

2007 Delegates' Call



USCF Delegates' Workshops and Meetings

AUGUST 1-5, 2007

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

CHERRY HILL

NEW JERSEY



US Chess Federation
1-931-787-1234
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GM Yury Shulman defends his U.S. Open crown

2006-2007 DELEGATES & ALTERNATE DELEGATES

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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 Assistant Executive Director, Pat Knight, P.O. Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557-3967. Please send them no later than July 27 in order to allow enough time for Pat Knight 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.

On the cover: GM Yuri Shulman defends his 2006 Oak Brook, Illinois U.S. Open win at this year's event in Cherry Hill.

Delegates' meeting location and dates: Crowne Plaza Philadelphia-Cherry Hill, 2349 W. Marlton Pike, Cherry Hill, NJ, 08002. August 1-5, 2007. www.crowneplaza.com/cherryhillnj

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Bill Goichberg

Oklahoma!

Lots of excitement May 15-23 in Stillwater. Congratulations to GM Alex Shabalov for winning his fourth U.S. Championship and to Frank K. Berry for stepping up when USCF unexpectedly had no sponsor and sponsoring, organizing and directing a great event. And even better for Oklahoma USCF members, during the tournament, the conflict between the state affiliate Oklahoma Chess Association and the Oklahoma Chess Foundation, organizer of many prestigious tournaments, was settled after four years.

As I have covered various other topics in the *May Chess Life*, the remainder of this report will be devoted to membership totals.

Adult membership finally up for a full year—after 11 years of losses!

One year ago, I wrote in the *Delegates' Call*, "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... 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."

Subsequently, the Executive Board took the courageous step of announcing a six-month dues sale, which offered one year full Adult membership for \$39 if paid online, between October 2006 and March 2007. The combination of the dues sale, our improved publications and website, and more and better renewal mailings appears to have succeeded in increasing Adult membership during a fiscal year for the first time since 1995, after 11 consecutive years of substantial decline which saw us lose about 40% of our Adult members.

The following table tells the story. Note that until August 2006, there was a "Youth" category for age 20 or below at expiration paying about half the Adult fee; in 2006 this category was changed to "Young Adult" for age 25 or below at expiration. So even though we have apparently lost 314 "Adult" members in the past year, actually these and others have simply been reclassified as "Young Adult," and if we compare Adults age 25 or up with the same group last year, we have a gain of 551 members.

Adult members as of May 31

(Includes Economy Adult 2001 to date; that membership was abolished by the delegates in 2004 but still has a few multi-year members)

	All	Age 25/up
1988	30,317	
1989	29,373	
1990	28,570	
1991	30,450	
1992	29,730	
1993	31,311	
1994	31,766	
1995	32,892	
1996	31,792	
1997	29,997	
1998	29,418	
1999	28,529	
2000	27,593	
2001	26,582	24,852
2002	25,384	23,677

2003	23,988	22,308
2004	21,915	20,261
2005	21,212	19,601
2006	20,399	18,848
2007	20,085	19,399

Notes:

1) The age 25/up figures are estimates assuming that members with birth date unknown, about 7% of the total, have the same percentage of age 25/up as those with known birth date.

2) Prison members were part of the Adult category until 2003-2004. As a result, the totals prior to 2003 are probably inflated by 500-1,000, and the 2003 total by about 300-600, compared to the years after 2003. Even considering this, we lost an average of clearly over 1,000 Adults per year in the 11 years following 1995.

3) "Economy Adult" memberships without a publication were offered 2001-2004 without success. See below.

4) Additional Family members who are age 25/over increased by about 100 in each year 2006 and 2007. This is not reflected in the above numbers.

The financial impact of the dues sale was apparently slightly negative for the 2007 fiscal year. Our cash position has improved by almost \$80,000 due mainly to an increase in multi-year memberships, but half the two-year income and two-thirds of the three-year income must be deferred for the future, both to do proper accounting and to assure us a cash cushion to guard against unexpected problems. As some of these multiyear members would otherwise have renewed late or not at all, the deferred revenue from the dues sale should help boost our 2008 and 2009 membership revenue. There is also the hidden benefit that whether one year or multi, when the dues sale members expire, many will renew, while with higher dues, most dropping out as a result would be unlikely to return.

After the end of the \$39 dues sale on March 31, the Executive Board started another dues sale at a slightly higher rate, \$41 for online purchases. I favored continuing the \$39 rate which is a proven winner, but also feel that players and affiliates are confused by too frequent changes in rates, so am sponsoring a motion to place the current \$41 online rate into our Bylaws. As the rate would remain \$49 for mailed or phoned purchases, affiliates may in effect obtain an \$8 commission by selling memberships for \$49 at clubs or tournaments and submitting them to USCF online.

Overall membership also turns around

Other membership categories, mostly for young people, have recovered nicely after a two-year period of collapse following the dues increases, unfortunate experiment with economy memberships, and suspension of a scholastic publication in 2003. See table below; our gain of 1,204 members this fiscal year was the largest in four years.

	May 31	Dec 31
1988	53,205	52,153
1989	51,596	51,105
1990	52,577	54,623
1991	57,667	58,454
1992	63,403(A)	67,613
1993	68,831	72,014
1994	73,565	79,021
1995	81,636	83,598
1996	83,155	84,047
1997	83,291	84,791
1998	84,929	85,250
1999	84,160	86,299
2000	86,109	88,569
2001	87,956(B)	90,005

2002	89,282	94,937
2003	90,637(C)	89,925
2004	85,856	83,091
2005	80,334	81,792
2006	80,623(D)	82,755
2007	81,827	

Notes:

A) Effective 1/1/92, free JTPs were no longer allowed for most scholastic tournaments.

B) Non-magazine economy option offered for adults, 2001-2004. About 5,600 adult members (full plus economy) were lost during this period.

C) Start of higher dues and Economy Scholastic memberships, *Chess Life* replaced *School Mates* for Scholastic members.

D) *Chess Life for Kids* started for Scholastic members, Economy Scholastic category ended.

Players without publications: do we ever learn from our mistakes?

If there is any lesson that should be overwhelmingly clear from our past, it is that *USCF membership grows best when membership with a publication is required to play in rated tournaments*. Yet no sooner do we terminate one failed non-magazine or optional membership experiment than others are proposed. "Those who do not remember history are doomed to repeat it."

Example 1: Ancient history.

Total USCF members on August 1.	
1954	2,184
1955	2,408
1956	2,220
1957	2,100

At the 1957 annual meeting, there was concern over two straight years of membership decline and a battle between two groups. USCF membership was then optional to play in rated tournaments; members had their games rated and non-members did not. The group that prevailed favored requiring membership for all players in USCF rated tournaments. The losing side was bitter and some swore they would never play again, but look what happened:

1958	2,668
1959	3,820
1960	4,579
1961	5,543
1962	6,120
1963	7,454
1964	8,383
1965	8,625
1966	9,466
1967	9,943
1968	11,202
1969	13,488
1970	22,623
1971	26,536
1972	30,844

I'll stop here because you should know what happened next to double membership, but certainly those "keep membership optional" people at that 1957 meeting did not have their viewpoint validated by history, to say the least.

Example 2. Juniors.

In 1975, USCF dues for juniors were \$8, including a monthly *Chess Life*. The Delegates passed a motion that year to introduce a "Participating Junior" (PJ) membership without a publication for \$2.50 per year, effective December 1. This was not

my idea, but I supported it as I believed the lower cost would bring in a tremendous number of new juniors, many of whom would later upgrade to a membership with *Chess Life* and become adult members.

I was wrong. The lower cost of the PJ membership had little promotional effect, and the new membership category served mainly to hurt USCF by converting Junior members with *Chess Life* into PJs without the magazine, and ultimately into non-members. PJs were a disaster, one of the worst blunders in USCF history. Let's look at some membership totals as of June 30, then the end of the fiscal year. The Adult numbers include Life and Sustaining members.

- 1975: Adults 37,005, Juniors 14,837. The last year before PJs.
- 1976: Adults 36,010, Juniors 8,784, PJs 4,385, total juniors 13,169.
- 1977: Adults 35,788, Juniors 6,022, PJs 4,365, total juniors 10,387.
- 1978: Adults 38,605, Juniors 5,791, PJs 4,441, total juniors 10,232.
- 1979: Adults 38,963, Juniors 5,400, PJs 4344, total juniors 9,744.
- 1980: Adults 38,277, Juniors 5,225, PJs 4,303, total juniors 9,528.
- 1981: Adults 39,941, Juniors 5,191, PJs 4,496, total juniors 9,687.
- 1982: Adults 41,810, Juniors 4,920, PJs 5,196, total juniors 10,116.
- 1983: Adults 42,892, Juniors 4,420, PJs 5,480, total juniors 9,890.
- 1984: Adults 43,274, Juniors 4,504, PJs 5,995, total juniors 10,499.
- 1985: Adults 44,600, Juniors 4,279, PJs 6,082, total juniors 10,361.
- 1986: Adults 44,802, Juniors 4,294.

This year's figures are as of May 31. I don't have the PJ number but believe it was similar to 1985. This was the final year of PJs.

Can anyone viewing the above contend that PJs were anything but a horrendous failure? All they did was eat away at the total of full Juniors with the magazine, without increasing the total of the two categories. Consider the following:

1. After 5 years of PJs, total junior membership was down 35.8% at a time when adult membership INCREASED 3.4%. Even worse, the most promising juniors, those receiving *Chess Life*, were down a whopping 64.8%.

2. After 10 years of PJs, total junior membership was down 30.2%, while adult membership showed a big increase, up 21.1%! Juniors receiving *Chess Life* were down 71.2%.

3. The junior totals above are especially weak considering that USCF-rated scholastic activity continually increased during this period, as it did for about 35 years ever since the late 1960s. Junior membership should have increased faster than Adult, as it did from 1992-2002 when membership with a publication was required.

In 1987, PJs were replaced by JTPs (Junior Tournament Players), an even worse idea that allowed young players to play in rated tournaments without being USCF members, on the theory that it would get them interested and they would later join. The start of JTPs was coupled with a good idea, the offering of a Scholastic membership with a publication.

I don't have 1987 figures, but here are the youth categories picking up in 1988, when JTPs had already caused the loss of about 3,000 members, PJs were declining to just the multiyear members, and nonrequired Scholastic with a publication was starting to grow:

05/31/88: Youth (previously Junior)	4,217, PJs	1,666, Scholastic	1,320, total	7,203.
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12/31/88: Youth 4,275, PJs 1,001, Scholastic 1,737, total 7,013.
 12/31/89: Youth 4,158, PJs 709, Scholastic 2,816, total 7,683.
 12/31/90: Youth 4,590, PJs 510, Scholastic 4,362, total 9,462.
 12/31/91: Youth 4,774, PJs 56, Scholastic 7966, total 13,296.

After five years of JTPs, total junior membership had finally recovered to exceed 1986, and indeed was the highest since 1975. But effective 1/1/92, JTPs were restricted to K-3 and lower or in school tournaments only; USCF membership was required for grades 4 and up. Opponents of this change predicted it would cause Scholastic membership to decline. But here is what happened:

12/31/92: Youth 5,164, PJs 7, Scholastic 15,465, total 20,636.
 12/31/93: Youth 5,150, PJs 2, Scholastic 19,419, total 24,571.
 12/31/94: Youth 6,364, PJs 1, Scholastic 23,998, total 30,363.
 12/31/95: Youth 8,239, PJs 1, Scholastic 27,114, total 35,354.
 12/31/96: Youth 9,456, PJs 1, Scholastic 27,521, total 36,978.
 12/31/97: Youth 10,257, PJs 1, Scholastic 28,727, total 38,985.
 12/31/98: Youth 11,894, PJs 1, Scholastic 28,707, total 40,602.
 12/31/99: Youth 12,910, Scholastic 29,632, total 42,542.
 12/31/00: Youth 12,289, Scholastic 33,814, total 46,103.
 12/31/01: Youth 12,317, Scholastic 36,605, total 48,922.
 12/31/02: Youth 12,338, Scholastic 42,264, total 54,602.

At this point, the Delegates, ignoring the time honored principle, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it," raised youth and scholastic (and all other) dues, created an Economy Scholastic membership to make the higher dues optional (in effect bringing back PJs), and replaced our scholastic publication with *Chess Life*. And what followed was:

12/31/03: Youth 11,531, Scholastic 26,285, Economy

Scholastic 14,022, total 51,838.

12/31/04: Youth 10,597, Scholastic 19,269, Economy Scholastic 16,084, Family 462, total 46,412.

12/31/05: Youth 10,295, Scholastic 17,790, Economy Scholastic 15,521, Family 1,951, total 45,557.

It was the 1970s all over again, as Economy Scholastic ate into the full Scholastic category while the total of the two decreased. In only three years, Scholastic membership with a publication had lost 24,474 members to regress back to its 1993 level, while the total of all types of junior memberships, after rising for 14 straight years, dropped by almost 10,000!

During 2006, Economy Scholastic was thankfully ended, a publication for Scholastic members resumed, and the decline ended. The drop in the first five months of 2007 is probably seasonal.

12/31/06: Young Adult 10,002, new Youth category for age 16/below 5,367, Scholastic 18,078, Economy Scholastic 9,971, Family 3,751, total 47,169. I estimate 700 Young Adult added because of the age change going up to 25, so the real total for comparison purposes is about 46,469.

5/31/07: Young Adult 9,101, new Youth category 6,794, Scholastic 24,227, Economy Scholastic 1,717, Family 4,531, total 46,370, minus 1,082 Young Adult added because of age change = 45,288.

Example 3. Economy Adult.

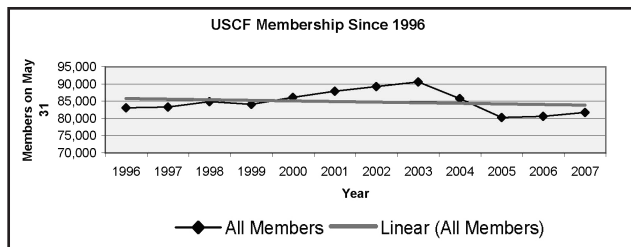
"Economy Adult" memberships without a publication were offered for a \$10 reduction from 2001 to 2004, and failed to stem the tide of declining membership, especially in 2003 when buying this membership would have avoided the dues raise, yet we lost over 2,000 members. About 5,600 adult members (full plus economy) were lost during the four years we offered the non-magazine adult membership. The Economy Adult category at its peak had less than 1,000 members, and is objectionable simply from the standpoint of adding an unnecessary category to an already confusing menu of choices, if nothing else.

Sure, a non-magazine member can get *Chess Life* content on the Internet, and some do, but many don't bother. Some just pay the lowest fee available and don't even have Internet access, while others go online only when they have to. That magazine arriving every month is an essential promotional tool, which says "chess" to those who otherwise might drift away from our game and replace it with another pastime.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT by Bill Hall

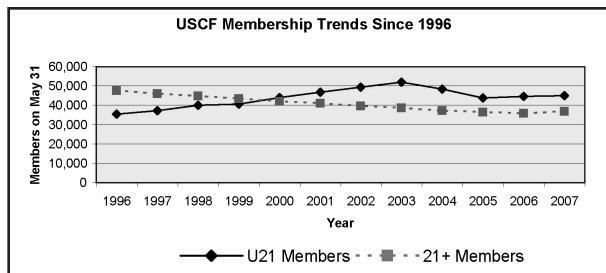
After assuming this position, in my first "Executive Director's Report" for the 2005 *Delegates' Call*, I outlined a strategy to address the issue of declining membership and dubbed it Retain, Obtain and Regain. The overall membership had been declining since 2003 and the adult membership base had been slowly eroding for more than a decade. The situation had become critical. Since then (as seen in Figure 1), we stabilized the membership numbers in the 2005-2006 fiscal year and have seen a bit of an upturn in the 2006-2007 fiscal year. Adult memberships have increased for the first time in more than a decade. There have been many factors in this, including the dues sale, the aggressive promotional mailings particularly to past members, the redesign of the website, the redesign of the magazine as overseen by our editor extraordinaire, Dan Lucas, along with many other incremental efforts. I would not declare the Federation's membership woes to be cured at this point; however, I feel we can begin to note that a long term negative trend seems to have been stemmed and that we finally have some positive forward momentum.

Figure 1:



Overall membership was increasing through 2003 when a stark loss of Scholastic and Youth members began and continued through the 2004-2005 fiscal year (see figure 2).

Figure 2:



The last two fiscal years have shown modest increases in these memberships, and this is a trend we look to continue and accelerate. We successfully test-marketed the Membership Pilot Project in two locations this past year bringing in 800 new Youth and Scholastic members and project with expansion the program generating a few thousand new members this year. This has a ripple effect in many areas. With the scholastic numbers turning around, we set a new record for attendance at the National High School Championship in Kansas City this year and we had the largest turnout for the National Elementary since 2003 in Nashville. Our national events continue to be showcase events thanks to our new Assistant Executive Director and National Events Director, Pat Knight, our Scholastic Director, Jerry Nash, and our fine TD staff. We are also seeing an explosion of growth in the Family category which

suggests that some adult memberships result from scholastic participation as well.

On the topic of the financial health of the organization, we had an increase of nearly \$65,000 in cash reserves for operations this year. There has been much debate over the last couple of years on the merits of cash versus accrual accounting. Our Profit and Loss Statement (the official financials of the Federation) are based on accrual accounting. To try to put it in laymen's terms, accrual accounting gives a more complete overall and long term picture of the financial health of an organization. Cash accounting is important for the short term. If you don't watch your cash, you can get in big trouble quick, even if the P & L Statement says things are going well and vice versa in the long run.

On the accrual side, the audit is underway as of the writing of this report. Preliminary indications are that the year end numbers will show a roughly break-even to small (1% of budget) loss for the year. How can the two methods deliver such different results? The biggest factor is the increase of multi-year memberships sold this fiscal year. In accrual accounting, most of this revenue is deferred (not counted) from this year, only to be recognized in future years, because the cost of servicing those members occurs throughout the duration of the membership. Also, the accrual method includes items like depreciation that you do not see just looking at the bank accounts. With all of this said, the Federation is on solid financial ground; however, it is paramount that we maintain a focus on fiscal responsibility. The depletion of the LMA reserves that occurred in the distant past leaves us with little margin for error, and we must focus on building reserves to buffer the Federation against the possibilities of lean times in the future.

