

Proceedings of the 2012 USCF Board of Delegates Meeting

August 11-12, Vancouver, Washington

The 2012 Delegates' Meeting was held at the Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, Washington August 11-12. This document is an overview of the meeting and includes the official documentation of motions. More details and the discussions may be found on the sound files located on the USCF website.

At 9:00a.m. Saturday, August 11th USCF President Ruth Haring called the meeting to order. She read the names of those from the chess community who had passed away in the last year (attachment 1). A moment of silence was observed in their memory.

President Haring asked Chief Operations Officer, Assistant Executive Director, and Director of National Events, Pat Smith to call the roll. Secretary Mike Nietman reported that 83 Delegates were present which created a quorum. (attachment 2)

Haring introduced the first item of business.

DM12- 01 (ADM 12- 01, Ruth Haring, CA-N) The Delegates re-elect as Delegates at Large those whose terms are expiring or have expired and are present in person at this meeting: Al Lawrence, Harold Winston and Rachel Lieberman. **PASSED**

Harold Winston of Illinois made the next motion. A correction to the state listed for John McCrary was made by Secretary Nietman and accepted by Winston.

DM12-02 (ADM 12-02, Harold Winston, DAL- IL): Move that the minutes of the 2011 Delegates meeting as distributed to the Delegates present in Vancouver, with noted correction that the state listed for John McCrary should be South Carolina, be accepted. **PASSED**

Bill Goichberg was recognized and introduced ADM12-03.

DM12-03 (ADM 12-03, Bill Goichberg, NY) Move that Mike Nolan be appointed parliamentarian. **PASSED**

President Haring then asked for approval of the advance agenda and standing rules. Mike Nietman presented ADMs from the membership meeting for inclusion. Harold Winston asked that omitted resolutions from the Rules Committee be included, Allen Priest requested a correction to the numbering order on page 20 be made.

DM12-04 (ADM 12-04, Ruth Haring, CA-N) Move the Delegates approve the advance agenda as amended for the 2012 Delegates' Meeting and the standing rules as printed in the Delegates' Call. **PASSED**

Harold Winston introduced the next motion. He noted that ratification means we agree the Board had the legal authority to do what it did, whether we agree with the action or not.

DM12-05 (ADM 12-05, Harold Winston, IL) The Delegates ratify all actions of the Executive Board made available to the Delegates present in Vancouver in the form of either Executive Board Resolutions or Executive Board Minutes since the conclusion of the 2011 Delegates meeting. **PASSED**

Reports of Officers and Staff

Report of the President

Ruth Haring began her President's Report of "good news and more good news" by thanking everyone for making the 2012 U.S. Open a 515-player tournament. She briefly outlined accomplishments such as a second year operating in the black; an Executive Board unified in its mission; strong membership revenue; and the opportunity to invest revenue in support of our mission. Haring commented on the role of Scholastic Chess in creating talented young players; the importance of trying new ideas; growing the number of women chess players; the excellence of our 59 young, 2500+ players led by GM Hikaru Nakamura who will play in the Olympiad; upcoming FIDE meetings; and supporting the Olympiad through donations to the Chess Trust. An online chess platform rollout; continued membership initiatives; marketing and publicity programs; financial discipline; achieving 501(c)3 status; and upgrading technology in the office and on the web are President Haring's key initiatives for the coming year.

Report of the Executive Director

Executive Director, Bill Hall prefaced his report with compliments to Vancouver and the surrounding chess communities in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Northwest Chess for such an excellent venue and welcoming atmosphere. He then recapped his tenure with USCF commenting that the federation is stronger and more unified than before the recent legal challenges. Hall suggested a chess renaissance is occurring. Now is the time to move forward with our mission of promoting and growing chess by increasing the perceived value of USCF membership, strengthening our image, promoting our brand and obtaining partners and sponsors. Various tools including promotional memberships are being used to this end.

Report of the Vice-President of Finance

Vice-President of Finance, Allen Priest, covered the 2012-2013 Budget in his report. The 2012 fiscal year ended with a \$249,000 surplus, membership revenues up, and debts being paid down. Priest stated that the federation will continue with a business model in which dues are the primary revenue source. Legal fees will be paid off by the end of August 2012. A new printing contract negotiated by CFO Joe Nanna resulted in lower costs and enhanced services. On the expense side, Priest said health insurance costs, compensation increases, personnel additions, and the need to refresh technology in the rating system, office and website will necessitate spending. Next year's

SuperNationals is expected to generate revenue equal to that of the three traditional spring scholastic events.

Priest answered a question from Andrew Rea (VA) regarding the sources of USCF revenue. He then moved for approval of the 2012-2013 Budget.

DM 12-06 (ADM 12-06, Executive Board) The 2012-2013 budget as presented by the Vice-President of Finance is adopted. **PASSED**

Report of the Director of Publications

It was a Pinocchio Year, the year Chess Life became a real full-color magazine, announced USCF Director of Publications, Dan Lucas, as he reported on the enhanced features and cost savings of the new publishing contract. Lucas also encouraged readers to respond to the new *Chess Life* feature areas - *Faces Across the Board*, *Knights Tour* and *My Best Move*.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. CHESS TRUST

Trust Chairman Harold Winston stated that the Chess Trust is a 501c3 Trust that supports chess nationwide. A number of other Trust officers are present: President Jim Eade, Secretary Myron Lieberman, VP for chess in education Tim Redman, and scholastic VP Sunil Weeramantry, as well as Managing Director Barbara DeMaro. This past year we gave out 210 sets and boards to schools across the country and spent \$11,000 for American players in the World Youth Championships. We support the Denker and Barber tournaments and are proud the Denker had 48 entries and the Barber, in its 2nd year had 47.

We support the Scholar Chessplayer Program that distributed 5 \$1500 scholarships to college based on chess and academics; the Trust paid for \$5000 and the National Scholastic Chess Foundation of Sunil Weeramantry paid for \$2500 of the total.

The Trust co-sponsored the Second Koltanowski Conference on Chess and Education with the University of Texas at Dallas held in November and organized by Tim Redman, assisted by Alexey Root and Jim Stallings. This was very successful and drew educators nationwide and from Europe and Latin America.

On September 9, 2011, I inducted GMs Boris Gulko and Andy Soltis into the US Chess Hall of Fame at the re-opening of the World Chess Hall of Fame and Sidney Samole Museum in St. Louis. The new Museum is the result of the work of Rex and Jeanne Sinquefield.

Al Lawrence supervised the move of artifacts from Miami to St. Louis and made sure they all arrived safely in St. Louis. All prior donors to the Miami museum are recognized in St. Louis.

Trustees Sinquefield, Eade, Redman, Lieberman, Weeramantry and Shane Samole attended the opening, as did Managing Director DeMaro, as well as USCF President Ruth Haring, Executive Director Bill Hall, and VP for Finance Allen Priest. The Museum is open Wednesdays through Saturdays, but will be closed Aug 15-27 for installation of

a new exhibit. We hope to have the induction of Alex Yermolinsky into the US Chess Hall of Fame at the Museum in October or November.

I thank Booz, Allen, Hamilton for their continued support of the Final Four in College Chess and thank Mike Hoffpaur of Virginia and Jim Stallings of Texas for making the connection with Booz, Allen.

The Trust will support the US Senior Open this year as well as women's chess. The Trust will also handle all 501c3 donations earmarked for the US Team in the Olympiad and we have an excellent team led by Nakamura and Kamsky that deserves our support. I will accept donations by cash, check and credit card.

REPORT OF THE FIDE DELEGATE AND ZONAL PRESIDENT

President Haring announced that FIDE Delegate, Michael Khodarkovsky, was unable to attend but had sent his report (see attachment 3).

