

A black and white photograph of a chessboard and chess pieces. The chessboard is on the left, showing squares 7 and 8 on the top edge and files A through G on the right edge. A black box containing chess pieces is in the foreground, with several pieces spilling out. The background is dark.

DELEGATES CALL 2004

U.S. Chess Federation



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GOLD BENEFACTORS (\$15,000 or more) Who will help by being first in this new category?



One of many great displays throughout the museum!

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Mark your Calendar! Hall of Fame's 3rd Induction—August 13, 2004!

We've found a winning combination! The World Chess Hall of Fame and USCF will combine the Annual Induction Dinner with the Awards Ceremony at the U.S. Open in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. We're planning now for the festivities to be on Friday evening, August 13, 2004, at the Wyndam Resort Hotel.

On Sunday, a free, air-conditioned bus will take you from the Wyndam Resort to the Hall of Fame Festival in Miami, only an hour away. The festival will feature a live chess game played by sword-wielding, renaissance-costumed combatants and free simuls by world-famous grandmasters. The bus will bring you back in plenty of time to rest before the Sunday round. There will be special one-day tournaments arranged for Saturday.

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DELEGATES MEETING

Nominations for Delegate Committees – Bylaws, Ethics and LMA Management can be submitted directly to the secretary. Please send them no later than July 27 in order to allow enough time for the secretary to receive them before departing for the delegate's meeting. They may be sent by fax, e-mail bradyf@stjohns.edu, or regular mail. Nominations will also be accepted at the meeting.

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USCF MISSION STATEMENT

The USCF is a not-for-profit membership organization devoted to extending the role of chess in American society.

The USCF promotes the study and knowledge of the game of chess, for its own sake as an art and enjoyment, but also as a means for the improvement of society. It informs, educates, and fosters the development of players (professional and amateur) and potential players. It encourages the development of a network of institutions devoted to enhancing the growth of chess, from local clubs to state and regional associations, and it promotes chess in American schools.

To these ends, the USCF offers a monthly magazine, as well as targeted publications to its members and others. It supervises the organization of the U.S. Chess Championship, an open tournament held every summer, and other national events. It offers a wide range of books and services to its members and others at prices consistent with the benefit of its members.

The USCF serves as the governing body for chess in the United States and as a participant in international chess organizations and projects. It is structured to ensure effective democratic procedures in accordance with its bylaws and the laws of the state of Illinois.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CEREMONY AND USCF AWARDS CEREMONY

A special Hall of Fame Induction ceremony and USCF Awards ceremony are being held together at a dinner on Friday evening, August 13th. Invited guests will receive formal invitations. Please note: ALL other attendees are expected to purchase their own tickets no later than Wednesday, August 11th. Tickets will not be available after August 11th.

A dinner ticket is \$60 and may be purchased at the bookstore. Dinner will include tomato basil bisque, spinach salad, grilled chicken with mushroom tomato roulade, bread, coffee/tea and cheese cake. Grandmasters Leonid Shamkovich and Anatoly Lein will be inducted into the US Hall of Fame. The World Hall of Fame inductee will be former World Champion Anatoly Karpov.

Production: Typesetting and proofing: Jean Bernice, Claudia Bonforte, Barb Vandermark and Glenn Petersen.

Cover Design: Claudia Bonforte.

USCF PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by *Beatriz Marinello*

"The past year has brought much change, challenge and reward to the USCF"

A PERSONAL NOTE

First of all, I would like express my gratitude to my fellow Board members for their support. I would like to especially mention Don Schultz for his hard work and dedication towards the USCF, and Tim Hanke for his sense of clarity in making many difficult decisions. Also I would like to thank some personal advisors and friends who helped through one of the most difficult times in USCF history:

Leroy Dubeck: I spend many hours discussing with him our strategic plan for the finances, many times into the late hours of the night — a few times back in September, even crying out in desperation when I thought that the USCF could not make it through the end of this fiscal year;

Tim Redman for providing wise advice and words of support when I needed them the most;

My scholastic friends who never let me down and continued with their support even when they did not agree with me;

My friend Rob Young for volunteering to go to the office for the purpose of assessing the systems;

And particularly the USCF Senior Staff, Judy Misner, and Barbara Vandermark for keeping up the morale in the office, in spite of the painful decisions which had to be made for the survival of the organization.

