

Illinois Chess Association

Board Meeting Phone Conference

August 8, 2013

Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 P.M. Present were Bill Brock, Mike Cardinale, Carl Dolson, Chris Merli, Jerry Neugarten, Mark Nibbelin, Murrel Rhodes, Steven Craig Miller, Tom Sprandel & Will Tseng. None were absent. A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes:

Tom moved to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2013 meeting. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Introduction of New Board Member:

Via email on August 6th, the ICA Executive Board voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Steven Craig Miller to the Board of Directors, to fulfill an at-large vacancy, with term expiring December 2013.

Carl took a few moments to review Steven's numerous accomplishments in Illinois chess, including his positions as head coach of the Lincoln-Way West High School and president of the Illinois Chess Coaches Association.

Warren Junior Program Report:

Carl reviewed the accomplishments of the four Warren scholars representing Illinois at the Denker, Barber, Girls' Invitational and Pan American Youth tournaments. Tom will post an acknowledgement on the website.

Youth Committee Report:

Jerry Neugarten provided a recap on last month's meeting with Bill Gerstein, and discussed the progress on an editorial summarizing the Chicago scholastic chess initiative for publication on the website.

President's Report:

Carl thanked Bill Feldman for his delegate's report from the USCF annual meeting, circulated to the board on August 6, as well as a confirmation and addendum to the report submitted by delegate Sevan Muradian.

Carl acknowledged four Illinois awards made at the meeting – to Garrett Scott for Outstanding Career Achievement; to Erik Karklins for Outstanding Player Achievement; to Wayne Clark for Tournament Director of the Year; and to Chicago for Chess City of

the Year, accepted by EB President Ruth Haring. Erik Karklins' award was the first such award granted by the USCF – along with Karklins, GMs Onischuk and Kamsky were the other winners of this inaugural award.

Carl also acknowledged in the agenda the outstanding performances of William Aramil, Eric Rosen, and Sam Schmakel at the 2013 US Open, each scoring 7.0 / 9.0, tied for 8th-21st place.

Carl updated the Board on the status of Illinois Open registrations, and further marketing of the event was discussed by the board. The Board agreed unanimously to a second targeted email blast.

Tom provided an update on Illinois Class preparations, including the upcoming TLA submission.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill provided three documents to the Board: 1) preliminary financials for 2013, including a balance sheet and profit and loss statement; 2) the 2013 Budget; 3) a 2013 Illinois Open Budget and Prize Distribution statement. The Board discussed the documents and were encouraged by the overall financial health of the Association.

Metro Report:

Mike agreed to distribute copies of the *Why Join ICA?* document at the Open.

Downstate Report:

Murrel reported on downstate tournaments on the schedule, including the upcoming 50th annual Bradley Summer Open on August 17, the Southern Illinois Southern Open in Salem, and an upcoming event in Springfield.

Bid Committee Report:

Carl reported that no bids were received for the 2014 Illinois Open.

The Board discussed the Illinois Blitz Championship, including possible dates and venues for the event. Tom moved that the Blitz once again be held concurrently with the U.S. Amateur Team North event, should the event return to Illinois in 2014. The Board agreed unanimously.

Web Report:

Tom discussed selling product ads on the Events page, emphasizing that events would not be included. No objections were raised.

Membership Report:

Chris reported a membership total of 235 members as of August 8, including 25 affiliate, 9 patron and 5 century memberships.

Final Thoughts:

Mike began a discussion of the annual banquet. The Board agreed to explore the possibility of holding the banquet and annual meeting on the Saturday prior to the Illinois Class tournament, scheduled for November 24.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be on September 12. Meeting was adjourned at 9:29.

Minutes submitted by Mike Cardinale