

## **Illinois Chess Association**

Board Meeting Conference Call

April 16, 2015

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. A quorum was established at 7:49. Present were Michael Auger, Bill Buklis, Bill Brock, Carl Dolson, Bill Feldman, Jerry Neugarten. Scott Daniels joined at 9:08pm.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

The March board meeting minutes were approved by email following the meeting.

### **Motion to Approve Sevan Muradian as director of WJP:**

A motion to approve Sevan Muradian as the new director of the Warren Junior Program was raised by Carl Dolson. It was seconded by Bill Brock. Sevan has stated that many kids like the notoriety of the program, but do not take advantage of the offers and activities. They may even be encouraged by their coaches not to participate. Sevan wants to expand the program to another level called the "Rising Stars" and provide better incentives for the main members to participate.

In discussion Bill Brock questioned if the Rising Stars idea is counter to the current Warren Philosophy. As originally outlined by Helen Warren, this program is reserved for the elite. Large changes to the program should be run past Helen to get her feedback on the proposed changes. Carl Dolson indicated that the new director will have some latitude for his decisions, but the board needs to stay informed of decisions and have oversight.

Bill Brock pointed out that money/transactions must flow out of the treasury and that the treasurer must be aware of all expenses for the program.

Conflict of interest is a concern, but it was felt that Sevan could adequately separate out his for-profit business from the WJP activities.

Bill Feldman wondered if the "Rising Stars" idea should be kept separate from WJP. Perhaps call it ICA Rising Stars rather than Warren Rising Stars. Carl Dolson said that Helen put the program in place ten years ago to benefit and improve elite players, but today they are not using that benefit. They only use their private coaches. The kids have outgrown the program. If the program can't change to specifically benefit them, then expansion is better. Bill Brock said that Helen wanted to cultivate the top players. Make sure the program is still selective. An informal conversation between her and Sevan is necessary.

Sevan Muradian was unanimously approved as the new WJP director 6-0-0.

**Motion to Change ICA Constitution for Minimum Amount Requiring Two Signatures:**

A motion was submitted to change the minimum dollar amount on transactions requiring two signatures on the check from \$600 to \$1,000. It was seconded by Jerry Neugarten. Bill Feldman queried that since a debit card is pending approval, what limits would be placed on this? Bill Brock said that the same limitation applies. Amounts above \$1,000 need approval.

The motion was approved unanimously 6-0-0.

**Acknowledgement of 2015 Tournament Bid Schedule Approved:**

It was acknowledged that the motion to approve the 2015 Tournament Bid schedule was approved via email with a vote 6 for, 0 against, and 4 not submitted.

**Motion to Approve Photo Use on chessgames.com:**

Someone who posts articles on Chessgames.com requested permission to use photos from the copies of the Illinois Chess Bulletin on the ICA website in his articles. He understands that the ICA could revoke permission for photo use at any time.

Carl Dolson submitted a motion to grant revocable permission to allow photo uses as requested. It was seconded by Bill Feldman.

The motion was approved unanimously 6-0-0.

**Update on USCF Bulk Memberships:**

Bill Feldman gave a brief update on the status of the USCF bulk memberships. The remaining memberships must be sold by the deadline – May 31<sup>st</sup>. Existing USCF members must be within 1 month of their expiration in order to renew using this program. A motion was made and seconded to offer USCF memberships to eligible youth for \$9 on the ICA website. The motion passed.

**Discussion on Illinois Open:**

Carl Dolson noted that there were some negative comments received about last year's Illinois Open bookseller and out of state sellers are not interested since the tournament size is too small. Carl does not intend to use last year's bookseller for this year's Illinois Open. Bill Feldman preferred to table

discussion until next month as he has been talking to possible vendors, but it is too soon to discuss further.

Carl moved to authorize the purchase of additional clocks for the Illinois Open up to a limit of \$1,000. The motion was approved unanimously 7-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 19, 2015.