FIDE Zonal President, Francisco Guadalupe, gave account of US player accomplishments on the international stage with many new GM's, IM's, IA's, FA's and IO's being named. He briefly discussed pending titles; meetings with FIDE about rules; the upcoming FIDE Congress; and top players wanting to change their federation. He assessed US participation in the Olympiad; World Youth Championship; Women's World Championship, World Senior Championship as well as Continental, Pan-American and North American events. In response to questions from the floor, Guadalupe defined FIDE rated events and Norm events.

Due to family obligations, FIDE Vice President, Beatriz Marinello, was unable to attend. No report was made.

ELECTION OF DELEGATE APPOINTED COMMITTEES

President Haring moved on to the election of Delegate appointed committees.

DM12-07 (Allen Priest, KY): Move that the Delegates elect as the Audit Committee, Mike Mulford (GA), Bill Brock (IL) and Bob Howe (MO). **PASSED**

DM12-08 (Harold Winston, IL; Guy Hoffman, WI): Move that the Delegates elect as the Bylaws Committee, Myron Lieberman (AZ), Richard Koepcke (CA-N), Randy Hough (CA-S), Gerald Larson (AL), John McCrary (SC), Robert Persante (FL), David Mehler (MD), Joe Lux (NJ), Gary Kitts (MI), Sevan Muradian (IL), Guy Hoffman (WI), Harold Winston (IL) and Mike Mulford (GA). **PASSED**

Committee Chairman, Myron Lieberman, asked for a delay in naming the Election Committee.

DM12-09 (Ken Sloan, AL) Move that the Delegates elect as the Ethics Committee, Selby Anderson (TX), Richard Buchanan (CO), Roger Gotschall (IA), Jim Gray (OK), James Mennella (NJ), Alex Relyea (NH), Ken Sloan (AL), Harold Stenzel (NY), and Andy Thall (TX). **PASSED**

DM12-10 (Tim Redman, TX) Move that the Delegates elect as the LMA Committee, Frank Camaratta (AL), Steve Doyle (NJ), Leroy Dubeck (NJ), Peter Dyson (FL), Beatriz Marinello (NY), Randy Bauer (IA), Tim Redman (TX), Fred Townsend (CT), Charles D. Unruh (OK), and Harold Winston (IL). **PASSED**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice President of Finance, Allen Priest made a brief report for the Professional Players Health and Benefits Committee recounting benefits paid. He answered questions about possible future benefits from Bill Brock (IL).

OLD BUSINESS

DM12-11 (ADM 12-07, Harold Winston, IL) Pursuant to Article III, Section 10 of the Bylaws, the Delegates have reviewed the promotional memberships offered by the Executive Board in 2011-2012 and authorize their continuation. **PASSED**

Rachel Lieberman (AZ) brought the next item to the floor urging its passage. Tom Brownscombe (NV) stated that the Scholastic Committee supports the motion unanimously and the Scholastic Workshop approved it by acclamation. Harold Winston answered procedural questions regarding Delegates at Large.

DM12-12 (ADM 12-08, Rachel Lieberman, AZ; Myron Lieberman, AZ; Harold Winston, IL) Move that Dewain Barber (CA-S, ID# 10467454) be elected as a Delegate at Large. **PASSED by ¾ Majority**

Allen Priest and Harold Winston, representing the Bylaws Committee and Governance Task Force, introduced the next motion, which would revamp the governance structure of the organization. The motion had been referred for consideration at last year's Delegate meeting. On the advice of counsel some changes were necessary and amendments to the motion were accepted as friendly and a vote was taken.

DM12-13 (ADM 12-08A, DM11-18 Allen Priest, KY; Guy Hoffman, WI; Richard Koepcke, CA-N; Myron Lieberman DAL-AZ; Sevan Muradian, IL; Gary Walters, OH; Bill Goichberg, NY; Ruth Haring, CA-N; Brian Mottershead, MA)

The following amendments to the bylaws are made to be consistent with the designation of the Executive Board as the Board of Directors.

DACI 49 shall be amended to remove the first sentence. The revised DACI 49 would read: Delegates & Financial Reports. Any Delegate has the right to access the official

monthly financial reports. The USCF may charge Delegates for the costs incurred in accessing and copying the official monthly financial reports

The remaining items are to be consistent with the above changes.

Article IX, section 12 is amended to read: Each member of the Board of Delegates, Executive Board, 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 delegate, 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 delegate, 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 delegate, 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 delegates 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 delegates 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 delegate, 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 delegate, 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 delegate, 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.

Article IX, section 13 is amended to read: 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 Directors 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.

Article IX, section 14 is amended to read: Each director, officer, delegate, 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.

Note – no other rights duties or obligations of the Delegates or the Executive Board are changed in this proposal.

Sponsors rationale: The current USCF structure with the Delegates as the legal board of directors is unwieldy. The delegates meet infrequently, are not elected under OMOV, and change often due to resignations. This proposal changes the legal structure of the USCF, but maintains Delegate control of the bylaws and certain committee appointments. **PASSED AS AMENDED BY 2/3 MAJORITY**

Priest went on to explain the purpose of the various clauses in the terms of the trust. He responded to questions from the floor and clarified numerous points of the proposal. Harold Winston reported that both the Bylaws Committee and the Bylaws Workshop attendees were in favor of the changes. Gerald Larson then moved to combine motions ADM12-09 through ADM12-13 all of which deal with the governance changes.

DM 12-14 (NDM12-01) (Gerald Larson, AL) Move to combine ADM12-09 through ADM12-13. **PASSED**

Sevan Muradian suggested that a roll call vote be taken for the records. Acceptable, expedient voting methods were outlined by Parliamentarian Nolan. A procedure was accepted by the Chair and implemented. Ten minutes were allotted for the vote.

DM12-15 (ADM12-09) (Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL)

The Delegates direct that the Executive Board and Executive Director cause a trust to be established. The trust shall have the following terms:

1. The trust shall be called the USCF Life Member Asset Trust.
2. The United States of America Chess Federation (USCF) is the beneficiary of the trust.
3. The trust may be revoked or amended by the USCF Board of Delegates by a 2/3 vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or Special Delegates Meeting provided that a proposal to revoke is included in the Delegates' advance agenda.
4. Upon the dissolution of the USCF the trust is to be dissolved and the assets distributed in the same manner as provided for the assets of the USCF in its Articles of Incorporation.
5. There shall be 11 trustees. The Trustees shall elect a chair and a vice-chair.
6. The current USCF Vice President-Finance shall be one of the trustees.
7. The remaining trustees shall be appointed by the USCF Board of Delegates for a term of one year from the date of appointment or until their successors are appointed.
8. The USCF Board of Delegates may replace/remove the trustees at a special delegates meeting called in the manner prescribed in the USCF bylaws for such meetings.
9. Any vacancies amongst the Trustees may be filled by appointment made by the remaining Trustees. Such appointment will require a 2/3 affirmative vote of the Trustees.
10. The purpose of the trust is to provide income to the USCF to provide services to those who have purchased life and sustaining memberships in the USCF after December 31, 2007. The Trustees are to prudently invest the trust assets with this goal in mind.
11. The trust may own real estate that is occupied by the USCF. The Trustees need not require the USCF to pay rent for such property.
12. The Trustees may encumber any trust assets by a majority vote and only with the prior approval of the USCF Board of Directors, and any mortgage, loan, or borrowing agreement must be signed by at least two Trustees, one of whom must be the USCF Vice President-Finance.
13. The Trustees cannot sell, encumber, or mortgage, in any fashion, any land and /or buildings, owned by the trust without the prior approval by the USCF Board of Delegates at a regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose.
14. The Trustees may make loans to the USCF provided that the USCF Executive Director certifies that there is a need for such borrowing, the Executive Board approves of the borrowing, and a majority of the Trustees approves of such borrowing.
15. The trust shall be funded with the assets currently under the supervision of the USCF Life Member Asset Committee.
16. The trust may receive additional assets at any time from the sale of USCF Life or other multi-year memberships. The beneficiary will transfer to the trust an amount for each such membership as agreed with the Trustees no less than quarterly for memberships sold in the prior quarter.