As part of our focus on the finances of the Federation, we have hired Joe Nanna as the Chief Financial Officer. He has already developed our monthly P & L reporting format that includes tracking the deferred revenue and depreciation so we can not only track and project our current cash position, but also keep up to date as to how we are faring against our accrual budget. This year's budget is a purely accrual based budget, whereas the two previous years we operated on a cash budget. This will allow us to have a better handle on where we are up to the minute (or month) and not have to wait for the audit to see how we fared.

We continue to refine practices in the office to try to minimize costs. There now is only one printed rating supplement each year. Thanks to the fine efforts of the legendary Mike Nolan, we produce a monthly rating list which is available online, so we have improved the service to our membership while reducing costs. We have once again acquired sponsorship to defray the cost of the membership cards with advertising on the back.

I have long felt that the USCF did not have a price problem associated with membership, but that we had a value problem. We have placed a heavy emphasis on growing the value of the membership, and we will continue this. Many of the areas for which we have plans are centered around our web services. As we grow content and archives for our website, we are developing the value for our members only area. This has the potential to lead to the possibilities of, or at least options for, an online magazine membership. I feel we are years away from this; however, this is a growing trend in the print industry and we must not ignore the option. We may try to test market the idea for our foreign players initially to see the feasibility of the concept.

We have a hard-working staff dedicated to serving our

members' needs. Memberships are processed daily, so there should not be delays in receiving your membership cards. Tournaments no longer get back-logged for rating. Online, events are often rated within hours of completion, and events submitted to the office are handled in a prompt fashion. Leading the way with memberships, TLAs, and the media are our Wonder-Twins Joan and Judy. Whenever you get an opportunity, please thank these staff members for the work that they do for you.

We do have a few challenges that we are working on going forward. The USCF has a Profit-Sharing Plan for employees that has been in place for many years. However,

the fund has been poorly tracked and managed for years. We are working with several entities to reconcile the accounts and insure they are properly funded, at which time it is my and Joe Nanna's recommendation that we disburse the funds and end the plan. Another topic that we are working on is a plan to insure the LMA is properly funded going forward while still working to build an operational reserve. Of course, problems such as these took many years to accumulate and will not be solved overnight; however, with reasonable planning and consistent diligence, they can be overcome.

I look forward to seeing you in New Jersey.

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.

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 proj-

ects 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) Be the first in this category.

GOLD PATRONS (\$5,000 or more)

Mitchell Denker - Anonymous Donor in Memory of Burt Hochberg - Gerald J. Hoag - S.Sufrin

SILVER BENEFACTORS (\$1500 or more)

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

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

Operational cash-on-hand as of May 31, 2007 was \$325,878, up from \$256,301 on June 1, 2006. Much credit is due Bill Goichberg who relentlessly pushed for the dues sale and intensified membership renewal efforts. Much of this phenomenon is also due to a groundswell in Scholastic and Family membership.

It's been a busy year:

- We researched the records and put the financial information for the years 2000-2007 on CDs and gave them to the Board and Finance, LMA and Audit Committees.
- We hired a new, experienced CFO. Joe Nanna has been analyzing our income and expenses in detail and setting up a new, logical chart of accounts and new reporting formats. In the coming year we'll commence reports generated directly from the software, which will save time, money and confusion. Our projections include more backup schedules and details, including a study of tournaments.
- Following up on the ideas developed at our 2006 strategic planning retreat, we entered into endorsement agreements with AF4C, The Polgar Foundation and The Berkeley Chess School providing for USCF endorsement of educational programs that had been vetted by the Scholastic Council. In return, our endorsees will use their marketing skills to help promote new memberships. A similar agreement is also pending with the Kasparov Chess Foundation.
- We held a two-day review of the preliminary budget in Crossville. The Financial Review Committee, a select group of some of our best business and financial members, reviewed it before it was submitted to the Board and the Committees. The Financial Review Committee spent a lot of time analyzing the numbers and our projections reflect much of the results of that work. Thanks to Grant Perks, Randy Bauer, Chuck Unruh, Frank Camaratta, Mike Carr and Donna Alarie for serving

along with President Bill Goichberg, Executive Director (ED) Bill Hall, Consultant Mike Nolan, CFO Joe Nanna and myself. This practice will help avoid mistakes and the Board agreed at our last meeting that it will be an annual occurrence from now on.

- We included in the FY 2008 budget a proposition for the gradual replenishment of the LMA funds that were depleted during recent turbulent times. If approved by the Delegates it will be retroactive to include FY 2007. This has been a long time coming and we hope the Delegates will approve this important item.
- Also, the Board agreed that the ED should work with Mike Nolan to either (a) solicit a third party proposal or (b) devise an in-house plan for analyzing the cost effectiveness of our personnel and consultant expenditures. Taken together, personnel and consultants constitute our biggest expenditure and it is the one we understand least. Hopefully, we'll be able to make better use of our personnel dollars in the future.
- In response to questions raised about our Profit Sharing Plan, we directed our attorney to prepare a memorandum setting forth the governing documentation for the Plan back into the 1990s. This memorandum is the basis on which we've been working with Spectrum, our fund manager, to review the years 2000-2007 to ensure that everything has been properly handled and accounted for.

Due to some last minute developments it's difficult to speculate on net income for FY 2007; however, current indications are that we'll have either a modest profit or a modest loss for the year.

In spite of the progress we've made, we've got to work harder to achieve financial stability. An important goal should be to reach the point where we can internally fund the seasonal lag of membership and tournament income over expenses without having to borrow against a line of credit.

VOLUNTEER EXPENSE REPORT

Paid during the fiscal year ending May 31, 2007

Name	Capacity	Total Amount
Joel Channing	Executive Board	1172.40
Randy Hough	Executive Board	1023.19
Sam Sloan	Executive Board	469.84
Don Schultz	Executive Board	604.80
Steve Shutt	Executive Board	628.10
Robert Tanner	Executive Board	4774.14
William Kelleher	FIDE Representative	2143.42

Legal Expenditures 2006-2007

Lucas and Mercanti, LLP

Copyrights 1,875.00

Ridger, Weinger, and Frankel

Consult with D.C. Counsel 300.00
 Removal of Director Issues 2789.55
 Sloan/Polgar Improper Conduct 1997.50
 Fiduciary Duties 60.00
 Marcus Roberts 614.50
 Ethics 60.00

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 help American chess in many ways.

The big news this year was the redesign of the Scholar Chess-player Program, benefitting from the generous assistance of Scholastic VP Sunil Weeramantry and his National Scholastic Chess Foundation. Working together with the Scholastic Council, who serve on our advisory board, the Trust awarded five \$1,500 college scholarships for a total of \$7,500. These scholarships are based on both academic and chess achievement. VP Weeramantry has notified me that he expects the \$2,500 funding from his foundation to continue over the next two years as well. Our goal continues to be to obtain a corporate sponsor for this program so that even more substantial amounts can be awarded in scholarships.

What is also new is a new trustee, businessman Mark Fins of Massachusetts, who has been a generous donor to the Trust in recent years. Mark, we are glad to have you with us.

Thanks to Managing Director Barbara DeMaro's work, the Trust recently received a letter of appreciation for donations of chess sets, supplied by Excalibur Electronics, to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. The sets are being distributed to Americans in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps. Federal CFC military donations to the Trust have increased this year as a result of our support for our forces abroad.

We are also proud of our participation in the Sets for Vets program, working with the New Jersey State Chess Federation (NJSCF) and Herman Drenth, which also provides chess sets to Americans in the armed forces abroad.

Work has been moving ahead on a new web site for the Chess Trust. Jim Eade has chaired the committee, that included Leroy Dubeck and Steve Doyle; Beatriz Marinello was hired to prepare the content for the web site. Also the trustees adopted a proposal for 10-year staggered terms, so that trustees no longer serve indefinitely.

The Chess Trust continues its support of 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 and contributes to the Collegiate "Final Four." With the generous assistance of the Denker family, now from trustee Mitchell Denker, the Trust has for many years supported the Arnold S. Denker Tournament of High School Champions. The Trust also donates to the Susan Polgar Tournament for Girls, held concurrently with the Denker.

I want to express my appreciation and the appreciation of the Trust to Jack Mallory of Alabama, who ran the Denker Committee for ten years and recently stepped down as chairman. Jack worked hard to make sure the Denker players had a good experience and that everything ran smoothly. Jack also handled well any questions from Denker players. I welcome Dewain Barber as the new Denker Chairman: he has done a fine job in preparing opening ceremonies for the Denker.

The Trust continues to benefit from the wise counsel of our Chairman Emeritus, Harold Dondis of Massachusetts. Our new Treasurer, Jim Eade of Northern California, has been very helpful. My thanks once again to former Treasurer Steve Doyle of New Jersey, who served well for many years as Treasurer. Our President, Shane Samole and his team, continued their fine work on the World Chess Hall of Fame and Sidney Samole Museum, in Miami, Florida. Shane was voted the first Harold Dondis Award from the Trust in recognition of all he has done for chess, including his work on the Hall of Fame and his donating chess sets for distribution by the Trust. All our trustees serve without compensation.

Our Managing Director, Barbara DeMaro, an independent contractor, continues to work on many important projects, 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 Electronics, and processing donations. Barbara has successfully worked on having our donors remembering to include the Trust in their wills. This is our legacy program and new donors should contact Barbara directly. Barbara reports that many USCF members make online donations to the Trust, which can be done at www.uschess.org.

I attended the National Elementary Championship in Nashville, Tennessee in May, 2007, where I met with representatives of the Scholastic Council to discuss the Trust's support of scholastic chess, and participated in the scholastic workshop and coaches' workshop. I also made an announcement about the Trust before the start of round 3. I also made a trust announcement at Annual All-Girls Open National Championship in Chicago in March. Last August, I represented the Trust at the Denker-Polgar reception, arranged by Dewain Barber (S. CA), and participated in awarding the Denker prizes at the closing ceremony.

I thank Treasurer Jim Eade (N. CA), 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 Leroy Dubeck (NJ), Steve Doyle (NJ), Mitchell Denker (FL), Joe Ippolito (NJ), and Dana Belcher (NH) for their help in the past year. The trustees represent all sections of our nation. I also thank Jim Oberweis (IL) for continuing to oversee management of our investments.

Our annual meeting is open to the public. Everyone is welcome at the annual Trust meeting on Thursday afternoon August 2, 2007, at 1:00 pm, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. To contact the Trust, email our Managing Director Barbara DeMaro at bdufcf@aol.com or email me at HJWinston@aol.com. Donations should be made out to US Chess Trust and can be sent to U.S. Chess Trust, PO Box 838, Wallkill, NY 12589, Attention: Barbara DeMaro.

USCF EXECUTIVE BOARD MOTIONS

occurring after the February meeting and through June 19, 2007

Note: M = Meeting, C = Conference Call, E = E-Mail,
O = Objections Procedure

Motion #	Sponsor	Date and Method	Subject
EB07-080	Schultz	03/21/07 E	Joel Channing named USCF Liaison to AF4C
EB07-081	Marinello	03/31/07 E	Moderators of USCF Forum
EB07-082	Goichberg	04/16/07 E	PPHBF Grant to William Lombardy
EB07-083	Goichberg	04/16/07 E	PPHBF Committee Recommendations
EB07-084	Sloan	04/19/07 E	Appeal of Suspension of Sam Sloan from USCF Forum
EB07-085	Sloan	04/19/07 E	Appeal of Suspension of Sam Sloan from USCF Forum
EB07-086	Channing	04/19/07 E	Censure of Sam Sloan
EB07-087	Goichberg	04/23/07 E	Forum Oversight Committee Appointments
EB07-088	Hall	05/07/07 E	Forum Oversight Committee Disciplinary Procedures
EB07-089	Sloan	05/19/07 M	Contracts for National and International events (Failed)
EB07-090	Hall	05/19/07 M	Commendation for Patricia Knight
EB07-091	Channing	05/19/07 M	Standards of Conduct – Referral to Bylaws Committee
EB07-092	Hall	05/20/07 M	Add Ron Suarez to Forum Oversight Committee (FOC)
EB07-093	Sloan	05/20/07 M	Resignation from committees (Failed)
EB07-094	Sloan	05/20/07 M	Accept resignation from FOC (Failed)
EB07-095	Hall	05/20/07 M	Removal of FOC member (Failed)
EB07-096	Goichberg/ Marinello	05/20/07 M	FOC Nondisclosure
EB07-097	Board	05/20/07 M	Awards
EB07-098	Board	05/20/07 M	Review of Editor
EB07-099	Channing	05/20/07 M	Website Design
EB07-100	Board	05/20/07 M	Commendation Thanks to FOC and Moderators
EB07-101	Board	05/20/07 M	Frank Camaratta named chief teller for 2007 Election
EB07-102	Schultz	05/20/07 M	Limitation on awarding of Life memberships
EB07-103	Hall	05/20/07 M	Unsecured line of Credit
EB07-104	Channing	05/20/07 M	Approval of 2007 budget.
EB07-105	Board	05/20/07 M	Restriction on titled players in Pan Am Intercollegiate Chess Club of the Year
EB07-106	Board	05/20/07 M	Accept resignation from Audit Committee (Failed)
EB07-107	Sloan	05/20/07 M	Accept resignation of Steve Owens from FOC
EB07-108	Goichberg	06/01/07 E	Accept resignation of Terry Winchester as FOC chair
EB07-109	Goichberg	06/01/07 E	Accept resignation of Terry Winchester as FOC chair
EB07-110	Goichberg	06/01/07 E	ED may accept FOC resignations
EB07-111	Sloan	06/12/07 E	Polgar Tournament
EB07-112	Marinello	06/19/07 E	Chess College of the Year

Don Schultz moved on 03/21/07 by e-mail to name Joel Channing as the USCF Liaison to America's Foundation for

Chess.

EB07-080 – Schultz – I hereby move that USCF Vice President of Finance Joel Channing be appointed to represent the USCF to AF4C on all future contacts and discussions with them. **PASSED 3-0** with Joel Channing, Beatriz Marinello, and Sam Sloan abstaining.

After extensive discussion regarding the moderators of the USCF Forums, the following motion was made by Beatriz Marinello on March 17 for e-mail vote. Discussion continued. The vote took place on 03/30/07 and the motion failed.

EB07-081 – Marinello – The moderators of the USCF forums should be properly identified with their names and ID numbers. The process to determine the suspension of a poster should be made public through the USCF BINFO system. This includes discussions and votes on the issues. **FAILED** on a **3-3** vote with Beatriz Marinello, Don Schultz, and Sam Sloan in favor and Joel Channing, Bill Goichberg, and Randy Hough opposed.

The Professional Players' Health and Benefit Fund (PPHBF) Committee recommended that GM William Lombardy request a grant from the PPHBF. Bill Goichberg proposed two motions on April 03, 2007 after a lengthy discussion. The motions passed on April 16, 2007. They were:

EB07-082 – Goichberg – The Board approves the recommendation of the Health and Benefits Fund Committee to grant \$5,000 to GM William Lombardy. **PASSED 5-0** with Beatriz Marinello abstaining.

EB07-083 – Future grant recommendations by the Health and Benefits Fund Committee shall go into effect after five days if no action is taken on them by the Executive Board. **PASSED 4-1** with Joel Channing opposed and Beatriz Marinello abstaining.

Sam Sloan appealed his suspension by the Forum Oversight Committee. While he didn't specifically make a motion, the issue needed to be decided by the Board. Bill Goichberg translated Sam Sloan's appeal into two motions. They were made by E-mail on April 07, 2007 and were voted on April 19, 2007. They were:

EB07-084 – Sloan – Overrule the Forum Oversight Committee regarding the most recent suspension for comments about Bill Hall. **FAILED 0-4** with Beatriz Marinello and Sam Sloan abstaining.

EB07-085 – Sloan – Overrule the Forum Oversight Committee regarding the previous suspension for posting the link to pornographic material. **FAILED 0-3** with Beatriz Marinello, Don Schultz, and Sam Sloan abstaining.

Joel Channing moved by e-mail on April 13, 2007, to censure Sam Sloan for the comments referred to in motion 07-084. The motion was voted on April 19, 2007.

EB07-086 – Channing – Censure Sam Sloan for his unwarranted and unsubstantiated statements about the health and attendance of Bill Hall. **PASSED 3-0** with Beatriz Marinello, Don Schultz, and Sam Sloan abstaining.

Jerry MacDonald, Bill Smythe, and "JediJoshua" have resigned from the Forum Oversight Committee (FOC). Terry

Winchester, chair of the FOC suggests that we name the following to replace them: David Quinn, Stephen Owens, and Gregory Alexander. Bill Gochberg, on behalf of the board's FOC subcommittee, moved that we approve these appointments. The motion was made by e-mail on April 18 and passed on April 23.

EB07-087 – Goichberg – We approve the appointments of David Quinn, Stephen Owens, and Gregory Alexander to fill the three vacancies in the Forum Oversight Committee. **PASSED 4-0** with Beatriz Marinello and Sam Sloan abstaining.

The Forum Oversight Committee suggested the adoption of disciplinary procedures for the USCF forum. After consultation with the Board Bill Hall moved the following by e-mail on April 29. It passed on May 07.:

EB07-088 – Hall – The USCF Executive Board approves the attached Forum Disciplinary Procedure as recommended by the Forum Sub-Committee revised April 29, 2007. **PASSED 3-0** with Joel Channing, Bill Goichberg, and Randy Hough in favor and Beatriz Marinello, Don Schultz, Schultz, and Sam Sloan abstaining. Please see Appendix D for the disciplinary procedures that passed.

The following motions were voted at the Executive Board meeting held in Stillwater, OK, on May 19-20, 2007.

EB07-089 - Sloan – Effective immediately, the Executive Director will provide the Board with a statement of the financial impact of any proposal and the Board will have the opportunity to pass or object to the proposal prior to any contract being signed. This shall be effective for the U.S. Championship, the U.S. Women's Championship, the U.S. Open, the National High School, Junior High School, Elementary, and K-12, and international events. **FAILED 2-4** with Sam Sloan and Beatriz Marinello in favor. Please note: Joel Channing pointed out that the reason he opposed the motion was that he had just asked the Executive Director to give a comprehensive report on the subject at the next meeting (August 2007).

