

Illinois Chess Association, Inc.
Board Meeting Phone Conference
June 12, 2012, 7:30 PM CDT

Quorum: Present were Bill Brock, Carl Dolson, Jerry Neugarten, Mike Cardinale and Tom Sprandel; absent were, David Long, Chris Merli, Mark Nibbelin, Murrel Rhodes.

Minutes: Minutes of the May 17, 2012 phone conference were unanimously approved.

By-law amendment: Jerry Neugarten moved we approve an amendment to the constitution and by-laws. *[The amendment permits electronic voting in ICA elections and corrects various typographical errors. Detailed changes have been circulated to the board.]* Motion seconded by Mike Cardinale and unanimously approved. Per the constitution, this motion will be confirmed by another vote in the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: No formal report. General consensus that we have sufficient cash for present needs. Jerry Neugarten asked if it would be appropriate to use \$1000 from the youth budget to provide transportation to the 2012 All Grade. Carl Dolson said this seemed appropriate to him. No formal vote was taken, but none of the board objected.

Metro Report: Mike Cardinal reported that he attended the Isaac Braswell Memorial Tournament at Evanston Chess and presented the Outstanding Service Award to Maret Thorpe.

Mike reported that in the first four of nine tour events there has been 21% increase in entries. He attributed some of this to the Chicago Open having had strong attendance, but pointed out that the smaller events are doing well too. Several players have already won tour attendance prizes. Several will probably earn \$25 discounts for the IL Open or IL Class. Standings on the web page have been updated.

Warren Junior Scholars: Carl Dolson reported that WJS has a fund balance of roughly \$5600.

Youth Committee: Jerry Neugarten reported that CPS seems to be making progress with plans for improving their chess program and they hope to have something in place for the 2012-13 school year.

Nominating Committee: Jerry Neugarten reported that Mike Cardinale, Bill Brock and he himself had been meeting regularly and that they would like some downstate representation on the committee. The committee is focused on: filling the vacant Secretary position, creating a long term list of prospects, and putting together a slate of officers for the fall election.

It was noted that the board welcomes additional slates from the membership at large, and in no way intends the committee's slate to be the only one. None the less, we do feel it is important to have at least one willing, qualified candidate for each position.

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2012 IL Class: No award has yet been made, but Mike Cardinale and Jerry Neugarten are working with an organizer and expect to report soon. The plan is that the ICA will take the financial risk and gain the majority of the rewards. The organizer will perform certain specified tasks, be paid half of his fee up front and half at completion. The organizer will be given a share of the profits, but will not be liable for any losses. Jerry Neugarten has drafted a model agreement. Jerry noted that he has spoken with our insurance agent and that our general liability insurance will cover the ICA; an organizer can be named and covered for a nominal fee.

2012 IL All Grade: Jerry Neugarten recused himself and left the meeting at this time. The motion to approve the bid by *Illinois Chess Teachers*, as submitted by Murrel Rhodes, was introduced and seconded by Tom Sprandel. *[See text of the motion below.]* Bill, Carl, Mike and Tom voted in favor of the motion. Lacking a quorum, no decision was made, but Tom will request the remaining board members to vote by email and report the results at the next meeting.

Text of email from Murrel Rhodes to entire ICA Board dated 6/8/12:

The Bid Committee has voted (4 yes, 1 abstain) to recommend acceptance of the Paul Raso/Blair Machaj bid to the full ICA board.

I have included the Bid Committee's final set of questions along with and Paul's answers. Paul's answers seemed to satisfy everyone on the Bid Committee and he is willing to negotiate additional fees for ICA and the Warren Program as indicated.

We will need to change the Bid Guidelines to increase the standard contributions to ICA and/or the Warren program if we are going to get greater participation in the future. This is especially important if Warren Program is going to ramp up the full program Pattie Zinski has outlined.

This recommendation should be approved at our next board meeting.

Next Meeting: Thursday evening July 12, 2012

Minutes submitted by: Tom Sprandel