17. The Trustees will transfer to the USCF on a monthly basis an amount sufficient to provide services to those who have purchased and sustaining memberships in the USCF after December 31, 2007.

18. In the event that the Trustees and the USCF Board of Directors fail to reach agreement as to the amounts to be transferred to the USCF, the matter shall be subject to arbitration with the costs to be borne by the USCF.

Rationale: If the Executive Board is to be the corporate board of directors, the present structure of the Life Member Asset Committee will not work. The bylaws allow for the LMA committee to legally bind the USCF through the purchase and sale of investments and other property, as well as providing for their participation in the borrowing of funds. To have this type of power Illinois law requires that such a committee must be appointed by the board of directors and must be comprised of a majority of corporate directors. If the committee retains its present structure, it will have no legal authority to act after the EB becomes the board of directors.

Even if the EB does not become the board of directors this is a proper step to take. Moving these assets into trust will limit the ability of someone who sues the USCF to gain access to the LMA funds as they will not be able to attach trust assets in satisfaction of a judgment.

COMBINED BY DM12-14 (ADM 12-10, Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL)
Article IX section 10 of the USCF bylaws is hereby replaced effective upon the establishment of the Life Member Asset Trust. The current language is deleted and the new Article IX section 10 will read:

When a trust has been established for the management of Life Member assets, the trust can only be revoked or amended by a 2/3 vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or Special Delegates' Meeting provided that a proposal to revoke is included in the Delegates' advance agenda. Upon revocation all assets will revert to the USCF.

Rationale: This article provides for borrowing from the LMA. It is now part of the terms of the LMA Trust and is not necessary to be in the bylaws.

COMBINED BY DM12-14 (ADM 12-11, Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL)
Article VII, Section 3, part A, item 5 is hereby repealed effective upon establishment of the Life Member Asset Trust.

Rationale: This article establishes the Life Member Asset Committee. This committee is replaced by the LMA Trust.

COMBINED BY DM12-14 (ADM 12-12, Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL)
Effective upon the establishment of the Life Member Asset Trust, Article VII, Section 3, Part D is amended to read: No individual member can chair more than one of the following at the same time: Audit Committee, Finance Committee, or the Life Member Asset Trust Board of Trustees.

Rationale: The language needs to conform to the existence of the LMA Trust.

COMBINED BY DM12-14 (ADM 12-13, Allen Priest, KY; Harold Winston, IL) Article VII, Section 3, Part E is amended to read: No individual other than the Vice President–Finance can serve on more than two of the following at the same time: Audit Committee, Finance Committee, or the Life Member Asset Trust Board of Trustees.

Rationale: The language needs to conform to the existence of the LMA Trust. Since we are changing that, we might as well make the bylaws consistent on the title of the VP-Finance. **COMBINED MOTION PASSED 70-3 by 2/3 MAJORITY**(see attachment 4 for roll call vote on DM12-15 which is ADM12-9, 12-10, 12-11, 12-12, 12-13 combined)

DM12-16 (NDM12-2, Allen Priest, KY) Move to suspend the rules and elect trustees for the new Life Member Asset Trust. **PASSED**

DM12-17 (NDM12-3, Tim Redman TX) Move that the recently elected LMA committee members and the Vice-President of Finance (Frank Camaratta, Steve Doyle, Leroy Dubeck, Peter Dyson, Beatriz Marinello, Randy Bauer, Tim Redman, Fred Townsend, Charles Unruh, and Harold Winston) be elected as Trustees for the new LMA Trust. **PASSED**

Allen Priest moved to combine ADM 12-14 and ADM12-15 since they are related. One updates the Articles of Incorporation the other changes the Bylaws. James Menella, Bill Brock, Tony Pabon, Myron Lieberman and Harold Winston addressed the issue.

DM12-18 (NDM12-4, Allen Priest, KY) Move to combine ADM 12-14 and ADM 12-15. **PASSED**

Priest went on to explain changes to the original ADM12-14 which were a product of Committee and Workshop meetings. He addressed both motions. Harold Winston reported on the results of Workshop and Committee votes.

DM12-19 (NDM12-5) (Sevan Muradian, IL) Move to have a roll call vote on the combined motion. **PASSED**

President Haring consented. Additional discussion took place involving James Menella, David Kuhns, Gerald Larson, Mike Nolan, Harold Winston, Sevan Muradian, Randy Bauer, and Jeff Roland.

DM12-20 (NDM 12-6 Bill Brock, IL) Move to call the question. **PASSED**

Delegates were instructed, by President Haring, that a 20 minute break and voting period would commence.

COMBINED by DM 12-18 (ADM 12-14) (Allen Priest, KY and Harold Winston, IL) (as amended)

The Board of Delegates in their capacity as the Board of Directors hereby directs the Executive Director to cause the USCF Articles of Incorporation to be amended effective January 1, 2013 as follows:

The Board of Delegates shall be the legislative body of the USCF. The Board of Delegates shall be the authoritative body of the Federation to determine the policies that shall govern the USCF in all of its activities. Among other things, it shall have the authority to amend the Bylaws and the USCF Official Rules of Chess, approve the sale, exchange or other transfer of real estate owned by the USCF, approve any borrowing secured by real estate owned by the USCF, approve the annual budget, establish, amend or revoke one or more trusts for the management of Life Member assets and point or remove one or more Trustees for the purpose of administering said trusts, and supervise the ethics compliance process of the USCF.

AND:

The Executive Board shall be the Board of Directors. It is the administrative and managing body of the USCF and is vested with full power to conduct all business of the Federation, subject to the laws of the State of Illinois, the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws and the mandates of the Board of Delegates.

AND:

Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation that are proposed by the Executive Board must be approved by a vote of the voting members. The Board of Directors must present any such amendment for discussion at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Delegates before submitting such amendment to the voting members. The voting procedure will be as provided for in the bylaws of the corporation.

COMBINED by DM12-18 (ADM 12-15) (Allen Priest, KY and Harold Winston, IL)
Effective January 1, 2013

Article V, section 1 is amended to read: Responsibility. In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Delegates shall be the legislative body of the USCF. The Board of Delegates shall be the authoritative body of the Federation to determine the policies that shall govern the USCF in all of its activities. Among other things, it shall have the authority to amend the Bylaws and the USCF Official Rules of Chess, approve the annual budget, approve the sale of real estate owned by the USCF, approve any borrowing secured by real estate owned by the USCF establish, amend or revoke one or more trusts for the management of Life Member assets and appoint or remove one or more Trustees for the purpose of administering said trusts, and supervise the ethics compliance process of the Federation.

Effective January 1, 2013 Article VI, section 2 is amended to read: Responsibility. In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Executive Board shall be the Board of Directors which is the administrative and managing body of the USCF and is vested with full power to conduct all business of the Federation, subject to the laws of the State of Illinois, the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws and the mandates of the Board of Delegates.

Effective January 1, 2013 Article IV, section 7 is added to read: Amendments to Articles of Incorporation: In accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the approval of the Voting Members is required to amend the Articles of Incorporation. The Board of Directors must present any such amendment for discussion at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Delegates before submitting such amendment to the Voting Members. Amendments will be approved if supported by a majority of the Voting Members who cast a vote on the amendment in an election that is called in accordance with the election provisions in the bylaws of the USCF.

