

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 05/99 POLICY BOARD MEETING

By Rachel Lieberman, USCF Secretary

ACTIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS

The Policy Board ratified several actions that were taken between December and May.

Tom Dorsch offered the following motion on January 15, 1999:

PB 99-41 (Dorsch): The Policy Board shall schedule a meeting for Parsippany, New Jersey, for February 14, 1999, to meet with the USCF Finance Committee to develop solutions to the current USCF financial crisis

STATUS: An informal poll of the Board was taken. Results were 3 – 3 (Dorsch, Eade, Lieberman in favor; Goichberg, Schultz, Scott opposed).

As three members of the Board had called for a special meeting but the date and time had not been determined, Rachel Lieberman proposed the following motion by objections procedure:

PB 99-42 (Lieberman): The Board will meet with the Finance Committee on Saturday, February 13, at 9:00 AM at the site of the 1999 US Amateur Team Championship East (USATE) for the purpose of reviewing fiscal 1999 projections and considering long term policy.

STATUS: Two objections received (Don Schultz and Garrett Scott). Don Schultz recommended that a Finance Meeting take place at the USATE, and that the Board then consider a formal meeting in New Windsor on the weekend of February 27, 1999 to review recommendations and pass appropriate motions.

A Finance Workshop was held at the USATE on Sunday, February 14, 1999, at 9:00 AM. At the end of the meeting two straw polls were taken. Both passed decisively. They were as follows:

1. The Finance Workshop advocates adoption (by the Executive Board and the Delegates) of an austerity budget for 1999 – 2000. The comment was made that no budget item should go unexamined.
2. The Finance Workshop recommends formation (by the Executive Board) of a special Task Force chaired by Past President Dr. Leroy Dubeck to recommend solutions to the fiscal crisis to the Executive Board and the Delegates.

Rachel Lieberman therefore proposed the following motions by objections procedure:

(Lieberman): The recommendations of the Finance Workshop are approved in principle by the Board. The official Board meeting previously requested is no longer needed and shall not be held.

STATUS: Jim Eade recommended that this motion be divided and listed as two separate motions. Rachel Lieberman accepted the division.

PB 99-43 (Lieberman): The recommendations of the Finance Workshop are approved in principle by the Board.

STATUS: No objections received.

PB 99-44 (Lieberman): The official Board meeting previously requested is no longer needed and shall not be held.

STATUS: No objections received

PB 99-45 (Lieberman): A Task Force is created to provide recommendations to increase revenues and/ or decrease expenses for the 1999 – 2000 budget in time for the May 1 Board meeting.

STATUS: No objections received.

PB 99-46 (Lieberman): The Task Force is to be chaired by Leroy Dubeck. Members shall include Steve Doyle, Michael Carr, and Robert Ferguson. Other members may be named at a later date if appropriate.

STATUS: Two objections received (Don Schultz and Jim Eade). Jim Eade proposed the following substitute, which was accepted:

PB 99-47 (Eade): The Task Force is to be chaired by Leroy Dubeck. Dr. Dubeck will forward to the Board a list of proposed appointees to the Task Force for the Board's review and approval.

STATUS: No objections received. Note: Mike Carr, Lee LaFrese, and Fred Townsend were named.

PB 99-48 (Lieberman): The Executive Director is encouraged to review all budget items in search of opportunities as well as savings.

STATUS: No objections received.

The Board discussed (via e-mail) Tournament Life Announcements. Tom Dorsch offered the following motion by objections procedure:

PB 99-49 (Dorsch): *Chess Life* will revert to the TLA policy that was in effect in 1996

STATUS: One objection received (Bill Goichberg). **NOTE:** This item was put on the Agenda for the May 1 Board meeting.

PB 99-50 (Lieberman): Helen Warren's bid for the Year 2000 US Masters' is accepted. Helen is thanked for her generous contribution to this event.