EB07-090 – Hall – The Executive Board would like to commend Patricia Knight for her efforts above and beyond the call of duty in organizing the very successful Spring National Scholastic events. **PASSED 6-0.**

EB07-091 – Channing – The Executive Board refers to the Bylaws Committee the subject of how to strengthen the Standards of Conduct for Executive Board members of the U.S. Chess Federation in a way to make them effective. **PASSED 4-1** with Sam Sloan opposed and Beatriz Marinello not present.

EB07-092 – Hall – Moved, that the Board add Ron Suarez to the Forum Oversight Committee. **PASSED 5-1** with Don Schultz opposed. Don Schultz stated for the record that he does not object to the individual but he feels that there are already too many people on the committee.

EB07-093 – Sloan – Anybody who resigns from any committee has their resignation accepted effective immediately. **FAILED 2-4** with Sam Sloan and Beatriz Marinello in favor.

EB07-094 – Sloan – The Board accepts with thanks the resignation of Terry Winchester from the Forum Oversight Committee. **FAILED 1-5** with Sam Sloan in favor.

EB07-095 - Hall – The Executive Board removes David Quinn from the Forum Oversight Committee. **FAILED 0-6.**

Bill Goichberg offered the following motion: The Board recognizes the need for non-disclosure of some Forum Oversight Committee deliberations and requests the FOC to develop appropriate guidelines. This was not voted. Schultz offered substitute which was not accepted and failed to pass. Substitute – The Forum Oversight Committee is free to have confidential discussions among themselves. Bill Goichberg accepted the following substitute offered by Beatriz Marinello with the final sentence added by Joel Channing.

EB07-096 – Goichberg/Marinello - The Board recognizes the need for non-disclosure of some Forum Oversight Committee deliberations and suggests that the FOC develop appropriate guidelines. All committee votes should be made public. **PASSED 5-1** with Sam Sloan opposed.

EB07-097 – Board – The Executive Board gives the following awards for 2007. **PASSED 6-0.** Please note: The Chess Club of the Year and Chess College of the Year awards were not made under this motion. They have been added to the award list below so that all awards can be found in one place.

Chess City of the Year – Stillwater, OK
Chess Club of the Year – Atlanta Chess Center (Motion EB 07-106)
Chess College of the Year – University of Texas at Brownsville. (Motion EB07-112)
Committee of the Year – 2007 Financial Review Committee
Distinguished Service Award – Fred Gruenberg
Friend of the USCF – Garry Kasparov
Gold Koltanowski Medal – Frank K. Berry
Grandmaster of the Year – Gata Kamsky
Frank J. Marshall Ambassador Award – Gregory Kaidanov
Meritorious Service Award – Richard Shorman, John Hilbert, Dan Heisman, Grant Perks
Organizer of the Year – Sevan Muradian
Outstanding Career Achievement – Fred and Carol Kleist, Gordon Barrett, Stephen Dann
Scholastic Services Award – Susan Polgar, Brownsville, TX School District
Society of Chess Mates – Donna Gruenberg, Jan Rogers
Special Services Award – Steve Doyle, Ernie Schlich
Tournament Director of the Year – Mike Atkins

EB07-098 – Board – The Executive Board has reviewed the performance of Editor Daniel Lucas, Commends him on his performance, and asks the Executive Director to determine appropriate compensation consistent with the approved budget. **PASSED 5-0-1** with Beatriz Marinello abstaining.

EB07-099 – Channing – The Executive Board commends Hal Bogner, Jennifer Shahade, Mike Nolan, Marty Hirsch, Francesca Butler, and Arlan Robins for outstanding work on the website. **PASSED 5-0** with Beatriz Marinello not present.

EB07-100 – Board – The Board recognizes the effort of the members of the Forum Oversight Committee and the Forum moderators. We thank you for your tireless work in a difficult task. **PASSED 5-0** with Beatriz Marinello not present.

EB07-101 – Board - Frank Camaratta is named chief teller for the 2007 USCF Election. **PASSED 4-1** with Sam Sloan opposed.

Sam Sloan offered a motion to award a life membership to Derek O'Dell for his heroism at Virginia Tech. The chair ruled the motion moot as the Executive Director had already awarded the life membership to him and Board action was not needed.

EB07-102 – Schultz – The Executive Director is authorized to give no more than two life memberships in any calendar year outside of existing provisions consistent with the budget. **PASSED 4-1** with Sam Sloan opposed.

EB07-103 – Hall – Effective immediately the Executive Board of the United States of America Chess Federation authorizes the Executive Director to establish an unsecured Line of Credit with Cumberland County Bank in Crossville, TN, in the amount of \$150,000. **PASSED 4-1** with Sam Sloan opposed.

EB07-104 – Channing – The 2007-8 USCF Budget is approved. **PASSED 4-1** with Sam Sloan opposed.

EB07-105 – Board on behalf of College Chess Committee – Rule 1 of the Pan American Intercollegiate rules is amended to read as follows:

International Masters, International Grandmasters, International Woman Masters, and International Woman Grandmasters will be eligible to play for college and university teams only if they are less than 26 years old as undergraduate students, or under 30 years old as graduate students, as of September 1 of the academic year in which the tournament is taking place. This age restriction does not apply to these titled players who, prior to 2004, were enrolled in colleges and universities and who met the other eligibility requirements in effect then, and who also maintained their eligibility status with not more than one semester break in such status. **PASSED 5-0.**

EB07-106 – Board – The Chess Club of the Year is the Atlanta Chess Center. **PASSED 5-0.** Please note that this award has been added to the list of awards authorized in motion 07-097.

EB07-107 – Sloan – Moved, that the resignation of Grant Perks from the Audit Committee is accepted. **FAILED 1-4** with Sam Sloan in favor.

Steve Owens has resigned from the FOC. Terry Winchester has resigned as FOC Chair but not from the committee. Bill Goichberg proposed three motions for e-mail vote on May 31, 2007. They passed 6-0 on June 1, 2007.

EB07-108 – Goichberg – The Board accepts the resignation of Steve Owens from the FOC and thanks him for his service. **PASSED 6-0.**

EB07-109 – Goichberg – The Board accepts the resignation of Terry Winchester as chairman of the FOC and thanks him for his efforts to help establish this new committee as a service to the USCF membership. **PASSED 6-0.**

EB07-110 – Goichberg – Future resignations from the FOC may be accepted by the Executive Director and will not require Executive Board approval. **PASSED 6-0.**

Sam Sloan introduced a motion by e-mail on May 28, 2007, which read “Resolved that the ‘Polgar’ tournament is no longer a USCF National event and that the Polgar Committee is hereby disbanded.” After discussion via e-mail Sam Sloan withdrew the original wording on May 31, 2007, and replaced it with the wording of motion EB07-111. Voting was completed on June 12.

EB07-111 – Sloan - Resolved the name of the Girls’ Tournament held at the U.S. Open is hereby changed to the “Irina Krush Tournament of Champions.” **FAILED 1-5** with Sam Sloan in favor.

The College Chess Committee recommended that the University of Texas at Brownsville be named Chess College of the Year, but that award was not made by the EB at the May meeting. Beatriz Marinello made a motion by e-mail on June 13, which passed on June 18.

EB07-112 – Marinello – The Executive Board recognizes the University of Texas at Brownsville as the College of the Year 2006-07. The University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB) should be recognized this year. For the first time, they entered teams in both the K-12/Collegiate and the Pan-Am. They are giving out scholarships for chess and in general doing the sort of activity we would like to see more colleges doing. **PASSED 6-0.** Please note: This award will be added to the award list documented under motion EB07-97.

The appendices can be found in the full updated motions online at http://beta.uschess.org/frontend/section_107.php.

GOLD AFFILIATES

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PolgarChessClub@aol.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
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akakarпов1@mw.net

ADVANCE AGENDA FOR THE 2007 USCF BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

CHERRY HILL, NJ AUGUST 4-5, 2007

Note: All motions in this advance agenda have been taken verbatim (with the exception of minor typographical corrections) from the submissions of individual delegates. The publications 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 07-01 (Harold Winston, IL): 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 2006 DELEGATES' MEETING AND APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN.

ADM 07-02 (Harold Winston, IL): Moved, that the minutes of the 2006 Delegates Meeting as published in the *Executive News Quarterly* #2 for 2006-2007 and online be accepted.

ADM 07-03 (Bill Goichberg, NY): Moved that Mike Nolan be appointed parliamentarian.

ADM 07-04 (Randy Hough, CA): The Delegates approve the advance agenda for the 2007 Delegates Meeting and approve the standing rules as printed in the *Delegates Call*.

IV. CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

ADM 07-05 (Randy Hough, CA): Moved that the 2007 executive board election results be certified. One vacancy will take office immediately. The other new Executive Board members will take office at the conclusion of this meeting.

The Election Committee report will be given here.

V. RATIFICATION

ADM 07-06 (Harold Winston, IL): The Delegates ratify all actions of the Executive Board appearing in the minutes published in the *Executive News Quarterly*, and the *Delegates Call*, since the conclusion of the 2006 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 Vice-President of Finance (Joel Channing)

ADM 07-07 (Board): The 2007-2008 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 (Don Schultz)
- FIDE Zonal President (John Donaldson)
- FIDE Vice President (Bill Kelleher)

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 years' *Delegates' Call* or distributed as handouts at the meeting.

X. OLD BUSINESS

ADM 07-08 (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 2006-2007 and authorize their continuance.

ADM 07-09 (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 3/4 Delegates vote at two consecutive annual meetings of which this would be the second.)

Motions referred by the Delegates in 2006:

ADM 07-10 (DM 06-44, NDM 06-46) (Sam Sloan, NY/D) In all rated games, the use of head phones, ear phones and other listening devices with the exception of medically prescribed hearing aids is prohibited. **REFERRED TO THE RULES COMMITTEE.**

ADM 07-11 (DM 06-47, NDM 06-49) (Herbert Rodney Vaughn, OH) The delegates may vote to censure and suspend certain privileges of an elected delegate, including Executive Board members, by a 2/3 majority vote at an Annual or Special Delegates meeting. A vote to censure and suspend privileges must specify the period of the censure, which must expire no later than the next Annual Delegates Meeting. The vote to censure and suspend privileges will not remove a delegate from an office or from his committee assignments. He will lose the privilege of debating and voting in committee. If the person so censured is a member of the Executive Board, he will have the title of "national officer" suspended for the duration of the censure and will lose the privilege of voting and debating on issues before the Executive Board for that period. **REFERRED TO BYLAWS COMMITTEE.**

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Any motions arising from the USCF Membership Meeting would be introduced here.

ADM 07-12 (Harold Winston, IL, Leroy Dubeck, NJ) The Delegates elect former USCF President Beatriz Marinello, who completed a two-year term as President, a Delegate at Large.

ADM 07-13 (Mike Nolan, NE) Remove the following sentence from DM 90-79 (House Players):

Any disputed memberships in a tournament report are to be reconciled at a rate of \$2 per game or the lowest available promotional membership, whichever is lower.

Replace it with:

Any disputed memberships in a tournament report are to be reconciled using procedures and rates (i.e., tournament memberships) established by the Executive Director.

Rationale:

The original language is archaic, as the \$2 per-game fee has been replaced with length-of-tournament memberships and other procedures.

This motion gives the USCF office the ability to update this policy as circumstances change. (No \$2 per-game fees have been paid in FY 2006-07.)

This motion does not affect the house player rules established in DM 90-79.

ADM 07-14 (Bill Goichberg, NY; Charles D. Unruh, OK; Jerry Hanken, So. Cal.)

The Delegates strongly recommend that each state affiliate include in its bylaws language similar in effect to the USCF Bylaws, Article IV, Section 2, as follows: "Any current member residing in the state who is 16 years of age or older at the time of an election is a Voting Member."

ADM 07-15 (Bill Goichberg, NY; Don Schultz, FL; Randy Hough, S. CA): Add the following to the Bylaws, Article III, Section 1, Regular Membership:

If paid online at uschess.org, this membership shall be available at the following rates: 1 year \$41, 2 years \$76, 3 years \$109.

ADM 07-16 (Beatriz Marinello, NY; Sunil Weeramantry, NY/D; Elizabeth Shaughnessy, N. CA, and Mike Nietman, WI) The following USCF National Scholastic events: The Scholastic K-12/Collegiate Championships, the Spring Nationals and the National Youth Action shall not be out-sourced to any other organization without the prior approval of the USCF Scholastic Council and the USCF Board of Delegates.

ADM 07-17 (Pete Tamburro, NJ; Ken Thomas, NJ; and Joe Ippolito, NJ) Appointment and Review of the Executive Director and Editor of *Chess Life*.

Effective immediately, at the conclusion of each annual meeting of the Board of Delegates, the Past USCF Presidents who have served as President for at least two years and who are present, and who are not current members of the Executive Board, shall constitute a Committee which will annually review the performance of both the Executive Director and Editor of *Chess Life*. By majority vote this Committee will either reappoint the Executive Director and Editor or determine that one or both are to be replaced. If the latter, these same Past Presidents shall constitute the search Committee for a replacement(s) and shall select the new Executive Director and/or Editor and determine their salary and other contract provisions.

Justification: With the current election system for the Executive Board, a Board majority can change in a single election and an Executive Director or Editor who was complying with a prior Board's instructions can find that he/she is abruptly in disagreement with the priorities of a new Board. Further, many of the Executive Board members have resigned since the Executive Board became elected directly by the membership. This makes long term planning extremely difficult. The Past Presidents represent a stable group that is fully familiar with personnel

decisions.

ADM 07-18 (Mike Nolan, NE) Modify Article VI of the USCF Bylaws as follows:

1. In Section 10, eliminate the clause "plus reasonable and equitable space on the USCF website" from the first sentence.

2. Add the following section to Article VI:
Website Access

Executive Board members and candidates for the Executive Board are subject to the same rules, restrictions and sanctions as other USCF members with regards to information posted by them on the USCF website, such as in the USCF Forums. This includes the option of temporarily or permanently banning an EB member or candidate from posting.

The USCF may, at its discretion and convenience, post all candidate statements as they appear in *Chess Life* on the USCF website.

Rationale:

Parts 1 and 2: Candidates and EB members should not be able to post objectionable material to the USCF Forums (or equivalent discussion areas) if other USCF members would not be able to post that same material under the rules of those areas.

ADM 07-19 (Mike Nolan, NE; Harold Winston, IL) Add the following sentence after the next-to-last sentence in Section 10.

The Candidate will be allowed an additional 100 words in the candidate statements in the April issue of *Chess Life* for this purpose.

Rationale:

Clarifies the intent of a motion passed at the 2006 Delegates Meeting.

ADM 07-20 (Myron Lieberman, AZ; Rachel Lieberman, AZ) Whenever content is intentionally edited out of a complete recording or transcript of an Executive Board meeting a note must accompany the file that explains what was removed and why.

This should be an item of continuing interest.

ADM 07-21 (E. Steven Doyle, NJ; Leroy Dubeck, NJ; Jim Eade, N. CA; Tim Redman, TX) Effective immediately the Players Health and Benefits Fund shall be transferred to the Chess Trust for administration. Future USCF receipts for the Players Health and Benefits Fund shall be sent quarterly to the Chess Trust.

ADM 07-22 (Leroy Dubeck, NJ; E. Steven Doyle, NJ; and Tim Redman, TX)

Change Article VII, Section 3 committees to

1) Audit committee

The Audit committee shall consist of four members elected annually by the Delegates from among the Delegates and Alternate Delegates who are knowledgeable of accounting matters such as (but not limited to) a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), a Certified Management Accountant (CMA), or someone who has substantial experience in the public or private sectors. No one serving on the Executive Board shall be elected to the Audit Committee. The duties of the Audit Committee shall be:

- a) To select the external auditors, determine the audit fee, the provision of any non-audit services by the external auditors and, if necessary, to dismiss the external auditors.
- b) To discuss with the external auditors before the audit commences the nature and scope of the audit.

Other sections remain unchanged.

ADM 07-23 (Mike Carr, S. CA; Leroy Dubeck, NJ; Beatriz Marinello, NY; Tim Redman, TX; E. Steven Doyle, NJ; Donna Alarie, MA)

Transfer of Life Member dues received to the Life Member Assets Fund

Effective immediately, Operations shall transfer, on a monthly basis, all dues received (except for \$13.50 which may be used by Operations) from either a single lump sum payment or a sustaining payment for a USCF Life Membership.

ADM 07-24 (E. Steven Doyle, NJ; Leroy Dubeck, NJ and Tim Redman, TX) The deferred revenue dues “recognized” from Life Members who paid dues prior to June 1, 2006 shall not be included in the preparation or ongoing reporting of the USCF budget, nor in the final reporting on the result of Operations’ performance, in any financial document produced or distributed by USCF, except for the Annual External Audit.

Justification: when the USCF changed its accounting system to a deferred revenue approach for the liability of life memberships, all of the prior received LMA funds had been spent. This results in our annual budget and financial reports listing about \$100,000 of revenue that does not exist as though it were real income, misleading the membership, delegates and staff as to how the USCF is actually performing.

ADM 07-25 (E. Steven Doyle, NJ; Leroy Dubeck, NJ; and Jim Eade, N. CA) The USCF FIDE Delegate and the Zonal Vice President for the United States shall be appointed by the Board of Delegates. The term of appointments of those filling these two posts shall be initially from the day of appointment by the Delegates until the 2010 USCF Annual Meeting and shall be for four years thereafter.

ADM 07-26 (Donna Alarie, MA) By January 1, 2008, the USCF will establish on its website group links to all committee members and all elected USCF state delegates who have provided USCF with their email addresses. The links shall be in the following sample format:

FinanceCommittee@uschess.org
MADelegate@uschess.org

ADM 07-27 (Donna Alarie, MA) Balanced Budget Amendment

Any expenditures that are authorized by the Executive Board throughout the current year, but which were not included in the budget approved by the delegates must have a funding mechanism associated with the authorized expenditure or an authorization by the Executive Board to cut the expenditures of other line items from the budget in order to keep a balanced budget intact.