COMBINED MOTION PASSED AS AMENDED 68-5 by 2/3 MAJORITY (see attachment 5 for roll call vote on DM12-18 which is ADM 12-14 and 12-15 combined)

Harold Winston introduced the next motion which had been referred last year to the Bylaws Committee. He suggested additional study was necessary including consultation with legal counsel and that the DM11-55 and ADM12-16 be reconsidered at the 2013 meeting.

DM12-21 (DM 11-55, Sandra Pahl, WI) Any person who has sued the USCF, or is in the process of suing, except if the Federation exceeds its authority, may not serve on any board or committee, nor be a Delegate from any state. **REFERRED TO BYLAWS for 2013**

DM12-22 (ADM 12-16) (USCF Bylaws Committee) Alternative to DM 11-55 Amend Article IX to add a new section: No party, nor any attorney representing a party, in litigation, arbitration, or administrative proceedings against the USCF may serve as a state Delegate or as a member of the Executive Board, except that members of the Executive Board may continue to serve if any such legal action is brought solely in his or her capacity as a member of the Executive Board.

No person who is an officer, director, partner, trustee, shareholder or member of an entity in litigation, arbitration, or administrative proceedings against the USCF can serve as a state Delegate or member of the Executive Board.

COMMENT: The Bylaws Committee preferred this alternative to DM 11-55. It does not apply to committee members and only deals with current litigation. It adds attorneys for parties opposing USCF and has an exception for Executive Board members suing in their capacity as an Executive Board member. There are some Bylaws Committee members who consider both versions possibly illegal, however. There is also at least one Delegate who believes any such restrictions should only apply to Executive Board Members, not to state Delegates. **REFERRED TO BYLAWS FOR 2013**

Rules Committee Chair, David Kuhns, brought item DM11-58 to the floor. He advised that the evaluation of the issue had not been completed and asked that the item be referred to Rules Committee and the Executive Board for 2013.

DM 12-23 (DM11-58, NDM11-14, Frank Camaratta, FL) With the proliferation of increasingly more powerful and sophisticated hand-held devices such as the I-Phone, Android among others (many will soon have 1-2 terabyte memories), USCF must start now to modify the USCF Rules of Chess to address and plan for these eventualities.

Be it moved that the Executive Board Task the Rules Committee (and others that might need to be involved) to study the issue and report back to the Executive Board for their review and report their findings and recommendations to the Delegates at the 2012 U.S. Open in Vancouver.

Computer consultation has already made correspondence chess less attractive to many players, myself included. **REFERRED TO RULES COMMITTEE AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR 2013**

NEW BUSINESS

Three motions were recommended by the Membership Meeting attendees. Guy Hoffman introduced the first giving reasoning and background. Harold Winston reported that the States and Bylaws workshops supported the motion. Duane Polich and Jennifer Skidmore spoke against the motion. Guy Hoffman and Bill Goichberg spoke for it. Tim Just called the motion and the vote was taken.

DM12-24 (ADM12-16A, Guy Hoffman, WI and the States Workshop): Remove acceptance requirement from USCF Delegate selection procedure. Amend Article V, section 4 by deleting the last two paragraphs. **PASSED BY 2/3 MAJORITY**

Harold Winston introduced the next item of business. He commented on the motion and advised that the poll results of the Bylaws Workshop and Membership Meeting were favorable to the motion. Mike Nolan offered a friendly amendment which was accepted by Winston. Discussion continued until Tim Just called the question.

DM12-25 (ADM 12-16B, Harold Winston, IL, Guy Hoffman WI, Gerald Larson AL): Amend Article IV, section 2 to read: Any USCF member EXCEPT THOSE WITH MEMBERSHIPS OF LESS THAN ONE YEAR, is entitled to register. **PASSED BY 2/3 MAJORITY**

Sunil Weeramantry then brought ADM12-16C to the floor reporting that attendees of the Membership Meeting strongly supported the motion. The resulting discussion included Ken Ballou, Tom Brownscombe, Richard Koepcke, Duane Polich, James Menella, David Kuhns, Dewain Barber, Steve Shutt, Mike Hoffpauir, Bill Hall, Franc Guadalupe, Hall Terry and Bill Brock. Motion to call the question failed and discussion continued, with Bill Goichberg, Bill Hall, Mike Nolan, Jennifer Skidmore, Mike Nietman, Polly Wright and Tim Just expressing their views. After several suggestions on wording were made, Tim Just moved that the motion be sent back to the Scholastic Council for rewording and be addressed as first item of business on Sunday.

DM12-26 (NDM12-7, Tim Just, IL) Moved to delay discussion on ADM 12-16C to first order of business on Sunday, August 12. **PASSED**

At this point Mike Nietman invited everyone to attend the 2013 U.S. Open to be held in Madison Wisconsin. He handed out information packets.

DM12-27 (ADM 12-16C, Sunil Weeramantry, NY; Tom Brownscombe, NV; Myron Lieberman, AZ; Rachel Lieberman, AZ; Harold Winston, IL; Steven Shutt, PA; Dewain Barber, CA-S; Russell Harwood, TX; Roger Gotschall, IA; Polly Wright, NY; Beatriz Marinello, NY; Tim Redman, TX; James Stallings, TX; Michael Atkins, VA; Mike Nietman, WI; Gary Gaiffe, TX; Bill Goichberg, NY; Mike Nolan, NE; Ken Ballou, MA; Mike Hoffpaur, VA; Jay Stallings, CA-S)

When taking entries for all National Scholastic Chess tournaments with “under” sections, the USCF will require players to disclose whether they have one or more ratings in other over the board rating system(s). The USCF may use this rating information to determine section and prize eligibility in accordance with USCF rules 28D and 28E. This policy will take effect immediately and will be in effect for the 2013 SuperNationals and all future USCF national scholastic tournaments that have “under” sections.

Rationale: There are areas of the country in which many scholastic tournaments are being held that are not submitted to the USCF for rating. As a result, some players come to the national scholastic tournaments with ratings that do not reflect their current playing strength. In order to insure fair competition, we need to be able to use all available information about these players’ true playing strength. **PASSED AS AMENDED**

Isabelle Minoofar of the Women’s Chess Committee introduced the next item regarding the creation of a girl’s invitational tournament. Debate of the topic included input from Bill Hall, Bill Goichberg, Tom Brownscombe, Dewain Barber, Jennifer Skidmore, Bill Brock, Jeff Roland, Andrew Rea, Jim Ulrich, and Polly Wright. Bill Hall then offered a friendly amendment which was accepted, to simply establish the tournament with details to be worked out by the Executive Board, Women’s Chess Committee and office. Boyd Reed, David Kuhns, Allen Priest continued the discussion until Tim Just called the question and a vote was taken.

DM12-28 (ADM 12-16D, Isabelle Minoofar for Women’s Chess Committee) Move to create a Girls (K-12) Invitational Tournament. **PASSED AS AMENDED**

Mike Nolan presented the next item which clarifies wording in the Bylaws regarding membership benefits. Harold Winston reported the polls in both the Bylaws Committee meeting and Bylaws Workshop favored the motion.

DM12-29 (ADM 12-17, Harold Winston, IL; Mike Nolan, NE) Amend Article III, section 11 of the Bylaws as follows:

(a) add "Life" to the first sentence so it shall read: "Each Life, Premium, Premium Young Adult, Senior, and Special member shall be entitled to receive a monthly paper copy of Chess Life."

