

## **Illinois Chess Association**

Board Meeting Phone Conference

October 10, 2013

### **Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 P.M. Present were Bill Brock, Mike Cardinale, Carl Dolson, Steven Craig Miller, Jerry Neugarten, Murrel Rhodes, Tom Sprandel and Pattie Zinski, Warren Junior Program Director. Absent were Chris Merli and Will Tseng. A quorum was established.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Tom proposed an amendment to the minutes to include Board member names in addition to the tally of the August 22 vote to publish the *Opportunity Lost* editorial. Tom then moved to approve the minutes as amended from the September 19, 2013 meeting. The amended minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Warren Junior Program Report:**

Pattie Zinski reported on Warren Junior Program activities, including the program's fall downstate clinic in Champaign featuring GM Nikolai Mitkov, and University of Illinois students Michael Auger and Eric Rosen.

Pattie reported that five Warren scholars qualified for the World Youth Chess Championships, December 17-29 in the United Arab Emirates. Two are planning to attend: David Peng and Shreya Mangalam. Bill Feldman will write a preview article on the event.

Pattie explained that list of the top 100 youth players by rating is now published monthly by USCF, and that the Warren program eligibility criteria have been reworked to reflect this change. Additionally, a lower rating minimum for younger players has been established to expand the program's reach.

Finally, Pattie reported that Sevan Muradian of Chess IQ has agreed to host the national invitational tournament qualifiers (Denker, Barber, Girls') this coming February, and thanked him for the space.

### **Youth Committee Report:**

Jerry reported on the continuing press coverage of the stalled CPS initiative, and also on the impending rollout of online team matches at chesskid.com, and its potential to provide new opportunities for youth chess competition..

### **President's Report:**

Carl reported on the status of delegate appointments to the 2014 USCF annual meeting. Four returning delegates have been appointed: Tim Just, Sevan Muradian, Garrett Scott, and Jeff Wiewel. Carl discussed possible candidates for the fifth delegate slot with the Board.

Next, Carl reported on the upcoming election of General ICA Board Members. Three candidates have submitted nominating petitions and have been certified to appear on the ballot. Two committees, one metro and one downstate, have been charged with identifying potential write-in candidates willing to serve as Board members.

Carl introduced three motions prepared by Tom to certify the mechanics of the upcoming election. These were: 1) The same election software used last year will be used to conduct the election (revisions have been made and can be reviewed). 2) Five slots will be provided for write-in candidates. 3) Placing more than one vote for any particular person will be disallowed. All three motions were approved unanimously.

Carl reported that Fred Gruenberg has offered to negotiate a favorable hotel contract for the 2014 Illinois Open on ICA's behalf.

Finally, Carl reported on the annual meeting and banquet, scheduled for Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Hilton Lisle/Naperville, beginning with the annual meeting at 4:00 and followed by the banquet at 6:00. The Board discussed various means to spread the word to the scholastic chess community of the honor that will be bestowed on Mike Zacate, this year's Broughton award winner.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Bill reported on the final accounting of the 2013 Illinois Open. With a count of 128 paid entries, the Open incurred a minimal loss of <\$97.34>.

### **Metro Report:**

Mike reported on the upcoming Midwest Class tournament in Wheeling, which was changed to October 11-13, and the Northern Illinois Fall Open, in Lisle, which filled in the dates previously occupied by the Midwest Class.

Mike also reported on tournaments and activities scheduled for National Chess Day, Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, including tournaments sponsored by Chess IQ and Renaissance Knights, and a day of activities planned at the Kenosha Public Library, in Kenosha, WI.

Finally, Mike mentioned the Susan Polgar World Open scholastic tournament on November 2-3, in Northbrook, with top prize of a scholarship to Webster University.

**Downstate Report:**

Murrel reported on the recently completed Quad Cities tournament, the Illowa Fall Classic. Murrel also reviewed upcoming scholastic events, including a Columbus Day camp in Bloomington and the Peoria Academy Fall Scholastic, all leading up to the Illinois All-Grade Tournament on November 16<sup>th</sup> in Normal.

**Bid Committee Report:**

Carl reported that the bid committee received no on-time bids for the 2014 All-Grade, but one bid was received on October 4<sup>th</sup>, and one other possible bid may be forthcoming.

Carl then began a discussion of the 2014 Illinois Senior Championship proposal submitted by Mikhail Korenman and reviewed by the bid committee as specified in the previous Board meeting. After considering the merits of the proposal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the event as a state championship tournament, provided the organizer shorten the tournament to five rounds from the proposed six.

**Ideas for Consideration:**

Carl introduced Jerry's idea that the Board consider a split of the scholastic championship events into upstate and downstate events leading to a smaller final championship tournament. A full discussion of the merits of the proposal was postponed to a future meeting.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be the annual meeting, open to all ICA members, on November 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Hilton Naperville/Lisle at 4:00. Meeting was adjourned at 9:20.

Minutes submitted by Mike Cardinale