

**US Chess  
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting  
August 5, 2018  
Middleton, WI**

*This document is a summary of the proceedings of the meeting. It includes motions made, action items accepted, and subjects discussed. Details of discussions, etc., may be obtained from the audio files online.*

**The following Executive Board members were present:**

Allen Priest, President	Mike Hoffpauir, Member at Large
Randy Bauer, Vice President	Hal Sprechman, Member at Large
Chuck Unruh, Vice President of Finance	Ryan Velez, Member at Large
Mike Nietman, Secretary	Carol Meyer, Executive Director

**The following US Chess Delegates along with other members and guests were present:**

Myron Lieberman, AZ	Debra Robison, TN	Luis Salinas, TX
Rachel Lieberman, AZ	Vish Viswanath, TX	Al Lawrence, NY
Dewain Barber, CA-S	Augustine Valverde, TX	Steve Immitt, NY
Danny Rohde, NY	Will Barela, NM	Sophia Rohde, NY
Joan Priest, KY	Michael Khodarkovsky, NJ	Kimberly Doo, NY
Michel Lenox, IL	Bob Messenger, NH/MA	Ruth Haring, CA-N
Susan Kantor, TN	Kenneth Sloan, AL	Anjelina Belakovskaia, AZ

**OPEN SESSION I, Sunday, August 5, 2018, Middleton, WI**

Before calling the Executive Board meeting to order, President Allen Priest announced there was a critical medical emergency that occurred in the tournament playing hall just before the meeting was to start. He conveyed the tournament was in delay and medical personnel was onsite taking care of the situation. Mr. Priest called for a moment of silence and gave an opportunity for those of every faith to pray for the individual and their family.

President Priest called the meeting to order and Secretary Mike Nietman called the role. All Executive Board members were present and a quorum was established. He stated a closed session took place before this open session and called on Secretary Nietman to read the Executive Board motions from the closed session.

Secretary Nietman introduced the following motion:

**EB19-001 (Board):** The Executive Board names the following officers for 2018-2019: **PASSED 7-0**

President	Allen Priest
Vice President	Randy Bauer
Vice President of Finance	Chuck Unruh
Secretary	Mike Nietman

Before introducing the next two motions concerning committees, Secretary Nietman commented the

Board did some restructuring, renaming, and removing of committees.

**EB19-002 (Board):** The Executive Board moves the following committee changes: **PASSED 7-0**

- a. Rename Publications to Communication
- b. Rename Anti-Cheating to Competition Integrity
- c. Remove National Event Advisory
- d. Remove Membership Acquisition Task Force
- e. Remove Information Technology Advisory
- f. Remove Clock Working Group
- g. Merge States and Affiliates into States and Affiliates

President Priest made the following comments with regard to EB 19-002: the removal of certain committees was done because they were task specific and their work was complete; the new Affiliates Committee had a broader task in dealing with all affiliates and was combined with the States Committee to help the Board in disciplinary actions with both state chapters and regular affiliates; and the change in some committee names were at the request of those committees.

Mr. Priest called on Secretary Nietman to introduce the following motion. Mr. Priest commented on why some of the committees had three (3) EB Liaisons.

**EB19-003 (Board):** The Executive Board names the following committee liaisons and chairs for 2017-2018: **PASSED 7-0** (Please see Appendix A for the list of committee chairs and liaisons named in this motion. It will be updated throughout the year as needed).

Moving on to the next motion, President Priest called on Secretary Nietman to introduce EB 19-004.

**EB19-004 (Board):** The Executive Board makes the following committee membership changes: **PASSED 7-0**

- a. Competition Integrity: Remove Sunil Weeramantry
  - b. Barber: Remove Sunil Weeramantry
  - c. Clubs: Add Charles M. Unruh, Augustine Valverde, Paul Covington, Dr. Judit Sztaray, Abel Talamantez, Lakshmana Viswanath, Steve Morford, Kevin Pryor, Robin Ramson and Sean Manross
  - d. College: Remove David Mbonu and Jack Hutton
  - e. Denker: Remove Sunil Weeramantry
  - f. Finance: Remove Frank Camaratta. Add Ruth Haring
  - g. Forum: Remove Terry Winchester
  - h. Prison: Remove Shawn Johnson, Add David LeClair
  - i. Scholastic Council: Move Eric Vigil to the Scholastic Committee. Move Steve Shutt from the Committee to the Council
  - j. Scholastic Committee: Remove Luis Salinas. Add Charles M. Unruh and Jeff Bulington
  - k. States and Affiliates: Remove Ed Conway. Add Lakshmana Viswanath and Stephen Plotnick
  - l. Top Players: Remove Alisa Melekhina and Yury Shulman
  - m. Accessibility & Special Circumstances: Remove Sean Manross and Beatriz Marinello. Add Dr. Stephanie Beth Berk
  - n. Awards: Add Walter Brown
  - o. Chess in Education: Remove Saul Ramirez and Ryan Velez
- PASSED**

President Priest called on Secretary Nietman to introduce the last motion that came out of closed session.