(b) replace the phrase "Each Family Membership shall provide one hard copy Chess Life to the household plus one hard copy Chess Life for Kids" with "Each Family Membership shall provide one paper copy Chess Life to the household plus one paper copy Chess Life for Kids"

RATIONALE: This corrects technical errors. Life memberships are inadvertently omitted in the current wording. Other references in Article III, section 11 are to "paper copy" and changing the two references in the Family membership section to "paper copy" make it consistent with the other sections. **PASSED by 2/3 MAJORITY**

ADM12-18 was brought to the floor by Allen Priest who advised that the earlier financial reports complied with the requested information. Harold Winston asked that his name be added to the sponsors.

DM12-30 (ADM 12-18, Tim Redman DAL-TX; Leroy Dubeck DAL-NJ; Harold Winston, DAL-IL) The Delegates have reviewed the financial information about expenditures and the status of funds in the Players' Health and Benefits Fund and approved the report on those items, a report required by DM11-51. **PASSED**

Tim Just introduced the next motion stating he was in favor. Ken Ballou offered a friendly amendment. Mike Nolan explained implementation problems. Bill Hall spoke against the motion citing the problems involved and manpower needed to execute the motion. Discussion continued until the vote was called.

DM12-31 (ADM 12-19, Steve Immitt NY; Mike Atkins VA; Tim Just IL) The Delegates resolve to establish a special award for anyone who has held the Master title for at least 50 years, and also list every one of these players in EVERY issue of the annual USCF Yearbook, effective with the 2013 edition. **FAILED**

Jim Berry addressed the assembly regarding ADM12-20 stating that "retaining scholastic members is the Holy Grail of the future success of USCF". He encouraged passage. Ken Ballou spoke to the motion. Bill Goichberg referred to the Dues Structure Review Committee report and its recommendation. Tom Brownscombe reported the Scholastic Committee and Scholastic Workshop attendees indicated the topic needs more study and discussion. Allen Priest moved to send the motion to the Scholastic and Finance Committees for further study and a report in 2013. Steve Shutt spoke in favor of more study and suggested surveys be used. Sevan Muradian and Tony Pabon also took part in the discussion.

DM12-32 (ADM 12-20, Jim Berry, OK): Add to Article III, Section 8 the following: The USCF will offer any person under the age of 13 a USCF life membership which will receive publications online only upon payment of \$500.

Explanation: Upon receipt of the \$500, \$400 will go to LMA and \$100 will go to USCF operations. This member will have all of the rights and privileges of USCF membership except publications will be online only. The purpose of the ADM is to extend scholastic tournament activity into chess players teen age years. **REFERRED TO THE SCHOLASTIC AND FINANCE COMMITTEES FOR STUDY AND A REPORT IN 2013**

The meeting was recessed at 5:05pm

U.S. Chess Federation Board of Delegates Meeting, August 11-12, 2012 Vancouver, WA

Session 2, Sunday, August 12, 2012

Due to technical problems, portions of the audio and video of day 2 were lost. Motion resolutions are taken from the unofficial minutes of Mike Nolan, Joan Dubois and Executive Board Secretary, Mike Nietman.

ADM 12-21 (USCF Executive Board) Conflict of Interest Policy

The Delegates hereby adopt the following Conflict of Interest Policy to apply to all Delegates, Alternate Delegates and those appointed by the Delegates to committees of the US Chess Federation.

United States of America Chess Federation Conflict of Interest Policy

Article I

Purpose

The purpose of the conflict of interest policy is to protect this tax-exempt organization's (Organization) interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of an officer or director of the Organization or might result in a possible excess benefit transaction. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace any applicable state and federal laws governing conflict of interest applicable to nonprofit and charitable organizations.

Article II

Definitions

1. Interested Person

Any director, principal officer, or member of a committee with governing board delegated powers, who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person.

2. Financial Interest

A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family:

- a. An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which the Organization has a transaction or arrangement,*
- b. A compensation arrangement with the Organization or with any entity or individual with which the Organization has a transaction or arrangement, or*
- c. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which the Organization is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.*

Compensation includes direct and indirect remuneration as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial.

A financial interest is not necessarily a conflict of interest. Under Article III, Section 2, a person who has a financial interest may have a conflict of interest only if the appropriate governing board or committee decides that a conflict of interest exists.

Article III

Procedures

1. Duty to Disclose

In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the directors and members of committees with governing board delegated powers considering the proposed transaction or arrangement.

2. Determining Whether a Conflict of Interest Exists

After disclosure of the financial interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the interested person, he/she shall leave the governing board or committee meeting while the determination of a conflict of interest is discussed and voted upon. The remaining board or committee members shall decide if a conflict of interest exists.

3. Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest

a. An interested person may make a presentation at the governing board or committee meeting, but after the presentation, he/she shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the transaction or arrangement involving the possible conflict of interest.

b. The chairperson of the governing board or committee shall, if appropriate, appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement.

c. After exercising due diligence, the governing board or committee shall determine whether the Organization can obtain with reasonable efforts a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.

d. If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the governing board or committee shall determine by a majority vote of the disinterested directors whether the transaction or arrangement is in the Organization's best interest, for its own benefit, and whether it is fair and reasonable. In conformity with the above determination it shall make its decision as to whether to enter into the transaction or arrangement.

4. Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy

a. If the governing board or committee has reasonable cause to believe a member has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall inform the member of the basis for such belief and afford the member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.

b. If, after hearing the member's response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the governing board or committee determines the member has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action.

Article IV

Records of Proceedings

The minutes of the governing board and all committees with board delegated powers shall contain:

a. The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a financial interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the financial interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the governing board's or committee's decision as to whether a conflict of interest in fact existed.

b. The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, the content of the discussion, including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

Article V

Compensation

a. A voting member of the governing board who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from the Organization for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's compensation.

b. A voting member of any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from the Organization for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's compensation.

c. No voting member of the governing board or any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from the Organization, either individually or collectively, is prohibited from providing information to any committee regarding compensation.

Article VI

Annual Statements

Each director, principal officer and member of a committee with governing board delegated powers shall annually sign a statement which affirms such person:

a. Has received a copy of the conflicts of interest policy,

b. Has read and understands the policy,

c. Has agreed to comply with the policy, and

d. Understands the Organization is charitable and in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes.

Article VII

Periodic Reviews

To ensure the Organization operates in a manner consistent with charitable purposes and does not engage in activities that could jeopardize its tax-exempt status, periodic

reviews shall be conducted. The periodic reviews shall, at a minimum, include the following subjects:

a. Whether compensation arrangements and benefits are reasonable, based on competent survey information, and the result of arm's length bargaining.

b. Whether partnerships, joint ventures, and arrangements with management organizations conform to the Organization's written policies, are properly recorded, reflect reasonable investment or payments for goods and services, further charitable purposes and do not result in inurement, impermissible private benefit or in an excess benefit transaction.

Article VIII

Use of Outside Experts

When conducting the periodic reviews as provided for in Article VII, the Organization may, but need not, use outside advisors. If outside experts are used, their use shall not relieve the governing board of its responsibility for ensuring periodic reviews are conducted.

Rationale: The Internal Revenue service recommends that non-profit organizations adopt a conflict of interest policy. This is taken directly from the IRS instructions for Form 1023. The Executive Board has adopted it for itself and the USCF officers and believes that it is appropriate for the Delegates, Alternate delegates and committee members as well. Adopting the policy will add an administrative burden of sending the policy out to all parties annually and asking for them to return a signed statement as noted in Article VI. Since delegates and alternates must accept their positions, this can be done at the same time. Alternatively, it can be done at the annual meeting. Committee members appointed and present at the annual meeting can get the policy and sign the statement there. It will have to be sent to those not present at the annual meeting. **WITHDRAWN**

DM12-33 (ADM 12-22, Michael Atkins, VA) In January 2012, FIDE started rating blitz tournaments and will soon have a monopoly on blitz. In order to better compete with FIDE on the national and international stage, it is imperative that the USCF finally give its members a Blitz rating system.

