

**SUBJECT: Minutes of the Executive Board Open Meeting, Tuesday, May 14, 2024**

1. Purpose. This document captures the minutes of the Executive Board (EB) Open Session Meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday, May 14, 2024.
2. President Bauer called the meeting to order at 8:04 pm Eastern time and Executive Director (ED) Ranae Bartlett started the Zoom recording.
  - a. President Bauer called the roll and the following board members responded:
    - Randy Bauer (IA), President
    - Kevin Pryor (FL), Vice President
    - Chuck Unruh (OK), Vice President (VP) for Finance
    - Mike Hoffpauir (VA), Secretary
    - David Hater (GA), Member-at-Large
    - John Fernandez (MO), Member-at-Large
    - Lakshmana (Vish) Viswanath (TX), Member-at-Large
    - Leila D'Aquin (LA), Member-at-Large
    - Ranae Bartlett (AL), Executive Director
  - b. President Bauer asked the members present whether they had any new conflicts of interest to disclose. There were none.
3. VP Finance Chuck Unruh gave a summary of the organization's financial status. He noted that US Chess continues to be strong financially and he projects us to finish the fiscal year with a very good surplus, adding that Membership is \$209K above forecast. Chuck said that the IT project to upgrade US Chess's rating system has begun and the first payment to the vendor has been made. We need to remove former ED Carol Meyer's name as a co-signer on the Charles Schwab account and that the paperwork for this will get done ASAP to add current ED Ranae Bartlett. Regarding tournament revenues, Chuck noted that US Chess is 'on the plus side' (up about \$160K) but the invoices from the recent Spring National Scholastic events have not all come in. President Bauer thanked VP Finance Unruh's for his report that US Chess's financial situation is solid.
4. The Executive Board went into Closed Session at 8:11 pm.
5. The EB reconvened in Open Session at 10:17 pm Eastern Time. There were four (4) motions that emerged from the Closed Session.
  - a. **EB24-083 - BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to cancel the June 1, 2024, Special Delegates Meeting and instead the Delegates will hear the report from the DC State Chapter Committee at the Annual Meeting in August 2024. In addition, the Delegates shall receive the credentials of affiliates which have applied for designation as the DC State Chapter in accordance with Article VIII (Organizational Units), Section 1 (State Chapters) of the US Chess Bylaws, along with US Chess Executive Board recommendations at least one month before the Annual Meeting in August 2024. **Motion Passed 8-0.**

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- b. **EB24-084 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to amend EB24-081, the denial of the appeal of Arnaldo Ferragut (US Chess ID 16244264), by adding the recommendation of the Tournament Director Certification Committee to suspend Mr. Ferragut's US Chess Tournament Director credentials for five (5) years beyond the end of his 5-year membership suspension. The membership suspension shall end December 8, 2028, and the suspension of Tournament Director credentials shall end December 8, 2033. **Motion Passed 8-0.**
  - c. **EB24-085 – BOARD:** Having heard and denied the appeal of Mr. Arnaldo Ferragut (US Chess ID 16244264) in response to the complaint filed against Mr. Ferragut by Mr. Nicolas Alejandro De la Colina (US Chess ID 14936616), and having gained an understanding of the negligence of Mr. Gerardo Anaya Rodriguez (US Chess ID 16744331, FIDE ID 3515850) with regard to his responsibilities as Chief Arbiter for the CCBF Miami GM/IM Norm Invitational held Jan 19-25, 2023, the Executive Board moves to suspend Mr. Rodriguez's US Chess membership for 5 years (until April 23, 2029) and to also suspend his certification as a Tournament Director an additional 5 years (until April 23, 2034) beyond the suspension of his US Chess membership. Mr. Rodriguez is granted 30 days in which to appeal the Executive Board's decision. **Motion Passed 8-0.**
  - d. **EB24-086 – BOARD:** Having reviewed the results of the Safe Play investigation of a complaint brought forth against Mr. Pejman Sagart (US Chess ID 12536658) the Executive Board moves to suspend the US Chess membership of Mr. Sagart for two (2) years effective May 15, 2024, but to withhold implementation of the suspension during this two (2) year period. If, during these two (2) years, another credible accusation is brought forth against Mr. Sagart, the Executive Board reserves the right to activate the two (2) year suspension with an effective date beginning the day of the Executive Board's approval to suspend. **Motion Passed 8-0.**
6. With no further business to conduct, the Executive Board adjourned at 10:25 pm.
- Prepared by: Mike Hoffpauir, EB Secretary