NOT A PRETTY PICTURE

At the previous annual meeting we all knew that the financial situation of the USCF and political climate was less than desirable. When I decided to accept the responsibility of becoming the USCF President I was aware of the challenges. However, no one realized at that time the full extent of our problems or the difficult decisions we would face in order to survive. The financial problems called for immediate action to reduce payroll, by reducing the office staff.

After a careful assessment of the situation, interviewing Senior Staff, putting together a reorganization plan, and seeking legal advice, we carried through the first step of the plan by letting go about 17 employees; many of these employees were people that I worked with and knew for many years. The financial problems could be viewed as a symptom of an illness. The task was to clearly identify the illness and what created it. I concluded that the sources were related to our current business model, poor management, inside dealings, and more than anything, the fact that the USCF was losing touch with the chess community.

ACTION PLAN

It would be foolish and arrogant to claim that all our challenges can be addressed in one or two years; this is an ongoing process. The first step was to treat the symptoms: stabilize the finances (or stop the bleeding). With the assistance of Stan Booz and his business partner Linda, we obtained some valuable information on the finances and we took into consideration the cost analysis made by Mike Nolan.

NEED TO MODIFY THE BUSINESS MODEL OF THE USCF

We reached the conclusion that we did not have the expertise needed to run the Book and Equipment business directly from the office. I would like to mention in my report that since Former USCF Executive Director Al Lawrence left the office, no other Executive Director had an understanding of how to run this operation. Therefore, we decided to start a bidding process to find a partner for outsourcing B&E. After months of discussions and reviewing different proposals our current Executive Director Bill Goichberg made the recommendation to accept a bid from ChessCafé.com. The issues here were mostly related to concerns involving a possible conflict of interest. One of our board members who understood those concerns, stepped down from the board to assure the integrity of the selection process.

On April 1, the USCF transferred the administration of the B&E business to ChessCafé.com. Included as part of the bid was a merger of his business with the USCF, eliminating the potential problem of a "Trojan horse." At the

same time ChessCafé.com guarantees the USCF a minimum annual payment of \$350,000. As a result, the USCF should be able to turn this part of the operation into an immediate profit center once we eliminate all the expenses or most of the expenses related to this area of activity.

I would like to mention that most of the credit for the implementation of this important decision should be given to Bill Goichberg, who handled the negotiations.

POOR MANAGEMENT

Solving this problem is an ongoing process. We need to take the politics out the USCF office and provide security and leadership to the employees. In my view, this task has not yet been accomplished.

INSIDE DEALINGS

Yes, let's face it. Some people have been fostering their own agendas through their office connections for years. This situation will not continue.

The USCF needs to create a suitable environment for running a successful chess operation. Supporting the efforts of our volunteers, players, and chess professionals is key for the future prosperity of chess in America.

LOSING TOUCH WITH THE CHESS COMMUNITY

The most telling sign of the truth of this statement is the decline in our adult membership. The USCF must adjust to the fundamental change of the chess market. Internet chess is impacting attendance in chess clubs, tournaments and other chess activities. It's necessary to recreate a format that allows an interaction between over the board chess and the Internet.

At the same time, it's important to develop a marketing program to reach out to new members and to offer real value to our membership. Our main services at this moment are: Ratings, Tournaments and *Chess Life* magazine. However, we have not been making a real effort to develop a powerful tool through our website and Internet service. The USCF is, after all, essentially in the information business.

We need to energize our current network by engaging new leaders and revitalizing state chapters. In addition, we must expand our USCF affiliate base, as well as develop technological tools to open channels of communication between the USCF office and our membership.