STATUS: One objection (Don Schultz objected on procedural grounds). **NOTE:** This item was put on the Agenda for the May 1 Board meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 05/99 POLICY BOARD MEETING

SATURDAY MAY 1, 1999

The Policy Board held its May 1999 meeting at the Days Inn in Newburgh, New York, on the weekend of May 1 and 2, 1999. Special thanks go to the office and to the guests who attended the meeting including, but not limited to the following:

Jami Anson, NY; Arthur Bisguier, NY; David Cole, NJ; Tony Cottell, NJ; Barbara DeMaro, NY; Steve Doyle, NJ; Leroy Dubeck, NJ; Joan DuBois, NY; Robert Hamilton, Canada; Phil Innes; Carol Jarecki, NJ; Eric Johnson, NY; Alan Kantor, NY; Larry King, NY; Oscar Kuperman; Myron Lieberman, AZ; Sonia Lynch, NY; Beatriz Marinello, NY; Judy Misner, NY; Glenn Petersen, NY; Tim Redman, TX; Sam Sloan, NY; Bob Smith, FL; Robert Tanner, AZ; Helen Warren, IL; Jim Warren, IL; and Boris Yeschan, Russia

Nine Executive Board candidates were present.

Opening - President

President Donald Schultz called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. He welcomed the guests and discussed the upcoming election. President Schultz requested that each candidate copy all Voting Members in mailings and that any negative campaign letters be sent early.

President Schultz discussed the upcoming FIDE World Championship. It is scheduled to take place in Las Vegas from late July through August.

It is expected that San Francisco will submit a bid for the US Championship by June 15.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Michael Cavallo reported that expenses are down and that there has been an increase in regular adult memberships over the last six months. He stated that revenues are expected to increase dramatically.

The next catalog will be printed in June and, as a cost cutting measure, will contain fewer pages.

Executive Director Cavallo discussed promotional proposals from Mindscape and KO-Interactive. Mindscape is interested in sponsoring events and tours. Mike Cavallo stated that he has spoken to them about the Grand Prix. KO-Interactive is interested in working together to create new products, in particular, a curriculum product that would use the term "School Mates, US Chess Federation." This is non-exclusive.

The need to find new sponsorships and maintain our current sponsors was discussed.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tom Dorsch gave a report in which he expressed concern about the current level of long term debt and accounts payable. Executive Director Michael Cavallo stated that the US Chess Federation has acquired new assets during this period and that net debt has not materially changed.

As part of his report Treasurer Dorsch invited Past Treasurer Tony Cottell and Past President Steve Doyle to speak to the group regarding financial issues discussed in a mailing by President Donald Schultz.

Past Treasurer Cottell stated that the President's letter contains some inaccuracies in its analysis of LMA financing. Systems were set in place by which some funding (5% of Life Memberships and 50% of Sustaining Memberships) would be given to Operations annually to meet our obligation to Life Members. The letter states that "all new life member income as well as the capital gains from sales of investments went directly into Operations". Tony Cottell requested that a statement be mailed to correct this. President Schultz said that Tony Cottell has made substantial contributions to the attainment and protection of LMA assets. He said that he had no reason to dispute what Mr. Cottell said and he apologized. He said that he made his assumption that all income from new life members after the 1986 motion would flow into operations because it is difficult to otherwise understand the rationale for the 1986 motion terminating the amortizing of life member income over a twenty year period. President Schultz said he will correct the record in his next mailing to Voting Members.

Former President Steve Doyle discussed asset/liability ratio calculations as they pertain to the same letter. He questioned naming the auditors in a national mailing, and stated that the 1998 President's Report needs to be corrected with regard to finances. Don Schultz said he would, once again, review the record.

Treasurer Tom Dorsch proposed the following motion:

PB 99-51 (Dorsch): (With regard to Tony Cottell and Steve Doyle) Don Schultz will draft a letter with the corrections on behalf of the Board. NO VOTE TAKEN

Jim Eade proposed that the motion be split. The split was as follows:

PB 99-52 (Dorsch): (With regard to Tony Cottell) Don Schultz will draft a letter with the corrections on behalf of the Board. FAILED 3-3

(Dorsch, Eade, Scott in favor; Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz opposed)

PB 99-53 (Dorsch): (With regard to Steve Doyle) Don Schultz will draft a letter addressing Steve Doyle's concerns on behalf of the Board. FAILED 2-4

(Dorsch, Eade in favor; Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz, Scott opposed)

Member-At-Large Jim Eade read aloud a proposed motion written by Former President Steve Doyle that discussed these issues. No further action was taken.

Report on College Chess and the National College Chess League

Former President Tim Redman reviewed the first year for the National College Chess League. This year there were eight teams. The goal for next year is twenty teams. Publicity is very important.

