

OCTOBER 1, 1999

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING OF THE U.S. CHESS FEDERATION

MEETING HELD AT RAMADA IN NEWBURGH, NEW YORK

AGENDA

OCTOBER 1, 1999

9:00 AM BOARD PROCEDURE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS

MEETING

APPROVAL OF MOTIONS FROM CONFERENCE

CALL

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT

MOTIONS FROM OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE

12:30 P.M. LUNCH

2:00 P.M. CLOSED SESSION

OPEN FORUM

6:00 DINNER 6: 30 A.M.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

BOB SMITH ♦ PRESIDENT

JOHN McCRARY - VICE PRESIDENT

DORIS BARRY ♦ SECRETARY

JIM PECHAC - VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE

JOE IPPOLITO

GARRETT SCOTT (NOT PRESENT)

TIM REDMAN

HELEN WARREN

MIKE CAVALLO

AUDIENCE:

ERIC JOHNSON

DENIS BARRY

JOAN DUBOIS

JUDY MISNER

BILL GOICHBURG

BEATRIZ MARINELLO

VICTOR FRIAS

ERNIE SCHLICH

GLENN PETERSEN

STEVE IMMITT

Executive Board Meeting Friday, October 1, 1999

Meeting called to order at 9:00am

The Secretary recommended procedures for the presentation of motions. Suggested a process for early preparation of the agenda prior to Board meetings.

Other suggestions were made to enhance the efficiency of meeting time. The transcript will be on the USCF Website. In hard copy form it will be offered for sale with the office determining the cost.

Motion: EB-00-14 T10 (Smith) the Board approves the minutes of the August 16, 1999 meeting in Reno, Nevada. Passed 7-0 (Scott-Absent)*

Motions passed as a result of September 22, 1999 Conference Call

Motion: EB-00-15 T-13,14 (McCrary) Resolved that, in order to avoid inconvenience for scholastic players and their families, the USCF will advertise the 1999 National Scholastic Action Championship. In the future this event will be open to competitive bidding. Passed 7-0 (Scott-absent)*

Motion: EB-00-16 T-14-16 (McCrary) The Executive Board of the United States Chess Federation authorizes the Executive Director to terminate negotiations with Richard Peterson and his affiliate for the contract for the 2000 National Elementary Chess Championship. The Executive Director may immediately commence negotiations with other potential organizers for this event. The decision of the Executive Board takes into consideration the fact that the suggested contract items proposed by Mr. Peterson are unacceptable as well as the organizational performance of Mr. Peterson, as assessed by the USCF office and reviewed by the Executive Board. Passed 7-0 (Scott-Absent)*

President's Report:

Bob Smith welcomed all spectators. Members of the audience will be given an opportunity to address the Board at designated times.

At a meeting held August 15, 1999, officers of the 1999-2000 Board were elected pursuant to the requirements of the new Bylaws. Members of the newly elected Board worked informally, attending workshops and holding informal meetings with committees and USCF officials. The first official meeting was held on Monday, August 16. Members of the Board were asked to follow suggestions on limiting the length of discussions, allowing every Board member an opportunity to speak and expediting the completion of the agenda.

Executive Director's Report:

Mike Cavallo announced we are ahead of our budget for the year. Cuts and savings made six months ago are having an accumulative effect on the expense line. One catalogue mailing was eliminated resulting in fewer sales but significant savings in expenses. There is a decline in membership dollars, but the actual membership figures are starting to increase. Efforts should probably be made to attract more adult members. The budget is seasonally adjusted for membership and sales of books and equipment. Jim Pechac pointed out that this adjustment provides a lower target in some quarters and a higher one in others. The important factor is to meet the target amount. Discussion followed on the difference between operation's reports, which are more conservative, and consolidated, which include the favorable effect of unrealized gains in LMA.

Continuing losses, last year, were funded out of a bank loan.