The FIDE standards for rated blitz are "has at least five minutes, but less than 15 minutes, after adjustment for any increment or delay mode," will be rated. Thus, the time control of 3 minutes plus 2 second increment or all the moves in 5 minutes is acceptable. For players with existing FIDE ratings, their initial rating on both of the new lists will be that rating. Their rapid play or blitz ratings will be adjusted depending on their results in those forms of chess.

The method used to calculate ratings in each list will be the same as currently used, with the exception that the K factor used will in all cases be 20. For unrated players this has the effect their rating, if they score higher than 50%, becomes $R_a + 10$ for each half point above 50%, with a maximum of 400. If any player plays 35 games or more in a period, his new rating will be based solely on those games.

The USCF must be able to compete with FIDE and other organizations. Saying we don't need one more rating system, that blitz should be rated, that quick already is a flawed system are no longer good arguments. If someone doesn't like rated blitz or thinks it should not be rated, don't play, don't stop others from enjoying rated blitz and don't block the USCF from competing on the blitz stage and offering an alternative to FIDE blitz.

The only modification proposed from the FIDE time controls of 3-2 up to 15 is for the USCF, only 2 seconds delay or increment is allowed, minimum 5 minutes total and nothing over 8-2, so the acceptable time controls would be: 3-2, 4-2, 5-0, 5-2, 6-0, 6-2, 7-0, 7-2, 8-0 and 8-2.

Move that on January 1, 2013, the USCF offer a Blitz Rating system based on the above and the current USCF Rules of Blitz be the rules of play. Blitz rules 1A, 1B would need to be reworded.

After discussion, the motion was divided.

DM12-34 (ADM 12-22A Michael Atkins, VA): The USCF shall offer a Blitz Rating System. **Referred to Board and Ratings Committee with power to implement. PASSED BY 2/3 MAJORITY**

DM12-35 (ADM 12-22B, Michael Atkins, VA) That the wording defining Blitz play (Blitz 1A and 1B); (Ratable Games Table Rule 5c) be reworded the rate of play for Blitz Chess is $5 \leq MM + SS \leq 10$; $MM \geq 3$ and Quick Chess be revised to $11 \leq MM + SS \leq 29$ Exact wording to be assigned by the Board and the Rules Committee.

Referred to Board and Ratings Committee with power to implement. PASSED BY 2/3 MAJORITY

DM12-36 (ADM 12-23, Ken Ballou, MA) Rewrite rule 14G Effective January 1, 2013, replace rule 14G with the following text:

14G. Both players overstep the time limit in sudden death. The game is drawn if both players overstep the time limit in a sudden death time control and either player points this out. If a player who has not yet run out of time claims a win on time but does not stop the clock in time to avoid overstepping the limit himself, the game is drawn. See also 14G2, Players apparently unaware of situation; 15H, Reporting of results; 16T, Both players exceed time control; and 16Y, Assisting players with time management prohibited.

TD TIP: Remember a 14G draw claim is first a draw offer (Rule 14, The Drawn Game).
14G1. Checkmate and both players out of time. In a sudden death control, if a player points out that both players have overstepped the time limit prior to a checkmate, the game is drawn. After considering all available evidence, including testimony by the players and any witnesses, a director who is unable to determine whether the claim of

both players having overstepped the time limit occurred first shall deny the time claim and rule the checkmate valid.

14G2. Players apparently unaware of situation. If a sudden death game continues after both players have overstepped the time limit, the director may rule it a draw. This exception to the standard rule that only players may call flags down is justified by the need to avoid delaying the tournament. See also 14J, Draw declared by director; 16T, Both players exceed time control; 16Y, Assisting players with time management prohibited; 18G, Adjudications; and 21D, Intervening in games.

Rationale: The motivation for rewriting rule 14G to eliminate references to "both flags down" is that the assumption that one or the other clock must be running unless a player has stopped both clocks is not valid in a world of digital clocks. Specifically, a digital clock may be set to "halt at end," which causes both clocks to stop running once one player has overstepped the time control. **FAILED**

The next item was brought to the floor by its author Ken Ballou who accepted a friendly amendment. After procedural questions were answered, a vote was taken.

DM12-37 (ADM 12-24, Ken Ballou, MA) Rewrite rule 16B and modify rule 35F5.

Effective January 1, 2013, replace the text of rule 16B with the following:

16B. How to set clocks.

16B1. Analog clocks. Clocks should be set so that each unit will register six o'clock when the first time-control period expires. If there is a second time control of any length of one hour or less it should expire at seven o'clock (even if that requires that the clocks be reset), a third such control at eight o'clock, etc. For more information on clocks see Chapter 4, Equipment Standards; 5E, Standard timer for non-sudden death; 35F5, Special Clock; and 42C, Standard clocks.

16B2. Digital clocks. Time delay or increment clocks should be set according to the manufacturer's directions so that any visual device used to indicate that a player's time has been exhausted for all time control periods is activated. Such mechanisms may include one or more of a light, a display of all zeros, or a display of a flag. Players should explain the flag fall mechanism and the clock's operation to their opponents. The time delay or increment should be set according to the director's instructions, with the time delay or increment in force starting at move one (5Fb) unless the time control specifies otherwise. Clocks equipped to do so should be set for a Bronstein or a delay mode for delay controls or for Fischer, added time, or increment mode for increment time controls.

16B2a. Sound. Digital clocks must be set to produce no sound. This includes, but is not limited to: beeping when a player has run out of time in the final time control; beeping when a player reaches the end of any time control; warning beeps to indicate a player is approaching the end of a time control; and beeping when a player presses the clock. A digital clock that can be set to produce no sound is preferable to a clock that cannot.

16B2b. Clock of player not out of time continues to run. If possible, digital clocks must be set so that when one player runs out of time in a time control, the opponent's clock continues to run normally. A digital clock that can be set to satisfy the requirement of this rule is preferable to a clock that cannot.

16B2c. Players are responsible for setting the clock correctly. Players are responsible for knowing how to set their own clocks to conform to rule 16B2. Players should be prepared to explain the clock's operation to the opponent before the start of the game. This includes how the clock indicates a player has run out of time and how to pause both clocks if necessary to summon a director.

For more information on delay or increment clocks see Chapter 5, Equipment Standards; 5F, Standard timer for sudden death; 35F5, Special clock; 42B, Signaling devices; 42C, Move counters; 42D, Digital clocks; and 42F, Delay clock preferable in sudden death.

(The TD tips following rule 16B are unaffected).

Also, effective January 1, 2013, append the following sentence to rule 35F5: "Rule 16B2a does not apply to such a clock." **PASSED AS AMENDED BY 2/3 MAJORITY.**

Ballou went on to introduce the next motion. David Kuhns, Rules Committee chairman reported the results of polls taken at the Rules Committee meeting and Rules Committee workshop were in favor of ADM12-25. Ballou moved to refer the motion to the Rules Committee with the power to implement.

DM12-38 (ADM 12-25, Ken Ballou, MA) Remove the time controls from the definition of "Quick Chess" in rule 5C.

Effective January 1, 2013, replace the text of rule 5C with the following: "5C. Quick Chess. The USCF maintains a separate rating system for Quick Chess games. All Quick Chess rules are identical to the regular USCF sudden death rules herein except that scorekeeping is not required, so all provisions relating to chess notation are irrelevant."

Rationale: The definition has changed (and may change again in the future). The current text of rule 5C is obsolete. **REFER TO THE RULES COMMITTEE WITH POWER TO IMPLEMENT - PASSED BY 2/3 MAJORITY**

The next three motions dealing with time controls were also brought to the floor by Ken Ballou. David Kuhns reported on the Rules Committee and Workshop polls. Ken Ballou then moved to refer ADM12-26 to the Ratings and Rules Committee. Guy Hoffman participated in the discussion.

