

**SUBJECT: Minutes of the Executive Board Open Meeting, Saturday and Sunday,
December 2-3, 2023**

1. Purpose. This document captures the minutes of the Executive Board (EB) Open Session Meeting held on site in St. Louis, MO, at the US Chess HQ on December 2nd and 3rd, 2023.
2. President Randy Bauer called the meeting to order at 9:10 am Eastern time. He called the roll and the following EB members were present:
 - Randy Bauer (IA), President
 - Kevin Pryor (FL), Vice President
 - Chuck Unruh (OK), VP of 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
 - Carol Meyer, Executive Director (ED)
3. President Bauer asked the members present whether they had any new conflicts of interest to disclose. There were none.
4. President Bauer summarized our meeting with Network for Strong Communities (NSC), a non-profit consulting firm that focuses on helping other non-profit organizations.
5. The EB went into closed session at 9:12 am on Dec 2, 2023, and recessed at 4 pm so that EB members could attend the St. Louis Chess Club's annual celebration where members of the Sinquefeld Cup were recognized and presented their awards. The closed session reconvened at 9 am on Dec 3, 2023.
6. The EB reconvened in Open Session at 12:37 pm Eastern time on Dec 3, 2023. At the direction of the President, the Secretary read the following eight (8) motions prepared and discussed during Closed Session:
 - a. **EB24-027 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2023, Executive Board Meeting. **Passed 8-0.**
 - b. **EB24-028 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to recommend that FIDE remove GM Alejandro Ramirez, FIDE ID 6500617, from the list of FIDE players flagged as USA. **Passed 8-0.**
 - c. **EB24-029 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to revoke the US Chess Federation membership of GM Timur Gareyev, US Chess ID 13262157, and to permanently ban him from appearing at, attending, or participating in any events or activities organized, sanctioned, or to be rated by the US Chess Federation or any of its affiliates. **Passed 8-0.**

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- d. **EB24-030 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to recommend that FIDE remove GM Timur Gareyev, FIDE ID 14200937, from the list of FIDE players flagged as USA. **Passed 8-0.**
 - e. **EB24-031– BOARD:** Under the authority of DM 23-44, the Executive Board moves to establish a Governance Task Force with membership to be determined by the Executive Board for a first meeting no later than January 15, 2024. **Passed 8-0.**
 - f. **EB24-032 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to authorize the Executive Director to approve the contract with the Hilton Anatole (Dallas, TX) as the host site for the 2028 Middle School Championships in April 2028. **Passed 8-0.**
 - g. **EB24-033 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to authorize the Executive Director to approve the contract with the Hilton Anatole (Dallas, TX) as the host site for the 2027 US Open. **Passed 8-0.**
 - h. **EB24-034 – BOARD:** The Executive Board moves to authorize the Executive Director to approve all contracts of less than \$25,000 and to bring to the attention of the Executive Board lesser value contracts of significance. **Passed 8-0.**
7. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 8 pm Eastern time. The meeting will be held via Zoom.
8. Having heard no further business President Bauer introduced a motion to adjourn which was seconded and unanimously approved at 12:45 pm Eastern time.

Prepared by: Mike Hoffpauir, EB Secretary