Membership had a slight increase in all categories. Jim Pechac pointed out that the three-month affiliation income was \$8300, below the budget of \$15,000. He suggested that the office ask Mike Nolan to include an analysis on affiliates along with one on membership.

At the end of September, Jade River will no longer provide the service for our Website. A proposal from another provider looks promising and gives some ideas for energizing the site.

Computer Installation and Implementation. Report by Mike Cavallo

Accounting was a standard package adapted to our requirements and installed by the original vendor. This was the more cost effective and reliable method. The current vendor is an expert in UA, our accounting package. Links to the accounting package from the databases for membership and sales will be installed. Once the installation is completed the old and new systems will be run concurrently through the end of November 30th.

The plan is to finish the installation today, with Monday as a spillover day in case something doesn't work or they need to do data conversions on Monday. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are training days.

The cleaning of data in our current data basis has not been done. It probably makes sense and is less expensive to do some after it's converted rather than before conversion. The new system will make it a much easier process.

Discussion followed whether the new system would allow for customer relations management-CRM. Mike gave a date of the Spring.

Y2K Issue--- Mike Cavallo

Harold Stenzel started about a year and a half ago correcting the Y2K issues in the COBOL program. A separate programmer fixed a problem involving our mailing lists. He is currently making progress on the TLA program so that it works under the old and the new system. TLA is being worked on concurrently with the major project. A bid will be selected based on quality of experience, on price, but mostly on delivery date. Another good programmer is necessary to get the job done.

Ernie Schlich: Some of the discrepancies that Mike Nolan pointed out where memberships existed in the D-Base files but not in the COBOL files have been corrected.

Motion: EB-00-17 T- 146 Motion from Objections Procedure (Warren, Barry, Redman, Ippolito) 9/5/99

The Executive Board invites Richard Koepcke and George John (or a qualified individual in the area) to New Windsor, at their convenience, during the period of October 1-3, for the purpose of inspecting the installation and operation of Phase I of the computer system due for implementation by October 1 and to answer questions concerning its operation. USCF will reimburse their travel and lodging expense.

Bob Smith's initial objection was withdrawn after determining that Richard Koepcke would accept the invitation. Passed 8-0

by objections procedure

Motion: EB-00-18 (Redman, Barry)

Executive Board conveys their condolences to Richard Koepcke on the death of his father. The Board thanks Richard for his willingness to travel to New Windsor and offer his expertise in the evaluation of the computer system. Passed 7-0 (Scott absent)*

Motion: EB-00-19 (Redman)

The computer progress evaluation by Richard Koepcke has been postponed for a few weeks. The Board visited the office where a demonstration was given of the various customized screens. Installation of the new system will be completed and operational on October 4, 1999. Passed 7-0 (Scott absent)*

Motion: EB-00-20 T-75 (Redman)

The President, Vice President of Finance and the Secretary are requested to travel to New Windsor to meet with Richard Koepcke to evaluate the computer modernization. Passed 7-0 (Scott absent)*

Financial Report by Jim Pechac VP for Finance.

Reports were distributed with recommendations that the office develop a monthly report package with the following levels; a summary level with graphics relating to targets like budgets; second level would be P & L information; the third would be an operating planning and performance grouping that would relate to a tournament list, date for closure, balance and deferral accounts that would be related back to someone for accountability. Information must be timely and accurate.

Motion: (Redman)

Propose that the USCF accountant develop a monthly financial and operating report package of summary financial and analytical data with graphic charts.

Amendment (Redman) add-"in consultation with the Vice President of Finance" to be inserted as follows:

Motion: EB-00-21 T-108 (Smith Redman)

Propose that the USCF accountant develop a monthly financial and operating report package, in consultation with the Vice President of Finance, to address the following: Summary financial and analytical data. 1. MDR format, monthly data report, may be an acceptable format. Graphic charts would be used also. 2. Base financial report package, balance sheets and profit and loss statement. 3. Operating, planning and performance schedules for each of the major functional areas. Passed 7-0 (Scott absent)* Appropriate financial and operating schedules will be placed on the USCF Website.

