what method to use is still under consideration by the USCF office and the Executive Board.

The RC was asked to consider whether it was sensible to establish USCF rating floors for titled FIDÉ players who had not competed in USCF events, fearing that titled FIDÉ players might sandbag their performances in USCF events. The particular method we were asked to consider involved converting the player's FIDÉ rating to the USCF scale, and then using the appropriate floor corresponding to the converted rating. Due to the imprecision of the FIDÉ conversion, among other reasons, the RC instead proposed that titled FIDÉ players have their initial converted rating based on 25 games (instead of 10, as the current rating system dictates), which would ensure that the FIDÉ player would have an established USCF rating after his first event, thus creating a rating floor based on the post-event rating. This proposal is currently under consideration.

One of the tasks the RC has not yet completed is a method to connect the Quick Chess (QC) and regular rating systems. A concern was expressed that many players' QC and regular ratings were too far apart to believe that both were accurate representations of playing strength in the different systems. This could easily come about if a player competes actively in one system (e.g., in tournaments with regular time controls) and not in the other, so that the latter rating would be out of date. This is a tricky issue because it is not immediately clear within the current rating system how to recognize the positive correlation between QC and regular ratings, but also recognizing that the correlation may not apply for every player. We continue to explore this issue this coming year.

Two issues arose this year which were only tangentially related to the rating system, but were considered by the RC. First, the RC chair provided the office with a set of formulas that could be used to determine statistical evidence of sandbagging. These formulas could be applied periodically in order to identify players that may be abusing the rating system in order to become unfairly competitive for class prizes. The RC does not recommend that punitive action be taken based on the results of such statistical determination, but that players who are flagged as a result of these formulas can be monitored outside the realm of statistical information. A second issue that arose had to do with researchers requesting ratings data from the USCF. The RC

recommended a procedure whereby a researcher would submit a proposal to the USCF, specifying the aims and data requirements for the research, along with information that would indicate that USCF members' privacy and confidentiality would be protected. We also suggested to the office that the data would only be provided for a fee, since compiling requested data in a usable form required USCF personnel resources. With a wealth of rich information on human cognitive performance, we expect that the USCF will be increasingly contacted about the use of ratings and game outcomes data for academic research.

Finally, in response to questions about how to improve the USCF rating system to track rapidly improving players, the RC began a discussion about the possible use of the Glicko-2 rating system as an eventual replacement for the current system. The Glicko-2 system is a methodology based on peer-reviewed published research by the RC chair in 2001. The system makes distinctions when performing ratings calculations in the precision of ratings — a player who has not competed in many tournaments, or a player that competes infrequently will have a less stable rating than a player who competes frequently, and the difference in stability has implications on the ratings computations. One of the main benefits of the Glicko-2 system is that it is able to recognize when a player is rapidly improving, much better than in the current USCF system. In support of the Glicko-2 system, we discovered that the Australian Chess Federation now uses the Glicko-2 system to rate all of its over-the-board tournaments. While this discussion is very much in the early stages, Committee members knowledgeable about the Glicko-2 system were in support of its potential use for rating USCF players.

Rules Committee

Chair, David Kuhns

There were no appeals brought before the Rules Committee in the past year.

An issue of importance is the change to rule 15A, the addition of rule 43 defining a standard scoresheet (including electronic scoresheets), and guidelines for certification of electronic scoresheets. 15A and 43 see ADM 06-xx.

Guidelines for certification of an electronic scoresheet:

Any device designed to assist a player in keeping score by an electronic means may be certified by the USCF provided the device meets the minimum requirements stated below. Electronic scoresheets will be tested and verified by the USCF, and a list of all such devices will be made available to the members and tournament directors. Only devices thus certified will be considered as standard scorekeeping equipment. Player modified electronic devices to keep score cannot be verified, therefore are not considered standard.

During a game:

The player may only record chess moves, offer of a draw and the time displayed on the chess clock.

The player may record moves either by accepted chess notation, or by a displayed diagram on the scoresheet.

The scoresheet must have the ability to display the game, in its entirety, in accepted chess notation (symbolic algebraic, character algebraic, or descriptive).

The scoresheet nor the player may receive information through the use of the scoresheet, either contained within the scoresheet or from any outside source.

The scoresheet cannot be used to contact outside sources, other than those in direct control of the tournament director (TD) or the organizer.

The player or the scoresheet cannot access a chess engine or any stored games, openings or analysis contained within the electronics of the device.

The scoresheet will not provide information, whether

solicited or not, regarding the move made on the chess board. That includes all claims such as the legality of the move made, the occurrence of check, checkmate, stalemate, repeated position, 50-move rule, or any other claim that is to be initiated by the player.

Unless the device itself contains a chess clock that is in use by both players, the scoresheet may not provide information regarding the time used or remaining, or to make a time forfeit claim.

If capable, the scoresheet may provide recording ability to both players, either through direct input either by the chessboard or by the each of the players.

After the completion of the game:

The scoresheet must have the ability to deliver a completed score of the game to the tournament director or organizer. This may be in any form acceptable to the TD, such as a print-out or electronic download.

If required by the TD, both players must be able to sign the completed scoresheet. That signature may be electronic (on the device) or manual (on the printout) as specified by the TD.

Thank you.

States Committee

Chair, Guy Hoffman

We had an uneventful year, as little was brought before the Committee, including the personnel in the Committee. I was informed of the Committee members in a letter dated May 11, and on May 24, were mailed a packet of material, a continuation of an old complaint. We took no action on the previous complaint, and will continue this course.

I'd like to thank my Committee members: Frank Berry, Walter Buehl, Larry Cohen, Ed Conway, Roger Gotschall, Jim Gray, Richard Koepcke, Harvey Lerman, and Tony Pabon.

TDCC Committee

Chair Tim Just

My thanks to the Committee members: Carol Jarecki, Joe Lux, Joan Schlich, Ernie Schlich, Randy Hough, Guy Hoffman, Marshall Denny, Ira Lee Riddle, Al Losoff, Mike Somers, and John McCumiskey.

This year the TDCC carried on with the normal tasks of evaluating ANTD and NTD exams. Further, Carol Jarecki (IA/NTD) created our first FA/IA exam and is working on developing a second exam. Ernie Schlich and Carol are working on the USCF IA/FA policies.

The TDCC recommended that the EB consider suspending one TD for a one-year period for irregularities in reporting a dual-rated USCF/FIDÉ norm tournament.

Minor changes to TD Certification in grammar and the TD Certification language relating to FA FIDÉ certification regulations were implemented.

The following rules changes to TD Certification are being recommended by the TDCC to the Delegates in the form of ADMs:

First: Move that the following TD TIP be added after rule 46:

TD TIP: Contact the USCF office BEFORE any FIDÉ tournament is run to make sure all USCF/FIDÉ current requirements for both the tournament and TD qualifications (experience requirements, fees, etc.) are met.