ADM 07-28 (Donna Alarie, MA) Effective January 1, 2008, the USCF shall offer a *Chess Life Online* Adult Membership at a rate of \$5 less than the Regular Adult Membership rate. The *Chess Life Online* Adult Membership will not include a printed *Chess Life* as a benefit of membership. (If a Regular Adult Membership dues sale rate is in effect, then the \$5 discount would be off that dues sale rate.)

ADM 07-29 (Donna Alarie, MA) The Board of Delegates shall appoint the following ad hoc committee:

Affiliate Liability Insurance Committee.

The Affiliate Liability Insurance Committee will explore all facets of the feasibility of obtaining cost effective liability insurance for USCF affiliates.

The objective of the committee shall be to comprehensively explore the possibility of USCF providing a master

liability insurance policy or establishing a group liability insurance policy which would allow USCF affiliates an opportunity to purchase insurance through said policy. The premium for the riders would be billed directly to the affiliate and payment of same would be the sole obligation of the affiliate.

The Affiliate Liability Insurance Committee membership shall be open to any and all delegates who express an interest in same at this year’s Delegates’ meeting. The Affiliate Liability Insurance Committee shall select its own chair.

The committee shall report its findings to the Executive Board on a quarterly basis prior to each Executive Board meeting so that the Executive Board may consider action on this issue prior to next year’s Delegates’ meeting

ADM 07-30 (Donna Alarie, MA; Polly Wright, NY/D; Steve Immitt, NY/D) Change to Rule 15A:

When using an electronic scorekeeping device, the player must make the move first and then record it in the device.

When using only a paper scoresheet, a player may make the move first and then record it on the scoresheet.

Also when using only a paper scoresheet, it is permissible for the player to first write the move down and then make the move according to the “Suarez Compromise” which follows:

1. A player may write a move (Written Move) on a scoresheet prior to playing a move (Played Move) on the board.

2. The Written Move and the Played Move eventually played DO NOT have to be the same, until AFTER the Played Move is executed and then the Written Move must be corrected on the scoresheet (if necessary).

3. Once written, the Written Move cannot be changed UNTIL AFTER a Played Move is executed. (So, the player can analyze and play a different move, but not correct the notation until after a move has been played. An exception may be made if the written move is an illegal move.)

ADM 07-31 (Donna Alarie, MA; Leroy Dubeck, NJ) The Board of Delegates shall appoint the following standing committee:

Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee is responsible for creation of the annual budget based upon input provided by the USCF’s Chief Financial Officer, Executive Director, and Vice-President of Finance.

The Finance Committee shall consist of eight persons: seven elected by the Delegates at the annual meeting for a one-year term plus the Vice-President of Finance in an ex-officio position. The Finance Committee shall choose its own chair. Should a vacancy arise on the committee between annual meetings, it shall be filled by a 2/3 majority vote of the remaining members of the committee AND a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Board.

The Finance Committee shall review the USCF financial reports on a monthly basis within five days of receipt from management and upon its approval, the monthly reports shall be posted on the USCF’s website in the governance section along with a commentary by the Finance Committee as to its majority and minority opinions pertaining to the current state of the finances of the USCF.

ADM 07-32 (Michael Atkins, VA) The U.S. Chess Federation represents the United States in FIDE and is responsible for the promotion of chess in this country. The major chess activities in this promotion are tournaments and the USCF runs, supports and promotes successful national tournaments across the country. The USCF should not be in the business of scheduling its national tournaments against and competing with estab-

lished regional events. This promotes conflict among organizers and seriously threatens financial losses to those regional events and the possibility that the established regional event will hurt the national event. Given this serious conflict in its goals and objectives, in the future:

1) The USCF will not schedule a national tournament in the same metropolitan area on the same weekend as an established regional tournament.

2) Established regional event will be defined as a tournament having at least 75 players and was held on the same weekend the previous year. This will include scholastic tournaments and large amateur events.

3) The organizers of the regional event and/or the state affiliate can waive this non-competition rule.

4) This rule will not apply to national events which are limited in participation, like U.S. Cadet, U.S. Championship (but would apply to U.S. Junior if it is associated with the U.S. Junior Open).

5.) The purpose of this ADM is to prevent unnecessary conflict among tournaments. The USCF should not be in the business of hurting local/regional events and also shouldn't put its tournaments at risk of losing money when the regional event is more popular.

ADM 07-33 (Michael Atkins, VA) The current USCF Blitz rules in the most recent rulebook are an afterthought and should be changed. When the rulebook was in development, the World Blitz Chess Association was an active organization. Its rules were designed and developed by a committee of grandmasters for blitz chess. The USCF's sudden death rules awkwardly slapped over blitz and do not make sense for blitz. There was no reason to change the blitz rules for the most recent USCF rulebook because no one used them; any serious blitz event used WBCA rules.

Sudden Death (G/10-G/60) is a different game than Blitz (G/5). Managing the clock is on an equal par with managing the board. There is no delay in pure blitz, it is simply the person who most effectively manages both clock and time. Time penalties for illegal moves in a blitz game are absurd because they increase the length of the game by 40% and make it very difficult for limited directors to manage in blitz events. Insufficient Losing Chances (ISL) rules are far less important in Blitz and some tournaments, like the 2007 National Elementary Championship even went so far as to eliminate ISL claims. This went a little too far as there are some positions, as spelled out in the WBCA rules which are natural ISL draws, e.g., rook vs rook and queen vs queen with no pawns (WBCA eventually added that one side with extra material, like R + 2 pawns, should not be penalized for having more material in a draw claim).

The WBCA rules allow a director to manage many more games than the sudden death rules allow.

It is proposed that:

1) The USCF blitz rules be changed to reflect the old WBCA blitz rules which were designed and structured for blitz chess tournaments.

2) ISL rules can say that an organizer can eliminate the claims altogether or allow them as written.

3) The wording in the rulebook should reflect that these rules were developed by the Grandmaster committee as named and were once the WBCA rules.

ADM 07-34 (Steve Immitt, NY/D; Polly Wright, NY/D) USCF Rule 15, Section A, **THE RECORDING OF GAMES**, is hereby revised to read as follows.

15A. Manner Of Keeping Score.

In the course of play each player is required to record the game (both the player's and the opponent's moves), move after move, as clearly and legibly as possible, on the

scoresheet prescribed for the competition. Algebraic notation is standard, but descriptive or computer notation is permitted. The player may first make the move, and then write it on the scoresheet, or vice versa. The move written on the scoresheet does not necessarily have to be the move played on the board; however, if the move played on the board is not the same as the move written on the player's scoresheet, the player is required to correct the scoresheet to indicate the move actually played, and may not correct the scoresheet until after the player has completed his or her move on the board.

A player who repeatedly records a move on the scoresheet which is a different move than the one played on the board may be guilty of distracting the opponent.

A correction made to a player's scoresheet to correct a typographical or spelling mistake, as judged by the tournament director, shall not constitute a material change to the actual move written down on the scoresheet.

A player using an electronic scorekeeping device is required to complete the move on the board before recording it on the scorekeeping device.

The above changes are effective immediately.

EXPLANATION:

Many longtime players have always written their move down on the scoresheet before playing it, and requiring them to reverse this long-standing practice to accommodate the recent introduction of electronic scorekeeping devices which are **not** being used in their own games, or to synchronize the USCF rules with FIDE rules in this regard, is an unnecessary and burdensome change to a long-standing practice. Furthermore, many teachers of younger players, including Alexander Kotov in his seminal work *Think Like A Grandmaster*, also advise players, especially younger players, to slow down, analyze their move carefully, and then as one final check for any obvious blunders, write down their intended move before actually playing it.

USCF rules which are variations to FIDE rules (not requiring players to have a complete scoresheet to claim a win on time, minimal adjustments to pairings for color equalization, penalizing players who refuse to submit to drug tests, etc.) nevertheless do not prevent USCF tournaments from being FIDE-rated (most USCF tournaments are not FIDE-rated in any event).

The above proposal, which had originally came to be known as the "Ron Suarez Compromise," is an effort to accommodate the use of electronic scorekeeping devices, while at the same time not causing an unnecessary and substantial reversal of the long-standing practices of the large numbers of players who do not use electronic devices. It additionally addresses the concerns of those who feel that players who change their move from what they originally recorded are making use of notes, because any changes to the scoresheet are now allowed only **after** the player has completed his move on the board.

It has since been argued that tournament directors have always had the discretion to impose various degrees of penalties on players who write their moves down before making them, ranging from no penalty, to a warning, up to even a forfeit in the extreme case. However, this proposal presumes that players who continue to record their moves before making them *are not anymore guilty of violating the rules, or any more in need of any type of punitive action*, than they were before Rule 15A was first revised in 2006.

ADM 07-35 (Steve Immitt, NY/D) USCF Delegate Committee Voting Records

The resolutions passed by the USCF Delegate-appointed committees, including a record of those committee members voting in favor, against, or abstaining from each

question, and including a list of committee members excused from any such consideration, shall be reported to the Delegates each year in the annual committee reports to the Delegates. If the subject of a complaint made to the Ethics committee has been exonerated by the committee, the committee shall not be required to report the details of the complaint, or its vote on the matter.

EXPLANATION:

The USCF Delegate-appointed committees, are obviously appointed directly by the Delegates. The Delegates are thus entitled to know if the committee members which they have appointed have fulfilled their obligations responsibly and faithfully, in order to determine whether or not to reappoint them the following year. If, for example, a committee member has not excused himself from a matter in which it appears the committee member has a significant conflict of interest, the Delegates should be made aware of this before deciding whether to reappoint the member.

The actions taken by the Delegate committees may only be appealed or reversed by the Delegates themselves. This imposes a high level of responsibility on the committee members to act in the best interests of the Delegates and the membership. Without the committee votes being made a matter of record, the Delegates would be reduced to rumor and innuendo to determine if the committee members are doing their jobs faithfully.

To protect the privacy of those individuals against whom a complaint is made to the Ethics Committee but who are subsequently found not guilty of having committed any ethical violations, the specifics of such cases should not be made public.

ADM 07-36 (Steve Immitt, NY/D) Free U.S. Open Entry For Denker Qualifiers

The USCF shall award free entry to the U.S. Open to each state qualifier to the Arnold Denker Tournament of State High School Champions, which is held concurrently with the U.S. Open.

EXPLANATION:

It was Grandmaster Arnold Denker's intent when he invented the Tournament of State High School Champions that the youngsters talented enough to earn a qualifying place in it should also benefit by being able to gain the invaluable experience of competing in the U.S. Open, too. In recent years the expenses involved in traveling to this tournament have increased to the point where it is prohibitive for many qualifiers. Offering a free entry to the USCF's premier tournament (any such free entries would not increase the amount of the prize fund of the U.S. Open, assuming it is based on paid entries) would be one small way of recognizing and rewarding our most talented juniors, of helping them advance in their chess careers, and of welcoming them to this important chess event. Grandmaster Denker would no doubt be pleased that his namesake is being used for such noble purposes.

XII. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF GOVERNANCE TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

XIII. Installation of New Executive Board Members.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

SAY YES TO CHESS!

Chess is a wonderful game that can help children:

- * Develop mental discipline.
- * Develop analytical skills.
- * Develop strategic thinking skills.
- * Do better in school. * And much more ...

It is estimated that there are more than 30 million children who play chess in America. This number is growing rapidly. A recent survey shows that there are more children playing chess than playing other major sports such as baseball, football, basketball, hockey, etc. But, our chess children need guidance and direction, and there are countless children who do not even have these opportunities!

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12589.**



Its arm extends to every state in the nation, providing educational tools to those of all ages. The Trust provides: ■ **FREE** chess equipment to schools, hospitals, clubs, etc. ■ Full or partial scholarships. ■ **FREE** memberships to needy children. ■ Training materials for teachers and coaches.

BYLAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHESS FEDERATION

CURRENT THROUGH THE 2006 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:

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

B. 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;

C. 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;

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

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

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

G. 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

H. 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. Young Adult. Any person under 25 years of age at expiration 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. Youth Membership. Any person under 17 years of age at expiration 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 three years which includes a commission of up to \$3. (These members get 6 issues of *Chess Life*.)

Section 4. Scholastic Membership. Any person under 14 years of age at expiration 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 \$17 which includes a commission of up to \$2, \$33 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$2, or \$48 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$3. (These members get *Chess Life for Kids*.)

Section 5. 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 6. 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 7. Family Membership Plans.

Family Plan 1 — \$64, includes parents and their children under age 24 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 24 in the household (living at one address).

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

The spouse of a Life or Sustaining member may be included in the Family Membership Plan. However, in that case, only the Life or Sustaining member will receive *Chess Life*.

All of the above will have a \$2 affiliate commission.

Section 8. Life Membership. Any person may become a Life Member of the Federation upon payment of \$1,000 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 9. 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 10. 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 11. 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 12. 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 13. 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 14. 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 15. 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 June 30 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 1,000 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 re-election 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. 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.

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.

Executive Board votes may be taken by email provided at least five days are allowed for discussion. As soon as all Executive Board members vote, or the five days have passed, the Board vote is official.

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:

1. A valid nominating petition containing the signatures of thirty or more Voting Members. A nominating petition listing more than one candidate is not valid.
2. A filing fee of \$250 made payable to the USCF
3. 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. Currently paid contractors/consultants working as *Chess Life* Editor, Events Coordinator, or Computer Consultant may not be a can-

didate for the USCF 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 offi-

cers: 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 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. 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.

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. Any candidate for the USCF Executive Board who has been convicted of an adult felony in the U.S. must disclose that fact in their *Chess Life* statement. Failure to disclose a felony (conviction) would be grounds for immediate recall.

Section 11. Recalls.

A. 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 Delegates Meeting, or by petitions signed by 2/3 of the Delegates in lieu of a meeting of the Board of Delegates.

B. The voting members may initiate a recall of an elected Executive Board member by petitions signed by 10% 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 last four 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.

C. The recall motion must give the reasons for the recall, for which 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.

D. To be affirmed, the recall shall require a 2/3 majority vote of the voting members participating in a recall election, such election to be held under conditions similar to those for regular or special Executive Board elections. At least 1,500 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.

E. If the motion 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 motion is passed by 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 rights 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.

Section 12. 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 the 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 or 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 be awarded the bid to 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 one year 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.

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. Alternate members may also be appointed 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 the remaining committee members and the Executive Board.

D) No individual member can chair more than one of the following 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.

Section 5. Eligibility. 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 5,000 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. Any land and/or buildings, owned by the USCF cannot be sold, encumbered, liened, or mortgaged, in any fashion, without approval 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 from or encumbering from LMA 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, and
3. A majority of the Life Member Asset Management Committee approves of such borrowing.

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.

Section 18. National Tournament Directors as USCF Employees. 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.

CHECK OUT USCF'S CORRESPONDENCE CHESS RATED EVENTS

**USCF's 60th ANNUAL
2007 Open Correspondence Chess
Golden Knights Championship**
\$1,000 First Prize
(plus title of USCF's Golden Knights Champion and plaque)

• 2nd place \$600 • 3rd place \$400 • 4th place \$300 • 5th place \$200 • 6th thru 10th place \$100 each. **Entry fee: \$25.**
The entry deadline is November 30, 2007.

These USCF Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all USCF members who reside on the North American continent, islands, or Hawaii, as well as those USCF members with an APO or FPO address. USCF members who reside outside of the North American continent are welcome to participate in e-mail events. Your USCF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Those new to USCF Correspondence Chess, please estimate your strength: **Class A:** 1800-1999 (very strong); **Class B:** 1600-1799 (strong); **Class C:** 1400-1599 (intermediate); **Class D:** 1399 and below (beginner level). **Note:** Prize fund based on 300 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

Correspondence Chess Matches (two players)
* \$5 entry fee per person with two, four or six-game options.

Win A Correspondence Chess Trophy
* Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings. * 1st-place winner receives a trophy. * **Entry fee: \$10.**

Victor Palciauskas Prize Tournaments
* Seven-player class-level pairings, one game with each of six opponents. * Players must have a USCF CC rating to enter. * 1st-place winner receives \$130 cash prize and a certificate signed by Victor Palciauskas. * **Entry fee: \$25.**

John W. Collins Memorial Class Tournaments
* Four-player, double round-robin with class-level pairings (unrateds welcome). * 1st-place winner receives a John W. Collins certificate. * **Entry fee: \$7.**

**USCF's 4th ANNUAL
2007 E-mail Correspondence Chess
Electronic Knights Championship**
(Seven-player sections, one game with each of six opponents.)
\$700 First Prize
(plus title of USCF's Electronic Knights Champion and plaque)

• 2nd place \$400 • 3rd place \$300 • 4th thru 10th place \$100 each. **Entry fee: \$25.**
The entry deadline is November 30, 2007.

These USCF Correspondence Chess events are rated and open to all USCF members with e-mail access. Your USCF membership must remain current for the duration of the event, and entry fees must be paid in U.S. dollars. Maximum number of tournament entries allowed for the year for each player is ten. **Note:** Prize fund based on 200 entries and may be decreased proportionately per number of entries assigned.

E-mail Rated Events (need e-mail access):

Lightning Match * Two players with two, four or six-game option. * **Entry fee \$5 per person.**

Swift Quads * Four-player, double round-robin format. * 1st-place prize merchandise credit of \$30. * **Entry fee: \$10.**

Walter Muir E-Quads (webserver chess)
* Four-player, double round-robin e-mail format tournament with class-level pairings. * 1st-place receives a certificate. * **Entry fee: \$7.**

Express Tournament
* Seven-player events, one game with each of six opponents.
* Prizes: 1st place \$30 merchandise credit, 2nd place \$20 credit.
* **Entry fee: \$15.**
Please circle event(s) selected.

NOTE: Except for Lightning Matches, Swift Quads, Walter Muir E-Quads, Electronic Knights & Express Tournaments, players will use post office mail, unless opponents agree to use e-mail.

**To Enter: 800-903-USCF (8723), Fax 931-787-1200
or on-line www.uschess.org**

Name _____

USCF ID# _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Credit card # (VISA, MC, Discover, AMEX) _____
Exp. date _____

If using VISA, need V-code _____

Check here if you do not wish to have an opponent who is incarcerated. *Note: This may slow down your assignment.

