



Illinois Chess Association

Illinois Chess Association Board of Directors Meeting Agenda: Telephonic "Regular Meeting" May 6th, 2020 7:30 PM

Meeting Facilitator: Stephen Plotnick, President

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

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:39 PM
- II. **Roll Call:** Stephen Plotnick, Eric Ortega, Rachel Schechter, Patrice Connelly, Eva Harrison, Patrick Cohen, Rose Grandy, Garret Scott
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved Unanimously
- IV. **Discussion of minutes from prior meetings:** Approved Unanimously
- V. **Reports**
 - A. **Officer Reports**
 - a. **President (Steve)**
 - **USCF Convention Delegates:** Eight people have applied to be Illinois delegates for the USCF convention. The board has no concerns about the delegate list. Steve will send the list of six delegates and two alternates to USCF this week.
 - **Potential Chess Equipment for Sale:** The ICA was notified by a local vendor that chess sets/supplies were available for sale. The board discussed if the ICA would have a need/use for the equipment, and the current prices. **MOTION:** To decline the purchase of offered chess supplies. **MOTION PASSES 4-1-1**
 - **New Affiliate Logo for ICA Affiliates:** Steve has sent affiliate logo to Rachel and will work with her on preparing the final package/certificate for board review.

- **Procurement of Email Lists:** This project was postponed due to other priorities, and the uncertain situation with in-person tournaments.

b. Metro VP (Eric)

- Eric is in contact with locations where casual chess clubs meet and will await updates as locations re-open.

c. Downstate VP (Rachel)

- **SBA Loans:** Is it appropriate for the ICA to apply for a SBA loan due to incurred losses with cancelled 2019 tournaments? The board discussed if the ICA would qualify. Steve will ask an acquaintance who has some experience about non-profits and may be able to help answer questions.
- **Chesskids:** Chesskids.com is offering free gold memberships and encouraging school districts to apply. The ICA discussed best way to help share this information. Rachel will send the information to Eric and Eric will post to the ICA Facebook page; Rachel will also share with Bill Whited for potential inclusion on the ICA website.
- **ICA Member Spotlight:** Eva will email Rachel a recommendation for the next member spotlight.
- **Chess in the time of COVID:** Rachel opened the floor to any ideas of assisting/offering chess experiences right now.

d. Treasurer (Patrick):

- **Update:** Patrick presented current accounting, losses from cancelled tournaments, and potential revenue changes due to future cancelled tournaments (e.g. if 2020 autumn tournaments are cancelled).
- There are also outstanding expenses such as the 2019 Illinois Tour, and the recent 2020 Illinois Senior.
- **2020 IL TOUR:** Many of the Illinois Tour Tournaments for 2020 will be cancelled, should the ICA offer the tour? **MOTION:** Cancel the 2020 Illinois Tour due to COVID-19: **MOTION PASSES 6-1**

- **Tax Filings:** Steve will contact the accountant to request an extension asap; Patrick will send Steve last year's filings to provide accountant.
- **WJS Expenses:** Funds need to be transferred from the general fund to the WJS account for recent expenses. Patrick will send Rose the March and April WJS account statements.
- **Bank Account Owner Updates:** Some bank accounts still need to be updated to include Steve's contact information. Steve will reach out to bank.
- **Treasurer Position:** Garrett has a recommendation for a potential candidate for the position of Treasurer who would assist with the book-keeping. Garrett will have the candidate contact Steve.

B. Committee Reports

a. WJP/RS (Rose):

- **Succession Planning:** Rose has emailed parents to inquire if someone/groups would be interested in directing WJS/RS program.
- **2020-2021 Program Year:** Rose is receiving inquiries about eligibility requirements for next year's program. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, WJS will waive tournament experience for next year's class, and will need to evaluate rating requirements.
- **Sunday Night Training:** There was a recent training session with GM Amanov. Due to Rose's schedule she will not be able to host online training sessions. Steve will host if Rose is unavailable.

b. Youth (Rachel):

- **Youth Chess in time of COVID:** Rachel is brainstorming ways to continue offering youth chess/scholastic opportunities in the new normal.

c. Veterans (Open): No Report

d. Membership (Eva): No Report

VI. Open Issues

- a. **ICA equipment Rental Pricing:** Though it is not a priority, the board agrees that the general pricing of 50 cents per set; and a dollar for clock is fine.

VII. New Business

- a. No new business

VIII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM

Next meeting Wednesday, June 3rd, 2020