GOALS FOR 2004-05 FISCAL YEAR

*Carry out our mission. - Our mission is to assist organizations and individuals in enjoying, learning, practicing, and promoting chess. For the future, I see a real potential in the area of utilizing chess as a thinking tool to develop good cognitive skills and exercising the brain.

OUR CHALLENGES

Improve our Infrastructure • Acquire necessary resources • Create a fund-raising and marketing strategy

SPECIFIC TASKS

- 1) Find a new location for the USCF. A detailed report will be provided to the delegates at the annual meeting.
- 2) Address personnel and leadership issues within the USCF office.
- 3) Animate the systems. Modernize the technology.
- 4) Address membership issues.
- 5) Improve services.
- 6) *Chess Life*. We will be adding eight pages of contents for children 10 and under, as an insert, every other month.
- 7) Hire a full-time scholastic/fund-raising Director.
- 8) Develop partnerships with chess organizations around the country.

In order to achieve these objectives, it's necessary to work together as a team. I only hope that my health will allow me to continue contributing, but we need hands-on people willing to work towards our goals.

As my father used to say, this world is full of people with great ideas but only a few are the doers. My friends, the USCF needs you.

USCF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

by Bill Goichberg

A TUMULTUOUS YEAR

In the history of the US Chess Federation, there have been other Executive Boards that took office to find USCF in serious trouble, but none faced a crisis as severe as that which confronted our current Board last August. The Executive Director resigned for health reasons, our auditors reported a surprise \$365,000 loss for a year expected to be roughly breakeven, and the Federation's debts exceeded cash on hand by over \$400,000. Our summer books & equipment sales catalogs had been printed, but could not be mailed due to lack of funds for postage.

Our first quarter income statement would show a further loss for June through August of about \$300,000, a staggering blow on the heels of the previous year's huge loss. In fairness, I must say that things were not quite as bad as they seemed. Many months later, the first quarter was revised down to a \$220,000 loss, as it was found that most US Open expenses had been included, but the income from that tournament had not. Also, the \$365,000 loss recorded for that previous year could have been about \$100,000 less had certain funds owed to USCF been treated as accounts receivable, but the auditors disallowed this because invoices had not been sent (about two-thirds of this money has since been collected).

However, "not as bad as it seemed" was still pretty horrible. For years there have been rumors of impending bankruptcy, but these were without foundation — until the summer of 2003, when for the first time, it was no longer clear that the Federation could meet its payroll.

The new Board took swift and decisive action on August 20, letting go 17 employees, about a third of the USCF's work force. Even under the emergency circumstances, this was a controversial move, and two Executive Board members voted against it. However, the summer is our slow season, and there was little immediate decline in service. As things became busier in the fall and winter, a few of these employees were hired back, while the rest of our staff had to work harder than before, and came through magnificently. All USCF members owe them a vote of thanks for sticking with us and doing their best despite several years without raises, as well as the rumors of financial collapse and the uncertainty regarding whether the office might move, and if so, where and when.

At year's end, it seems that the Federation has made a strong financial comeback. Cash on hand now exceeds accounts payable, and though about \$200,000 of this probably has come from selling off inventory, I am hopeful that our audited report will finally show a profit, after seven consecutive fiscal years in the red. Our new CFO, Ken Thomas, has worked hard with our auditors to try to enable a quicker audit than usual, so check uschess.org, as our final audited numbers may be posted there soon.

WHERE DID THE LMA GO?

Our Life Member Assets liquid assets are down to zero, but so is our line of credit, paid off with LMA proceeds plus \$21,000 from operations. Our LMA liquid balance seven years ago was over \$1,300,000. However, the LMA still owns our building, which we have agreed to sell to a day care center, with closing expected at the end of July. The building is now about twice the size we need, and it would be difficult to lease part of it due to limited parking. Unless an unexpected obstacle prevents this sale, it should result in \$513,000 going to the LMA.