The cost of USCF maintaining a website was also discussed. It was estimated at \$100,000, of which \$20,000 would be designated for the server, and \$80,000 would be designated for software, phone lines, and personnel. The University of Texas at Dallas has offered a server to the US Chess Federation.

The University of Texas at Dallas offers chess scholarships, and Tim Redman has advocated for a time Senior Professor to teach Chess in Education on campus. He also stated that under ideal conditions it would be good to send an All Star College Team to the annual All Star Tournament.

The Pan American Tournament was discussed. It will be held in Toronto in 1999.

The College Chess Committee was confirmed as follows:

Chair: Tim Redman (TX)

Members: Chris Chu (Canada); Gary Gaiffe (TX); George John (TX); Bryan Lamb (Canada); Alexey Root (TX); Alan Sherman (MD); Katie Stone (TX)

Ex-Officio: Sunil Weeramantry (Chess In Education); Ralph Bowman/ Joe Ippolito (Scholastic)

Board Liaison: Garrett Scott

Garrett Scott proposed the following motion:

PB 99-54 (Scott): The Board moves that the College Chess Committee is confirmed as named. PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

A break was called at 11:33 AM. The meeting resumed at 11:51 AM.

Status of Action Items

The Board reviewed Action Items. Please note that some items have been completed. Others will need to be considered by the next Board.

(Revised May 11, 1999) BOARD MEMBER ACTION ITEMS

DATE	ITEM	STATUS	WHO/WHEN
8/97	Doubles will be spotlighted as a way to increase participation, particularly among females.	Bill Goichberg has established some Doubles events in conjunction with tournaments.	Completed
8/98	Synchronization of website and label ratings will be reviewed.	This has been referred to the Ratings Comm & is awaiting a report.	Bill Goichberg 8/99
8/98	Internet Partnerships will be examined.	It was determined that this item should wait for the next Board.	
12/98	Nominations are being sought for Delegate named Committees.	Don Schultz will submit an article for the "Delegates' Call".	Completed
12/98	The purpose is to Investigate the possibility of an Online Membership class.	Jim Eade will assist the Online Subcommittee in drafting wording for Board review.	Jim Eade, Bill Goichberg, Rachel Lieberman 6/99
12/98	Status of USCF participation at the 1998 NEA conference will be examined.	Garrett Scott will be given a report on 1998 participation by 6/1/99, and will share it with the Board	Garrett Scott 6/99
2/98	All Board members will establish AOL addresses (PB 98-52)	It was determined that this should be an action item for the next Board.	

BOARD MEMBER/ OFFICE/ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION ITEMS

DATE	ITEM	STATUS	WHO/WHEN
5/98	A five-year plan will be developed which will focus on USCF needs and goals.	It was determined that this should be an action item for the next Board.	
2/98	Garrett Scott and Beatriz Marinello will examine the concept of a scholastic rulebook.	The Scholastic Committee saw this as a worthwhile project. Ralph Bowman will be involved.	Garrett Scott Beatriz Marinello 8/99
5/98	Methods will be developed to correct (sandbagging) problems caused by inaccurate ratings or extraordinary rating fluctuations.	Bill Goichberg has talked to Mark Glickman. The office will also provide input.	Bill Goichberg Mike Cavallo Ernie Schlich Ongoing
12/98	An updated set of Bidding Procedures will be prepared and distributed.	The Scholastic Committee will report on this in August. Beatriz Marinello has also helped..	Beatriz Marinello Scholastic Comm Garrett Scott 8/99

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ OFFICE ACTION ITEMS

DATE	ITEM	STATUS	WHO/WHEN
8/97	A new survey is forthcoming..	A draft will be presented in August.	Mike Cavallo 8/99
2/98	Re: Quick Chess Ratings	The Chairman of the Ratings Committee was requested to poll the Committee for input.	Completed
5/98	The Executive Director will examine some aspects and procedures of the US Championship.	Mike Cavallo and Barbara DeMaro have worked to increase coverage for Grandmasters. Their results were met with a round of applause.	Ongoing
5/97	The office computer system is being upgraded.	The new computer system is in the process of being installed.	In Process 8/99
12/98	Re: Young Adult Membership classes	Input will be sought from the Finance & Scholastic Committees.	Ongoing 8/99
12/98	Input will be sought re: New National Team Tournaments	Input was received from the Events Comm on this issue.	Completed

A lunch break was called at 12:53 PM. The meeting resumed at 2:23PM.