DM12-39 (ADM 12-26, Ken Ballou, MA) Time controls and event types. Effective January 1, 2013, the definitions of the various event types (regular, quick, blitz) are hereby changed as follows:

1. Ratable time controls. Three types of events are ratable by the U.S. Chess Federation. Regular events are governed by the Official Rules of Chess. Quick events are governed by the same rules, except that scorekeeping is not required (rules 15A through 15G). Blitz events are governed by somewhat different rules (chapter 11).
2. Regular events. Time control requirements for a regular event are as follows:

- 2a. The main time must be 25 minutes or more for each player.
- 2b. The delay or increment time must be in the range 0-120 seconds.
- 2c. The main time in minutes, plus the delay or increment time in seconds, must add up to at least 30.
- 2d. Multiple time controls are permitted. If there are multiple controls, requirements 2a through 2c apply to each control, and there must be at least 15 moves in any non-sudden-death control.
3. Quick events. Time control requirements for a quick event are as follows:
 - 3a. The main time must be in the range 6-29 minutes.
 - 3b. The delay or increment time must be in the range 0-5 seconds.
 - 3c. The main time in minutes, plus delay or increment time in seconds, must add up to at most 29.
 - 3d. Multiple time controls are not permitted.
4. Blitz events. Time control requirements for a blitz event are as follows:
 - 4a. The main time must be in the range 3-5 minutes.
 - 4b. The delay or increment time must be in the range 0-2 seconds.
 - 4c. The main time in minutes, plus delay or increment time in seconds, must add up to at least 5.
 - 4d. Multiple time controls are not permitted.

Rationale: The distinction among the three event types (regular, quick, blitz) would be clarified. Because reasonable limits would be imposed on delay and increment times, each event type would have its own "look and feel". Ridiculous combinations such as G/6 inc/90 would be disallowed.

Additional rationale: Already, as of January 2012, the event type (regular vs quick) can be determined from the time control alone. There is no overlap. The proposed ADM would extend this non-overlapping property to quick vs blitz. At present, this distinction is blurred, making it necessary to explicitly include the word "blitz" in the tournament name.

Note: This proposal addresses event types (regular, quick, blitz) rather than rating systems (regular, dual, quick). For clarity it is best to keep the two discussions separate. For the latter see ADM regarding time controls and rating systems, below.

REFERRED TO RATINGS AND RULES COMMITTEES

Ballou introduced ADM12-27 asking that it also be referred to the Ratings and Rules committees.

DM12-40 (ADM 12-27, Ken Ballou, MA) Time controls and rating systems.

Effective January 1, 2013, the rules regarding the rating systems (regular, dual, quick, and eventually blitz) to be used for the various event types are hereby changed as follows:

1. Regular ratings. A regular event is rated under the regular rating system.
2. Quick ratings. A quick event is rated under the quick rating system.
3. Blitz ratings. For the time being, a blitz event is rated under the quick rating system. If and when a separate blitz rating system is launched, a blitz event will be rated under the blitz rating system.
4. Dual ratings, regular and quick. Some regular events are also rated under the quick rating system. These events are called dual-rated. For an event to be dual-rated, requirements 2a through 2c for a regular event (see ADM "Time controls and event types") must all be met, in addition to the following:
 - 4a. The main time in minutes, plus delay or increment time in seconds, must add up to at most 65.
 - 4b. The event must have a single time control. Multiple controls are not permitted.
5. Dual ratings, quick and blitz. If and when a separate blitz rating system is launched, some quick events may also be rated under the blitz rating system. For an event to be dual-rated under quick and blitz, requirement 3d for a quick event (see ADM "Time controls and event types") must be met, in addition to other criteria to be established by the Ratings Committee. Suggested additional criteria include:
 - 5a. The main time must be in the range 3-14 minutes.
 - 5b. The delay or increment time must be in the range 0-3 seconds.
 - 5c. The main time in minutes, plus the delay or increment time in seconds, must add up to at most 14.
6. Transition to blitz rating system. If and when a separate blitz rating system is launched, the quick system will be re-rated as follows:

6a. Events satisfying the requirements for blitz (item 4 of ADM “Time control and event types”) but not those for quick (item 3 of ADM “Time control and event types”) will be de-rated under the quick system and re-rated under the blitz system. This de-rating and re-rating will apply retroactively to events held on or after January 1, 2012.

6b. Until and unless a separate blitz rating system is launched, events played with a main time less than 5 minutes per player will not be rated. Such events, however, may be submitted by the organizer for eventual rating under the blitz rating system, provided they meet the requirements for blitz (item 4 of ADM “Time control and event types”). Crosstables for such events will appear on the USCF website, but will show zero rating change for all participants. Later, when a separate blitz rating system is launched, these events will be re-rated under the blitz rating system.

Rationale: Along with clarifications of the definitions of the various event types (regular, quick, blitz), clarifications are desirable for the rating systems to be used by each. In addition, the possible eventual addition of a separate blitz rating system should be anticipated, and the machinery set up in advance, so that it can be implemented smoothly at any future date.

Note: If the Delegates can swallow the idea of G/3 inc/2 being temporarily rated as quick, clause 6b may be unnecessary. **REFERRED TO RULES AND RATINGS COMMITTEES**

Ken Ballou introduced the next item stating the information included had already been adopted so he withdrew the motion.

ADM 12-28 (Ken Ballou, MA) Time controls and tournament announcements. Effective January 1, 2013, rules regarding TLAs published by USCF are hereby changed as follows:

1. Truth in advertising. In all tournament announcements submitted to Chess Life, ChessLife4Kids, or the USCF website, the announced time control should include explicit mention of the delay or increment, or lack thereof.

1a. It is strongly recommended that a regular event have a delay or increment of at least 5 seconds. For a quick event, the recommended minimum is 3 seconds. Running a regular or quick event with neither delay nor increment is strongly discouraged. If an event is to be run with neither delay nor increment, this fact must be mentioned in pre-event publicity, either with a phrase like "no delay" or with the addition of "d/0" to the announced time control.

2. Incomplete announcements. Pre-event publicity submitted without mention of any delay or increment will be subject to the following procedures:

2a. The announcement may be rejected, or may be returned to the organizer for correction.

2b. If, however, such an incomplete announcement is accepted for publication, a 5-second delay will be assumed for regular events, 3 seconds for quick events, 0 seconds for blitz events. The Chess Life or online editorial staff may add the notation "d/5" (regular), "d/3" (quick), or "d/0" (blitz) to the submitted announcement.

2c. The failure of an announcement to include explicit mention of the delay or increment is not to be construed as meaning that neither delay nor increment is to be used at the event.

Rationale: It is important to push organizers just a bit more into including full time-control details in their tournament announcements. It is also important that neither players nor organizers interpret the lack of such details as meaning that the delay or increment is to be zero. **WITHDRAWN**

Author of ADM12-29, 30 and 31, Steve Immitt, was not present, so co-author, Tim Just introduced the motions. Tom Brownscombe spoke in favor of all three and Tim Redman said the Mixed Doubles idea was spectacular and he was all in favor. Bill Hall suggested that the three motions would be better handled by the office. Tim Just then moved to refer all three motions to the office.

DM12-41 (ADM 12-29, Steve Immitt, NY; Tim Just, IL) Processing USCF Memberships for Players Living Outside North America

The Delegates resolve that:

1. The USCF online Membership webstore shall have a place to enter in a player's FIDE ID and country and title.
 2. The USCF online TD/Affiliate area shall permit membership addresses to be submitted for players who live outside North America, with the proper postage rates.
- The Delegates further resolve that both of these features be fully implemented as soon as possible, while allowing for proper testing and debugging.