How did we lose the \$1,300,000 that once was in the LMA? Some general observations:

1. Many mistakes were made by many EDs and Boards. Our staff was generally too large, our travel expense too great. Our EDs travelled too much when they could have accomplished more staying in the office. Some employees were given too much power and not enough supervision. Software upgrades were essential, but one project failed and others were abandoned or not attempted, even though money was available. We overrated the benefit of offering free online play, and persisted in a costly alliance with an online service that was far from the most promising. We forgot that the most effective way for USCF to promote chess is through affiliates, and offended them with huge TLA charges. We mishandled B & E (see below).
2. The decline in adult membership that began in 1995 was due mainly to A) the loss of importance of *Chess Life* due to the rise of the internet as a news source, and B) players switching from OTB chess to online play. The dues raise of 1995 from \$30 to \$40 was also a factor, but without the rise of the internet would have had much less effect, as did previous dues increases of the same or a greater percentage.
3. USCF leaders underestimated the persistence of the adult membership decline. The current Board has shown that we can succeed despite this trend, though we should keep trying to find ways to turn it around.
4. The basic structure of USCF is sound. We know how to play the game, we need only to stop putting our pieces *en prise*. With common sense management, we don't need to try radical steps such as trying to run an online play server, abolishing *Chess Life* in favor of an internet version, or starting a separate scholastic rating system. "It's broke, so any fix is worth trying" is the type of thinking that has caused trouble in the past, resulting in unsound ventures like our efforts to provide online play, unwise practices like selling B & E with too small a selection of merchandise, or proven losers such as offering memberships without a publication or ratings without membership. USCF is not broken, and desperate measures are not needed, but we do need to learn from our mistakes.
5. Contrary to what you may read on the internet, USCF does not have a long history of hopeless bumbling. To better place the mistakes of recent years in perspective, remember that the Federation has been in existence for 65 years, and has usually grown at a rate well above that of the US population. When I first became a member in 1961, USCF had 5000 members, *Tournament Life* consisted of one page, and the National Scholastics did not exist. We have come a long way before regressing, but are now resuming our advance.
6. The perception that USCF can't do anything right can be a self-fulfilling prophecy. If we work together to promote membership and popularize our great game, rather than being mired in negativism and wasting energy on debate over the placement of blame, we will recover our past financial health and finally reach the 100,000 mark in membership.

B & E OUTSOURCING

The most important strategic decision made by the new Board was to outsource our book and equipment sales operation. Historically this was one of USCF's two most important income sources, along with adult memberships. However, in recent years, it has been a struggle for USCF to make a profit from B & E, as our obsolete software caused poor service and high labor costs. In 2001, an unwise "reduction to basic items" policy caused sales to decline by about \$700,000 causing a substantial loss on this operation for probably the first

time. We rebuilt our inventory in 2002 and sales recovered to surpass 2000 levels, but with substantial catalog expense and some items drop shipped at very low margin, there was little if any profit. 2003 was another disastrous year due to the loss of the summer catalog followed by the late appearance of the holiday catalog.

Could we have retained our B & E business and run it profitably? I think so, but it is far from clear that we would have made as much as we expect our outsourcing contract to pay us, a minimum of \$350,000 per year. The Board was not willing to risk the possibility of further management blunders in this area, which might have put USCF out of business.

We are very happy with the fine service that USCF members now receive when they purchase at USCF Sales (uscfsales.com), operated by ChessCafe. All purchases benefit USCF as in the past, so please do your shopping there and recommend this store to others.

Our B & E outsourcing began April 1, and enabled further staff reductions as well as other savings, some immediate and some potential (such as needing a smaller building in the future). Before April, our finances were already looking much improved; they should become still better due to the commissions and savings resulting from the outsourcing. Our budget for 2004-5 projects a surplus of over \$200,000 despite many very conservative estimates, and I believe that we will do much better.

The greatest source of member dissatisfaction with USCF today is the slowness of rating processing and the difficulty of correcting errors. In the internet age, it is no longer acceptable to many members to play in a tournament in January and not see the resulting rating change until March or April. And it has long been a problem that our software reads only ID numbers and not names, so one wrong digit in a reported ID number causes the wrong player to be rated.

