



Illinois Chess Association

Illinois Chess Association Board of Directors Meeting Agenda: Telephonic "Executive Board Meeting" March 4th, 2020 7:15pm

Meeting Facilitator: Stephen Plotnick, President

Invitees: Stephen Plotnick, Eric Ortega, Rachel Schechter, Patrice Connelly

Roll Call: Stephen Plotnick, Rachel Schechter, Patrice Connelly, Eric Ortega

- I. **Illinois Open Bid:** Bid Committee is still working on bid reviews. Once the Bid Committee has a recommendation (Steve will give them a deadline to do so by the end of this week), the Executive Committee will need to approve.
- II. **Board Member Appointment:** All four write-in candidates offered the board positions declined. **MOTION:** To appoint Ren Escalera as a board member (at large position). **MOTION passes 4-0.**

Illinois Chess Association Board of Directors Meeting Agenda: Telephonic "Regular Meeting" March 4th, 2020 7:30pm

Meeting Facilitator: Stephen Plotnick, President

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

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:34 PM
- II. **Roll Call:** Present: Stephen Plotnick, Rachel Schechter, Patrice Connelly, Eric Ortega, Ren Escalera, Rose Grandy, and Patrick Cohen
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved Unanimously
- IV. **Discussion of minutes from prior meetings:** Approved Unanimously
- V. **Reports**
 - A. **Officer Reports**

a. President (Steve)

- **Discussion of Missing Board Positions:** All four candidates declined; one position offered and accepted by Ren Escalera.

b. Metro VP (Eric)

- **Email List:** Organizer hasn't responded yet to Eric's inquiries; Steve to reach out to Organizer.

c. Downstate VP (Rachel)

- Rachel has sent out questionnaire to Chess Weekend for Affiliate Spotlight, currently waiting on response.
- Affiliate membership fees & benefits: ICA does not currently require TDs/Coach to be affiliates to advertise on ICA website (only ICA members or separate listing charge). Discussion to require affiliate membership in order to advertise on website, and potential additional benefits (such as a free ad).
- Potential Benefits: Send out formal paper certificates acknowledging affiliate membership (similar to process by ACE Chess Equipment). Rachel is willing to run this program.
- Steve will create ICA Affiliate Logo for use on certificates and to offer for use at events.
- Rachel welcomes suggestions for the Meet the Members column.
- Rachel provided a brief overview of the program Chess in Schools (CIS) and will create a brief article for the ICA website.

d. Treasurer (Steve):

- **Corporate Tax Returns:** Steve spoke with accountant Arthur Gunn and he is willing to file tax returns. He will not assist with Quikbooks.

B. Committee Reports

a. **WJP/RS (Rose):**

- **Succession Planning:** Rose will be stepping down as director as of September 1st and will be emailing current program parents to inquire if someone/groups would be interested in directing WJS/RS program. Prior to leaving she will establish the 2020-2021 class.
- **Youth Invitational:** The Youth Invitational is this weekend with 46 players registered (but two dropouts due to illness). The Haring section player has been replaced, but Rose is still working on a replacement for the Denker section. Trophies have been ordered, and winners will still retain travel stipends (but not coaching stipends).
- **Finances:** Congratulations to Rose for securing the Mander Foundation grant! Rose will find the articles posted about receiving the Mander Grant in previous years and will use as template for article on ICA website this year.
- **Sunday Night Training:** 3 training dates scheduled for March and May (none for April due to spring break).
- **WJS/RS Banquet:** will not be held at Naperville North (no longer available).

b. **Youth (Steve):** No Report

c. **Veterans (Open):** No Report

d. **Membership (Eva):** No Report

VI. **Open Issues**

- a. **Inventory of all ICA assets:** Steve picked up some chess sets following a tournament last month and is working on facilitating pick-up of remainder. He has begun inventory.
- b. **Editor:** The current Editor is not interesting in drafting articles. Steve proposed adding cross table/article requirements to bid requirements. Rose suggested asking the Bid Committee for their thoughts. USCF requires organizers to write articles for select Chess Tournaments.

- c. **Liability Insurance:** Steve will reach out to his agent to compare if his chess organizer liability insurance has any good options for ICA liability insurance.

VII. New Business

- a. **TD/Coach Lists:** The board discussed how to increase incentives for ICA Affiliates. The board discussed requiring those listed as TD/Coaches to register for ICA Affiliate memberships (instead of regular ICA membership or fee). Affiliate incentives could include a potential complimentary ad for a week, listing as TD/Coach, and a formal certificate. Rachel will work on putting together an Affiliate package, and the board will vote next meeting on potential benefits and membership requirements for listings.

CLOSED SESSION BEGINS 9:02 PM

CLOSED SESSION ENDED 9:13 PM

- b. **Illinois Open Bid:** Still waiting on decision from Bid Committee, who is still reviewing two bids; voting in progress.

VIII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM

Next meeting Wednesday, April 1st, 2020