Make checks payable to U.S. Chess and mail to: Joan DuBois, USCF, PO Box 3967, Crossville, TN 38557

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. **Rating Lists and Supplements.** The Executive Board is required by the Delegates to publish annually the ratings of active players 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 supplements via mail at cost. (1972)(2002)(2006)
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 be 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 pick-up. 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.

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)
- 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:

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 implementation 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. An immediate family member is a spouse, a sibling, a child or a parent. 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. 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 tournaments 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. **California Borders.** 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 southernmost 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)
55. **TDCC Changes.** Changes in the Tournament Director certification program proposed by the TDC Committee may be approved by the Executive Board without approval of the delegates. (2006)

ACTIVITY MEANS MEMBERS New Affiliate programs, lower dues specials!

Adult dues specials!

Dues slashed for age 20-24!

The membership category previously called "Youth" has been renamed "Young Adult," and eligibility has changed from under 21 to under 25. As a result, annual dues for those aged 20 through 24 have been almost cut in half, from \$49 to \$25!

One-year membership with Chess Life:

If purchased online at uschess.org, now only \$41 for everyone! The sale is in effect through December 31, 2007 and may be extended if the response is sufficient. Two year memberships are now \$76 and three year memberships \$109. (Note to affiliates: If you collect a \$49 membership and submit it online to USCF, there is a \$10 affiliate commission; if you submit it by mail or phone the affiliate commission remains \$2.)

Free LONGER Tournament Life Announcements!

Run an additional tournament this fall!

Each affiliate is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines and up to 2 issues of *Chess Life*, for any tournament between October and December 2007, if no TLA for such an event appeared in 2006, and the TLA is e-mailed by the appropriate deadline. The 8 free lines cannot be applied to longer TLAs.

Special categories qualify for free TLAs!

Each affiliate is entitled to one TLA per month of up to 8 lines for events in the following categories, if submitted by e-mail. The free lines cannot be applied to longer TLAs:

NEW! USCF BOOSTER TOURNAMENT.

A tournament that offers at least two USCF membership renewal prizes, or a quad that offers at least one per section.

CHESS CLUB SPECIAL.

A tournament playing only on one or more weekday evenings.

RBO.

Open to Under 1200/Unr or Under 1000/Unr. Tournament name must include "Rated Beginners Open" or "RBO."

BLITZ.

Time control of Game/5. TLAs such as "USCF-rated Blitz every Friday 7 pm" are accepted.

COLLEGIATE.

A tournament limited to college students. USCF dues have recently been drastically reduced for most college students!

STUDENT.

For college students or below or age 25 or below (age 25 must be eligible).

JUNIOR. For age 20/below (age 20 must be eligible).

NON-SCHOLASTIC WITH SCHOLASTIC.

A tournament for all ages held concurrent (same location) with a scholastic tournament that in its previous year drew at least 50 players. We encourage organizers of scholastics to hold open or collegiate events on the side.

Special rates for club ads.

Up to 5 lines \$180 per year, \$100 for 6 months for unchanged club ads in the TLA section. Announce meeting dates & times, activities, contact info, etc.

USCF discussion groups.

See www.uschess.org/ forums for four groups: Tournament Organization, Chess Club Organization, Tournament Direction, USCF Issues.

2006-2007 USCF COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit Committee:

Grant Perks, Chair, Gperks2@aol.com

Bylaws Committee:

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

Chess in Education Committee:

John Buky, Co-Chair, chessteacher@comcast.net;
Dr. Joseph Eberhard, Co-Chair, jeberhard@aliceisd.esc2.net or rhinotrainer@hotmail.com

College Chess Committee:

James Stallings, Chair, James.stallings@utdallas.edu

Correspondence Chess Committee:

Harold G. Stenzel, Chair, captnhal@optionline.net

Cramer Awards Committee:

Frank Brady, Chair, bradyfm@msn.com

Denker Committee:

Dewain Barber, Chair, amchesseq@aol.com

Polgar Committee:

Paul Truong, Chair, paultruong@aol.com

Election Committee:

Michael Nolan, Co-Chair, nolan@uschess.org
Harry Sabine, Co-Chair, hdsabine@citlink.net

Ethics Committee:

Hal Terrie, Chair, halterrie@comcast.net

Finance Committee:

Randy Bauer, Chair, Randybauer2300@yahoo.com

Hall of Fame Committee:

Harold Winston, Chair, HJWinston@aol.com

Internet/MIS/Web Site Committee:

Phillip Smith, smithphillip@usinternet.com

International Affairs Committee:

Michael Khodarkovsky, Chair, mkhodarkovsky@yahoo.com

LMA Management Committee:

Michael Carr, Chair, michaelrcarr@cox.net

Military Committee:

Matthew Nemmers, Co-Chair
Master Sergeant Steven Rollins, Co-Chair, marinechess@yahoo.com or steven.h.rollins@usmc.mil

Outreach Committee:

Myron Lieberman, Chair, azchess@cox.net

Professional Players Health & Benefits Committee:
Fred Gruenberg, Chair, fgroe@aol.com

Publications Committee:

Arlen Walker, Chair, chessorg@wi.rr.com

Ratings Committee:

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

Rules Committee:

David Kuhns, Chair, e4e5@hughes.net

Scholastic Council/Committee:

Mike Nietman, Co-Chair, mike.nietman@charter.net
Stephen Shutt, Co-Chair, stephenshutt@yahoo.com

Senior Committee:

Charles Hatherill, Chair, Kingsgambit50@earthlink.net

States Committee:

Guy Hoffman, Chair, schachfuhrer@hotmail.com

Survey Committee:

Tony Pabon, tpabon@earthlink.net

Top Players Committee:

Greg Shahade, Chair, gregshahade@yahoo.com

Tournament Director Certification Committee:

Tim Just, Chair, timjust@comcast.net

U. S. Open Committee:

Jerry Hanken, Chair, jerryhanken@aol.com

Women's Chess Committee:

Susan Polgar, Chair, SusanPolgar@aol.com

USCF REPRESENTATIVES TO FIDÉ

FIDÉ Vice President:

Bill Kelleher, 20 Melendy Avenue, Watertown, MA 02472

Delegate:

Don Schultz, 3201 S. Ocean Blvd., Beachwalk E, No. 703, Highland Beach, FL 33487

Zonal President:

John Donaldson, 1623½ Martin Luther King Junior Way, Berkeley, CA 97409

Committee Reports

Bylaws Committee

Co-Chairs, Harold J. Winston and Mike Nolan

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 makes recommendations on issues relating to governance. Mike Nolan (NE) and I serve as co-chairs.

This year the Delegates referred only one item to our committee. DM 06-47 seeks to give the Delegates, by a 2/3 vote at an annual or special meeting, the power to censure and suspend privileges of an elected delegate, including Executive Board members. The period of censure can last no longer than the next annual Delegates meeting. A person so suspended loses the privilege of debating and voting in committee or on the Executive Board. Also, such a suspension of an Executive Board member means that person loses the title of national officer during the suspension period.

By a vote of 0-11-1, the committee opposes adding such language to the Bylaws. There are many reasons for that opposition. There are no criteria for suspension and censure given. It seems unfair to take away committee privileges for conduct at the Delegates meeting. The same reason holds true for taking away Executive Board privileges. There is no provision for advance notice to be given the person suspended, violating the idea of due process. This proposal could also cause legal problems.

The committee also discussed clarifying the wording concerning the explanation of any felony conviction to be given by a candidate for the Executive Board in *Chess Life*, as disagreement developed as to how many times such an explanation was required: once, twice, or three times. Co-chair Mike Nolan and I are sponsoring a bylaws amendment to clarify that only the April *Chess Life* announcement has to contain the explanation. The Bylaws committee favors this by a vote of 10-0-2.

The committee also discussed a number of governance matters, some of which also relate to the States Committee and the Elections Committee. The chairmen of both those committees also serve on Bylaws. Concerning direct member elections of State delegates (SOMOV), the alternate delegates are often chosen by write-in votes, as many state chapters only nominate the exact number of delegate positions available and few candidates are nominated by petition. The Delegates previously passed a resolution asking State chapters to nominate more persons than there are delegate seats, but this has rarely been done. One alternative is to return to the state chapters the task of selecting alternate delegates. Concerning Executive Board elections, some concern was expressed that youth members now receive only bimonthly issues of *Chess Life*: only receive the April and June issues of *Chess Life*, not the May issue. There are some members in that class over age 16 who are entitled to vote (youth membership ends at age 17). One idea is to only have the candidate information in the April and June issues; another is to no longer permit youth members to vote.

Last minute appointment of additional alternate Delegates by the state chapter also drew discussion. The question was whether such appointments can continue to be made by email, as well as by fax or letter. Some concerns involving the lack of signatures on email; others about whether all state officers can make such appointments or only the state chapter president. Some ideas discussed involved limiting appointments to state chapter presidents or limiting appointments to those made in advance of the meetings. These topics may come up at the States workshop, as well as at the Bylaws workshop.

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

I thank Mike Nolan and all our other committee memberships for their participation: Guy Hoffman (WI), Ernie Schlich (VA), Myron Lieberman (AZ), John McCrary (SC), Richard Koepcke (N.

CA), Gary Kitts (MI), David Mehler (DC), Robert Persante (FL), George John (TX), and Jerry Hanken (S. CA).

Our committee will try to review any other new Delegate bylaws or governance proposals for the 2007 Delegates agenda. Please join us at the Bylaws Workshop on Friday morning August 2, 2007, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. To contact the committee, please email me at: HJWinston@aol.com.

Chess in Education Committee

Co-Chairs, John Buky and Dr. Joseph Eberhard

The USCF Chess in Education Committee was relatively inactive this year. One motion about having the USCF write a commendation letter to Ulysses Currie, Maryland Senator, for a grant opportunity, was passed by a margin of 14-2. The committee's workshop is this year in New Jersey at the U.S. Open, Thursday, August 11th, 1-5 p.m. We hope to see all interested parties there. The USCF Chess in Education Committee has a website at: www.thechessacademy.org/USCF_Chess_Education_Committee.htm. The USCF Chess in Education Committee members, as well as completed events (including chess in education workshops) are all continuously updated on this website. Dr. Alexey Root and committee co-chair John P. Buky, have also created a chess lesson plans teachers' resource website at: www.thechessacademy.org/Resources_for_Educators.htm. At this website, K-12 teachers may download lesson plans to use in their classrooms. Dr. Root, author of *Children and Chess: A Guide for Educators*, has generously donated lessons to be posted on this site. John P. Buky, who created the website and also continuously updates it, also has added a number of lessons. Elizabeth Zoe Vicary, committee member, has also donated a number of lessons for the website. The USCF Chess in Education Committees' teachers resource website has the added benefit of bringing chess into classrooms across the country, thus increasing USCF membership.

College Chess Committee

Chair, James Stallings

The College Chess Committee continues to make major strides in terms of an Internet presence this last year. Mon Roi units have been purchased by colleges and the Pan-Am and Final Four tournaments are now live. Gregory Alexander constantly works hard to keep our website at collegechess.org active with results, pairings, forums, etc. Jon Haskel served as Chief TD with the online Fall and Spring tournaments. Our site now hosts the College Chess Rules with a back-up at the UTD website.

Speaking of the College Chess Rules, two major motions were passed by the committee and approved by the Executive Board. These were the first new motions in four years. Both motions were designed to increase the participation in the Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Championship. One expanded the eligibility of graduate students; the other allows for more Divisional winners.

A. Rule 1: International Masters, International Grandmasters, International Woman Masters, and International Woman Grandmasters will be eligible to play for college and university teams only if they are less than 26 years old as undergraduate students, or under **30 years old as graduate students**, as of September 1 of the academic year in which the tournament is taking place. This age restriction does not apply to these titled players who, prior to 2004, were enrolled in colleges and universities and who met the other eligibility requirements in effect then, and who also maintained their eligibility status with not more than one semester break in such

status.

B. Institute new Division I, II, III, and IV winners at the Pan-Am. Pairing system with all teams together remains the same.

- Division I (team average of 2200 and above)
- Division II (team average 2000-2199)
- Division III (team average 1800-1999)
- Division IV (team average under 1800)

The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) had two teams tie for a clear first and second place in the 2006 Pan American Intercollegiate Team Championship held in Washington, D.C. They did so by going undefeated on all boards against all teams. This year it was UTD who was not in a very sharing mood with UMBC with the recent tradition of splitting titles; and UTD also took first in the “Final Four” held in Dallas, TX. UTD continued without losing a game. Miami Dade College and Duke rounded out the Final Four.

The newcomer to watch this year has to be UT Brownsville (UTB) that jumped on the national scene this year with a second place finish at the National K-12/Collegiate (UTD 1st again); and a 7th place at their first Pan-Am. The UTB team strength has now dramatically increased to 2300 with scholarships and the active recruiting from other continents. The UTB program is growing and doing all of those things that we like to see in an improving new college program. The University of Texas at Brownsville was approved by the Executive Board for Chess College of the Year Award. Congratulations to program director Russell Harwood and UTB!

Russell Harwood was also appointed Associate Chair of the College Chess Committee’s Scholarship Subcommittee. His name and contact information are now posted at the USCF scholarship webpage. He has begun to canvas universities to determine who is offering scholarships for chess, and what is available for chess students. He started with universities in Texas, and will have more time to work on this now that the spring semester is over. One of the recent developments in the area of scholarships is that Texas A&M University Kingsville (TAMUK) presented two full scholarships to the top 12th grade boy and girl at the 2007 Susan Polgar National Open. TAMUK has agreed to offer scholarships at the same level at the 2008 Susan Polgar National Open, as well. Another highlight was that the winner of the 12th grade section at the 2006 Texas State Grades actually had their choice of full scholarships from UT Dallas and UT Brownsville! There seems to be an ongoing effort to recruit more female players by all universities vis-à-vis different scholarship venues and tournaments.

The January 2007 issue of *Chess Life* highlighted College Chess, with the main headline reading “College Chess Resurgent: UTD leads the way by taking on Serbians in a transatlantic match”, and also on the cover, “Scholarship Opportunities: Learn how to pay for college by playing chess”. There was a section in the article listing colleges and universities offering chess scholarships. In addition, there was an excellent article about college chess and available opportunities in December in *The Wall Street Journal*.

At the 2006 National K-12/Collegiate Championships in Orlando, the College Chess Committee held the first annual scholarship workshop for parents and students. It informed them of scholarship opportunities and how to help themselves by working to create more opportunities. The meeting was well attended and very informative, and many excellent ideas were exchanged. Russell Harwood will be in charge of the next one in Houston.

Glenn Petersen spearheaded a campaign to reach out to high school seniors, letting them know about available opportunities, as well as providing ideas and assistance on how to begin programs where none exist today. If these students contact the committee, Bill Hall has approved a 3-month extension to their dues as an incentive. We do not want to lose track of these young

men and women in our database. Future action items suggested by Glenn include contact with the American Association of College Unions and the exchange of databases whenever possible for local, regional, and national competitions.

Hal Karlsson was appointed Associate Chair of the College Chess Internet Subcommittee. “The CCC has sponsored several highly successful Internet tournaments last fall and this spring. We will continue this work this upcoming academic year. I am trying to convince everyone that we need to set up a few blitz tournaments on ICC for the college chess players to ‘break them in.’ Too many—even TTU players—have shown up and not known how computer chess works. I also believe that especially during team play the teams should play in one location (good for team spirit) under the watchful eye of a supervisor.” The Boca Raton Chess Club made a donation for the purchase of the collegechess.org domain name. We appreciated that!

According to TD Jon Haskel, 76 college students competed in the Fall Individual Online Collegiate Tournament held on the Internet Chess Club (ICC). Ian Harris from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and Nelson Lopez from the University of Texas at Dallas tied for first place.

In the Spring Team Online Collegiate Tournament, also held on ICC, The University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and the University of Texas at Dallas tied for 1st place overall. The top Under-1500 team was Bellevue Community College. Thirty-two teams competed. The University of Maryland, Baltimore County (on tie breaks), and Bellevue Community College teams each won four \$10 gift certificates that were donated by Chess4Less. Duncan Oxley, Michael Aigner, and especially Gregory Alexander assisted with the technical aspects of running the event.

While continuing to develop Internet tournaments, Hal Karlsson had other significant announcements when Texas Tech University established SPICE. William Marcy, Provost for Texas Tech University, announced during a press conference on May 12th the establishment of a new institute dedicated to the advancement of chess. He also announced the hiring of several *highly experienced chess professionals* to head up the Institute. SPICE will fall under the Office of the Provost. They believe it is the first time such an institute has been established at a university—possibly anywhere. The motto of SPICE is “Academic Excellence through Chess.”

SPICE will serve as the focal point for a) outreach program b) Knight Raiders chess club and a chess program c) Women’s chess and d) Texas Tech University System. Under all of the groups there are many levels of categories. For example, d) will encompass classes, scholarships, seminars, recruitment and research. Research will be aimed at AI, Cognitive Studies, Women’s Studies, History/Politics, Child Development, Curriculum Development and Chess in Education (in the broad sense). Tech anticipates SPICE having a close collaboration with the High Performance Computing Center and many other centers throughout the campus and even with satellite campuses.

Overall, it has been a year of solid progress for college chess. The 2007 Pan-Am will be in Miami and hosted by Miami Dade College. We look forward to seeing more teams and getting corporate sponsorship. The 2006 Pan-Am was a great event hosted by Dr. Alan Sherman and UMBC. It featured superb master commentary during the games, GM blitz matches before the tournament, luxurious hotel accommodations, etc. We believe these are exciting times for college chess!

Correspondence Chess Committee

Chair, Harold Stenzel

The committee had no work this year. Mike Nolan has been working on upgrading the computer programs. Alex Dunne has continued to handle results and disputes. During the last year Mr. Dunne’s *Chess Life* column has gone from monthly to only occasional appearances.

Denker Committee

Chair, Dewain Barber

The 22nd Annual Arnold Denker Tournament of State High School Champions was contested by 46 participants. Nelson Lopez II (NC) won a clear first with 5½. Second place was won by Alexander Chua (TX). A four-way tie for third involved Evan Ju (NJ), Tyler Hughes (CO), Corbin Yu (OR) and Brian Goldstein (FL). Upon completion of the event a blitz match was arranged with the Polgar winner, Abby Marshall, which resulted in Nelson winning this too.