Our new Member Services Area showing 13 years of complete crosstables is very popular, but also has caused many more such errors to be reported to our office, and correcting them is extremely cumbersome. We are fortunate to have experienced chess promoter and programmer Mike Nolan rewriting our software, and are hopeful that an automatic "re-rate" will be possible later this year to correct mistakes, but until this technology is in place, it's certainly acceptable that you refrain from pointing out old crosstable errors! See Mike's report on page 9.

IS USCF MOVING?

The Board has issued a call for bids for a new location for USCF, with a bid deadline of September 1. The previous Board had voted to move to Crossville, TN but no contract was signed, and most on the current Board appear to feel the Crossville location is too isolated. If we vacate our building at the end of July, we still have a lease on our space next door until May 31, 2005 so will conduct most business there, subleasing space for about five more employees in the same building as our leased space. We will obtain the month of August free in the downstairs half of our existing building for storage, and after that have the option of paying \$2100 per month for that storage space for as long as we need it, but not past July 2005. So our plan is to move to our new location no later than the end of May, 2005. If we can move earlier, we save some money.

Where will we move to? Currently I have no idea. Staying in Orange County, NY is not out of the question and would have the advantage of retaining our experienced and loyal employees and avoiding the expense and inefficiency of having to replace most of them. About 80% of our staff is expected to leave if we move out of the area, though this could vary depending on location. With our finances

improved, the availability of loans, once an attractive feature of the Crossville bid, no longer seems important.

SPONSORSHIP, ETC.

USCF's sponsorship is on the rise. We continue to be indebted to America's Foundation for Chess each year for their great work organizing the US Championship. This year we also held a special 2004 US Womens Championship, and AF4C helped make that possible too. The Kasparov Chess Foundation is the major sponsor of our Women's Olympiad team and training squad, initiated a very successful All-Girls National in Chicago (186 players!), and also helped with the Women's Championship. The USCF Grand Prix has become the ChessCafe.com Grand Prix with the largest prizes since 2000, thanks to our first Grand Prix sponsor since 1998. Excalibur Electronics sponsored the 2003 Membership Appreciation Plan and continues to finance the Chess Hall of Fame. Majestic Chess was the new sponsor of the All America Team, the Susan Polgar Foundation is sponsoring the new Polgar tournament for high school girls, and of course GM Arnold Denker continues to fund the Denker tournament of state high school champions. Many thanks to all!

Not exactly sponsorship but possibly of even greater value is the agreement USCF has signed with Edge TV (theedgetv.com), a planned national cable games network, to televise the US Open, National Open, and the four largest national scholastics. If the network exercises its options through 2008 USCF will receive a total of \$60,000 for the TV rights, and the publicity benefits could be even more important.

CHESS LIFE

When something works as it's supposed to, that's not news, and few tend to notice. Editor Kalev Pehme and the staff of *Chess Life* are to be commended for regularly getting *Chess Life* out on time, ending a long prior period of frequent lateness. Also, the TLA Section blunders of a year ago (National and other events listed with the wrong dates, TLAs omitted, "cancelled" slapped on TLAs that were not cancelled, tournaments in Sacramento and Bakersfield being listed as "side events" of the US Open in Los Angeles, etc.) have virtually disappeared.

It has taken more than three years, but *Chess Life's* Tournament Life Announcement section has finally returned to approximately its size of 2000, before the ill advised huge TLA fee increases of January 2001. The fees were returned to previous levels in late 2001, but many affiliates apparently were slow becoming aware of this. The high fees had produced a vicious cycle- lack of TLAs in a state caused less readers to consult the TLA section seeking events in that state, which caused still fewer affiliates to use TLAs, etc. It is in the interest of American chess that the TLA section have enough readers so that small organizers who can't afford mailings can obtain a reasonable turnout from a low cost TLA only.

MEMBERSHIP TRENDS

The decline in adult membership has accelerated since the dues increase from \$40 to \$49, causing some to argue that we should go back to \$40. While this would certainly promote membership, it might cost money, and we were losing members steadily at \$40 too.