Report of the Dubeck Committee

Former President Leroy Dubeck reviewed the recommendations of the Finance Task Force, which had been named after the Finance Workshop at the US Amateur Team East. The Task Force consisted of Dr. Leroy Dubeck, Chair, NJ; Mike Carr, CA/S; Lee LaFrese, AZ; and Fred Townsend, CT.

The Task Force advocated an increased web presence, including bringing the website in-house and adding USCF on-line play. USCF book publishing was also considered. Book reviews could be provided in which Experts would provide commentary. The key would be to provide expertise that would not be available elsewhere. It was noted that the best sellers are instructional books, and that books should be able to be downloaded for a fee.

Discussion centered on the many ideas presented by the Task Force. Invitational events were examined. Leroy Dubeck stated that we must take a hard look at which tournaments we subsidize. It was noted that the submission of rating reports via the website would eliminate many errors and should be encouraged.

The Life Membership Asset Study prepared by Fred Townsend was also reviewed, along with steps that should be taken when LMA liabilities exceed LMA assets.

The following motion was proposed:

PB 99-55 (Dorsch): The members of the Finance Task Force (Leroy Dubeck, Mike Carr, Lee LaFrese, and Fred Townsend) as well as Finance Committee Chair Jim Pechac are thanked for their work and their outstanding contribution. PASSED BY ACCLAMATION

Hamilton Report

Robert Hamilton (Canada) reported on a possible strategic alliance between the World Chess Network, the World Scholastic Chess Network, and the USCF. The Board was interested in this idea. Among other things, the alliance would establish a cooperative relationship with the USCF on the Internet.

Mr. Hamilton is working with Bill Church and Yasser Seirawan. The World Chess Network would be a 24-hour chess network open to players from around the world. The World Scholastic Chess Network would be set up along the same lines, for scholastic chess only. Marketing for both would be very aggressive.

Plans call for the USCF to participate in this program. Robert Hamilton and Michael Cavallo will continue to plan for the strategic alliance.

Presentation by Boris Yeshan, Webmaster for the Russian Chess Federation

Boris Yeshan, President of Shahcom Company in St. Petersburg, Russia, and Oscar Kuperman demonstrated an intelligent sensory board. The demonstration included its interface with the Internet. Mr. Yeshan, Webmaster for the Russian Chess Federation, accessed the Russian website as part of the demonstration. That website can be reached at www.ruschess.com.

It was stated that it is Mr. Yeshan's intent to share his chess resources and experience with the USCF "in order to develop a world chess program for the Internet." Mr. Yeshan has since submitted four proposals for consideration by the USCF. The proposals address the following subjects.

Proposal One: The USCF shall join with an international initiative now underway for three years in the development and support of a worldwide Internet chess league on a team basis.

Proposal Two: A demonstration of Shahcom's technology be made under stringent match conditions It is proposed that this be a USA v Russia match.

Proposal Three: Mass production of the sensory board, making it a viable accessory for most chess players, but especially for tournament managers, professional, and scholastic use.

Proposal Four: Communication and Education. This includes the subtopics of cost of web site development, print-on-demand publishing, Worldwide E-zine, Mentoring, Website sales, Development of Learning Materials, content, markets, Sponsorship, and Web Journalism.

Proposed Budget

The proposed budget for 1999 – 2000 was introduced. The Board reviewed revenues and expenses as stated in the proposed budget. Bad debt was also discussed. Suggestions were made that US participation in the World Team Championship be dropped, and to put a higher priority on development of an Internet presence. Another focus was personnel expense.

A committee composed of Leroy Dubeck, Tim Redman, and Mike Cavallo was named to review the budget proposal and report back with any proposed modifications on Sunday morning.

The meeting recessed at 6:15 PM on Saturday night.

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 1999

President Donald Schultz called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM. There was some discussion regarding the upcoming election. Secretary Rachel Lieberman stated that she would mail the ballots on July 9, 1999. Those phone numbers that have been made available by Voting Members will be provided to the candidates.

Proposed Budget (continued)

The committee made up of Leroy Dubeck, Tim Redman, and Mike Cavallo reported on the modifications that had been made to the budget. It was noted that the charitable Trust would cover some scholastic expenses (\$15,000). A \$75,000 fund for new initiatives was proposed, to be divided between strengthening our Internet presence (\$50,000 additional) and a publishing venture (\$25,000). Options considered but NOT included in the budget were additional proposals to increase revenue or cut costs, including a reduction in SASP funds, an increase in book prices, increases in Youth and Scholastic membership dues, and non-participation in the upcoming World Team Championship.

The suggested modifications included a personnel line of \$1,580,000, down from an originally proposed \$1,640,000 but above the 1998-9 Personnel line of \$1,465,000. It was suggested that the proposed figures would allow money for salary increases, but not for replacement of personnel who leave USCF. It was noted that the new technology in the office should help relieve staff.

The upcoming CHESSathon was discussed. It is expected to break even.

A break was called at 10:43 AM. The meeting resumed at 11:02 AM. Budget discussions continued. The final proposed revenue line was \$6,608,000. The proposed expense line was \$6,544,000. These figures provided for a surplus of \$64,000. The surplus can be used to pay down debt and therefore cut interest expense.

PB 99-56 (Schultz): The budget of Mike Cavallo as revised by Leroy Dubeck, Mike Cavallo, and Tim Redman is accepted. NOT VOTED ON AT THIS TIME

Discussion ensued regarding possible modifications. The motion was set aside and effectively withdrawn so that other motions that could affect the proposed budget could be considered. It was replaced after the discussion by motion PB 99-64.

PB 99-57 (Cavallo): The electronics line is lowered to \$74,000. The surplus is raised to \$90,000. FAILED 3-3 (Goichberg, Schultz, Scott in favor; Dorsch, Eade, Lieberman opposed)

PB 99-58 (Goichberg): International tournament expenses are lowered as follows: An additional \$5,000 is taken from the World Team Championship and an additional \$1,000 is taken from the World Junior Championship. WITHDRAWN

PB 99-59 (Dorsch): US participation in the World Team Championship is eliminated.

FAILED 2 – 4 (Dorsch, Eade in favor; Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz, Scott opposed).

Departing USCF Accountant Sonia Lynch addressed the Board on the need to adequately compensate staff.

PB 99-60 (Eade): \$36,000 is added back in personnel expenses as follows: \$30,000 on the salary line, \$3,000 each for taxes and benefits. PASSED 4- 2

(Dorsch, Eade, Lieberman, Scott in favor; Schultz, Goichberg opposed)

Note: This increase would drop the Surplus to \$28,000.

Rachel Lieberman proposed that \$25,000 be taken out of the New Initiative budget to rebuild the surplus. Breakdown is \$10,000 from publishing and \$15,000 from the website. Bill Goichberg offered an amendment to take the entire \$25,000 from the Web site/Internet line. The amendment failed 1 – 5 (Goichberg in favor; Dorsch, Eade, Lieberman, Scott, Schultz opposed)

PB 99-61 (Lieberman): \$25,000 is taken out of the New Initiative budget to be added to the surplus. Breakdown is \$10,000 from publishing and \$15,000 from the website. FAILED 1 – 5

(Lieberman in favor; Dorsch, Eade, Goichberg, Schultz, Scott opposed)

A lunch break was called at 12:49 PM. The meeting resumed at 2:23 PM. Following lunch, these motions were considered:

PB 99-62 (Scott): US participation in the World Team Championship is reconsidered.

FAILED 3 – 3 (Dorsch, Eade, Scott in favor; Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz opposed)

PB 99-63 (Lieberman): In view of the additional (personnel) expense added to the proposed budget, the proposed website expense line is cut (from \$100,000) to \$70,000 and the proposed promotional expense line is cut (from \$9,000) to \$7,000. PASSED 4 – 2

(Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz, Scott in favor; Dorsch, Eade opposed)

PB 99-64 (Schultz): The (1999 – 2000) budget proposal is sent to the Delegates.

PASSED 4 – 2 (Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz, Scott in favor; Dorsch, Eade opposed)

The budget that passed includes a surplus of \$60,000, and will be presented to the Delegates for approval at the 1999 meeting in Reno, Nevada. It includes a total of \$95,000 for the USCF Internet presence and publishing projects as well as allowing participation in the World Team Championship and an increased personnel line.

USCF Auditors

The Board discussed the need to approve the selection of auditors for the coming fiscal year. Other issues regarding the auditors were also considered.

PB 99-65 (Schultz): The Board approves Stanley Marks and Company as auditors.

PASSED 5 - 0 – 1 (Eade, Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz, Scott in favor; Dorsch abstained)

Treasurer Tom Dorsch proposed a motion stating that it is the Treasurer's (VP for Finance's) responsibility to pick the independent auditor firm. President Don Schultz suggested the word "recommend" be substituted for the word "pick". The ensuing discussion resulted in the following motions:

PB 99-66 (Schultz): The concept of the Vice President for Finance selecting the auditing firm is referred to the Bylaws Committee. FAILED 1 – 5 (Schultz in favor; Dorsch, Eade, Goichberg, Lieberman, Scott opposed)

PB 99-67 (Dorsch): The Vice President for Finance selects the auditing firm, subject to ratification of the Executive Board. FAILED 2 – 3 – 1

(Dorsch, Lieberman in favor; Goichberg, Schultz, Scott opposed; Eade abstained)

Drawing for Candidates' Positions on the Ballot for the 1999 Election

Editor Glenn Petersen drew sealed envelopes containing the names of the seventeen Executive Board candidates for the order in which they will appear on the ballot and in *Chess Life*. That order is as follows:

Jim Pechac, OH

Ralph Bowman, KS

Tom Dorsch, CA/N

Bob Smith, FL

Frank Camaratta, FL

Anthony Cottell, NJ

R. John McCrary, SC

Joe Ippolito, NJ

Tim Redman, TX

Doris L. Barry, AZ

Sam Sloan, NY

Larry Eldridge, MA

Arthur Bisguier, NY

Bob Holliman, MO

Helen Warren, IL

Robert Tanner, AZ

E. Steven Doyle, NJ

Open Forum

An Open Forum was held to give guests the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. Topics discussed included, but were not limited to, the Tournament Administrator re-write (which will be implemented when the new system is in place) and the status of the new Rulebook (which is a matter for the next Board to review).

Motions that Failed to Pass By Objections Procedure

Secretary Rachel Lieberman introduced the motions that had failed to pass by objection procedure, so that the Board could consider them. Those motions are as follows:

PB 99-68 (Lieberman): Helen Warren's bid for the Year 2000 US Masters' is accepted. Helen is thanked for her generous contribution to this event. PASSED 6 - 0

Helen Warren addressed the Board on this issue.

PB 99-69 (Dorsch): Chess Life will revert to the TLA policy that was in effect in 1996. WITHDRAWN

Policy Board Member Items for Discussion

At this time Policy Board Member Items for Discussion were introduced. President Don Schultz withdrew the item regarding Bobby Fischer that he had placed on the Agenda

Report of the Subcommittee on Online Memberships (Bill Goichberg and Rachel Lieberman)

Vice President Bill Goichberg introduced the Report of the Subcommittee on Online Memberships. Bill Goichberg and Rachel Lieberman advocated for two weekly e-mail publications, one designed for current Chess Life readers and another for those who presently receive School Mates. Both would have current news and some games, both would refer readers to the website for TLAs and USCF merchandise, and both would offer regular or occasional sales specials.

The key would be for the bulletins to offer more news and faster reporting than the website.

The bulletins would be made available via subscription, as an option for members to choose rather than their magazine, or as part of an online membership.

The Subcommittee, as part of the report, proposed that *"The Policy Board endorses in principle the concept of a weekly e-mail bulletin, as described in the report of the Online Membership Subcommittee, and refers it to the Executive Director for implementation as he believes appropriate."* No vote was taken.

Tom Dorsch then proposed the following motion:

PB 99-70 (Dorsch): The USCF should have an Online Membership second to none.

FAILED 3 - 3 (Dorsch, Eade, Schultz in favor; Goichberg, Lieberman, Scott opposed)

After additional discussion Tom Dorsch suggested that the USCF Online Presence be referred to the Internet Committee. No vote was taken, but the subcommittee was expanded to include Member-At-Large Jim Eade and charged with developing revised wording to present to the Board for referral to the Internet Committee.

OMOV Motion

Vice President Bill Goichberg reviewed the recommendations suggested by the Bylaws Committee in regard to OMOV (PB 99-31). The Bylaws Committee was polled regarding several issues:

1. Who counts the votes?
2. Who counts the recall votes?
3. Should candidates be able to buy additional space in the election supplements?
4. How many election supplements should there be?
5. What kind of space should candidates receive on the USCF website?
6. Should there be a filing fee and if so, how much?
7. How should recall be initiated?
8. How many minimum votes need to be cast for a valid recall?
9. Clarity of wording changes.

Please note that the revised wording of the proposed Bylaw changes to enable OMOV can be found in the pre-printed agenda for the Delegates' Meeting. . Bill Goichberg introduced the following motion:

PB 99-71 (Goichberg): The Policy Board places on the Agenda for the Delegates' Meeting the OMOV proposals approved at the December, 1998 meeting as amended to include suggestions made by the Bylaws Committee. PASSED 4 – 2

(Goichberg, Lieberman, Schultz, Scott in favor; Dorsch, Eade opposed).

Hall of Fame Committee Report and Nomination

Secretary Rachel Lieberman presented the Hall of Fame Committee report. This year the committee proposed that Jose Capablanca and Benjamin Franklin be inducted into the US Chess Hall of Fame. It was noted that Capablanca's Cuba was under US based government during his youth. It was also noted that the eventual goal is to have a World Chess Hall of Fame, to be based in Miami, along with the US Chess Hall of Fame. The following motions were proposed.

PB 99-72 (Lieberman): The Policy Board endorses and forwards to the US Chess Trust the recommendations of the Hall of Fame Committee to induct Jose Raul Capablanca and Benjamin Franklin into the US Chess Hall of Fame. SPLIT

Member-At-Large Jim Eade recommended that the motion be split. Rachel Lieberman agreed.

PB 99-73 (Lieberman): The Policy Board endorses and forwards to the US Chess Trust the recommendation of the Hall of Fame Committee to induct Jose Raul Capablanca into the US Chess Hall of Fame. FAILED 2 – 4 (Goichberg, Lieberman in favor; Dorsch, Eade, Schultz, Scott opposed).

PB 99-74 (Lieberman): The Policy Board endorses and forwards to the US Chess Trust the recommendation of the Hall of Fame Committee to induct Benjamin Franklin into the US Chess Hall of Fame. PASSED 6-0

Rachel Lieberman will notify the Franklin Institute.

Outreach Status Report

Secretary Rachel Lieberman thanked Selby Anderson, Jim Gallagher, and Jesse Vasquez for their assistance with the CDC program in San Antonio, Texas. This program is expanding. The CDC affiliate in San Antonio is working with the Chess Trust to develop chess in specially targeted inner city areas. Part of the program also includes the Police in San Antonio playing chess with inner city children. The American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children will hold its annual convention in San Antonio on the same weekend as the CHESSathon. That organization has been contacted and will provide information on chess for prevention, USCF, and the CHESSathon in the packets given to their attendees.

Mention was made that the Outreach Survey has been posted again at www.uschess.org.

LMA Policies and Procedures

Treasurer Tom Dorsch requested that all paperwork regarding LMA transfers be sent to him. At this time the Treasurer also introduced the following motion:

PB 99-75 (Dorsch): Beginning in 1999 and later years, a balance sheet and statement of cash flows will both be included in the financial materials that appear in the USCF Annual Report. PASSED 6 - 0

Office Policies

Jim Eade requested that office staff not get involved in the election, including not discussing candidates on the telephone when making telephone calls for other purposes.

Closed Session

The Board went into closed session for the purpose of naming Award recipients. A new Award was established this year: Chess Club of the Year.

The following motion was proposed:

PB 99-76 (Lieberman): The Policy Board is pleased to announce the following Awards winners.

PASSED 6 - 0

Distinguished Service Award	Jerry Spann (posthumously)
Outstanding Career Achievement Award	Stuart Laughlin, Bob Fisher, James Hurt
Meritorious Service Award	Erv Sedlock, Selby Anderson, Ken Smith (posthumously)
Organizers of the Year Award	De Knudson, John Donaldson
Special Services Award	Tim Just, Mike Carr Alice Loranth (posthumously)
Frank J. Marshall Ambassador Award	Fan Adams (posthumously)
Chess City of the Year Award	San Francisco, California; Gilbert, Arizona
Chess Club of the Year Award (new Award)	Pittsburgh Chess Club
Grandmaster of the Year Award	Nick de Firmian
Committee of the Year Award	Rules Committee; Finance Task Force

Following the reading aloud in open session of the names of Awards recipients, the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 PM.

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