Additional \$100,000 was borrowed from the LMA to pay down the outstanding loan. Operations will then repay LMA at a more favorable interest rate than the LMA is realizing from its investments. The motion requiring that the Board be notified of any borrowing over \$200,000 was discussed.

Motion: EB-00-22 T-116-117 (Redman)

Move that the Board ratify the action of the Executive Director and the LMA Committee in providing the loan to operations.

Passed 7-0 (Scott absent)*

Motions from the Objections Procedure:

Motion: EB-00-23 T-128 (Warren, Smith, Ippolito, Barry)

Move that the \$35 per diem reimbursement for Executive Board members be suspended. Passed 7-0 (Scott absent)*

(This motion had failed in the Objections Procedure because of a procedural objection by Redman.)

Motion: EB-00-24 T-129 (McCrary) Passed in Objections Procedure

The Executive Board of the U S Chess Federation endorses the establishment of the World Chess Hall of Fame and Sidney Simole Chess Museum by agreement between the U S Chess Trust and Excaliber Electronics. The Executive Board requests that the USCF Delegates to FIDE support any feasible proposal that may be presented for FIDE cooperation with the US Chess Trust on this project. With no objections this motion Passed 8-0

Motion in Objections Procedure (Warren, Redman, Pechac)

The USCF Secretary and Board Members with assistance from the business office will select an appropriate sampling of Executive Board BINFO'S for mailing to USCF Delegates prior to the US Open Delegates Meeting. It is suggested that these BINFO's reflect the more significant Executive Board actions of the previous year, including pertinent financials, budgetary, operating, and technical reports. Passed 8-0

Discussion on the benefits of e-mail caused an amendment to this motion as follows.

Motion: EB-00-25 T-144-145 (Warren, Redman, Pechac)

The USCF Secretary and Board Members with assistance from the business office will select an appropriate sampling of Executive Board BINFO's for direct mailing or electronic forwarding to USCF Delegates prior to the US Open Delegates Meeting. It is suggested that these BINFO's reflect the more significant Executive Board action of the previous year, including pertinent financials, budgetary, operating, and technical reports. Passed 8-0

A letter will precede the actual mailing to determine their preference --a mailed hard copy or e-mail by the individual delegates.

Past Presidents will receive the BINFO's by electronic mail, except George Koltanowski and Frank Scoff who do not have computers. They will be mailed the BINFO's.

Open Forum:

Denis Barry commented that BINFO's are out in six weeks, but it takes several months before they appear on the Website.

Steve Immitt explained that two years ago the Board established a Mini Grand Prix Tournament, The USCF Tour, where organizers could contribute to the Professional Players Fund. The organizers contributed \$.50 a player. Those funds were to be tabulated and recorded. The players were to be eligible for an annual prize or some type of recognition. The purpose was to promote tournament activity, give publicity to individual tournaments and organizers as well as growing the Professional Players Fund. Nothing has been in "Chess Life" publicizing this event.

Bill Goichberg explained that the Ratings Committee passed changes in the rating system that have never been implemented because of the computer system. One of the other changes was to bring back bonus points.

Ernie Schlich: The US Tour program was instituted before we had a method and computer capability to analyze who was leading; who won. It was started without adequate time for publicity to benefit the program. It was started assuming the new computer system would be in place.

Tim Redman agreed that if we have been collecting money under the pretense of providing service and we're not providing the service, then we should have announced our inability to keep our commitment.

This issue will be made an action item for the Board.

Beatrix Marinello commented that the Board has not established criteria for distribution of the funds from the Professional Players Fund. It has existed without clear guidelines for its application.

Jim Pechac explained that the fund is held as an equity account. Reimbursements are made without the normal control process of a budget and tracking of disbursements. Victor Frias suggested that we consult with the professional chess players on the use of their fund.

John McCrary suggested that this issue be referred to the Grand Master affairs and Master Committees for a report at the next meeting.

AGENDA

OCTOBER 2, 1999

9:00 AM MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

REVIEW OF PROMOTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

REPORT OF SYNCHRONIZATION OF WEBSITE AND LABEL RATINGS

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBILITY OF AN ONLINE MEMBERSHIP

ADOPTION OF TWO YEAR ALTERNATE YEAR SCHEDULE FOR CLOSED INVITATIONAL EVENTS

CLUB KASPAROV -- DEMONSTRATION

BREAKDOWN OF INCOME AND EXPENSE INCURRED FROM WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND AN ACCOUNTING OF ROOM NIGHTS PROVIDED FOR FEDERATION USE AND HOW THEY WEREUSED

12:30 P.M. LUNCH

1:30 FINALIZATION OF FINANCIALS ON ALL OUTSTANDING National TOURNAMENTS WITH STATUS REPORT OF UNSETTLED ACCOUNTS OF NATIONAL EVENTS

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR/CHESS LIFE EDITOR POSITION: TO SPLIT OR NOT TO SPLIT?

STRATEGIC PLANNING: REVISING THE USCF MISSION STATEMENT TOWARD A MEMBER-CENTERED INSTEAD OF A CUSTOMER-BASED APPROACH TO OUR MEMBERSHIP

DEVELOPING A CRM SYSTEM

AN INTERNET VERSION OF CHESS LIFE

A REVISED DUES SCHEDULE FOR DELEGATE APPROVAL AND JANUARY 1 2001 IMPLEMENTATION

DEVELOP A STRATEGY TO ADDRESS

DECREASE IN AFFILIATES.

REQUEST FOUR YEAR FIGURES

ADOPT A PROGRAM TO DELETE LIFE

MEMBERS NO LONGER INTERESTED

IN RECEIVING CHESS LIFE

SCHOLASTIC WEBSITE

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

6:00 DINNER

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS: ALL PRESENT INCLUDING GARRETT SCOTT

AUDIENCE: THE SAME WITH ADDITION OF HERMAN DRENTH & JOAN SCHLICH, LARRY KING

Motion: EB-00-26 T-4 (McCrary, Redman

John McCrary and Tim Redman will act as a subcommittee to review all appeals to the Board prior to full Board consideration. Passed 7-0 (Scott Absent)*

Motion: EB-00-27 T-4 (Redman)

The EB suspends the policy of copying all appeals to the Executive Board. Passed 7-0 (Scott Absent)*

Motion: EB-00-28 (Redman)

The E B has reviewed the appeals of Weiss and Martinez. A win has been awarded to Weiss and the draw to Martinez. Passed 7-0 (Scott Absent)*

Motion: EB-00-29 T-35 (Smith)

The Executive Board authorizes the Strategic Subcommittee to develop and conduct a survey of members centering on general membership. Passed 8-0

The survey will be used to give feedback in different categories: age, membership type, publications, chess services, books and equipment services, scholastics ratings, on-line publication. Discussion on what constituted a reliable sampling (Binfo 99-191) and the cost that would be incurred by using an outside firm rather than a group of volunteers.

A review of membership fees will be considered in an attempt to promote, increase and retain members by offering discounted categories according to age and Internet access. One category is the gap in young adult memberships from 19-25. The Collegiate Chess League concept could be applied to men and women in the armed forces as well as young adults. Providing a transition to a Chess Life Online (Internet magazine) to our regular members as well as life members could result in another type of reduced membership. An ADM will be placed on the agenda for the August Delegates meeting and go into effect

January 1, 2001. A wide array of discounted memberships could result in serious logistics problems for the office. Consideration must be given to the capability of the new computer system in tracking these multiple type memberships.

Herman Drenth, President of NJSCF, congratulated the recently elected members of the Board and pledged the support of the NJSCF. He discussed the importance of doing a cost analysis of scholastic memberships. Without that information, it makes no sense to continue to add members resulting in a loss to the organization. Mike Cavallo replied that it is clearly a fact that a loss is incurred when you factor in all the labor costs involved--the scholastic director and her assistant and one third of the rating clerk's time.

Jim Pechac informed the Board that for two years, the scholastic community has asked for an analysis that can not be done because the computer system has not been installed. They not only consider the expenses attributed to them, but also the income generated from scholastic events, particularly the sale of books and equipment. It was pointed out that the profits from these events are designated as scholastic funds and the USCF gets their expenses only. Profits go to the mega-organizers who run these events not the USCF. Suggestions were made for the USCF to sponsor it's own National Scholastic events.

Club Kasparov

Joe Ippolito explained that he was approached over the summer by a representative of Club Kasparov with an offer to participate in an Internet scholastic project. Joe explained that he was so optimistic about the CK Internet project, he took a year's leave of absence from teaching, accepting a paid position with CK to promote scholastic Internet play and get USCF approval. Joe arranged for a presentation, by Michael Khodarkovsky, of the software under development. Michael K. explained that there are several organizations in competition for scholastic Internet play and, that the organization having the endorsement of the USCF, will have an advantage. In reply to some questions from the Board, Joe explained that when an organization offers you something free, you shouldn't expect to share in all the information on that organization. Michael K. said that progress in developing the project was made in the past two months. CK is listed at 32 Broadway in New York City where they occupy the entire 10th floor. Michael K. claims that in two weeks, October 11, all of their Board of Directors will be there. If the USCF Board approves the proposal a joint committee can be formed. CK will have online games, tournaments and next year the World School Championship and some teacher events. Amazon.com as well as any other advertisers will be on the CK website. Michael said merchandise will be sold by CK as well as exclusive Kasparov items that no one else will have.

CK will have a Grand Opening in New York City on December 10th. The league will start no later than February 2000. In response to questions about financial backing, Michael Khodarkovsky explained there are several contributors expecting a profit from a successful IPO. Tim Redman explained that three to four groups are developing similar Internet projects and are also looking for approval from USCF.

Before the Board went into closed session to deliberate the CK offer, Joe Ippolito asked if it was appropriate for him to be present. He was advised by the Board members to leave the room after some questions were asked of his financial interest in the CK enterprise. He replied that he is a paid employee of CK. When asked if he was an officer, he replied that he is listed as an officer, but is not really one. He was asked if he would have shares of CK's initial stock offering, IPO, he responded that as an employee he expects to be included. He has committed to a one-year leave of absence from his teaching position but it can be extended. His purpose was to get the whole thing going and get the USCF involved. He felt he could be a spokesman for both groups. He said he would not vote or be present when discussions were held. Joe asked that a decision be made at this meeting. Joe then left the room and was not included in further discussion in closed session on this subject.

Motion: EB-00-30 T-109 (Redman)

The Executive Board directs the Internet Subcommittee, with the substitution of Jim Pechac for Joe Ippolito, to formulate a policy and quality control standards for USCF non-exclusive partnerships with Internet Groups and enter into negotiations with interested Internet chess providers. Passed 7-0 (Ippolito recused)

Advantages and disadvantages of going to a two-year alternative schedule for closed invitational events were discussed. Two years gives the champion the opportunity to promote his title and gives the USCF an opportunity to find sponsorship. There is a big financial commitment by the USCF for the Championship as well as the various FIDE events held within various time frames.

Motion: EB-00-31 (Redman) T128-133

The USCF will contribute \$75,000 for the calendar year 2000 for the US Men's and Women's Closed Championship and will endeavor to raise the additional amount for the events from sponsors. Passed 7-1 (Pechac Opposed)

**** Motion EB-00-31** has been rescinded. Please refer to **Motion EB-00-49** at the end of these minutes.

Status Report of Unsettled accounts of National Events.

Many events have not been closed. The list includes the '97 National Open, Southwest Open, National Junior High, National Elementary are a just a few. In some cases the USCF has not received their money and in some instances the paperwork has not been completed. A complete list will be given to the Board. Financial related problems occur because the USCF does not have control of the entries. A list of national events, not yet finalized, will be available for the January meeting.

Motion: EB-00-32 (Redman)

Organizers of National Events who do not fulfill their financial and or accounting responsibilities within 45 days of an event, will not be awarded National bids until their obligation has been met. Passed 8-0

Discussion on revising the USCF mission statement towards a member-centered organization. Recommendation that the mission statement be reviewed and updated every five years. Suggestions to be referred to Tim Redman.

Decrease in the decline of USCF affiliates has an impact in the loss of memberships and tournaments. Questions should be included in a survey asking for feedback on the reasons for the decline.

Subcommittee consisting of Beatrix Marinello, Ernie Schlich and Doris Barry to report on ways to reverse the trend.

Herman Drenth commented that finding a club site is difficult. Insurance is required. Organizers or club directors leave, move, drop out or die and there is often no one willing to take over and do the work.

Beatrix Marinella pointed out that there is no problem attracting people to the scholastic organization. Every week the office gets hundreds of requests for information; the problem is in retention. A network system available to all affiliates would provide an exchange of ideas and support. Designate one person in the office to answer inquiries.

Action item. Tim Redman and Helen Warren will present a draft of the criteria for a performance evaluation of the Editor and the Executive Director.

Helen Warren and Doris Barry volunteered to review the list of approximately 4500 older life memberships to determine if any are deceased or no longer interested in receiving the magazine. Ernie Schlich volunteered his assistance in the project. This project could also include a fund raising appeal.

Beatrix agreed that the expansion of the Scholastic Website to include a quality School Mates would result in a savings of approximately \$80,000 per year and would be an excellent way to test an electronic magazine publication.

Bidding procedures used in awarding scholastic tournaments were explained by Beatrix; the location, the organizer, profit, value to the chess player and family. Every bidder is given an opportunity to improve his bid. In this case under discussion, the organizer had the opportunity to see the other bid and should have been asked to exclude himself.

Action item: Pechac, Ippolito, Barry and Doris Barry to report back with recommendations for financial and organizing criteria for national event. Jim Pechac explained that a worksheet form would a useful planning tool.

The duties of the Assistant Director of National Events were added to Glenn Petersen's responsibilities as Chess Life Editor. His efforts to fulfill both job responsibilities has contributed to the deterioration of his health. The positions require different skills and although Glenn has made a valiant effort, the job responsibilities should be divided. Publications has grown beyond Chess Life and Schoolmates to include the website and an expansion of the USCF presence on the Internet. Discussion followed on creating several positions. Suggestions were given on changing some content of Chess Life with an effort to make it more interesting to a larger group. The results of a planned survey will give feedback on this issue.

Motion: EB-00-33 (Redman, Smith)

It is the intention of the EB that space be allocated in Chess Life for communication with the membership by the President or other Board members. Passed 8-0

OCTOBER 3, 1999 AGENDA ITEMS

9:00 AM BIDDING PROCEDURES (ACTION ITEM DUE FALL MEETING)

SANDBAGGING ISSUES (ACTION ITEM DUE FALL

SECURITY CONCERNS

12:30 PM LUNCH

1:30 PM 5TH EDITION OF THE RULES OF CHESS

A USCF PRESENCE AT THE AARP CONVENTION

SCHOLASTIC RATING, PROGRESS REPORT ON THIS TOPIC

USCF SHALL ESTABLISH REGIONAL SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENTS AS

QUALIFIER TO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

USCF SHALL ESTABLISH A NATIONAL SCHOLASTIC TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

SCHOLASTIC AFFILIATES SHALL CARRY WITH IT A CLUB LEVEL TD

CERTIFICATION FOR A NON-MEMBER ADULT AFFILIATED WITH THAT CLUB

TD RECRUITMENT PROGRAM TARGETING HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE MEMBERS

TD RECRUITMENT PROGRAM TARGETING ADULTS ASSOCIATED WITH ELEMENTARY

AND JR. HIGH SCHOOL CHESS PROGRAM SHALL BE ESTABLISHED

RECRUITMENT OF NON-MEMBER PARENTS SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED

A BASE ENTRY FEE AT USCF SPONSORED SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENTS SHALL BE

AVAILABLE FOR AFFILIATES WITH GROUP ENTRIES.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS ALL PRESENT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MIKE CAVALLO

Motion: EB-00-34 (Redman, McCrary, Scott, Barry)

The Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to create a membership drive with the intention of involving individual members in signing up new or returning Members. Director may offer \$5 gift certificates as incentives and should emphasize only membership categories that yield net revenue. A goal shall be established by the ED with a recommended start date of January 1 through May 31st 2000. Passed 7-0 (Warren Abstained)

Our current membership drive is not yielding results. Offer a \$5.00 gift certificate that would encourage individual members to sign up friends. Emphasize to the members that we intend to make the USCF a chess player and membership organization. The USCF will strive to provide excellent customer service. The President and Board members will communicate with the membership by means of an "Across the Board" column in Chess Life.

A list will be forwarded to the Board with information on various security issues: keys to the office, employees who have USCF credit cards, when locks were last changed: the procedure to back up data; who opens the office and at what time.

Fifth Edition of Rule Book: Tim Redman suggested that USCF engage the services of an agent in marketing it to a publisher. Process to have a large discussion group and an inner group of 8-10 with assigned specific tasks e.g. Internet rules. Explore multiple formats: book, CD ROM, Internet, and loose leaf. The goal will be a working draft for discussion in St. Paul and a completed draft for approval 2001.

Motion: EB-00-35 (Redman)

EB accepts the plan for the rewriting of the Fifth Edition of the Rule Book. A list of members were recommended for the committee based on acceptance by the individuals. Passed 8-0

USCF presence at AARP Convention in the Spring of 2000 was a project presented by Ken Horne. Benefits will link to our membership drive, as well as recruiting teachers, coaches and affiliates.

Motion: EB-00-36 (Scott, Redman, Barry, Ippolito) T-62

USCF shall have a presence at the AARP Convention in Florida in the Spring of 2000. The budget shall not exceed \$5000 with the intention that local volunteers will man the booth or booths. The intention is for future USCF follow-up presence at this event. Passed 8-0

A proposal for a Scholastic Rating System has been given to the Rating Committee. There has been no feedback.

The size of National Scholastic events makes it difficult to find a site large enough. The quality of the event is dependent on the individual organizer. USCF could establish professional staff to organize Nationals that would ensure quality control. Establishing regional or local scholastics as qualifiers for USCF Spring National Tournaments would attract local players who may not have the resources to travel and would enhance the quality of the event. This represents two feasible ways of addressing the natural expansion of scholastic chess but would require additional tournament management and accounting personnel.

Motion: EB-00-37 (Scott, Ippolito, Redman) T-76-77

Move that the Board refer the proposal that the USCF shall establish regional scholastic tournaments as qualifiers to National Championships to the Scholastic Committee for a report back and action at the next Board meeting. Passed 8-0

Motion: EB-00-38 (Scott, Redman) T-88-9

Move to refer the proposal to establish a National Scholastic Team Championship to The Scholastic Committee for report back and action at the next Board meeting. Passed 8-0

Consideration is given to the concept of team play which builds camaraderie and adds a social interaction that players enjoy. The team events would be in addition to existing tournaments.

Motion: EB-00-39 (Scott, Redman) T-100

EB refers the proposal that a non-member adult, helping with the activities of a scholastic affiliate, shall be eligible to become a club level certified TD, upon fulfilling the requirement for that level of certification, to the Scholastic and TDC Committees for reporting and recommendation to the Board at its next meeting. Passed 7-1

(Warren opposed) *

(with the comment that encouraging the non-member adult to become a USCF member and then pursue certification is a better idea.)

It was suggested that action would encourage affiliation and presents the opportunity for an adult to become a tournament director.

Eric Johnson explained that a certified chess club program, now in place, allows non-members adults to run rated events at their school. Few people are using that program at this time.

Motion: EB-00-40 (Scott, Redman, Warren) T-100

The TD recruitment and mentoring program targeting high school and college members shall be referred to the TDCC and Scholastic Committees. Passed 8-0

This program would develop a larger pool of experienced TDs.

Motion: EB-00-41 (Scott, Redman) T-124-125

The TD recruitment program targeting adults associated with elementary and junior high school chess programs will be encouraged and recruitment of non-member parents will also be encouraged and referred to TDCC and Scholastic Committees. Failed 3-5

Aye (McCrary, Redman, Scott). Nay (Warren, Pechac, Barry, Smith, Ippolito).

Motion: EB-00-42 (Scott, Redman) T-130

The TD recruitment program targeting adults associated with elementary and junior school chess programs shall be established. Passed 5-3 Aye (Scott, Redman, Smith, Barry, McCrary) Nay- (Warren, Pechac, Ippolito)

Motion: EB-00-43 (Scott) T-134-136

A discounted entry fee at USCF sponsored scholastic tournaments shall be available for affiliates with group entries with referral to the Scholastic Committee and Scholastic Director. Passed 7-1 (Pechac Opposed)

(Consideration should be given to the impact on the current software being installed and some idea in terms of materiality.)

Motion: EB-00-44 (Redman, Barry}

Executive Board commends John L. White for his special service to the USCF Passed 8-0

Mr. White, at the request of the President, evaluated the office procedures and interviewed personnel. He prepared a report evaluating and making suggestions for the improvement of the office operations.

Motion: EB-00-45 (Warren, Redman)

The Secretary is authorized to contact Holly Prisco in an effort to resolve the issue of the refund of her retirement savings. Passed 8-0 This issue is now resolved. Holly was mailed a check.

Motion: EB-00-46 (McCrary, Redman)

Grants and Historian committees are deleted. Passed 8-0

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Motion: EB-00-47

Executive Board expresses its confidence in the Executive Director. Aye 3 (McCrary, Smith, Scott)

Nay 3 (Warren, Barry, Pechac) 2- abstained-(Redman, Ippolito.) Motion failed

Motion: EB-00-48

Noting unsatisfactory progress in the updating of the USCF computer system, the Board terminates Executive Director, Mike Cavallo's, employment with the Federation effective November 3, 1999 with our thanks for his many accomplishments and years of service. Should an outside evaluator or evaluators, appointed by the President, the Vice President for Finance and the Secretary, certify to the Board, in writing, that the computer modernization has been satisfactorily completed before that date, after a Board conference call, including the evaluator or evaluators, this motion may be rescinded. During the conference call other Executive

Director performance issues, as outlined in Binfo 99-192, will also be considered.

The President is authorized to employ an interim Executor Director while the Board engages in an open and international search for a new Executive Director. Passed 8-0

A subsequent evaluation of the computer system was performed by volunteer technical members of the Internet Computer Committee Richard Koepecke, George John, Gary Prince, Jim Pechac, VP for Finance and Doris Barry, liaison to the committee on November 12 through the 15th. A final report of their evaluation will be posted on the website.

*Garret Scott was absent the first day of this meeting due to teaching responsibilities.

SPECIAL NOTE: DURING A CONFERENCE CALL ON NOVEMBER 30,1999, THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO CANCEL THE US CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2000.

**** Motion: EB-00-49**

USCF cancels the U S Championship for the year 2000, fiscal year 2001. Passed 8-0 (Ippolito registered his vote after the conference call). This action was as a result of the USCF financial situation.

Note from the USCF Secretary. To the Voting Members. I apologize for the delay in completing these minutes. The stenographer, hired by the USCF, developed pneumonia. I received the final transcript the day before Thanksgiving. Thank you for your patience. The full transcript (minus closed session) will be posted on the website.

Doris Barry