Second: Move that the following changes be made to TD Certification rules:

Tournament Categories

14. Category I.

A tournament held in the United States that will be sub-

mitted to both FIDÉ and USCF for rating.

a. FIDÉ events that award title norms for GMs, IMs, WGMs, and WIMs and will be submitted to FIDÉ for rating must be directed by an International Arbiter (IA), Federation Arbiter (FA), or a Senior, or higher, certified TD, supervised by an IA.

b. FIDÉ events that do not award title norms but will be submitted to FIDÉ for rating must be directed by a TD certified at the Senior level or higher who has the FIDÉ endorsement and whose level is appropriate for the expected size of the event.

24. Limitations. A club TD may not be the Chief TD for USCF Grand Prix, Category N or Category I tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A, B, or C tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 50 players. Computer assisted club TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 60 players with the aid of one assistant TD. IA and FA experience credit of any kind is unavailable at Category I tournaments.

28. Limitations. A local TD may not be the Chief TD for Category N or Category I tournaments and should not be the Chief TD of Category A or B tournaments, which includes any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw more than 100 players. Computer assisted local TDs can be the Chief TD of any tournament, or section of a tournament, expected to draw up to 120 players with the aid of one assistant TD.

TD TIP: FA (not IA) norm experience credit may be available at Category I tournaments to local TDs that act as assistant TDs under the direct supervision of a chief TD who is either an IA or FA and is onsite throughout the event. Contact the USCF for details.

43. Qualifications. The USCF will submit a title application for the International arbiter and FIDÉ arbiter titles for current USCF members who are certified at the Senior, ANTD, or NTD level and meet all the following requirements. FIDÉ requires that an IA applicant must already hold the title of FA. Applicants will pay all fees regarding this process:

a. Thorough knowledge of the Laws of Chess and the FIDÉ Regulations for chess competitions;

b. Absolute objectivity, demonstrated at all times during his or her activity as an arbiter;

c. Sufficient knowledge of at least one official FIDÉ language for FA and obligatory knowledge of the English language, minimum at conversation level, and of chess terms in other official FIDÉ languages, for IA.

d. Experience: USCF Senior TD and chief or deputy arbiter in at least four Category I events documented by the appropriate title norm certificate signed by a current IA or FA and governed by the FIDÉ Laws of Chess and Rules of Play such as the following:

d1. The final of the National Adult Championship (not more than two);

d2. All official FIDÉ tournaments and matches;

d3. International title tournaments and matches;

d4. International chess festivals with at least 100 contestants.

Third: Move: Add the following to The Senior Director 30. Experience Requirements:

d. A current International arbiters (IA) or FIDÉ arbiter (FA) meets Senior TD experience requirements if:

The IA or FA status is verified by FIDÉ.

The IA or FA states they are relocating to the United

States from a foreign country.

The IA or FA is an USCF member.

The IA or FA is at least certified as a USCF Club TD.

The IA or FA has satisfactorily assisted at a minimum of three USCF Category C tournaments under the supervision of a Senior TD totaling at least 200 players.

The IA or FA has been the chief of at least one Category D tournament and satisfactorily submitted the rating report.

The IA or FA has an established USCF rating.

This TD Certification rule addresses the fact that foreign IAs and FAs relocating to the USA have experience as TDs and only need to be brought up to date on USCF rules and USCF procedures before taking the Senior TD exam.

Fourth: Move: Add the following to Tournament Director Certification:

The Local Director

26. Experience Requirements.

g. Only one experience credit as a section chief is allowed in multiple-sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament.

The Senior Director

30. Experience Requirements

d. Only one experience credit as a section chief is allowed in multiple-sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament.

The Associate National Director (ANTD)

34. Experience Requirements

e. Only one experience credit as a section chief is allowed in multiple-sectioned tournaments. Multiple tournaments held at the same site on the same dates may be defined as sections of the same tournament.

This motion addresses the abuse of claiming multiple sections of the same event on the same dates for experience requirements.

U.S. Open Committee

Chair, Jerry Hanken

The new U.S. Open Committee was formed last year to deal with issues regarding our longest running tournament, this being the 107th consecutive U.S. Open. The Committee

consists of Walter Buehl, John Hillery, James Mennella and Hal Terrie III.

This year we addressed two important issues. First, we felt that the Open should be open to any bidder as it was until 2000. The office is under no obligation to accept a local or corporate bidder, but must give any bid consideration. One member of our Committee wished to mandate that details of all bids be made available to the Delegates. However, the EB in Boca passed the proposal without that provision. We are recommending that this last be added as an amendment and hope this has been done by the time you read this report.

The second matter we took up was the five-year awards which, before 1998 were given in recognition of players who achieved five-year milestones of participation in the granddaddy of USCF tournaments. The Board unanimously passed this motion reinstating this promotional program. The caveat is that the office has no records of the awards from the last time it was in effect. Of course, the office is far too busy to do the research, which the Committee fully understands. The EB left it to us to work with ED Bill Hall on the details. I am pleased to report that Bill was very cooperative, providing copies of recent crosstables and putting an announcement on the registration Web site for the U.S. Open. (If you registered in advance, I hope you noticed it.) The Committee agreed to do the heavy lifting. We have a probably incomplete list, but if you read this and have not received your award and qualify, please contact yours truly. It's not too late and the awards will be presented in a brief ceremony before the last round when we are all together, or at least most of us. If you are a five-year or more person, I am sure you will be there even if you are 0-8! In any case, next year we will be up and running earlier and will have built a file.

Next year the Committee intends to look at such issues as rotation and location, and make recommendations to the EB. If any one has any suggestions as to subjects the Committee may wish to look at, pass them along to the Chairman. Also, if any U.S. Open lovers would like to serve on the Committee, let me know and we may have a couple of spots open.

It is a vicious rumor that the program was suggested because the Chairman will be getting his 40-year award! Oh, maybe there is just a *little* truth in it! GM and Hall-of-Fame member Art Bisguier will be getting his 55th!!

**The following Committees have not submitted a written report as of deadline:
An oral report may be given.**

Audit, College Chess, Finance, International Affairs, Outreach, Scholastic Council,
Senior, Survey, Top Players, Web Site, and Women's Chess

Delegates at Large

Delegates at Large (DAL)

(* = Past President)

Frank Camaratta
Steve Doyle*
Gerry Dullea
Jerome Hanken
F. Woodrow Harris
Randy Hough

Myron Lieberman
Rachel Lieberman
John McCrary
Timothy Redman*
Harry Sabine
Harold Winston*

Additional Alternate Delegates (AAD)

(* = Past President)

Anthony P. Cottell
Maxim Dlugy *
Harold Dondis
Leroy Dubeck*
Frank Elley
Robert Erkes

Al Lawrence
Glenn Petersen
Frank Skoff *
Gary Sperling*
Helen Warren

1979–2006 Award Recipients

Chess City of the Year

1983	Pasadena, California
1984	New York, New York
1985	Foxboro, Massachusetts
1986	Charlotte, North Carolina
	Somerset, New Jersey
1987	Pulaski, Virginia
	Terre Haute, Indiana
1988	Albuquerque, New Mexico
	Memphis, Tennessee
	Southfield, Michigan
1989	Knoxville, Tennessee
	Peoria, Illinois
	Seattle, Washington
	Tempe, Arizona
	Lexington, Kentucky
1993	Durango, Colorado
	Reno, Nevada
1994	Bloomington, Illinois
	New York, New York
1995	Chicago, Illinois
	Key West, Florida
1996	Tucson, Arizona
	New York, New York
1997	Knoxville, Tennessee
	Sioux Falls, South Dakota
1998	Peoria, Arizona
1999	San Francisco, California
	Gilbert, Arizona
2000	Louisville, Kentucky
	Dallas, Texas
2001	Kansas City, Missouri
2002	Miami, Florida
	New York City
	Seattle, Washington
2003	Nashville, Tennessee
2004	Lindsborg, Kansas
2005	Minneapolis, Minnesota
2006	Crossville, TN
	Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Chess Club of the Year

1999	Pittsburgh Chess Club
2001	Rochester Chess Club
	Dumont Chess Mates
2002	Metrowest Chess Club (MA)
2003	Rochester Chess Club
	Miami International Chess Academy
2004	Marshall Chess Club
2005	Mechanic's Institute
	East Bay Chess Club
2006	St. George, UT, Chess Club

Chess College of the Year

2000	University of Maryland
	Baltimore County (UMBC)
2001	University of Texas at Dallas
(UTD)	
2002	University of Maryland
	Baltimore County (UMBC)
	Rhode Island College
	St. Johns University
2003	Stanford University
2004	Miami Dade Community College
2005	U Cal at Berkeley

2006 U of CT School of Engineering Texas Tech

Committee of the Year

1982	Computer Committee
1988	Hall of Fame Committee
1989	Scholastic Committee
1990	Tournament Direction
	Certification
1993	Special Committee on Rulebook
1994	Ratings Committee
1995	Computer Communications
1996	Chess in Education Committee
1997	Finance Committee
1998	Internet Committee
1999	Finance Task Force
	Rules Committee
2000	Scholastic Committee
2001	Internet/Computer Committee
	Outreach Committee
2002	FIDE Advisory
2003	Women's Chess Committee
2004	College Chess Committee
2005	Finance Committee
2006	International Affairs

Distinguished Service

1979	George Cunningham, Arpad Elo, Burt Hochberg, George Koltanowski
1980	Ed Edmondson, Isaac Kashdan, Paul Webb
1981	John Collins, Marshall Rohland, Frank Skoff
1982	Fred Cramer, Lina Grumette, Gary Sperling
1983	Arnold Denker, Bill Goichberg, Van Vandenberg
1984	Lynne Babcock, Pearle Mann, George Tiers
1985	Denis Barry, Harold Dondis, Tim Redman
1987	Leroy Dubeck
1988	Gerard Dullea
1989	Myron Lieberman, Don Schultz
1990	Steve Doyle
1991	Harry Sabine, Yasser Seirawan
1992	Harold Winston
1993	Robert Erkes, Carol Jarecki, Helen Warren
1994	C. Norman Peacor, Fred Townsend
1995	Jerry Hanken, Martin Morrison
1996	Woodrow Harris
1997	Anthony Cottell, Frank Camaratta
1998	Glenn Petersen, Faneuil Adams
1999	Jerry Spann (posthumously)
2001	Sid Samole (posthumously)
2002	Randall Hough, Rachel Lieberman
2003	Dr. Lee Hyder
2004	Dr. Joseph Wagner
2005	Shane Samole
2006	Mike Nolan
	Frank J. Marshall
1994	Albert Sandrin

1995	GM Arthur Dake
1996	GM Arnold Denker
1997	IM Maurice Ashley
	IM John Donaldson

1998	GM Arthur Bisguier
1999	Faneuil Adams (posthumously)
2001	GM Pal Benko
2002	GM Lev Alburt
2003	GM Sam Palatnik
	GM Yasser Seirawan
2004	John Curdo
2005	IM Igor Ivanov
2006	Ambassador Shaun Alexander

Grandmaster of the Year

1997	Alexander Yermolinsky
1998	Joel Benjamin
1999	Nick de Firmian
2001	Yasser Seirawan
2002	Larry Christiansen
2003	Maurice Ashley
	Susan Polgar
2004	Alexander Shabalov
2005	Hikaru Nakamura
2006	Ildar Ibragimov
	Anna Zatonskih

Honorary Chess Mates

1998	Ethel Collins, Nina Denker, Nancy Edmondson, Leah Koltanowski, Carrie Marshall
2001	Norma Reshevsky
2002	Madge Byrne
2003	Baiba Mednis
2004	Bernadette Doyle, Brenda Goichberg, Teresa Schultz
2005	Doris Barry, Phyllis Benjamin, Carol Weinberg
2006	Jim Warren, Delores Wagner, Elizabeth Tanner

Koltanowski Medal

1979	<i>Gold:</i> Bill Church
	Jacqueline Piatigorsky
	Louis Statham
1980	<i>Gold:</i> Thomas Emery
	Lessing Rosenwald
1981	<i>Gold:</i> Fred Cramer
	<i>Silver:</i> Howard Gaba
	Fred Gruenberg
	Al Hansen
1982	<i>Gold:</i> Rea Hayes
	<i>Silver:</i> Nobert Leopoldi
1983	<i>Silver:</i> Stephen Jones
	Don Richardson
	John Rylowski
	Ralph Slottow
1984	<i>Gold:</i> Jose Cuchi
	<i>Silver:</i> M. Vacheron
1985	<i>Gold:</i> Frank Normali
	<i>Silver:</i> R. W. Twombly
1986	<i>Gold:</i> Shelby Lyman, NCR Corp.
	<i>Silver:</i> Faneuil Adams, Jr.
	Paul Arnold Associates

Equitable Life Assurance Prudential Insurance
 1987 *Gold:* Frank Samford
 1988 *Gold:* Sid Samole
 1989 *Gold:* Novag Industries
 1990 *Gold:* Arnold Denker
 Helen Warren
 1991 *Gold:* Ted Field
 Silver: Neil Falconer
 1992 *Gold:* Banker's Trust
 1994 *Silver:* Dr. Martin Katahn
 1996 *Gold:* Saitek Industries, Ltd.
 Silver: Zamagias Properties
 1997 *Gold:* Interplay Productions
 Silver: Wizards of the Coast
 Novag Industries
 1998 *Gold:* Chess in the Schools
 Silver: Internet Chess Club (ICC)
 2000 *Gold:* The University of Texas
 at Dallas (UTD)
 Silver: The University of Texas
 at Dallas (UTD)
 2001 *Gold:* Seattle Chess Foundation
 2002 *Gold:* Floyd and Bernice
 Sarisoehn
 Dato' Tan Chin Nam
 2003 *Gold:* Dr. Martin (Dick) Katahn
 Gold: Tennessee Tech University
 2004 *Gold:* Kasparov Chess
 Foundation
 2005 *Gold:* Al Blowers (from
 HB Foundation)
**2006 Gold America's Foundation
 for Chess (AF4C)**

Meritorious Service

1980 Robert Tanner
 1985 Joseph Wagner
 1986 Lincoln Chess Foundation,
 Glenn Meachum, Ben Munson,
 Sunil Weeramantry
 1987 Don Maddox, Charles Pashayan,
 Jules Stein
 1988 Harry Lyman
 1991 Imre Konig, George Leighton
 1992 David Mehler
 1993 Dale Brandreth, Allen Kaufman
 1994 Randall Hough, Paul Shannon
 1995 Frank Brady, Billy Colias,
 Ernest Marx
 1996 Paul Gold, Myron Lieberman
 1997 Alan Sherman, Randall
 Swanson, Jim Warren
 1998 James Bolton, Richard Verber
 1999 Selby Anderson, Erv Sedlock,
 Ken Smith (posthumously)
 2000 Randy Hough
 2001 Gary Prince
 2002 Joe Ippolito, Ollie LaFreniere,
 Beatriz Marinello
 2003 Mike Nolan, Harry Sabine
 2004 Sunil Weeramantry
 2005 Herman Drenth
**2006 Jim Brotsos, Jon Haskel,
 Wilder Wadford,
 Jon and Barbara Fortune**

Organizer of the Year

1994 Bill Goichberg
 1995 Al Losoff

1996 Nick Conticello, Manhattan
 Chess Club
 1997 Jose Cuchi, E. Steven Doyle
 1998 Robert Tanner
 1999 John Donaldson, De Knudson
 2002 Yasser Seirawan and America's
 Foundation for Chess (formerly
 the Seattle Chess Foundation)
 2003 Arden Dille, Phillip Simpkins
 2004 Michael Korenman
 2005 Maurice Ashley
2006 Cris Collinsworth Foundation

Outstanding Career Achievement

1986 Allen Hinshaw, Helen Hinshaw,
 Bob Dudley, Robert Erkes,
 George Mirijanian
 1987 Alan Benjamin, Phyllis Benjamin
 1989 Peter Lahde, Alina Markowski,
 Larry Paxton, Glenn Petersen
 1990 Roger Blaine, Lee Hyder,
 Russell Miller
 1991 Mike Goodall, Ira Lee Riddle,
 Fjola Vandenburg
 1993 Robert Karch, Robert P. Smith
 1994 Clarence Callaway
 1995 Pete Nixon, Warren Pinches
 1996 Burt Hochberg
 1997 Leroy Dubeck, Bill Snead,
 J.C. Thompson
 1998 Steve Frymer
 1999 Robert Fischer, James Hurt,
 Stuart Laughlin,
 2000 Harold Dondis
 2001 John Collins
 2002 Robert Ferguson, Jerry Hanken,
 Carol Jarecki
 2003 John Donaldson, Thad Rogers
 2004 Jay Bonin
 2005 Ralph Bowman
**2006 Gus Gosselin,
 Fred Goldhirsch/Doug Bellizzi,
 David McEnulty, Jerry Weikel**

Scholastic Service

1994 Harry Sabine
 1995 Ron Lohrman
 1996 Lee LaFrese
 1997 Robert Ferguson
 1998 Sunil Weeramantry
 1999 Faneuil Adams (posthumously)
 2000 Jack Mallory
 2001 Beatriz Marinello
 2002 Dewain Barber
 2003 Ralph Bowman
 2004 GM Arnold Denker
 Gilbert Unified School District #41,
 Gilbert, Arizona
 2005 Elizabeth Tejada
2006 Tim Redman

Special Services

1983 Hal Bogner, Arnold Denker,
 Thad Rogers, Hyman Rogosin,
 Eric Schiller, Don Schultz
 1985 Lackland Bloom, Martin Morrison
 1986 Fred Gruenberg, Richard O'Keefe,
 C. Norman Peacor, Ron Warnicki
 1988 Fred Townsend, David Welsh

1991 Lev Alburt, Larry Evans
 1992 Ron Lohrman, Les Leroy Smith
 1993 Jeremy Gaige, John Varis
 1994 John McCrary, Warren Pinches,
 Garrett Scott
 1995 Jo Eglen, Doris Thackrey
 1996 Herb Hickman, Hanon Russell,
 Helen Warren
 1997 Denis Barry, Robert John McCrary,
 Jim Pechac
 1998 Harold Stenzel,
 Gary and Addie Prince
 1999 Tim Just, Mike Carr,
 Alice Loranth (posthumously)
 2000 Ken Horne (posthumously),
 Rachel Lieberman, Sid Samole
 2001 Tom Doan, Pat Hoekstra,
 Myron Lieberman
 2002 Dewain Barber, Ralph Bowman,
 Mark Glickman, Al Lawrence,
 Mike Nolan
 2003 Lynne Chapman, Kelly Jacobs,
 Ken Sloan
 2004 Don Mihokovich, Bob Persante
 2005 Neil Falconer
**2006 Kim Cramer,
 John Donaldson,
 Mikhail Korenman,
 Greg Shahade**

Special Task Force

2000 President's Special Committee
 on Finances,
 Computer Evaluation Task Force
 2003 Rulebook Revision Task Force

Tournament Director of the Year

2004 Carol Jarecki
 2005 Steve Immitt
2006 Walter Brown

U.S. Chess Hall of Fame

1986 Reuben Fine, Robert Fischer,
 Isaac Kashdan, George Koltanowski,
 Frank Marshall, Paul Morphy,
 Harry Pillsbury, Sammy Reshevsky
 1987 Sam Loyd, Wilhelm Steinitz
 1988 Arpad Elo, Hermann Helms
 1989 I.A. Horowitz
 1990 Hans Berliner
 1991 John Collins, Arthur Dake
 1992 Arnold Denker, Gisela Gresser,
 George MacKenzie
 1993 Pal Benko, Victor Palciauskas
 1994 Arthur Bisguier, Robert Byrne,
 Larry Evans
 1995 Ed Edmondson
 1996 Fred Reinfeld
 1997 Kenneth Harkness
 1998 Dr. Milan Vukcevic
 1999 Benjamin Franklin
 2000 Edmar Mednis
 2001 Lubomir Kavalek
 2002 Donald Byrne
 2003 Lev Alburt, Walter Browne
 2004 Anatoly Lein, Leonid Shamkovich

Special Friend of USCF

2006 Phil Haley

A Guide to Robert's Rules of Order for USCF Delegates

by Mike Nolan, USCF Parliamentarian

(Revised June 2001)

Reference: *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, 10th Edition (published in 2000), edited by Robert, Evans, Honemann and Balch, Perseus Publishing, 0-7382-0307-6. (List price \$17 in paperback.)

This is a simplified selection of some key points from *Robert's Rules of Order*, with a few explanatory remarks and examples and some exceptions and extensions that have come into general use by the Delegates.

Definitions

Parliamentarian: The Parliamentarian serves as a resource to the chair, offering advice on rulings and other matters to assist the chair in keeping the meeting orderly and productive. The Parliamentarian never 'rules' on a question, the chair has that privilege and may ignore or not solicit the advice of the Parliamentarian before making any ruling. The Parliamentarian also serves as a resource to Delegates, to advise them on proper parliamentary procedure.

2nd: Indicates a willingness to have the Delegates consider the motion, not any support for it. Except for motions on the advance agenda, motions arising from a committee and motions arising from the Membership Meeting, all main and subsidiary motions and most privileged or incidental motions require a 2nd in order to be considered by the Delegates further. While the maker of a motion is expected to argue in favor of it during debate, the seconder is under no such requirement.

Debatable: Discussion of the merits of the motion is permitted. An undebatable motion must be voted upon immediately *without discussion* unless an amendment or higher-ranking motion is in order and offered.

Majority: A simple majority means that more people vote 'yes' than 'no.' A $\frac{2}{3}$ majority means that at least twice as many people vote 'yes' as 'no.' To abstain from voting means to yield to the will of the majority that does vote, whatever that majority is. It does not matter whether the number of 'yes' and 'no' votes adds up to a quorum or not, as long as a quorum is present. Although a count of abstaining Delegates is sometimes requested of the chair, it is not mandatory under *Robert's Rules*.

Reconsider: A motion to reverse an earlier vote. A motion to reconsider may only be offered by someone who voted on the prevailing side on the earlier vote. A motion to reconsider always requires a simple majority, even if the motion being reconsidered required a larger majority to succeed. When a motion to reconsider is successful, the matter becomes active again, although it might not be the current order of business if some other business is also pending. Some motions may not be reconsidered, such as a failed motion to postpone indefinitely.

Chair: The person running the meeting. The chair assigns the floor during debate and recognizes members, including responding to points of order or privilege (and making rulings as required), parliamentary inquiries, and to request whether a speaker will yield to a point of information. All questions should be addressed to the chair, not to other members, including the member who currently has the floor. The chair is expected to remain impartial and must refrain from debate on the merits of any issue. A chair who wishes to speak to the merits should yield the chair by passing the gavel to another person for the duration of the

debate on that issue.

Agenda: The agenda is the order in which business is to be conducted. Many organizations have adopted a standard agenda for meetings, indicating in which order officer and committee reports are to be given, etc. It is also common for organizations to prepare an advance agenda of matters likely to come before the body. Sometimes the Bylaws specify that certain matters cannot be enacted unless pre-announced in the advance agenda, or require a different majority to pass if not pre-announced, such as amendments to the Bylaws. But the advance agenda is an informational document only until such time as it is adopted by the body during the meeting once a quorum is established.

The 13 ranking motions: (Larger numbers indicate motions that take precedence over lower-ranking ones.) Except where indicated, none of these motions are in order when someone else has the floor:

1. Main motion. Requires a 2nd (except for motions on the advance agenda or arising from a committee), debatable, amendable, may be reconsidered, passes by a simple majority unless the subject matter requires a higher majority, such as Bylaws changes which were not in the advance agenda. A main motion may not be made when some other motion is pending. The chair will call up as main motions items printed in the advance agenda in the order in which they appear, though motions may be called up by a committee out of the preprinted order if the motion was sponsored by or referred to the committee. Motions may be brought up in any order either by unanimous consent of the Delegates or by suspension of the rules, which requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority.

The following are subsidiary motions, and generally apply only to a main motion or a motion relating to a main motion. These motions are in order of increasing priority. For example, a motion to commit takes precedence over a motion to amend, and a motion to table takes precedence over all other subsidiary motions.

2. Postpone indefinitely. Requires a 2nd, debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority, may only be reconsidered in the affirmative. If successful, the main motion to which it applies is killed for the duration of the meeting and may not be reintroduced. Because of its low ranking, this motion may only be made when the main motion is under discussion, not when any amendments or other motions are pending.

3. Amend. Requires a 2nd, debatable if the motion to which it applies is debatable, amendable (but an amendment to an amendment is not further amendable, because it gets too confusing to keep track of things), may be reconsidered, requires a simple majority. (See below on the 'friendly amendment'.)

4. Commit (refer). Requires a 2nd, debatable if the motion to which it applies is debatable, amendable, requires a simple majority, may be reconsidered. If successful, the current main motion including all pending motions such as amendments, is referred to the designated committee(s) and the order of business is now the next item on the agenda. With some exceptions, such as a motion to amend the Bylaws, the Delegates may refer a matter to the Executive Board or to a committee with the power to implement it. Motions may also be referred to the Executive Board or to a committee with instructions to report back at the next Delegates Meeting. By convention, unless otherwise indicated a referral to a committee includes instructions to report back at the next Delegates Meeting, but referrals to the Board do

not include instructions to report back at the next Delegates Meeting, unless the Board does not have the authority to implement and that power is not attached in the motion to refer.

5. Postpone to a definite time. Requires a 2nd, debatable, amendable, generally requires a simple majority, may be reconsidered. (If made a special order, requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority. See 'call for the orders of the day.')

6. Limit debate. Requires a 2nd, not debatable, amendable, requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority to pass, may be reconsidered if still possible. Used to limit the rights of the Delegates to debate an issue, such as placing a time limit on an item of business, limiting the length of individual speeches, or the number of times a Delegate can speak on any one issue during debate on a motion.

7. Previous question (call the question). Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority to pass, may be reconsidered. Used to end debate on a motion and proceed to an immediate vote on it. In its basic form it applies only to the current pending motion (such as an amendment), but may also be applied to motions below that one in order, all the way back to the current main motion.

8. Lay on the table. Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority to pass, may not be reconsidered. Often used improperly to kill a motion, but more properly used to permit the Delegates to set aside a subject in order to move on to a more pressing one, since the tabled matter may be brought back to the floor by a simple majority vote later on, whereas one that is postponed indefinitely may not be brought to the floor later in the meeting. Tabled matters that are still tabled at the end of the meeting are automatically referred to the Executive Board, which may act upon a motion, refer it to appropriate committees, or place it on the agenda for the next year's meeting, although the EB is not required to take any of these actions. Motions for which the Executive Board does not have the authority to take final action, such as a Bylaws change, may still be referred by the Executive Board to committees or placed on next year's agenda, but unlike motions specifically referred to the Board this is not mandatory.

The following motions are privileged, may be made at any time, and do not refer to a pending main or subsidiary motion.

9. All for the orders of the day. *Does not require a 2nd, may be made when someone else has the floor,* not debatable, not amendable, does not require a vote, may not be reconsidered. The orders of the day are any motions that have been passed calling for consideration of a particular subject at a particular time as a special order. When the appointed time arises, any member may call the chair's attention to the matter by calling for the orders of the day, and the current pending matter must be set aside and the subject of the special order brought to the floor immediately.

10. Raise a question of privilege. *Does not require a 2nd, may be made when someone else has the floor,* not debatable, not amendable, is acted upon by the chair without a vote, and may not be reconsidered. A question of privilege deals with the rights of the Delegates or an individual Delegate to participate in the business at hand or correct the record on previous business. For example, if the speaker system isn't working and a Delegate can't hear the debate, that would be a question of privilege. Similarly, a loud disturbance from elsewhere would be a question of privilege. A question of personal privilege is often invoked when a member's name is mentioned in debate, but this is not proper unless this has been done in such a fashion as to incorrectly place into the record the member's participation or lack of participation in matters previously dealt with or to circulate a charge against that member's character. (The more proper motion to deal with an imprudent remark

about you made by the speaker during debate is to raise a point of order to 'call the member to order,' that is to have the chair request that the speaker refrain from making further improper personal comments about other members.)

11. Recess. Requires a 2nd, not debatable, amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. Once a motion to recess is passed, the Delegates are in recess until the time specified for the meeting to resume, at which time the chair may resume the meeting as soon as a quorum is present.

12. Adjourn. Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. Properly used as it applies to the Delegates meeting, this motion is only used to end the meeting. A motion to adjourn to 9 AM tomorrow morning should actually be made as a motion to recess until 9 AM, and the chair should rephrase it as such.

13. Fix the time to which to adjourn. This motion has no practical application to the Delegates meeting, since the meeting is short and of a fixed duration and except in special circumstances would not continue beyond that time frame.

Other motions:

The following motions are restorative, they bring a matter back before the Delegates that had previously been tabled or voted upon:

A. Take from the table: Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. (But a new motion to take the matter from the table may be offered later on.) This motion is only in order when there is no main motion pending, and it brings a matter before the Delegates that had been tabled earlier in the meeting, in the exact form it was in at the point at which it was tabled. See discussion above as to the disposition of motions left on the table at the end of the meeting.

B. Reconsider: Requires a 2nd, debatable if the motion to which it applies is also debatable, may not be amended, requires a simple majority, may not be made a 2nd time if unsuccessful. If a vote is reconsidered, any earlier disposition is reversed and whatever action is taken on the motion after reconsideration overrides any earlier action. If an action is irreversible, the matter cannot be reconsidered. This motion must be made by someone who voted on the prevailing side of the motion being reconsidered.

The following are some incidental motions that may arise, there is no order to these motions.

A. Suspend the rules. Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority, may not be reconsidered. This is a motion to suspend *Robert's Rules* or any standing rules or customs. The Bylaws may not be suspended, they must be amended. Suspending the rules is often requested to change the order of business to consider something ahead of its place in the agenda. Although not debatable, the maker of the motion generally offers a short explanation as to why the rules should be suspended or what action will be taken once the rules are suspended. If a motion to suspend the rules for a particular purpose is unsuccessful, it may not be renewed without unanimous consent of the Delegates.

B. Point of Order. *May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd,* is not debatable, is not amendable, may not be reconsidered, and is ruled upon by the chair rather than voted upon by the Delegates. A point of order is a request for the chair to enforce the rules under which the Delegates operate, such as dealing with a motion or member being out of order. For example, if an amendment to an amendment is offered, it would be out of order and if the chair doesn't rule it out of order, a Delegate should raise a point of order to have the

chair enforce the rules and declare the amendment out of order. A ruling by the chair is made, possibly after consulting with the Secretary or Parliamentarian, and once made the ruling may be appealed by any two Delegates (an appeal requires a 2nd), a simple majority being needed to reverse the ruling of the chair. A point of order can also be made to enforce the rules on decorum in debate, to enforce a time limit on debate or the number of times a speaker is recognized, or to clarify the status of the motion(s) currently before the Delegates.

C. Parliamentary Inquiry. *May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd,* is not debatable. Similar to a point of order, but generally limited to inquiring as to the proper motion to make under some circumstance or to ascertain the effect of such a motion or any pending motion. The chair answers the inquiry and may consult with others, such as the Parliamentarian or Secretary, for advice before answering. Since this is not (yet) a ruling, it may not be appealed.

D. Point of Information. *May be made when someone else has the floor.* This is not a motion, per se, but a request for permission to seek further information about the pending matter from the current speaker or for a brief answer from someone else with expertise in the subject, generally another Delegate or a USCF staff member. The speaker is not obliged to yield the floor to hear the question. This motion is often improperly used to interrupt a speaker just to rebut the speaker's debate, and in proper usage the interrupter should not make the rebuttal argument immediately but limit the interruption to a request that the speaker yield for a question, since the proper means for rebuttal in debate is to gain the floor through the usual means.

E. Object to the consideration of a question. *May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd,* is not debatable, is not amendable, requires a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority, may not be reconsidered. This motion may only be applied to a main motion when it is first introduced, its purpose is to prevent any discussion or debate on the motion, including any discussion as to why the question should not be considered. Another way to think of it is as the opposite of a 2nd, it indicates a lack of willingness to have the motion considered by the Delegates. An immediate vote on the objection should be taken and, if successful, the motion is killed and may not be reintroduced during the remainder of the meeting.

F. Division of a question. Requires a 2nd, not debatable, amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. This is a request to split a motion into several parts, and is only in order when the motion is easily severable.

Division of the assembly. *May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd,* is not debatable, is not amendable, may not be reconsidered, does not require a vote. Used to request a tabulated vote when the vote announced by the chair is disputed by the Delegates. A first request for a division should almost always be granted, as should a second request for a very close vote, but repeated requests for recounts of a close vote are a stalling tactic and after a vote has been carefully tabulated twice unless there is still a reasonable doubt as to the outcome the chair may ignore further requests for a division of the assembly and declare the vote concluded. Though it has been done on occasion, there is no specific provision in Robert's Rules or in the USCF Bylaws for ordering a roll call vote, and due to the time involved such an order should be used sparingly.

Appeal. *May be made when someone else has the floor,* requires a 2nd, is debatable if applied to a question which was debatable, requires a simple majority. Decisions of the chair regarding points of order, points of privilege, or assignment of the floor during debate may be appealed.

Such an appeal must occur immediately after the ruling to which it applies, and the motion to appeal takes precedence over the motion which was pending at the time the decision was made. Rulings regarding decorum in debate or the priority of business are not debatable, and a ruling made while a nondebatable motion is pending is also nondebatable. However, the chair is entitled to explain the ruling even if an appeal is nondebatable.

Standing rules or customary rules used by the USCF Delegates at past meetings, including procedural rules initially developed by the USCF President for use at the 1998 Delegates meeting:

A. A speaker may not move the previous question (call the question) after speaking to the merits of a question in that turn at the microphone. [Passed by the Delegates as a standing rule.]

B. Except for motions arising from the USCF Membership Meeting, if the sponsor or co-sponsor of a motion is not present at the time it is reached in the agenda, it goes to the end of the agenda, after all other advance motions and motions filed with the Secretary before or during the meeting but not included in the advance agenda. A request for unanimous consent or a motion to suspend the rules may be offered to bring the motion back to the floor ahead of then. (Congratulatory motions generally made at the end of the meeting are usually deferred until all other Delegate motions are dealt with, including those moved to the end of the agenda.) Motions on the advance agenda do not require a second, a Delegate who objects to such a motion should raise an objection to consideration of the question, either during adoption of the advance agenda or when the motion is reached in the meeting. Delegate motions not printed in the advance agenda do require a second.

C. A Delegate may withdraw a motion as long as it is still in its original form, even during debate, but once a motion has been revised from its initial form it may only be withdrawn by unanimous consent. All co-signers to the original motion must also consent to its withdrawal. (The person who seconded the motion does not need to consent to its withdrawal, since seconding a motion does not express an opinion on the merits of the motion, and the seconder is always free to attempt to gain the floor to make the motion again, at which time it requires another Delegate to second it.) When a motion is divided into multiple questions, each of the parts is now a separate motion and such a separated motion may be withdrawn if it is still in its original form.

D. The maker of a motion may accept as an improved version a 'friendly amendment' from another Delegate. Such a motion is still considered to be in its original form. The seconder does not have to consent to the friendly amendment, since the person offering the improvement is obviously willing to have the motion considered, which is the point of requiring a second. [This is a deviation from *Robert's Rules*, which now has a reference to the friendly amendment in the 10th edition, but in a much more restricted sense than found in common practice, including at USCF Delegates Meetings.]

E. Committee chairs may only bring to the floor during their reports motions that were referred to them by the previous or current Delegates meeting, motions referred to them by the Executive Board and printed in the Executive Board Newsletter or (preferably) placed on the advance agenda, or motions that the committee, or the committee chair on the committee's behalf, placed on the advance agenda. In specific, motions from workshops have no special standing with the Delegates, though they may be brought to the floor as main motions later in the meeting in the usual manner or offered as amendments during debate.

F. Straw polls may be made at the sole discretion of the chair, although the speaker may request them of the chair.

The chair will conduct all straw polls and votes. [Because they neither advance nor defeat the issue, the use of straw polls is not sanctioned by *Robert's Rules*, which suggests that a form of 'committee of the whole' be used instead.]

G. All main motions and amendments not appearing in the advance agenda should be submitted to the Secretary in written format, to assist the chair in the orderly conduct of the meeting and the Secretary in preparing an accurate set of minutes.

Pro and Con microphones will be placed on the floor. All Delegates wishing to debate a motion should stand in line at the appropriate microphone and wait to be assigned the floor by the chair. If an amendment or other debatable motion is offered, the Pro and Con microphones will now refer to that motion, and Delegates wishing to speak on that subject should move to the appropriate microphone, others should stand aside or sit down.

A podium may be provided for committee chairs to make their committee reports from. A committee chair or other Delegate at the podium is not entitled to any preference in debate but may be called upon to answer points of information regarding a committee's views on motions referred to it, in the advance agenda, or arising from the committee workshop. Makers of main motions may also be requested to present their motions from the podium and to remain at the podium to answer points of information.

Motions introduced and passed at the USCF Membership Meeting for consideration by the Delegates are entered on the agenda as the first items under New Business, and are brought to the floor in order at that point in the agenda.

These motions do not require a second. The maker of the motion during the Membership Meeting, if not a Delegate, is not entitled to speak at the Delegates meeting without the unanimous consent of the Delegates.

Delegates who have already spoken to the merits of a pending question are requested to defer to Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merit of that question. The chair may recognize Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merits of a pending question ahead of those who have already spoken on it. Where possible the chair will alternate between speakers for and speakers against the pending question. The maker of a motion is always entitled to the first opportunity in debate to speak to the merits of that motion. The chair assigns the floor, a Delegate may not yield the floor to another Delegate without the unanimous consent of the Delegates. Except for committee chairs giving their report, the Parliamentarian (if not a Delegate) and USCF staff members presenting a staff report or answering a point of information, non-Delegates are not entitled to speak to the Delegates without unanimous consent.

As indicated above, motions not reached by the Delegates or motions tabled by the Delegates are automatically referred to the Executive Board at the conclusion of the Delegates Meeting, but without the power to implement (where applicable) and without instructions to report back to the Delegates, so they will not appear on the advance agenda of the next Delegates Meeting except by specific action of the Executive Board, nor does progress on these motions need to be reported upon in the *Executive Board Newsletter*.

USCF National Events 2006–2009

Future National Chess Events as of 6/1/06

2006	2007	2008
<p>U.S. Senior Open August 27-Sept. 1 Nashville, Tennessee</p> <p>Denker Tournament of High School Champions August 6-11 Oak Brook, Illinois</p> <p>Susan Polgar National Invitational For Girls August 6-11 Oak Brook, Illinois</p> <p>National Youth Action East November 17-19 Atlanta, Georgia</p> <p>National Scholastic K-12/ Collegiate Championship December 8-10 Orlando, Florida</p> <p>Pan-Am Intercollegiate December 27-30 Washington, DC</p>	<p>National Junior High (K9) Championship Mar. 30-Apr. 1 Sacramento, California</p> <p>National High School (K12) Championship April 13-15 Kansas City, Missouri</p> <p>National Burt Lerner Elementary K-6 Championship May 11-13 Nashville, Tennessee</p> <p>108th U.S. Open July 28-Aug. 5 Cherry Hill, New Jersey</p> <p>National Scholastic K-12/ Collegiate Championship December 7-9 Houston, Texas</p>	<p>National Junior High (or Senior High) April 18 Atlanta, Georgia</p> <p>National Burt Lerner Elementary K-6 Championship May 9-11 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania</p> <p>National Scholastic K-12/ Collegiate Championship December 12-14 Orlando, Florida</p>
		<p style="text-align: center;">2009</p> <p>SuperNationals V April 3-5 Nashville, Tennessee</p>

2006 U.S. OPEN SCHEDULE

August 5 – August 13

Saturday, August 5

- 10 AM U.S. Open Scholastics begins
- 10 AM U.S. Open Weekend Swiss begins
- 7 PM U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 1

Sunday, August 6

- 9 AM Denker-Polgar reception
- 10 AM U.S. Open Weekend Swiss, 2nd day of play begins
- 10 AM U.S. Open Sunday Quad begins
- 11 AM Denker and Polgar, Round 1
- 7 PM U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 2

Monday, August 7

- 9 AM Chess in Education Seminar
- 11 AM Rated Beginners Open begins
- 11 AM Denker and Polgar, Round 2
- Noon U.S. Open Bughouse begins
- 7 PM U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 3