Mitchell Denker, the son of GM Arnold Denker has continued his father's legacy with his generous sponsorship of this event. In addition, I would like to thank University of Texas at Dallas for providing a four year scholarship to the winner. Nelson has been accepted to UTD.

Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas has committed to provide the four-year scholarship for this year's event. I am confident that college chess will be well served by the universities that are supporting chess and young people.

Finally, I would like to thank Jack Mallory for his service as the chairman of this committee. He has been guiding this event for many years with skill and dedication.

Election Committee

Chair, Mike Nolan

As the election is still in progress, the final report of the Election Committee will be given at the Delegates' meeting prior to the certification of election results.

Ethics Committee

Chair, Hal Terrie

The Ethics Committee had a very busy year, dealing with thirteen cases, some of which are still active as I write this. We dealt with a number of very difficult items, including the newly prominent issue of electronic cheating at tournaments. One conclusion I think all of us on the committee share is that it would be wise for the Delegates to adopt formal guidelines for (a) the use of electronic devices at tournaments and (b) the investigation of charges of electronic cheating at tournaments. My understanding is that the Rules Committee is due to present a proposal for your consideration.

The Code of Ethics specifies that if the Ethics Committee recommends sanctions against a USCF member, that party has the right to appeal to the Executive Board—unless he is a member of the Board, in which case he must appeal to the Delegates instead. A case involving an Executive Board member has been appealed and so must be considered by you at the Delegates' meeting this year.

The case was Grant Perks vs. Sam Sloan. The Committee found for the plaintiff and recommended a reprimand for Sam Sloan. Mr. Sloan has appealed to the Delegates. Copies of all the materials relating to this case will be provided to you at the Delegates' meeting. Included will be:

1. The original complaint by Grant Perks.
2. The response by Sam Sloan.
3. The decision letter from the Ethics Committee.
4. The "Petition for Rehearing" submitted by Sam Sloan.
5. The full text of the e-mail message from the Ethics Committee, rejecting the petition.

An item relating to this case will appear on the Advance Delegates' Agenda. When the item is brought up for consideration, the Delegates will decide either to affirm the Committee's decision or to overturn it. If the decision is overturned, the case is dismissed and the recommended sanction voided. If the Delegates decide to affirm the decision, they may choose either to

leave the recommended sanction in place or to substitute a different sanction.

I will conclude with a brief personal note. After eleven years of service, I have decided not to seek reappointment to the Committee for next year. I want to thank my colleagues on the Committee for their hard work over the years and wish them well for the future.

Finance Committee

Chair, Randy Bauer

This has been a busy year for the Finance Committee. Because the first few months of the USCF fiscal year coincide with our slowest season, early revenue and expenditure numbers suggested a sizeable deficit for the year. As a result, Vice-President of Finance appointed a working group including a number of Finance Committee members to work with office staff to make an informed judgment on the USCF financial condition and recommendations for changes if necessary to the current budget.

Members of that working group met in Crossville in January and issued a report with their view that the USCF would end the year with somewhere between a small deficit and a modest surplus. The working group met again in Crossville in early May to get an update on the USCF financial position and make budget recommendations, which were forwarded to the Executive Board for their consideration at their May meeting.

The Committee continues to assist the office in ongoing efforts to improve the USCF's regular financial reporting and to develop better processes and controls to make these routine procedures. In that respect, I believe that we have made progress, but past practices have made some of these tasks far more complicated than we had originally understood.

The Committee and the office continue to work through the many complexities relating to past employee benefits relating to our profit sharing plan. At this point, we have not yet gathered the information necessary to form a judgment on the extent of any additional financial responsibility for past practices that the USCF may incur. We continue to make progress, however, and hope that by the time of the annual meeting that information will be available. In this respect, Donna Alarie has been particularly helpful, going well above and beyond the call of duty in her service to the Committee and the USCF.

In the end, it is likely that the USCF has ended the year with either a small deficit or surplus. In either case, it is too "close to the edge" for the good of our Federation. We must continue to improve regular reporting, understanding of the underlying issues that drive the revenue and expenditures, and get a more stable financial position in general for the USCF. I am hopeful that the Committee will continue to provide its time and efforts to further those goals.

Hall of Fame Committee

by Harold J. Winston, Chairman

The committee had a good workshop at Oak Brook in August, 2006. One topic on our mind has been whether if a person previously declines induction to the Hall they must be approved by the committee and the trustees of the Chess Trust anew, or can merely signal that they have changed their mind. We have also discussed some new nominations.

The hoped for induction did not take place in March so that at the U.S. Open Awards Banquet, at noon on Saturday August 4, 2007, in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, we expect to formally induct Jeremy Gaige, chess archivist par excellence; Irving Chernev, one of America's greatest chess writers; and GM Yasser Seirawan. There are also two members of the World Chess Hall of Fame overdue for induction: Garry Kasparov and Vera Menchik.

The committee looks forward to seeing you at a workshop on August 2, 2007 and at the banquet, both at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

I want to thank the other members of the committee: Al Lawrence, Shane Samole, John McCrary, Jennifer Shahade, John Hilbert, Jeremy Gaige, and Arthur Bisguier.

LMA Committee

Chair, Michael R. Carr

The last half of the current fiscal year has been one of constant financial challenges for the USCF. The LMA Committee has been involved in several important decisions during this period.

The first decision was in January when the LMA Committee, by a 7-0 vote, informed the Executive Board and Executive Director that we were on record as not willing to use any LMA funds to bail out operations. The Committee was of the consensus that operations must operate within its budget. Only in the direst circumstances would the LMA be willing to loan money to operations.

Two other actions started at the end of February. One was when Cumberland County Bank wanted us to establish a Line of Credit with them. It would have been at a rate that was 1.50% over the rate of the CD's we have with them. Currently that would have been 1.50% less than the rate that we were getting with First Tennessee Bank, which is at .50% below prime. Also, the \$40,000 compensating balance arrangement that we have with First Tennessee Bank would be eliminated. On the surface this would appear to be a sound financial decision. But, Cumberland County Bank would have required that we put up the CD's that we have with them as collateral for the Line of Credit. The LMA Committee viewed this as "double dipping" into the LMA's assets. Last year we gave approval to use \$150,000 of LMA funds as a down payment on the building loan with First Tennessee Bank. This down payment was made in June last year. That was all the Committee was willing to allow as a use or encumbrance against LMA assets. The Cumberland proposal would encumber another \$150,000 of LMA assets. The Committee was unanimous in not allowing this proposal. As this report is being issued it has come to the attention of the LMA Committee that Cumberland County Bank has removed the covenant of requiring the CD's to be put up as collateral. They would only require a Board Resolution to establish a Line of Credit with them. In light of these new circumstances it may behoove the LMA and Operations to revisit this issue in the upcoming year.

The last action of importance was when the LMA Committee decided to withdraw \$200,000 from the low interest earning money market account to be placed in higher yielding investments. As this report is being written the Committee is finalizing where this money will be put. Please refer to the LMA Investment Policy below for a more comprehensive statement regarding investment options.

In closing the LMA Committee has two major concerns that must be addressed. The first is that the income generated by the LMA's liquid assets is not sufficient to cover the cost to service current Life and Sustaining members as currently provided. This means that the shortfall must be made up by generating a surplus from operations if we are to avoid future reductions in services to our members. This dictates that we mandate a surplus budget. The second concern is that in the final paragraph of my last year's report I commended the Executive office for starting to put money from Life and Sustaining members back into the LMA accounts. During this past fiscal year no money from Life and Sustaining members has been put into the LMA accounts. This concern must be addressed.

I would like to thank the other LMA Committee members; Charles Unruh, Frank Camaratta, Fred Townsend, Dr. Leroy Dubeck, Peter Dyson, and Dr. Tim Redman for their tireless effort this past year. Without their valuable input this Committee could not function.

LMA Investment Policy

Authority: LMA investments, both purchases and sales, shall be authorized by a *majority* vote of the LMA Committee, or by a subcommittee or other persons appointed by the LMA Committee.

Eligible Investments: LMA funds may be invested in the following asset classes:

- 1. Fixed Assets:** Properties occupied by the USCF.
- 2. Liquid Assets:** Government securities, certificates of deposit, income funds, stock funds, and individual securities, subject to specified investment limits.

Investment Classes and Limitations:

Income-Oriented Investments: Income-oriented investments shall comprise a minimum of *fifty percent* of the liquid assets of the LMA. Income-oriented investments shall stress yield consistent with returns on low-risk investments.

Government Securities: There is no aggregate limit on investments in securities issued by the U.S. Government, but no individual investment should exceed \$100,000. If more than one U.S. Government security is purchased, their respective maturity dates should be at least *twelve* months apart. Maturities should not exceed *five* years.

Certificates of Deposit: There is no aggregate limit on investments in certificates of deposit issued by banks and guaranteed by the FDIC, but no individual investment should exceed \$100,000 with a single bank. Maturities should not exceed *five* years. Preference should be given to CDs issued by banks with a physical office within *ten* miles of the USCF headquarters, to help establish credit for the USCF with local financial institutions.

Income Funds: Aggregate investments in income mutual funds, and exchange-traded income funds, shall not exceed *twenty-five percent* of the liquid assets of the LMA. Individual investments in income funds shall not exceed *five percent* of LMA assets.

Stock Funds and Individual Securities: Aggregate investments in common stock mutual funds and exchange-traded funds, and in individual common stocks, shall not exceed *fifty percent* of LMA liquid assets. Individual investments in stock funds, and in individual stocks, shall not exceed *five percent* of the liquid assets of the LMA.

Stock Funds: Stock funds investments should be in funds which stress dividend yield, dividend growth, or growth and income (balanced) funds, or value-oriented funds.

Individual Stocks: No more than *five percent* of LMA liquid assets may be invested in an individual stock, and no more than *ten percent* of LMA liquid assets may be invested in individual stocks as an asset class.

Outreach Committee

Chair, Myron Lieberman

This report focuses on the progress of two ongoing projects and one major new effort that can be the forerunner of a significant concept in scholastic instruction.

• Update on progress in the GCAPP target city, Savannah, GA:

Jane Fonda's Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention targeted inner city schools in three Georgia cities (Atlanta, Savannah, and Gainesville) for the use of chess for prevention to help improve the lives of their students and prepare them to make the right decisions in life (such as avoidance of adolescent pregnancy, drugs, gangs, and other similar temptations).

Chess is now thriving in Atlanta schools and now the second GCAPP target city of Savannah has also successfully introduced chess into their schools.

WTOC Channel 11 in Savannah broadcast on December 11, 2006, that eighty students from Thunderbolt, Georgetown, Hess, and Isle of Hope Elementary Schools in Savannah par-

ticipated in a chess tournament. Linda Olson, Principal of Isle of Hope Elementary School, was quoted as pointing out “Chess is a great way to learn and sharpen skills they (the students) need in life. There are so many educational benefits to playing chess. It improves math skills, problem-solving skills, and increase thinking skills, logic and reasoning.”

The May 5, 2007, issue of the *Savannah Morning News* and its online version, *Savannah Now*, documented further progress.

It pointed out that about 200 students from eight Chatham County schools participated in a tournament at Savannah Mall. Dorothy Glenn, a teacher of gifted students at Largo-Tibet Elementary School pointed out that the purpose was to brush up on their skills and learn new techniques. The article mentioned that parents and teachers said chess, and events similar to the one on May 4, help students learn a game that requires logic and strategy, and it pulls from a variety of disciplines.

The article quoted Linda Olson as saying that in addition to after school chess activity the second-graders at Isle of Hope also play chess as a class activity.

Thanks to Linda Olson, Dorothy Glenn, and everyone else who have brought the benefits of chess to Savannah.

• **The popularity of chess in the public media**

Chess articles in the news are becoming routine and the media are receptive to chess coverage on all levels more than ever before. Whether the topic is scholastic chess, tournaments and events, issues about cheating or drug testing, or other chess topics, articles and even editorials now appear routinely. A home school chess advocacy group has argued its case in at least two major newspapers, with at least one getting involved in discussing the issue.

Lee LaFrese noted that if some alien were to pick up the “Family Plus” section of the April 24, 2007, *Tucson Citizen*, they would be convinced that chess was a popular and mainstream game. It contained a major article with a photo about Catalina Foothills’ big win at the National High School, a picture of Ken Larsen and the crew from Esperero Canyon as “team of the week” for coming in second place at the National Junior, and two blurbs (one with a photo) promoting the Girl’s Chess Academy. Thanks to Lee for pointing this out and we join him in expressing congratulations to everyone involved!

• **Free chess camps—You can make it happen.**

We have often pointed out that chess success is independent of economic class and noted that many inner-city schools have won national championships. The poorest of people can enjoy playing chess. They can draw a chessboard with a stick on a sandlot and use rocks for pieces. Yes, that’s true, but to become serious about chess or improve one’s game some form of coaching is usually required, and that is not free. Chess camps with capable instructors often charge hundreds if not thousands of dollars. What this does in effect is make chess improvement unavailable to the lower income groups.

Alan Anderson, John LaLonde, and others are working with an organization that has held week long chess camps in the past. They didn’t want low income players to be disenfranchised because of the necessary fees, so this year, they started a campaign to obtain funding for a three week long chess camp with noted teachers and no fees for the players (regardless of economic status). While the organization’s 501(c)(3) application is pending, the 501(c)(3) arm of the local school district is working with them and accepting donations for the camp.

They have organized a not for profit business that is working with the local Chamber of Commerce and have received support from a number of businesses, foundations, organizations and individuals. The Chamber of Commerce will distribute requests for funding the camp as inserts in their mailing to 1,900 local businesses. Thanks to Alan, John, and everyone who helped create and promote this concept. The free camp will happen this summer. The names of the organization and the camp are not as important to this report as the fact that the camp is an example of an effort that can succeed anywhere that an orga-

nizer is willing to do the work. It is necessary to network with existing businesses, foundations, individuals, and other organizations, develop strategic partnerships on a local level, get to know who the influential people are, and have the perseverance to see that the goal is achieved. Camps and even coaching do not have to impose high fees on the players to cover their costs. Let donors and sponsors pay for the instruction. They will if you can convince them it is worthwhile. You can do this in and for your community. Once this is done, nationwide chess will truly be the great equalizer.

Polgar Committee

Chair, Paul Truong

Since the inception of the Polgar event in 2004, the University of Texas in Dallas has been very generous in providing full scholarships to the winners of the Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls. On behalf of the Polgar Committee and all the participants to date, I would like to thank Dr. Tim Redman, Jim Stallings and UTD for the sponsorship. Unfortunately, UTD has decided not to sponsor this year’s Polgar and Denker event.

Thanks to the quick and magnificent work from Dr. Hal Karlsson, Provost Bill Marcy and Senior Vice-Provost Jim Brink of Texas Tech University, TTU will offer two academic scholarships which cover all tuition and fees, one for the winner of each tournament in 2007 at Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

In addition, Texas Tech University agrees to be the location and sponsor of the Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls, the most prestigious all-girls chess tournament in the United States, beginning in 2008 for a period of up to five years.

On behalf of the Polgar Committee and all the participants of the Polgar event, I would like to thank Texas Tech University for this fantastic sponsorship package. We are looking forward to a fruitful partnership with Texas Tech University and SPICE (Susan Polgar Institute for Chess Excellence).

Professional Players Health and Welfare Fund Committee

Chair, Fred Gruenberg

The Board appointed this committee January 26th of this year, 2007, so this is our first report. Our committee members are: Steve Immitt, John Donaldson, Dr. John McCrary, Dr. Anthony Saidu and myself, Fred Gruenberg, as the Chair.

I remember Yasser Seirawan and I fighting for this fund to be established at the 1991 Delegates’ meeting. We had very high hopes that collecting a dollar from every entry, where the entry fee was fifty dollars or more, would drive the Fund and give us enough monies to really do something worthwhile for our professional players. This was changed somewhere down the line as now all monies received are voluntary. The fund has a little over one hundred thousand dollars right now—not a lot for collecting almost sixteen years. We would hope that at next year’s Delegates’ meeting we can propose some way to finance this Fund better so that we can do more for the players that did so much for us over the years.

Besides the four recipients that the Fund has recently helped we have paid the rent for the past four months for a New York grandmaster that has had health problems and some other difficulties. Steve Immitt has gotten him a five hundred dollar honorarium from the Marshall Chess club and we are helping in other ways also. We have no other requests at this time.

We will be addressing many issues this coming year, some of which are: eligibility, funding, name change and getting tax deductible status.

Publications Committee

Chair, Arlen Walker

It was a year of changes for USCF publications. Radical

changes came to both *Chess Life* and the USCF website, as well as to the makeup of the committee. We welcomed new members, from photographers to web specialists, to help us review and comment on the changes, and they contributed valuable insights to the process. I would like to extend my thanks to all the committee members for their willingness to share opinions and ideas.

The Delegates gave us (in conjunction with the EB) the task of reviewing previously established Delegate mandates on the content and appearance of *Chess Life*. We decided to recommend vacating all of them, for two reasons. First, we wanted to give the new publications' team in the office the freedom to craft the future of *Chess Life* the best way they knew how, and wanted to remove any constraints on them. Secondly, we felt that the point of the existing mandates had been made; the delegates had made it clear they would rise to defend *Chess Life* against interference from the EB and to rein it back in if the proposed changes became too far off the mark. The people in place realized that, and so the hard limits established by the mandates could be relaxed. Along with this decision came the resolution of the committee to stand watch in the place of the mandates, as a sort of reminder the mandates could be brought up imposed again if things got out of hand.

We also reviewed the changes at *Chess Life* and have made the following recommendations:

When stock photos are used in tournament coverage (photos of individuals which were not taken at the event being reported on) they should be clearly labeled as such. Not to do so may mislead the readers into thinking the photo was taken at the event.

Diagrams need some work, yet. Many of them are readable, but the chosen color palette for the magazine makes some of the diagrams hard to read, especially for those with some vision impairment. Addition of borders and another color (even if just another shade of the simple cyan palette currently being used) would be an improvement.

Please, never again combine cyan and yellow. Please.

We were concerned that the publication dates seemed to be slipping. That adversely affects TLA's published in it.

It might be possible to acquire extra help for the magazine through an internship from nearby Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU).