Rationale: Self-Evident (but always mindful of the need to proceed with caution and prudence). **REFERRED TO THE OFFICE**

DM12-42 (ADM 12-30, Steve Immitt, NY, Tim Just, IL) Promoting Activity Among Retired 50-Year Masters

The Delegates resolve to promote activity among chess players who have held the Master title for at least 50 years. To help achieve this goal, the Office is instructed to work with organizers to offer a discount on the rating fee for all tournaments submitted online and no later than two weeks after the tournament ending date, for each player in the tournament who has been identified by the Office as having held the Master title for at least 50 years.

The Delegates further resolve that both of these features be fully implemented as soon as possible, while allowing for proper testing and debugging.

Rationale: Self-Evident (but always mindful of the need to proceed with caution and prudence, and in this specific case, with all deliberate speed as well). **REFERRED TO THE OFFICE**

DM12-43 (ADM 12-31, Steve Immitt, NY; Tim Just IL) Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes To help encourage women to join the USCF and to participate in tournaments, and also to help promote family participation in chess tournaments, the Delegates resolve to direct the Office to offer as an incentive to organizers free or reduced costs TLAs to tournaments which offer Mixed Doubles Bonus Prizes (best male/female, two-player combined score in all sections). There must be no additional charge to register as a Mixed Doubles Team, and the average rating of both players must be Under 2200. Teammate pairings are avoided, but possible, and teammates may play in different sections. Father/daughter, brother/sister, wife/husband, aunt/nephew, friend/friend, enemy/friend, enemy/enemy—Mixed Doubles Teams are limited only by the players' imaginations (but no pets are allowed).

Rationale: Encouraging more women to join the USCF and to participate in tournaments, as well as encouraging more family participation in tournaments, could very well help both to increase overall USCF membership and to increase overall tournament attendance.

The Delegates further resolve that both of these features be fully implemented as soon as possible, while allowing for proper testing and debugging. **REFERRED TO THE OFFICE**

John Haskel introduced the next two items. He explained that after consultation with David Kuhns, he withdrew ADM12-32.

ADM 12-32 (Jon Haskel, FL; Tim Just, IL) Move to change Rule 31B to:
31B. Player rankings.

Players on a team are ranked according to rating; the higher-rated players play on lower board numbers. Alternates must be lower-rated than regular team members. Unrated players, unless assigned ratings (28D), must play on higher-numbered boards than rated players.

TD TIP: The lowest board number is 1 (first position). This can be confusing since the top players play on this board. **WITHDRAWN**

After discussion which included John Haskel, David Kuhns and Andrew Rea, the motion was withdrawn.

ADM 12-33 (Jon Haskel, FL; Tim Just, IL) Move to change Rule 31B1 to:
31B1. Board prizes.

If individual board prizes are offered, players who play on more than one board are eligible only for the highest board played. The player's points on all boards combined are credited toward the board prize on the highest board.

TD TIP: If a player plays in positions 1 and 4, the player's combined points would be credited toward the board prize for position 4. **WITHDRAWN**

Rules Committee chair, David Kuhns, introduced the next three motions. He reported that a friendly amendment to ADM12-34 suggested by the Rules Workshop had been accepted.

DM12-44 (ADM12-34, David Kuhns, MN) Penalizing (compensation) for an illegal move: Rule 11A remove the words "except in sudden death (11D), the time on the clocks shall not be adjusted; however," and "this rule is not in effect during sudden death time pressure."

11D remove the references to sudden death:

Rule 11D, "Illegal move: If, a player completes an illegal move by pressing the clock, in addition to the usual obligation to make a legal move with the touched piece if possible, the standard penalty specified in rule 1C2a applies (i.e. two minutes added to the opponents clock)

Note: This is closer to the FIDE rule (with the further complexities of the 3rd illegal move removed) **PASSED BY 2/3 MAJORITY**

Kuhns then introduced ADM12-35 citing a tournament experience. He reported that both the Rules Workshop and Committee favor this motion. After discussion the motion was called and a vote was taken.

DM12-45 (ADM12-35, David Kuhns, MN) Add to rule 15A: The score sheet shall be visible to the arbiter (tournament directors) and the opponent throughout the game

This is the FIDE rule. With the "(tournament director) and the opponent" added to the wording. A similar rule is not currently present in our rules.

Note: There was a recent incident that a player was caught cheating by pretending to use an electronic score sheet, but using "pocket Fritz" instead. He had a cover on the electronic "score sheet" and he kept the cover closed, so the program he was using was more difficult to detect. This rule would help mitigate that situation. **PASSED BY 2/3 MAJORITY**

David Kuhns noted that ADM12-36 was redundant and asked that it be withdrawn.

ADM12-36 (David Kuhns, MN)

Add to rule 5F: A player who arrives late, and has not determined their first move is allowed to replace a standard analog clock (or any non-standard clock) with their own properly set more standard delay or more standard increment clock. In a game without an increment or delay capable clock, where both players have determined their first move, the initial clock shall remain the timer for the game (unless 42D applies).

WITHDRAWN

Maryland Delegate, Ed Westing, brought NDM 12-9 to the floor, explaining his reasoning. After a discussion that included Jennifer Skidmore, Steve Shutt, Ken Ballou, Allen Priest, Tom Brownscombe, Tim Just, Tony Pabon, Harold Winston, Bill Goichberg, Michael Hoffpauir, James Menella, and Guy Hoffman. Harold Winston moved that the motion be referred to the Bylaws committee. After further discussion the motion was called and a vote to refer was taken.

DM12-46 (NDM12-9, Ed Westing, MD) The USCF Bylaws should be amended to include the following: The Bylaws should have a requirement that Delegates be of a minimum age of 16, or the same age as the voting age requirement for the general membership who vote for the Executive Board members. **REFERRED TO BYLAWS for 2013**

Harold Winston made the final three motions of thanks and recognition.

DM12-47 (NDM12-10, Harold Winston, IL) The Delegates give a vote of thanks to Executive Director Bill Hall and the Executive Board for achieving an excellent surplus during the last fiscal year. **PASSED BY ACCLAMATION**

DM12-48 (NDM12-11, Harold Winston, IL) The Delegates give a vote of thanks to Allen Priest for all the time he spent and the work he did in revising the USCF governance procedures. **PASSED BY ACCLAMATION**

DM12-49(NDM12-12, Harold Winston, IL) The Delegates give a vote of thanks to the following:

- 1.) Ruth Haring for presiding over the Delegates' meeting;
- 2.) Michael Nolan for his services as parliamentarian;
- 3.) Joan Dubois for assisting with motions at the Delegates' meeting;
- 4.) Bill Hall and Mike Nietman for serving as Masters of Ceremonies at the Awards Luncheon and;
- 5.) Pat Smith for organizing this highly successful 2012 U.S. Open.

PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

Agenda items were completed and President Haring asked if there any other items of business.

Dewain Barber announced that Atulya Shetty of Michigan and Darwin Yang of Texas had tied for first in the Denker Tournament with Shetty winning on tie break and receiving the UTD Scholarship. In the Barber Tournament, Tommy He of Texas took first and was named the Champion of Champions.

Duane Polich of the Washington State Chess Federation thanked the Executive Board for bringing the U.S. Open to the Pacific Northwest.

Harold Winston thanked the Delegates for their donations to the Chess Trust. He noted that a short Bylaws meeting would be held after adjournment.

Allen Priest added that a brief Audit Committee meeting would also be held after adjournment.

DM12-50 (NDM12-13, Harold Winston, IL) Move to adjourn. **PASSED**

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED