

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES
Saturday, January 20, 20001
Miami Florida

You can access the discussions on each motion by referring to the page number listed after each EB number e.g. (EB01-65 Page 8). This indicates the motion was approved on page 8 of the transcript for January 20th. Discussions can be accessed provided it was not a closed session issue.

Visitors included, Jim Warren, Frank Niro & Don Schultz. Joel Berez, representing Games Parlor. Steve Shutt and Pat Hoekstra representing the Scholastic Council.

Open Session

EB01-65 (Redman) Page 8 Motion to adopt the agenda.
Passed 7-0

EB01-66 (Redman) Page 8 The Board thanks Glenn Petersen for his many years of service to the United States Chess Federation, his many years of service to New Jersey chess and to chess in general.
Passed 7-0

Motions from Closed Session

EB01-67 (Smith) Page 60-61 Move to overturn the ruling of the chair that no further discussion of the motion **EB01-69** would be allowed in open session.

Passed 4-3

For: McCrary, Smith, Ippolito, Warren

Against: Barry, Redman, Pechac

(Note: Correct procedure would have been to vote on this motion after EB01-69).

EB01-68 (Warren) Page 61 Move that the Executive Director, with Games Parlor, shall design a specific enhanced service program, including tournament, with the goal of establishing revenue streams for presentation to the Executive Board at the April meeting.

Passed 6-0-1 Pechac abstaining

EB01-69 (Board) Page 61-62 The Board approves in principle the contract negotiated by the Executive Director and Games Parlor and authorizes the Executive Director to finalize the contract along the lines explained to the Board.

Passed 5-2

For: Warren, Pechac, Barry, Redman, Ippolito
Against: McCrary, Smith

Note: *(Motion EB01- 69 should have been voted on in open session before the vote was taken on this motion of appealing the ruling of the chair EB01-67)*

Comments of Board members for their reasons for voting or not voting for motion EB01-69.

Opposed McCrary

The reason that I oppose this motion is that I have concerns about the lengths of the contract indicated that we have authorized the executive director to negotiate. I feel that at this point we have a substantial cost investment in Games Parlor. At this point we have inadequate return. I hope that will change. I do support the concept tremendously, but I do disagree with the idea of a contract of the length specified given the many questions about developing revenue sources for this agreement.

In favor--Warren

I think that the two-year period is normal, quite usual, for contracts of this nature. The reasoning for my vote is that we are on course with an established relationship and this contract simply formalizes and reinforces our commitment to what we are doing.

In favor--Redman

The contract with Games Parlor providing this Online play option to USCF members is a fundamental strategic goal of this Board. The intent has always been to enhance the value of the membership without raising the cost. The implications of this course have been discussed and explained.

Informational comment by DeFeis There is a termination clause in the contract that if there is a material breach that cannot be resolved and for other reasons the USCF can end the agreement at any time.

Informational comment by Barry Games Parlor, at their expense, has set up for the USCF a dedicated Online site that would have cost the USCF approximately a quarter of a million dollars to develop.

EB01-70 (Redman) Page 150-164 Motion: The Board endorses the books and equipment strategic plan circulated by the Executive Director regarding the reduction in the number of our book and product offerings and asks him to continue to implement changes along these lines and report to the Board as to progress at the April board meeting.

Passed: 4-2-1

For: Barry, Redman, Pechac, Warren
Against: Smith, McCrary

Abstaining: Ippolito

EB01-71 (Redman) Page 246 Move to reconsider motion number EB 01-37.
Passed 7-0

(EB01-37) For calendar year 2001, an activity bonus of two points per game played in tournaments of three rounds or more will be added to the regular ratings of players rated under 2000.

EB01-72 (McCrary) Page 252 Motion to substitute Proposal #1 in place of Proposal #3 of compromise offered by Dr.Glickman and Rating Committee restricting activity points.

Motion Failed

For: Smith, McCrary, Ippolito,

Against: Redman, Barry, Pechac,

Abstaining: Warren

EB01-73 (Redman, Barry) Page 253 Board accepts recommendation #3 from Dr. Glickman and the Ratings Committee to restrict activity points to a maximum of 20 points per player in calendar 2001, as well as other provisions in his January 18, 2001 memo to the Board.

Passed 5-2

For: Redman, Barry, Pechac, Warren, Ippolito

Against: McCrary, Smith

***Note this motion was subsequently rescinded by objections procedure.**

EB01-74 (McCrary) Page255 Motion to rescind EBO1-37 original bonus points proposal.
Passed 7-0

EB01-75 (Smith) Page 256 Bob Smith moves for adoption of scholastic committee policy for participation in the World Youth.

Passed 7-0

EB01-76 (Smith) Page 262 Move that the Executive Director immediately institute a program to improve the rating of events, including Scholastic, by policies and actions that may include billing organizers for USCF dues for unknown or non-member players.

Passed 6 in favor, 1 abstaining Pechac

Executive Board Minutes
Saturday, January 21,2001

Motions from Closed Session

EB01-77 (McCrary) Page 373 Rule 54 of tournament directors certification regulations found on page 218 of the 4th Edition of the US Chess Federation's "Official Rules of Chess" is amended by replacing words "is typically demonstrated by" with the words "may be demonstrated by, but is not limited to."

Previous Executive Board motions pertaining to Rule 54 are rescinded.

Passed 7-0

EB01-78 (Redman) Page 374 Motion to approve the committee list circulated with the following additions and amendments.

College Chess Committee

Chair, Prof Alan Sherman-Vice-Chair, Seneca Nowland, Leteff Street, Guy Hoffman, Nate Fewel, Brian Brzezinski, Michael Aigner, Jim Della Selva, Enrique Rios, Anthony Rozenvasser, Arlen Walker.

Publications Committee add Herman Chiu

Membership Growth Committee add Angelo DePalma

Bylaws Committee omit Dan Burg who refused election to the committee.

Passed 7-0

EB01-79 (Ippolito) Page 375 Tim Redman to visit New Windsor office in May to convey board appreciation to staff for their contributions to USCF.

Passed 7-0

Open Session Motions

EB01-80 (Redman) Page 391 Board directs staff to implement the modular-stepped improvement recommended by the USCF Computer/Internet Committee, with the first step being the development of detailed technical specs, estimated schedule and costs and to begin soliciting competitive proposals.

Passed 6 in favor 1 abstaining Smith

EB01-81 (Redman) Page 411,412, 420 The Board authorizes the creation of a second USCF 501C3 organization to support and enhance the cultural prestige of U.S. Chess. Frank Niro is asked to prepare the application and Bob Smith will act as the Board advisor.

Passed 7-0

EB01-82 (Warren) Page 458 The Executive Board approves request of Grandmaster Goldin to be listed as U.S. player.

Passed 7-0

EB01-83 (Ippolito) Page 480 Executive Board approve(s) National Scholastic Handbook.

Note: (s) correction by secretary of motion submitted and recorded.

Passed 7-0

EB01-84 (DeFeis) Page 503 In order to allow for freedom of expression, maintain confidentiality of strategic USCF political activities and protect USCF from any legal actions

resulting from these activities, USCF shall make its membership mailing labels available for purchase by members, without requiring the submission of mailing content, so long as the label purchaser signs the following declaration:

I,---name---hereby indemnify and hold harmless the USCF from any and all claims resulting from my usage of the USCF membership mailing labels, I am purchasing. These labels shall be used for lawful purposes. Additionally, I will defend USCF against such claims and pay the cost of any USCF litigation expenses associated with such claims.

Passed 6 in favor 0 opposed 1 abstaining Pechac

EB01-85 (Ippolito) Page 526 Motion In order to provide Delegates a more professional and efficient annual meeting, recommend the following:

- A. Delegates to pick up credentials prior to start at
 1. 7:30-9:00 PM Friday
 2. 7:30-8:45 AM Saturday
 3. Selected site during workshops
- B. Delegates exercise restraint of private discussions during meeting.
- C. Roberts Rules of Order are strictly adhered to. **Passed 7-0**

EB01-86 (Redman) Page 527 Board appoints a committee of the President, Secretary, Parliamentarian and Joe Ippolito to improve the efficiency and productivity of Delegates' meeting.

Passed 7-0

EB01-87 (McCrary) Page 532 In accordance with the provisions of the USCF Bylaws, Article V, Section 5, the Executive Board affirms the election tie breaks as presented on the list distributed to the Board at this meeting.

Passed 7-0

EB01-88 (Barry) Page 550 The Executive Board requests the Board liaison to the LMA committee to transmit their disapproval of the language used by a committee member on Rec Games Chess Politics.

Passed 7-0

EB01-89 (Redman) Page 573 The Executive Board requests that the Executive Director help Shane Samole in presentations to elicit corporate support for the Chess Museum honoring Sid Samole.

Passed 7-0

Motions passed by Objections Procedure

(DeFeis) Move that Arthur Bisguier be appointed as the USCF representative on the Samford Fellowship Selection Committee for the year 2001.

(DeFeis) Move that the USCF sanctions a China-US Chess Summit series of tournaments, to be organized by the Seattle Chess Foundation over the next four years, with the option for an additional four years, in accordance with details outlined in the formal proposal.

(Board) The Executive Board moves to rescind its decision to adopt proposal #3 from the Ratings Committee.

(Board) Motion: With the goal of "re-inflating" the rating system and encouraging player activity, the following policy is adopted: The revised rating system, including the new formulas for rating provisional players, varying K, multiple passes, and bonus/feedback, will remain in effect. In addition, the criteria for players being eligible for bonus points will now extend to events with as few as 3 games. Due to rating system statistical limitations, the bonus point calculation for 3-game events will be performed as though players were competing in an event with 4 games.

Finally, for a two-year period, starting with the next rating run and continuing through the 2002 annual rating, the threshold for bonus points will change from 16 x the square-root of the number of games (minimum of 3 games) to 10 x the square root of the number of games.

The effect of this change should approximately re-inflate the ratings to where they were in 1996 when floors were changed. The impact of changing the multiplier on the threshold from 16 to 10 would on average, taking the example of an 1800 player, augment the chances of that player qualifying for bonus points from 6% to 17%.

This proposal also applies to quick chess ratings, which are already massively deflated relative to standard ratings.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Doris L. Barry, Secretary.