We also discussed several ideas that did not result in clear consensus of the committee.

There was a reference to a player's "Tal-like claw" that created a general discussion of sensitivity to player's handicaps. There was a clear consensus that *Chess Life* show sensitivity toward such handicaps, mentioning them only in a neutral or matter-of-fact way.

But we found it difficult to create a concrete guideline on that, so we settled for the rather vague terminology used above and would request the *Chess Life* staff to pay closer attention to such terminology in the future.

Views were also divided on the size of the CL logo on the cover. No one thought it too big, but we were about evenly split about it being too small. Similar splits happened over the inclusion of lists of prizewinners in event coverage and the use of white space (too much vs. about right). Because of the division, we refrain from making recommendations in that area and simply ask that these decisions be considered again, as they seem to be causing problems for at least some of the membership.

The overall opinion of the committee is that the magazine's new appearance, while not perfect, is much improved.

The same was said for the website, though there were also concerns:

If details such as prizewinner lists are left out of the magazine, the website becomes the only source for research. Because of that, we remind the staff of the importance of history and urge a commitment to retaining such information permanently on the website. Disk space is cheap; history is important.

There are some problems with the game viewer, some of which are caused by ChessBase (the source of the viewer) and some by the implementation of the reader on the USCF website. The reader doesn't highlight the current move, for example, making

it a little more difficult to follow the game. A more serious issue with the current game viewer is that it doesn't allow commentary to be part of the game being viewed. That is something that really needs to be addressed, and it's a defect in the current implementation of the viewer, not in the ChessBase version of it.

We would also recommend widening the color palette for the website. Cyan and white keeps it in tune with the magazine, that is true, but it's a rather boring scheme for the web. It would also be an improvement to vary the size and shape of the photos more.

Finally, we as a committee would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to both Daniel Lucas and Jennifer Shahade for the fine work they've done. We hope they don't take the criticisms/recommendations contained herein as an indication we think the work has been substandard. Both the website and the magazine have been greatly improved in the last two years, and we look forward to the future improvements we are sure they will bring us.

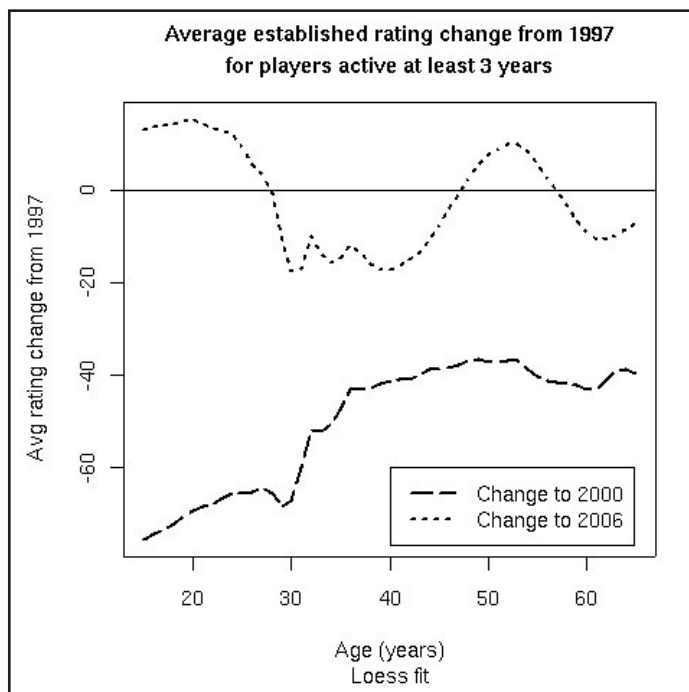
Ratings Committee (RC)

Chair, Prof. Mark E. Glickman

The Ratings Committee (RC) this year tackled a fairly short list of tasks. The main tasks involved addressing a question concerning ratings near the absolute floor of 100, and how to ensure greater correspondence between Quick Chess (QC) ratings and regular ratings. We also carried out a detailed examination of rating changes in the rating pool.

Correspondence with Mike Nolan in November indicated that a much greater number of players were at the absolute rating floor of 100 this year compared to previous years. The RC was asked to consider possible responses to this issue. After some discussion, the RC offered the proposal that if an unrated player earns a rating less than 100 (before the player ends up with a floor at 100), then the player should remain unrated as though he/she had not yet played any games. This proposal borrows from the FIDE model of requiring a minimum performance to receive a first rating. In response, the Executive Board (EB) decided that it was preferable not to take any action, arguing that having an increased frequency of 100 ratings may be indicative of an increase in very weak players. They also preferred to continue the practice of issuing ratings once a player has played at least four games.

An ongoing task from the last couple years has been how to address concerns that QC and regular ratings are out of alignment for players having both. The solution we proposed was to replace the QC system by one that rates all events, while keep-



ing the regular system which rates events with time controls G/30 or slower. The revised QC system would likely be called something other than “Quick Chess”—an alternative that was discussed was the “universal” system, but other names are possible. In implementing such a system, players would be considered unrated under the new system going back to the start of 2004, and then the “universal” system would be applied prospectively to all events from that point. There are several positives to this proposal. First, one’s universal rating is equal to the regular rating until a player demonstrates evidence otherwise through a good amount of fast time-control events. Second, results from regular events will affect universal ratings, but not vice versa (for events with time controls quicker than G/30). Finally, any differences that persist in universal and regular ratings are arguably a demonstration that the player’s quick and regular strengths differ. The EB had a positive reaction to the proposal. Currently, Mike Nolan is testing different strategies for initializing the universal ratings in addition to the method mentioned above.

The Ratings Committee was also asked to address a few smaller concerns. We were alerted by the USCF office that the USCF was considering becoming involved formally in bughouse and Fischer random chess. The RC was asked about whether these variants could be rated by the USCF. The RC chair responded by mentioning that the likelihood was that separate rating systems would need to be constructed, but doing so was not problematic. When the USCF is closer to overseeing bughouse and Fischer random chess tournaments, the RC will become more involved in rating discussion and development. A second issue that arose was whether the RC should be involved in updating the USCF correspondence rating system. This was motivated by some lack of clarity in the online explanation, especially in the description of how the system handles provisionally rated players. The RC chair is currently in discussions with Mike Nolan about making small changes in the correspondence rating formulas, incorporating some ideas from the current over-the-board system to improve rating behavior.

Every year the RC performs a set of diagnostic analyses to monitor trends in the rating pool. As is well known, overall rating levels have deflated from the mid-1990s through 2000 when rating floors were decreased by 100 points without a counteracting inflationary mechanism. With the new rating system in place, ratings have begun to reflate. As a rough goal, the RC has been intending to restore rating levels back to where they were in 1997. Typically, the RC has focused attention on players with established ratings who have been active in the past three years, and who are aged 35-45 years old. Our analysis this year was more expansive. To summarize, we examined the difference in average ratings (for players active over the current and previous two years) between years 1997 and 2000, and between years 1997 and 2006. The results are shown in the accompanying figure. The dashed line, which displays the average rating difference between 1997 and 2000 as a function of age (the curve is called a “locally weighted scatterplot smoother,” or “loess”), indicates that ratings in 1997 were higher than ratings in 2000 by about 60-70 rating points for players under 30 years old, and about 40 rating points for players older than 35 years old. The dotted line, which displays the average rating difference between 1997 and 2006, shows a much more optimistic picture. On average, ratings as a function of age are at most 20 rating points different in 2006 compared to 1997. This result indicates some degree of success of the new rating system with its bonus and feedback mechanisms, as well as higher K for lower-rated players. The RC will continue to monitor the rating pool for anomalous changes over time.

Rules Committee

Chair, David Kuhns

The primary accomplishment of the Rules Committee was the writing of “Guidelines for Rating Internet Chess.” It was the opin-

ion of the committee that the existing Laws of Chess may be interpreted to cover remote play such as radio, telephone and online play, and that no modifications of the existing Laws was necessary. However, we did publish a set of guidelines for the organizers of such an event to include recommendations that a certified tournament director be present at each location of the players, that safeguards are in place to prevent electronic assistance (other than record keeping and time management), and that the chief TD be responsible and have enough confidence to “sign off” the rating report assuring compliance with the Laws of Chess.

It is the ultimate responsibility of the chief TD to assure compliance with the Laws in any event, including online play.

See the complete Guidelines for the wording and details of the recommendations.

The Rules Committee was asked to address the issue of cheating in tournaments. It is the opinion of the Committee that the Laws as they stand are adequate for this purpose. A separate committee composed of TDs and major tournament organizers have met to address specific actions and recommendations.

Scholastic Committee

Chairs, Mike Nietman and Stephen Shutt

This past year there were no major changes to the USCF National Scholastic Chess Tournament Regulations. The Council refined several points with the additional experience of last year’s events. A new appendix was added to regulate the use of electronic handheld recording devices. No major overhauls are planned to the Regulations this year although with the new monthly supplements, we need to determine if using a different supplement for our events is prudent. As always any changes to the Regulations will be published off the scholastic page of the USCF website by October 1.

With the help of Scholastic Director Jerry Nash, the Council approved a revised USCF Scholastic Invitational Events and Awards Requirements. The revised document is on the USCF’s website.

The Council reiterates that the national scholastics be led by scholastically experienced tournament directors. Having the skills to work not only with players from kindergarten to college but also coaches, non-player parents and staff is extremely important to the smooth running of the events. While the number with these skills is small, we are pleased that there were two new members to the group this year. If any TD thinks s/he has these skills and would like the opportunity to be a member of the TD team at a national scholastic event, s/he should send their resume to the Scholastic Director.

The Council and certain Committee members have worked on the Chess Coach Certification Program and believe it is ready for implementation. A certificate issued by a national governing body is needed in many areas of the country to work with students. The program is designed to assist and certify those USCF members who provide instructional services and run scholastic and adult chess classes. Certification content is based on knowledge of chess, experience in teaching chess, and teams’ achievements on local, state, and national levels. The Program contains four levels of certification. We strongly encourage the Executive Board’s swift approval of this program.

The Council was disheartened to hear of the resignation of Diane Reese as Events Director. Her guidance in organizing the national scholastics over the past six years has left the national scholastics in a much higher state. Event attendees appreciate the familiarity of routines from year-to-year. We will continue to reap the benefits of her work as contracts for several events for the next few years have been signed.

We wholeheartedly welcome Pat Knight aboard the scholastic team as Events Director and look forward to working with her on future events. With her past experience we know she’ll jump in and be highly productive right away.

We continue to be pleased with Scholastic Director Jerry Nash's work. His diligent work organizing the World Youth and Pan Am teams is greatly appreciated. We only wish he could be given more time to work with more scholastic programs around the country.

The Council must spend time this year developing additional ideas for the scholastic portion of the USCF website. The area has been lacking in content and organization. We are also pleased with the efforts made to improve *Chess Life for Kids*, the magazine for our younger players.

We are also pleased that the Executive Board has been forwarding to the Scholastic Council chess products designed for the youth market for our review before contracting to endorse them. We have seen a growth in the supply of well-written chess books for younger players.

As always should anyone have a question about any of our scholastic programs and events, they should contact the Scholastic Director or any member of the Scholastic Council.

Senior Committee

Chair, Charles Hatherill

We are offering a new format at the tournament with the traditional game a day schedule and a working man's shortened schedule with two games on Thursday and Friday or six games in four days. The last round on Friday will be a merged schedule. The tournament will be held in Palm Springs, California from August 14 to the 16th.

The Senior Committee would like to thank the USCF for picking up the responsibility for hosting the Senior Open. Last year the Senior Open was held in Nashville, Tennessee with 43 players. The winner was FIDE Master Joe Bradford with a score of 5½ out of 6. Joe Bradford was seeded into the U.S. Championship as winner of the Senior Open and finished in the top sixteen.

States Committee

Chair, Guy Hoffman

Our committee had a very quiet year. The only item for discussion originated from Bylaws, questioning the current practice of naming Alternate Delegates that are not residents of the state they might represent. No one objected to the current practice.

A last minute item (literally) came from an old complaint, not in time for this report. We may look at it further, after receiving some (hopefully) new material.

I would 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, Guy Hoffman, Marshall Denny, Ira Lee Riddle, Al Losoff, Mike Somers, and John McCumiskey.

We recommended the suspension of one TD certificate while

limiting the scope of another. One TD complaint remains unprocessed. Anonymous complaints can not be processed. We denied one IA certification waiver request as moot. We shored up the IA/FA testing procedures while making necessary exam revisions and rewrites to various TD tests at all levels. We continued to evaluate ANTD and NTD exams.

We discussed the TD certification policy effecting separate membership suspensions.

We talked about the possibility of adding a "statute of limitations" to TD offenses.

We thank the USCF for allowing us to serve.

Women's Committee

Chair, GM Susan Polgar

It has been a very good year for some of our top women players. IM Irina Krush has been playing very well in the past 12 months. She reached an all-time high USCF rating of nearly 2500. Irina also achieved her all-time high FIDE rating and she is currently ranked number 11 in the world.

IM Anna Zatonskih reached 2500 USCF last year and she achieved her all-time high FIDE rating earlier this year. She is ranked at #22 in the world. Anna had to temporarily take time off from active competition due to the birth of her daughter Sofia Daniella. Former U.S. Women's Champion WGM Rusa Goletiani is due to give birth to her first child in August 2007. Congratulations to both Anna and Rusa!

Last year, the Susan Polgar All-Star Girls' Chess Team program was approved. It is a partnership between the USCF and the Susan Polgar Foundation (SPF), designed to recognize young female players for their excellent achievements.

All winners would receive special recognition certificates, Susan Polgar All-Star Jackets and invitations to participate in the exclusive All-Star training which will be personally conducted by me. The training will take place on July 24-27 at the prestigious NY Athletic Club. All costs for this program are paid by the SPF. The USCF would be responsible for advertising the program as well as recognizing the winners.

On May 12, 2007, I accepted the position of Executive Director of SPICE (Susan Polgar Institute for Chess Excellence) at Texas Tech University. This institute will open up many opportunities in chess and education for female players college age and under. The mission of SPICE is:

- To promote chess as a vehicle for enriching education.
- To serve as the global center for chess research, education and development.
- To support and promote competitive chess at the college level.
- To recruit outstanding undergraduate and graduate students.

Through SPICE, Texas Tech University has focused the resources of a major university and Big 12 Conference member on providing scholarships for players, conducting research into various aspects of the game, championing scholastic, college and women's chess and housing an outreach program bringing chess to enthusiasts of all ages.

I am looking forward to a promising future for women's chess.

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

Audit, Cramer Award, International Affairs, Military, Survey, Top Players, U.S. Open

Delegates at Large

Delegates at Large (DAL)

(* = *Past President*)

Frank Camaratta
Steve Doyle*
Gerry Dullea
Jerome Hanken
F. Woodrow Harris
Myron Lieberman
Rachel Lieberman

John McCrary*
Timothy Redman*
Harry Sabine
Helen Warren
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*

INTERNET CHESS GUIDELINES

The Laws of chess do not restrict the game to face to face over-the-board play. Under the Laws: games by means of the Internet, telephone, radio and other forms of communication are allowed provided that a certified tournament director verify the results and attest to the fact that the Laws of Chess were enforced and followed. The amount of care taken may depend on the level of the event or the amount of prize money involved.

Guidelines for Internet tournaments and matches

Chief and assistant tournament directors

The Chief TD who submits the report certifies that the games were played according to USCF standards for rated play.

It is advisable that a certified assistant TD is available and is able to witness (computer screens visible, and actions of the players monitored) each player and game while games are in progress. This means that at each site that is connected for play an assistant be appointed to aid the chief TD in ensuring that the Laws of Chess are followed.

Though not required, it is advisable that the same software (or display interface) be used on both sides of the games. This will give no advantage to one player over the other due to the software used.

All chess playing software and engines be disabled or turned off during play. This may be verified by the on-site TD.

Time keeping

Official time for each game is kept at each player's home site either through an on screen display or through a chess clock.

Many Internet sites have coordinated time keeping and adjustment software that adjusts games for transmission delays. In those cases, the flag fall on the screen (transmitted by the host site) may be considered official.

In cases where the time is not coordinated, the assistant TD has the responsibility for calling the flag fall. Either player may request at any time for the time remaining on their opponent's flag.

In the case where the move is physically transferred from the printout or display to a physical board, the assistant TD will make the move on the board, then press the clock. That clock is then official. The TD will call the flag fall.

In either case, the amount of time delay allowed should be considered when organizing the event. Make sure that a sufficient time delay for each move is allowed to help in avoiding unnecessary controversy.

Touch and completed move

Software chess interfaces vary widely on touch move. In most cases, a move is not transmitted until a legal move is released on the board. The time of transmittal is considered the "touch".

Mouse slips. Occasionally, the move transmitted is not the

move intended. The on-site TD may verify unintentional mouse slips for retraction of a transmitted move. Examples of such moves may be the "drop" of a piece too soon (on the way to an intended square), the accidental selection of a piece (and subsequent drop) on the way to picking up of the intended piece, etc. It does not include the picking up of a piece and "waving it around the board" looking for a square, and its subsequent drop, etc.

Alternate rule for mouse slips: No appeal is allowed, if mouse slips occur refer to paragraph one in this section.

If the fact that a piece was "picked up" is made visible to the opponent, all normal touch move/illegal move rules should be enforced.

Scorekeeping

Most software automatically keeps score for the players. Additional notation is not required.

Illegal moves

Most software interfaces do not allow illegal moves. This is allowable if both players have access to the same information and assistance.

Identities of the players

The Chief TD is responsible for verifying the identities of the players. In general, a simple user id/password system is NOT sufficient to establish identity. Assistant TDs can check IDs just as they do at ordinary events. When there are no assistant TDs, the Chief TD must take care.

Playing from home

Be careful, very, VERY, careful.

In any events where play is allowed that does not have a non-playing certified TD present at all locations (e.g. from home), then the event coordinator and chief TD are ultimately responsible for assuring to the adherence of the Laws of Chess. At a minimum, there should be a pre-determined set of playing conditions transmitted to each player and a signed statement attesting to compliance to those playing conditions. This is similar to the submission of a report of a match between two individual players.

