

Proceedings of 2014 USCF Membership Meeting

Friday, August 1, 2014 at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL

USCF Secretary, Mike Nietman announced the meeting. President Ruth Haring brought it to order. Board members, Michael Atkins, Mike Nietman, Jean Hoffman, Chuck Unruh, Allen Priest, Gary Walters and Randy Bauer, introduced themselves and gave a brief history of their service.

A motion to elect Additional Delegates was brought to the floor by Harold Winston.

MM 14-01 (Harold Winston, IL) The members elect the following as Additional Delegates, Ken Sloan of AL and Jim Bedenbaugh of OK according to Article 5, Section 9 of the Bylaws. **PASSED**

Winston also introduced a motion regarding eligibility criteria which would require a change to the Bylaws.

MM 14-02 (Harold Winston, IL and Ruth Haring, CA-N) The members meeting recommends the Delegates pass the following motion: Delete Article 9, Section 16 of the Bylaws and renumber sections 17-20 as sections 16-19. **PASSED**

Secretary Nietman advised that motions from the Membership Meeting will be added to the Delegates' Meeting agenda as the first items of New Business.

Events Director, Franc Guadalupe made a motion on behalf of Luis Salinas, TX regarding the use of electronic cigarettes. The resulting discussion included Ruth Haring, Tim Just, Ken Ballou, Steve Immitt, Gary Walters, Mike Nolan and Randy Bauer among others.

MM 14-03 (Luis Salinas, TX) Task the rules committee to come up with a policy on electronic cigarettes. **PASSED**

A question about current policies that prevent all forms of electronic consultation sparked the next discussion. Mike Atkins advised that FIDE is working on this topic and possibly USCF Rules, TDCC and FIDE Events committees could investigate the subject. Currently it is in the general topic of cheating. Ruth Haring added that FIDE may pass rules impacting FIDE events. Gary Walters commented about ongoing work to prevent cheating and that the Board welcomed input from TD's and organizers on the subject. Allen Priest counseled not to assume a one-size-fits-all approach. Walters said the three avenues for dealing with cheating are the Ethics Committee; Executive Board and referral to the Office. Due process must be followed. Harold Winston explained that due process includes a written notice to the person with a time for his response. Ken Sloan and Tim Just added their thoughts and the dialogue drew to a close.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. President Haring adjourned the meeting.