



Illinois Chess Association

Illinois Chess Association Board of Directors Meeting Agenda: Telephonic "Regular Meeting" August 14th, 2019 7:30pm

Meeting Facilitator: Eric Ortega, Vice-President

Invitees: Stephen Plotnick, Eric Ortega, Rachel Schechter, Patrice Connelly, Eva Harrison, Mike Lenox, Megan Chen, Patrick Cohen, Garrett Scott, Rose Grandy,

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM
- II. **Roll Call:** Present: Eric Ortega, Patrice Connelly, Garrett Scott, Megan Chen, Rose Grandy, Patrick Cohen
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda unanimously approved
- IV. **Discussion of minutes from prior meeting, potential approval:** Minutes unanimously approved
- V. **Report**
 - a. **Officer Reports**
 - i. **President (Steve):** NO REPORT
 - ii. **Metro VP (Eric):** Visiting affiliates as time allows. Working with the President on setting up potential trial run with a company to test electronic chess boards, Will discuss further in September.
 - iii. **Downstate VP (Rachel, Written Report):**
 - The US Chess Open Convention exceeded all expectations with phenomenal groups of people and discussions. Our ICA Logo received compliments and was screen featured at the Delegate Convention; other states were encouraged to adopt procedure.
 - There will be an exciting new dimension for the Barber-Denker, and K-5 will now be funded by delegated John Rockefeller V.
 - Women in Chess advancing in leaps and bounds.
 - Briefly met with ICA colleagues Bill Buklis and Steve Plotnick at the Delegates Convention.
 - Bill Whited agreed to do a brief write up on Avi Kaplan for the ICA website, and Rachel will update the next Meet our Members upon returning.
 - iv. **Treasurer (Stephen):** NO REPORT

b. Committee Reports

i. WJS/RS (Rose):

- The 2019-2020 WJS/RS class is established. The emails have been sent and article has been posted to the ICA website.
- There were 58 players invited to WJS and 77 for RS. There are proportionally higher WJS this year than the previous few years. The groups will not be final until the invitations are acknowledged and the google form is completed by each participant's parent. As of 08/14, 93 forms have been completed; 2 declined, and 40 are outstanding.
- Scholastic ICA membership is a requirement for participating. I am working with Eva to identify which players are do not have a current membership so I can follow-up.
- The Banquet will be October 5 at Naperville North. GM Mesgen Amanov will coordinate training again this year and the format will remain the same as previous years.
- Sunday Night Training will begin in September, and Principal letters will be mailed out in October.
- Invitational Youth Tournament: The tournament will be reformatted next year and will include more players, so operational costs will increase. Discussed with board cost concerns and reformatting ideas. Further discussion at September and October board meetings.
- Discussed plaque/award costs with board and brainstormed best way to maintain plaque recognition while being cost efficient. Rose will send Steve a reminder about requesting additional vendor estimates for plaques.
Motion: To ask participants receiving plaques to pay postage if they cannot pick up the plaques at the annual banquet. **MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

ii. Youth (Steve): NO REPORT

iii. Veterans (Mike, Written Report):

- Officially changed the name to Chess Vets, and website is now www.chessvets.org.
- CV will be sending one hundred chess test kits to deployed US troops. If the test is successful, the CV has corporate sponsors lined up to help with funding. Kit contains checkbook-style magnetic chess set with logos and laminated chess rule/strategy sheets.
- Planning Vet workshops and tourney on December 14th & 15th with guaranteed \$2,000 prize pool and free \$500 raffle. Christmas awards party booked for December 13th.

iv. **Membership (Eva, Written Report):**

- Spoke with Bill Whited about writing an article for the ICA website about the international prison chess tournament that included participation by Cook County Jail.
- Requests the PO Box is checked for mail-in memberships, as memberships in August will increase due to WJS/RS membership requirement.
- Reminder to ICA board memberships to renew expired memberships and update the "Meet the ICA Board" section on website.

VI. **Open Issues:**

- a. **Treasurer:** The position of treasurer remains open. Patrick is meeting with an accountant to address some items. David Rockwell is kindly volunteering his time to help finalize 2018 numbers and may attend September board meeting.

VII. **New Business:**

- a. **Illinois Open:** Reminder that the ICA's Illinois Open tournament is in two weeks (over Labor Day weekend), and board members are encouraged to spread the word. Eric will reach out to Bill about potential write-up for ICA website.

VIII. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned 8:16 PM

Next meeting Wednesday, September 4th, 2019