Starting and resumption of a game

After the pairings have been determined, the players are sent an instruction to match their respective opponent. Players should match their opponent or accept their pending challenge in a timely manner. The tournament director will use discretion in judging delays and the enforcement of penalties.

When a player gets disconnected during the tournament, that player should try to return as soon as possible. If a player gets disconnected during a game, the game is considered to be adjourned. The opponent of the disconnected player is to resume an adjourned game when the disconnected player returns. The tournament director will use discretion in judging delays, frequent disconnects and the enforcement of penalties.

1979–2007 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
2007 Stillwater, OK

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
2007 Atlanta Chess Center

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 University

2007 U. of Texas at Brownsville

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
2007 Financial Review Committee

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 Vandenburg
 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
2007 Fred Gruenberg

FRANK J. MARSHALL

1994 Albert Sandrin
 1995 GM Arthur Dake
 1996 GM Arnold Denker
 1997 IM Maurice Ashley

1998 IM John Donaldson
 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
2007 GM Gregory Kaidanov

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
2007 Gata Kamsky

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
2007 Donna Gruenberg, Jan Rogers

KOLTANOWSKI MEDAL

1979 *Gold:* Bill Church
 Jacqueline Piatigorsky
 Louis Statham
 1980 *Gold:* Thomas Emery
 Lessing Rosenwald
 1981 *Gold:* Fred Cramer
Silver: Howard Gaba
 Fred Gruenberg
 Al Hansen
 1982 *Gold:* Rea Hayes
Silver: Nobert Leopoldi
 1983 *Silver:* Stephen Jones
 Don Richardson
 John Rylowski
 Ralph Slottow
 1984 *Gold:* Jose Cuchi
Silver: M. Vacheron
 1985 *Gold:* Frank Normali
Silver: R. W. Twombly
 1986 *Gold:* Shelby Lyman, NCR Corp.
Silver: Faneuil Adams, Jr.
 Paul Arnold Associates
 Equitable Life Assurance
 Prudential Insurance
 1987 *Gold:* Frank Samford

1988	<i>Gold:</i>	Sid Samole	1997	Jose Cuchi, E. Steven Doyle	1991	Lev Alburt, Larry Evans	
1989	<i>Gold:</i>	Novag Industries	1998	Robert Tanner	1992	Ron Lohrman, Les Leroy Smith	
1990	<i>Gold:</i>	Arnold Denker Helen Warren	1999	John Donaldson, De Knudson	1993	Jeremy Gaige, John Varis	
1991	<i>Gold:</i>	Ted Field	2002	Yasser Seirawan and America's Foundation for Chess (formerly the Seattle Chess Foundation)	1994	John McCrary, Warren Pinches, Garrett Scott	
	<i>Silver:</i>	Neil Falconer	2003	Arden Dilley, Phillip Simpkins	1995	Jo Eglen, Doris Thackrey	
1992	<i>Gold:</i>	Banker's Trust	2004	Michael Korenman	1996	Herb Hickman, Hanon Russell, Helen Warren	
1994	<i>Silver:</i>	Dr. Martin Katahn	2005	Maurice Ashley	1997	Denis Barry, Robert John McCrary, Jim Pechac	
1996	<i>Gold:</i>	Saitek Industries, Ltd.	2006	Cris Collinsworth Foundation	1998	Harold Stenzel, Gary and Addie Prince	
	<i>Silver:</i>	Zamagias Properties	2007	Sevan Muradian	1999	Tim Just, Mike Carr, Alice Loranth (posthumously)	
1997	<i>Gold:</i>	Interplay Productions	OUTSTANDING CAREER ACHIEVEMENT			2000	Ken Horne (posthumously), Rachel Lieberman, Sid Samole
	<i>Silver:</i>	Wizards of the Coast Novag Industries	1986	Allen Hinshaw, Helen Hinshaw, Bob Dudley, Robert Erkes, George Mirijanian	2001	Tom Doan, Pat Hoekstra, Myron Lieberman	
1998	<i>Gold:</i>	Chess in the Schools	1987	Alan Benjamin, Phyllis Benjamin	2002	Dewain Barber, Ralph Bowman, Mark Glickman, Al Lawrence, Mike Nolan	
	<i>Silver:</i>	Internet Chess Club (ICC)	1989	Peter Lahde, Alina Markowski, Larry Paxton, Glenn Petersen	2003	Lynne Chapman, Kelly Jacobs, Ken Sloan	
2000	<i>Gold:</i>	The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD)	1990	Roger Blaine, Lee Hyder, Russell Miller	2004	Don Mihokovich, Bob Persante	
	<i>Silver:</i>	The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD)	1991	Mike Goodall, Ira Lee Riddle, Fjola Vandenburg	2005	Neil Falconer	
2001	<i>Gold:</i>	Seattle Chess Foundation	1993	Robert Karch, Robert P. Smith	2006	Kim Cramer, John Donaldson, Mikhail Korenman, Greg Shahade	
2002	<i>Gold:</i>	Floyd and Bernice Sarisohn Dato' Tan Chin Nam	1994	Clarence Callaway	2007	Steve Doyle, Ernie Schlich	
2003	<i>Gold:</i>	Dr. Martin (Dick) Katahn	1995	Pete Nixon, Warren Pinches	SPECIAL TASK FORCE		
2004	<i>Gold:</i>	Tennessee Tech University	1996	Burt Hochberg	2000	President's Special Committee on Finances, Computer Evaluation Task Force	
2005	<i>Gold:</i>	Kasparov Chess Foundation	1997	Leroy Dubeck, Bill Snead, J.C. Thompson	2003	Rulebook Revision Task Force	
2005	<i>Gold:</i>	Al Blowers (from HB Foundation)	1998	Steve Frymer	TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR		
2006	<i>Gold</i>	America's Foundation for Chess (AF4C)	1999	Robert Fischer, James Hurt, Stuart Laughlin,	2004	Carol Jarecki	
2007	Gold	Frank K. Berry	2000	Harold Dondis	2005	Steve Immitt	
MERITORIOUS SERVICE			2001	John Collins	2006	Walter Brown	
1980		Robert Tanner	2002	Robert Ferguson, Jerry Hanken, Carol Jarecki	2007	Mike Atkins	
1985		Joseph Wagner	2003	John Donaldson, Thad Rogers	U.S. CHESS HALL OF FAME		
1986		Lincoln Chess Foundation, Glenn Meachum, Ben Munson, Sunil Weeramantry	2004	Jay Bonin	1986	Reuben Fine, Robert Fischer, Isaac Kashdan, George Koltanowski, Frank Marshall, Paul Morphy, Harry Pillsbury, Sammy Reshevsky	
1987		Don Maddox, Charles Pashayan, Jules Stein	2005	Ralph Bowman	1987	Sam Loyd, Wilhelm Steinitz	
1988		Harry Lyman	2006	Gus Gosselin, Fred Goldhirsch/Doug Bellizzi, David McEnulty, Jerry Weikel	1988	Arpad Elo, Hermann Helms	
1991		Imre Konig, George Leighton	2007	Fred and Carol Kleist, Gordon Barrett, Stephen Dann	1989	I.A. Horowitz	
1992		David Mehler	SCHOLASTIC SERVICE			1990	Hans Berliner
1993		Dale Brandreth, Allen Kaufman	1994	Harry Sabine	1991	John Collins, Arthur Dake	
1994		Randall Hough, Paul Shannon	1995	Ron Lohrman	1992	Arnold Denker, Gisela Gresser, George MacKenzie	
1995		Frank Brady, Billy Colias, Ernest Marx	1996	Lee LaFrese	1993	Pal Benko, Victor Palciauskas	
1996		Paul Gold, Myron Lieberman	1997	Robert Ferguson	1994	Arthur Bisguier, Robert Byrne, Larry Evans	
1997		Alan Sherman, Randall Swanson, Jim Warren	1998	Sunil Weeramantry	1995	Ed Edmondson	
1998		James Bolton, Richard Verber	1999	Faneuil Adams (posthumously)	1996	Fred Reinfeld	
1999		Selby Anderson, Erv Sedlock, Ken Smith (posthumously)	2000	Jack Mallory	1997	Kenneth Harkness	
2000		No award	2001	Beatriz Marinello	1998	Dr. Milan Vukcevic	
2001		Gary Prince	2002	Dewain Barber	1999	Benjamin Franklin	
2002		Joe Ippolito, Ollie LaFreniere, Beatriz Marinello	2003	Ralph Bowman	2000	Edmar Mednis	
2003		Mike Nolan, Harry Sabine	2004	GM Arnold Denker	2001	Lubomir Kavalek	
2004		Sunil Weeramantry		Gilbert Unified School District #41, Gilbert, Arizona	2002	Donald Byrne	
2005		Herman Drenth	2005	Elizabeth Tejada	2003	Lev Alburt, Walter Browne	
2006		Jim Brotsos, Jon Haskel, Wilder Wadford, Jon and Barbara Fortune	2006	Tim Redman	2004	Anatoly Lein, Leonid Shamkovich	
2007		Richard Shorman, John Hilbert, Dan Heisman, Grant Perks	2007	GM Susan Polgar; Brownsville, TX School District	2006	Yasser Seirawan	
ORGANIZER OF THE YEAR			SPECIAL SERVICES			2007	Irving Chernev, Jeremy Gaige
1994		Bill Goichberg	1983	Hal Bogner, Arnold Denker, Thad Rogers, Hyman Rogosin, Eric Schiller, Don Schultz	2006	Special Friend of USCF	
1995		Al Losoff	1985	Lackland Bloom, Martin Morrison	2006	Phil Haley	
1996		Nick Conticello, Manhattan Chess Club	1986	Fred Gruenberg, Richard O'Keefe, C. Norman Peacor, Ron Warnicki	2007	Garry Kasparov	
			1988	Fred Townsend, David Welsh			

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 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 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 separate 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 Future National Events 2007-2011 as of June 1, 2007

2007

U.S. Open

July 28-August 5
Cherry Hill, New Jersey

U.S. Senior Open

August 14-19
Palm Springs, California

U.S. Armed Forces Championship

October 6-8
Arlington, Virginia

National Youth Action

November 16-18
St. Louis, Missouri

National Scholastic K-12/ Collegiate Championship

December 7-9
Houston, Texas

2008

National Junior High (K9)

April 4-6
Dallas, Texas

National Senior High (K12)

April 18-20
Atlanta, Georgia

Burt Lerner National Elementary (K-6) Championship

May 9-11
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

U.S. Amateur West

May 24-26
Tucson, Arizona

U.S. Open

August 2-10
Dallas, Texas

National Scholastic K-12/ Collegiate Championship

December 12-14
Lake Buena Vista, Florida

2009

Supernationals IV

April 3-5
Nashville, Tennessee

National Scholastic K-12/ Collegiate Championship

December 11-13
Dallas, Texas

2010

National Elementary (K-6) Championship

May 7-9
Atlanta, Georgia

2011

National Elementary (K-6) Championship

May 6-8
Dallas, Texas

NOTES

2007 U.S. Open Schedule

July 28 – to August 5

	Saturday, July 28		9 AM	Workshop: Rules
10 AM	U.S. Five Minute (Blitz) Championship begins		9 AM	Executive Board meeting, closed
7:30 PM	U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 1		9 AM	FIDE Trainer's Seminar
8 PM	U.S. Open Quick Schedule, Round 1		10 AM	U.S. Open 5-day schedule, Round 3
			10 AM	Executive Board meeting, open
	Sunday, July 29		11 AM	Denker/Polgar, Round 5
9 AM	Denker/Polgar reception		11 AM	Workshop: Ratings
9 AM	U.S. Scholastic Open Registration begins		12 Noon	U.S. Open Quads begins
11 AM	Denker/Polgar, Round 1		12 Noon	U.S. Open 6-day schedule, Round 5
12 Noon	U.S. Scholastic Open Begins		1 PM	U.S. Open 5-day schedule, Round 4
7:30 PM	U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 2		1 PM	Workshops: Chess in Education, Chess Trust, FIDE Trainers Seminar
8 PM	U.S. Open Quick Schedule, Round 2		3:30 PM	U.S. Open 5-day schedule, Round 5
			4 PM	Workshop: Hall of Fame, Forum Oversight
	Monday, July 30		7:30 PM	U.S. Open Traditional (Rd. 6), 6-Day (Rd. 6), 5-day (Rd. 6) — Merged
9 AM	U.S. Open Bughouse Registration begins		8 PM	U.S. Open Quick Schedule, Round 6
9 AM	U.S. Open Quads Registration begins			
11 AM	Denker/Polgar, Round 2			Friday, August 3
12 Noon	U.S. Open Bughouse begins		9 AM	U.S. Open Quads Registration begins
12 Noon	U.S. Open Quads begins		9 AM	Workshops: Women's Chess, Internet Chess/MIS
7:30 PM	U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 3		10 AM	Workshop: Bylaws
8 PM	U.S. Open Quick Schedule, Round 3		11 AM	Denker/Polgar, Round 6
			11 AM	Workshop: Senior Chess
	Tuesday, July 31		12 Noon	U.S. Open Quads Begins
9 AM	U.S. Open Quads Registration		1 PM	Workshops: Finance/LMA, How to Organize a Tournament
11 AM	Denker/Polgar, Round 3		2 PM	Workshop: Correspondence Chess
12 Noon	U.S. Open Quads begins		3 PM	Workshops: International Affairs, Professional Players Health and Benefits Fund
12 Noon	U.S. Open 6-day Schedule, Round 1		4 PM	Staff Forum & Membership Meeting
7:30 PM	U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 4		5 PM (approx.)	Denker/Polgar Awards Ceremony
7:30 PM	U.S. Open 6-day schedule, Round 2		7:30 PM	U.S. Open Traditional (Rd. 7), Quick (Rd. 7) — Merged
8 PM	U.S. Open Quick Schedule, Round 4		8 PM	President's Reception
	Wednesday, August 1			Saturday, August 4
Early morning:	U.S. Open Golf Tournament		9 AM	Delegates' meeting
9 AM	U.S. Open Quads Registration begins		9 AM	U.S. Open Crazy I-T Registration
9 AM	Workshop: Denker		12 Noon	U.S. Open Crazy I-T Begins
9 AM	FIDE Trainer's Seminar		12 Noon	USCF Awards Luncheon & Hall of Fame Induction
10 AM	Workshops: Polgar, Chess Journalists of America		2 PM	Delegates' meeting resumes
11 AM	Denker/Polgar, Round 4		7:30 PM	U.S. Open, Round 8 — Merged
11 AM	Workshops: College Chess, Publications			
12 Noon	U.S. Open Quads begins			Sunday, August 5
12 Noon	U.S. Open 6-day schedule, Round 3		9 AM	Delegates' meeting
1 PM	Workshop: Outreach		3 PM	U.S. Open, Round 9
2 PM	Workshop: States		3 PM	Executive Board meeting, open
3 PM	Workshops: TDCC, Scholastic		6 PM	Executive Board meeting, closed
4 PM	Workshops: TDCC/Problem Solving			
6:30 PM	U.S. Open 5-day Schedule, Round 1			Monday, August 6
7:30 PM	U.S. Open Traditional Schedule, Round 5		9 AM	Executive Board meeting
7:30 PM	U.S. Open 6-day schedule, Round 4			
8 PM	U.S. Open Quick Schedule, Round 5			
9 PM	U.S. Open 5-day schedule, Round 2			
	Thursday, August 2			
9 AM	U.S. Open Quads Registration begins			

2007 U.S. Open Side Events

July 28, U.S. Five Minute Championship. 7 Round, double Swiss (14 games), white and black with each opponent, G/5. Last year this event had 88 entries with a \$40 entry fee and a guaranteed prize fund of \$2,000. This year we will return 90% of the entry fee in prizes. Do the math! A perfect way to complement your U.S. Open experience. Entry on site only.

July 29, U.S. Scholastic Open. 4-SS, G/30. Shake off the summer cobwebs and get ready for the upcoming school year. Entry fee is just \$20; on site entry only, 9am-11:30 am. First round begins at noon. Trophies for the top five, and for first at each grade level, K-12. One

section – just like the big guys!

July 30, U.S. Open Bughouse. Teams of two play 5-SS at G/5 with 80% of entry fees returned in cash prizes. Entry fee per team is \$20, on site entries only. Register between 9 am and 11:30 am. Fun begins at noon.

July 30, 31, August 1, 2, 3, U.S. Open Quads. G/30. Just enough to whet your appetite for the evening's round. Register on site only, 9 am-11:30 am. Entry fee is \$15; \$40 to first in each quad.

August 4, U.S. Open Crazy Individual-Team Tournament. Enter on site only 9am-11:30 am. Entry fee is only \$5. New teams chosen each round. Fun begins at noon. G/30, 4-SS. Your score and the team score gives you your score for the round. Total points after 4 rounds determines the winner. Trophies for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

August 1, 12th U.S. Open Golf Tournament. For complete details and registration, contact Mike Wojcio at chessgolfmarathons@verizon.net.

Schedule for 2007 U.S. Open Workshops & Committee Meetings

Time	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	
WEDNESDAY August 1		Chess Journalists	College Chess	Lunch		States	TDCC	TDCC/ Problem Solving	
	Denker	Polgar	Publications		Outreach	Scholastic Committee			
	FIDE Trainers Seminar				FIDE Trainers Seminar				
THURSDAY August 2	Executive Board (closed)	Executive Board (open)		Lunch	Chess in Education				
	Rules Workshop		Ratings		Chess Trust		Hall of Fame		
	FIDE Trainers Seminar				FIDE Trainers Seminar				
									Forum Oversight
FRIDAY August 3	Women's Chess	Bylaws		Lunch	Finance/LMA		International Affairs	Staff Forum & Membership Meeting	
	Internet Chess/MIS		Senior Chess		How to Organize a Tournament	Correspondence Chess			
							Prof. Players Health & Benefits Fund		
SATURDAY August 4	Delegates Meeting			Lunch	Delegates Meeting				
SUNDAY August 5	Delegates Meeting								

Executive Board meeting Sunday evening

**Sunday, July 29: Denker Tournament of High School Champions & Polgar Invitational for Girls Reception
9 AM - Terrace Room**

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

Friday, August 3: President's Reception, 8:00 PM - Terrace Room

Saturday, August 4: Hall of Fame Induction and USCF Awards Luncheon, Noon - Riverside Pavilion