

Illinois Chess Association Board Meeting
Phone Conference

September 16, 2010
7:30 p.m.

Present: Carl Dolson, Tom Sprandel, Michael Cardinale, Garrett Scott, Andi Rosen, Jerry Neugarten, Maret Thorpe

Absent: David Long, Bill Brock, Bill Barton

We have a quorum.

We approved the August 26, 2010 minutes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: We received the ICA capitation from the Illinois Open.

Illinois Open report: Tim Just and Wayne Clark were very glad for the ICA's contribution and assistance to running the ICA open, including appearance fees and entry fees for the GMs and IMs, membership extensions and plus score prizes. The tournament had a stronger field, and attendance was up by about 10 players. The side events were also successful.

The Board agreed it would like to continue this kind of support in future years, and consider some support to the Illinois Class event as well, at a level in scale with the one-day event. Tom Sprandel made a motion requesting that the ICA to support up to \$750 toward entry fees for titled players for the Illinois Class, and will offer the same membership extension to participants.

Warren Junior Program. Andi Rosen organized a seminar for all Warren scholars and other youth players rated over 1500. Nikola Mitkov and Dmitry Gurevich taught the seminar. The State Open Girls Championship is set for January 29 at Niles North and arrangements are almost complete.

Membership. Chris Merli and Tom Sprandel will be work on membership renewal mailings.

Web. Maret Thorpe reported on the youth site which Jerry Neugarten edited, which has been well-received. She will collect suggestions for web site enhancements and she and Tom Sprandel will set priorities for which projects to do and in which order.

Youth Committee: Jerry Neugarten has established a three-person coach committee who will plan the ICA Fellows program. Jerry has also spoken to After School Matters management in regards to the Chicago proposal.

Bid Committee: Garrett Scott has sent us a message about the 2011 All Grade Bids. Garrett Scott will send an email to other downstate organizers to see if they're interested in bidding on it this year, since BNASC may want to skip this next opportunity. Then we'd know whether to restrict the bidding to downstate, as is our custom. Our goal is to post the call for bids by October 15, with a bidder chosen by December 15.

Banquet: Fred Gruenberg will speak. The setup for purchasing tickets online by Paypal is done. A letter is going out with the invitation to all ICA members plus past Warren program donors. We will also invite people who were chess contemporaries of Helen Warren.

Broughton Fund. Tom Sprandel spoke to Todd Barre, and Todd will add Bill Brock and Carl Dolson to signature authority for the Broughton Fund.

Tom Sprandel moved: "The ICA will treat all USCF candidates' announcements as news and refrain from editorial positions or endorsements. Individual board members may do as they wish but should make it clear that they are speaking for themselves, not the ICA. Exceptions require board approval." The motion was approved unanimously.

USCF Delegates: Maret Thorpe reported five candidates have self-nominated: Sevan Muradian, Tim Just, Lawrence Cohen, Mark Nibbelin, Garrett Scott. Jim Egerton also indicated he will be putting in his hat.

ICA Elections: This year the officer seats are up for election. The announcement is on the web page, and it went out in the September newsletter.

We noted that we need to identify projects and goals for ICA, figure out budgeting for the group, and how we'd raise money or set membership dues/benefits to pay for our goals. What are—and should be—the benefits of ICA membership? Michael Cardinale offered to do benchmarking (comparison) of membership fees and benefits for other state associations and report back to us.

The next meeting will be September 30.