The dues increase appears to have been financially advantageous to USCF in its first year. About a quarter of adult memberships appear to come in through affiliates for \$45, and almost 10% pay \$44 through the auto-renewal program, so the average payment in 2003 was about \$47.50. Economy Adults at \$39 pull down the average too, but let's disregard that as they are set up to cause a *Chess Life* savings equivalent to their price reduction.

At the end of November 2002, we had 24986 Regular, 290 Economy Adults, and 50 Special Members (Blind). I use November rather than December for this comparison because “beating the dues raise” caused an artificial membership gain in December.

At the end of December 2003, we had 21709 Regular, 857 Economy Adults, and 830 Special Members (about 50 Blind and the rest Prison members, a category that was part of Regular in 2002).

I believe that about 950 Prison members were part of the Regular total in Nov 2002, and about 170 were part of it in Dec 2003. So if we subtract these, the Regular + Economy are 24326 on 11/30/02 and 22396 on 12/31/03. Also, about 6% of Adults in Nov 2002 were multi-year members expiring after 2003. These shouldn't be part of a 2003 analysis, so let's subtract 1460 members from both totals, leaving 22866 and 20936.

22866 x \$40 = \$914,640. 20936 x \$47.50 = \$994,460. That's about \$80,000 more coming in after the dues increase than before.

However, the membership decline of 2003 did not slow in the first two months of 2004, a significant danger signal. A continuation of the 2003 trend would wipe out our gains and put us behind before too long.

The Federation has many very committed members who would never consider dropping out over a dues difference of only \$9 per year, so when the dues went up, it was new memberships that suffered the most. Compared to 2002, there was a 34.8% decline in new adult memberships in 2003, compared to only an 18.6% decline in other adult memberships.

Apparently new memberships are more price sensitive than existing ones, so beginning on March 12, we started offering an experimental Promotional Membership on our website: \$38 for one year, \$67 for two years, or \$95 for three years. Former members expired 2002 or before as well as new members are eligible for this membership for two reasons:

1. Long expired members are, like new members, believed to be more price sensitive than current members.
2. We do not wish to provide an incentive for former members with ratings to try to start over as unrated.

This new membership appears to have been successful at slowing the adult decline, and we now offer it by mail and phone in addition to online. 848 were sold in March through May, 409 to new members and 439 to those returning after a lapse. It is not clear that it has resulted in financial benefit in the short run, but anything that promotes membership without a significant loss of money furthers USCF's mission, helps to strengthen affiliates, and should be advantageous in the long haul.

Another important step initiated in March was a revision of our renewal notices. Previously members received only one mailing before expiration, consisting of just a renewal form listing all our various membership classes and prices. Now adults are sent four mailings before they expire, all mention adult dues only, and the first one offers a \$5 reduction if they renew three months in advance.

After nearly a full quarter (March-May) of the promotional membership and the expanded expiration notices, here are some figures by fiscal year, showing how many full adult members were gained or lost in each quarter:

	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
June-Aug	-52	-255	+2	-143	-626
Sept-Nov	-104	-261	-507	+9	-889
Dec-Feb	-222	-24	-255	-178	-867
Mar-May	-558	-586	-607	-1429	-118
TOTAL	-936	-1126	-1417	-1741	-2500

That March-May 2004 total of only 118 full adults lost looks very good when we consider that this quarter is seasonally very weak, much more so than other quarters in the previous four years. This most recent quarter includes a gain of 7 full adults in March, the first up month since December 2002. I am hopeful that we will avoid a decline in full adult members in the coming fiscal year.

The above numbers show a consistent acceleration of the downward trend each fiscal year, with a big leap forward in that tendency after the dues raise from \$40 to \$49 effective January 2003.

