

Illinois Chess Association

Board Meeting Phone Conference

April 10, 2014

Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 P.M. Present were Michael Auger, Bill Brock, Michael Cardinale, Scott Daniels, Carl Dolson, Bill Feldman, Steven Craig Miller, Jerry Neugarten, and Pattie Zinski, Warren Junior Program Director. Murrel Rhodes was absent. A quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes:

Scott moved to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2014 meeting. Jerry seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Warren Junior Program Report:

Pattie Zinski reported on the upcoming Warren clinic at the University of Illinois on April 19th, to be led by Eric Rosen and Michael Auger. Pattie also relayed her intention to post this year's class of Warren scholars shortly, and to survey the Warren and ICA boards about changes to the format of the invitational qualifiers.

President's Report:

Carl asked Bill Feldman, as ICA's liaison to the event, to report on the K-8 state championship tournament. The event featured an excellent turnout of 684, and featured the innovation of pairings available by text. Bill reported that the texted pairing were well received, and that the organizers did a nice job dealing with the big turnout by reconfiguring the space as registrations increased. There were the usual hiccups of some misreported results, and a few prize issues, but overall, Bill gave the event a B+/A- grade, and promised a full report to follow.

Next, Carl reported on the Illinois Senior Open. The event did not get close to the projection of 100 participants, but it was nevertheless an enjoyable event for the 11 entrants and two house players, with every player earning a prize! Although Carl expects that Dr. Korenman will not organize the event again, he expressed his desire to see ICA continue the Senior Open next year.

Carl also reported that he will be looking for volunteers to serve on the new Constitution/By-Laws committee, and will be reaching out via email to fill the slots.

Metro Report:

Mike Cardinale reported on the upcoming All-Girls National, 4/11-13 in Northbrook, and on two new free Women's Chess Workshops, sponsored by the Chicago Chess Center, to be held in two Chicago Public Library branches.

In Illinois Chess Tour news, Mike reported that the 11th Annual David Mote Memorial, the third stop on the Tour, was held on March 29th, and featured an increase in participants from 16 to 40 in its first year on the Tour. Mike also reported that the Tour schedule has been finalized, with the inclusion of the Quad City Chess Classic on October 25th.

Downstate Report:

Carl relayed Murrel's downstate report, beginning with the strong turnout at the Mote Memorial in Springfield. Upcoming events are highlighted by the 50th Annual Greater Peoria Open, April 26-27 at the Grand Hotel in Peoria, and the Normal Open, scheduled for May 17th.

Website:

Bill Feldman reported that the website now has a steadier stream of content. Bill has begun working with a retired computer science professor based in Florida as a technical resource. Goals remain making the site more mobile-friendly, increasing accessibility, and providing consistent features and content.

Bill announced an article submission goal for the Board of one story per quarter for each board member. All that is required is one or two paragraphs to provide the basics of the article, which can be fleshed out by Bill. Bill is also hopeful that the Warren program can take over reporting on Illinois players in the USCF top 100 youth lists.

Finally, Bill reported that he is exploring partnerships with chess equipment vendors and providers.

Executive Session:

The Board entered executive session to follow up on the discussion of the previous meeting.

Goals for 2014:

The Board began a discussion of organizational goals for the year ahead. Topics included membership, strategic partners for ICA, and extending the Association's geographical reach within Illinois.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be on May 8th. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50.

Minutes submitted by Mike Cardinale