Tuesday, August 8

- 9 AM Chess in Education Seminar
- 10 AM U.S. Open Tuesday Quad begins
- 11 AM Denker and Polgar, Round 3
- Noon U.S. Open 6-day schedule, Round 1
- 7 PM U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 4
- 7 PM U.S. Open 6-day schedule, Round 2

Wednesday, August 9

- Early morning: U.S. Open Golf Tournament
- 9-10 AM Workshops: States, Denker
- 10 AM U.S. Open Action Championship begins
- 10-11 AM Workshop: Polgar
- 11 AM Denker and Polgar, Round 4
- 11-12 AM Workshop: College Chess
- Noon U.S. Open 6-day schedule, Round 3
- 1-2 PM Workshop: TDCC
- 1-3 PM Workshop: Outreach
- 2-3 PM Workshop: TDCC, problem solving
- 3-4 PM Workshop: Senior Chess
- 3-5 PM Workshop: Scholastic Committee
- 4-5 PM Workshop: Correspondence Chess
- 6 PM U.S. Open 5-day schedule, Round 1
- 7 PM U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 5
- 7 PM U.S. Open 6-day schedule, Round 4
- 8:30 PM U.S. Open 5-day schedule, Round 2

Thursday, August 10

- 9-10 AM Executive Board, closed
- 9-11 AM Workshop: Rules
- 10 AM U.S. Open 5-day schedule, Round 3
- 10 AM U.S. Open Thursday Quad begins
- 10-12 AM Executive Board, open
- 11-12 AM Workshop: Ethics
- 11 AM Denker and Polgar, Round 5
- Noon U.S. Open 6-day schedule, Round 5
- 1 PM U.S. Open 5-day schedule, Round 4
- 1-2 PM Workshop: Ratings
- 1-4 PM Workshop: Chess Trust
- 2-3 PM Workshop: Chess Journalists
- 3-4 PM Workshop: Publications
- 3:30 PM U.S. Open 5-day schedule, Round 5
- 4-5 PM Workshops: Chess in Education, Hall of Fame
- 7 PM U.S. Open merged, Round 6

Friday, August 11

- 9-10 AM Workshop: Women's Chess
- 9-11 AM Workshop: MIS/Website
- 10 AM U.S. Open Quick Championship begins
- 10-12 AM Workshop: Bylaws
- 11 AM Denker and Polgar, Round 6
- 1-3 PM Workshop: Finance/LMA
- 3-4 PM Workshop: International Affairs
- 4-5 PM Membership Meeting & Staff Forum
- 5 PM (approx.) Denker & Polgar Awards Ceremony
- 7 PM U.S. Open merged, Round 7
- 7:30 PM President's Reception

Saturday, August 12

- 9 AM-12 AM Delegates Meeting
- 11:45 AM U.S. Open Blitz Championship begins
- 12-2 PM USCF awards luncheon
- 2 PM-5 PM Delegates Meeting
- 7 PM U.S. Open merged, Round 8

Sunday, August 13

- 9 AM-1 PM Delegates Meeting
- 10 AM U.S. Open G/45 Championship begins
- 3 PM U.S. Open merged, Round 9
- 3-4:30 PM Executive Board, open
- 6 PM Executive Board, closed

Monday, August 14

- 9 AM-8 PM Executive Board

2006 U.S. Open Side Events

8/5. U.S. Open Scholastics. 4SS, G/40. EF: \$20. In 3 sections by 2006-7 school grade: K-3, 4-6, 7-12. Trophies to top 5, top 2 upsets & top 2 unrated in each section. Reg: 9-9:30 am, Rds: 10-12-1:45-3:30.

8/5-6 ChessCafe.com GP Points: 10

U.S. Open Weekend Swiss. 5SS, G/90. \$1500 guaranteed: \$300-150-100, U2200/Unr \$200, U2000 \$180, U1800 \$160, U1600 \$140, U1400 \$120, U1200 \$100, Unrated \$50. EF: \$40, unrated \$20. Reg: 9-9:30 am 8/5, Rds: Sat 10-2-6, Sun 10-2.

8/6. U.S. Open Sunday Quad. 3RR, G/60. EF: \$20. \$50 1st each section. Reg: 9-9:30 am, Rds: 10-12:30-2:30.

8/7. Rated Beginners Open. 4SS, G/30, open to U1200/Unr. EF: \$20. Trophies to top 5. Reg: 10-10:30 am, Rds: 11-12:30-1:45-3.

8/7. U.S. Open Bughouse Champ. 5SS, G/10. EF: \$30/team. Prizes: 40% of EFs to 1st team, 25% 2nd, 15% 3rd. Trophy to top team with both players

under age 16. Reg: 11-11:30, Rds: 12-1-1:40-2:20-3. Not rated.

8/8. U.S. Open Tuesday Quad. 3RR, G/60. EF: \$20. \$50 1st each section. Reg: 9-9:30 am, Rds: 10-12:30-2:30.

8/9. (early morning) Ninth Annual Golf Tournament for U.S. Open players: You must be playing in the US Open to play in the Golf Tournament. For details about cost, golf course, rules, prizes, etc. please email Michael Wojcio chessgolffmarathons@prodigy.net.

8/9. U.S. Open Action Champ. 4SS, G/30. \$500 b/40: \$130-70, top U2200 \$90, U1900 \$80, U1600/Unr \$70, U1300 \$60. EF: \$20. Reg: 9-9:30 am, Rds: 10-11:30-1:30-3.

8/10. U.S. Open Thursday Quad. 3RR, G/60. EF: \$20. \$50 1st each section. Reg: 9-9:30 am, Rds: 10-12:30-2:30.

8/11 (QC). U.S. Open Quick Champ. 5SS, G/15.

\$500 b/40: \$130-70, top U2200 \$90, U1900 \$80, U1600/Unr \$70, U1300 \$60. EF: \$20. Reg: 9-9:30 am, Rds: 10-11-12:30-1:30-2:30. Quick rated, but regular USCF ratings used for pairings & prizes; prize limit \$30 if quick rating is above prizegroup maximum. 8/12 (QC). *ChessCafe.com GP Points: 15*

U.S. Open Blitz Champion. 7SS (double round, 14 games), G/5. \$2000 guaranteed. In 2 sections. Open: \$300-200-100, U2400 \$180, U2200 \$170, U2000 \$160. Under 1800: \$250-120-80, U1600 \$160, U1400 \$130, U1200 \$100, Unr \$50. EF: \$40, unrated \$20. Reg: 10-11:15 am; Rds: 11:45-1-1:30-2-2:30-3-3:30. Quick rated, but regular USCF ratings used for pairings and prizes; prize limit \$50 if quick rating is above class of prize.

8/13. U.S. Open G/45 Champion. 4SS, G/45. \$500 b/40: \$130-70, top U2200 \$90, U1900 \$80, U1600/Unr \$70, U1300 \$60. EF: \$20. Reg: 9-9:30 am, Rds: 10-12-2-4.