Mr. Priest commented on US Chess' endorsement of GM Nigel Short and our US Chess' Delegation attending the FIDE Congress.

**EB19-005 (Board):** The Executive Board moves that the US Chess Federation endorses the candidacy of GM Nigel Short and his ticket for the Presidency of FIDE. **PASSED 7-0**

President Priest opened the floor for questions and comments from the audience. A discussion ensued among the Board and the audience on committees and electronic devices.

Executive Director Meyer announced there was a generous gift from Dewain Barber, Dean of Scholastic Chess, to provide various resources and funding three (3) scholarships to the winners of the US Cadet, the US Junior Girl Closed, and the US Junior Closed. She expressed she was looking forward to working with Dewain Barber to make these a reality. Ms. Meyer thanked Mr. Barber for his continued support of the scholastic community.

In closing, President Priest talked about the past, present and future of US Chess and expressed he was optimistic about the future and changing the world of chess "one move at a time".

He announced future dates and locations of Executive Board meetings as follows:

November 10-11, 2018 – New Orleans, LA  
January 11-13, 2019 – Orlando, FL  
March 29-31, 2019 – Nashville, TN  
June 1-2, 2019 – Chicago, IL

President Priest asked if there was a motion to adjourn. A motion was made and the meeting adjourned.

## APPENDIX A – US CHESS COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS

See motion EB19-003. Please note that some Delegate appointed committees name their own chairs and the chair was listed as TBD (To Be Determined) in the motion. The list includes those chairs that became known after the motion passed. Please note: The list of Chairs and Liaisons may be modified by subsequent motions (These are indicated by a \*.) and will be updated throughout the year as needed.

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	PRIMARY LIAISON	ALTERNATE LIAISON
ACCESSIBILITY AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES (A&SCC)	Janelle Losoff	Chuck Unruh	Ryan Velez
AUDIT (DEL)	Jon Haskel	Chuck Unruh	Allen Priest
AWARDS	TBD	Hal Sprechman	Randy Bauer
BARBER TOURNAMENT OF K-8 CHAMPIONS	Jon Haskel, Stephen Shutt Co-Chairs	Mike Nietman	Mike Hoffpauir
BYLAWS (DEL)	Harold J. Winston, Guy Hoffman Co-Chairs, Richard Koepcke Vice-Chair	Allen Priest	Randy Bauer
CHESS IN EDUCATION	Renate Otterbach	Ryan Velez	Mike Nietman
CLUBS	William Barela	Hal Sprechman	Ryan Velez
COLLEGE CHESS	Al Lawrence	Mike Nietman	Mike Hoffpauir
COMMUNICATIONS	John Hartmann	Allen Priest	Chuck Unruh
COMPETITION INTEGRITY	Gary Walters	Mike Hoffpauir	Hal Sprechman
CRAMER AWARDS	Frank Brady	Randy Bauer	Chuck Unruh
DENKER INVITATIONAL	Stephen Shutt, Jon Haskel	Mike Nietman	Mike Hoffpauir
ELECTION (DEL)	TBD	Mike Nietman	Allen Priest
ETHICS (DEL)	Hal Terrie III	Mike Hoffpauir	Hal Sprechman
FIDE EVENTS	Carol Jarecki	Mike Hoffpauir	Hal Sprechman
FINANCE	Jim Bedenbaugh	Chuck Unruh	Randy Bauer
FORUM	Robert Messenger	Randy Bauer	Allen Priest
HALL OF FAME	Harold J. Winston, Chair John Donaldson Vice-Chair*	Ryan Velez	Mike Hoffpauir
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	Michael Khodarkovsky	Allen Priest	Ryan Velez
MILITARY	Capt. Thomas Belke U.S. Navy (Ret)	Mike Hoffpauir	Chuck Unruh
OUTREACH	Myron Lieberman	Ryan Velez	Hal Sprechman
PPHB FUND MANAGEMENT	John Donaldson	Randy Bauer	Allen Priest
PRISON	TBD	Chuck Unruh	Randy Bauer
COMMUNICATIONS	John Hartmann	Allen Priest	Chuck Unruh
RATINGS	Mark Glickman	Mike Hoffpauir	Mike Nietman
RULES	Ken Ballou	Mike Hoffpauir	Allen Priest

SCHOLASTIC CHESS	Sunil Weeramantry, Russell Harwood Co-Chairs	Mike Nietman	Ryan Velez
SENIOR	David Grimaud	Hal Sprechman	Chuck Unruh
STATES AND AFFILIATES	Guy Hoffman, Alex Relyea Co-Chairs	Hal Sprechman	Chuck Unruh, Mike Hoffpauir
TOP PLAYERS	Tatev Abrahamyan, Robert Hess Co-Chairs	Allen Priest	Randy Bauer
TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION (TDCC)	Alex Relyea	Mike Hoffpauir	Allen Priest
US CHESS DEVELOPMENT	John D. Rockefeller V	Randy Bauer	Mike Hoffpauir
US OPEN	Hal Terrie III	Hal Sprechman	Mike Nietman
WOMEN'S CHESS	Maureen Grimaud	Ryan Velez	Chuck Unruh