Here are the same figures with two adjustments. Economy Adults (initiated Jan 2001) are added, and Prison Members (considered Full Adults before 1/03 but Special Members when joining or renewing 1/03 or after) are considered Adults throughout. The overall picture now looks different, with little acceleration of the downward trend in 1999-2002 and a less spectacular decline after the latest dues increase:

	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
June-Aug	-52	-255	+67	-130	-296
Sept-Nov	-104	-261	-463	+12	-562
Dec-Feb	-222	+11	-180	+38	-553
Mar-May	-558	-526	-622	-962	-152
TOTAL	-936	-1031	-1198	-1042	-1563

The March-May 2004 number looks a bit less strong here, but still very promising. March 2004 calculated this way was +38, the first up month since January 2003.

Rearranging the numbers by calendar year gives a different picture of the effects of the dues increase. These include Economy Adults and the Special Member adjustment. The asterisk, here and later, indicates June 2004 not included.

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Jan-Mar	+16	+26	-6	-170	-502	-369
Apr-June	-278	-585	-411	-562	-571	-190*
July-Sep	+10	-441	-152	-144	-426	
Oct-Dec	-395	-122	-354	+197	-568	
TOTAL	-647	-1122	-923	-670	-2067	

That +197 for Oct-Dec 2002 looks like “beating the dues raise.” Before that, 2002 was on track to end up worse than 2001. So overall, the dues raise seems to have cost about 1000 more Regular members than we were likely to have lost in 2003 without it.

Here is the number of new adults signed up by quarter in recent years:

	2001-2	2002-3	2003-4
June-Aug	1313	1183	767
Sept-Nov	1201	1354	739
Dec-Feb	1522	1373	818
Mar-May	1313	1027	927
TOTAL	5349	4937	3251

Note the apparent delayed effect of the Jan 2003 dues raise here. New memberships held up pretty well for the first few months of 2003, but then collapsed.

The 927 for March-May 2004 is a good number compared to the rest of the fiscal year, especially for a seasonally weak quarter, but we are not back to our previous levels even though the dues for new adults are \$2 lower. I am hopeful that with the \$38 membership now offered by mail and phone as well as on the web, and with some time for the word to spread, we will be able to at least return to the 2001-2 levels.

The \$38 membership appears to be having a dramatic effect on adults returning after a lapse, even though it applies only to 2002 and earlier expirations. Following are the number of adult members who returned after a lapse of at least five months. That 1125 looks like a very powerful number.

	2001-2	2002-3	2003-4
Jun-Aug	773	772	880
Sep-Nov	606	816	835
Dec-Feb	776	928	909
Mar-May	750	677	1125
TOTAL	2905	3193	3749

Here is the trend for Youth Memberships (under 20):

	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
June-Aug	+556	-246	-338	-142	-380
Sep-Nov	+1495	-280	+652	+789	+492
Dec-Feb	+200	+590	-496	+332	+186
Mar-May	-762	-530	-176	-1076	-803
TOTAL	+1489	-466	-358	-97	-505

Here with no recent dues special offered, the latest quarter, March-May 2004, is only slightly better than the same period in 2003. Youth dues were raised from \$17 to \$20 effective Jan 2001 and \$20 to \$25 effective Jan 2003 (for affiliates the increase was \$20 to \$23), and the numbers suggest that the increase to \$20 had no effect on membership totals, but the one to \$25 is hurting. The probable effect of these dues increases is easier to see from the calendar year changes:

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Jan-Mar	+788	+415	+171	-108	+320	+320
Apr-June	-839	-1019	-759	-635	-1278	-771*
July-Sep	-288	-109	+14	+11	-101	
Oct-Dec	+1355	+92	+602	+753	+252	
TOTAL	+1016	-621	+28	+21	-807	

After Youth dues were raised from \$17 to \$20 effective Jan 2001, two years followed that were better than the last year at \$17! However, the raise from \$20 to \$25 effective Jan 2003 is another story.

Following are the numbers for Scholastic Memberships (under 15):

	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
June-Aug	-579	-779	-398	-297	-2363
Sep-Nov	+2396	+3464	+3052	+4151	-2138
Dec-Feb	+1507	+1970	+1689	-579	-5529
Mar-May	-458	-1630	-935	-7273	-2290
TOTAL	+2866	+2445	+3408	-2363	-12320

How did we lose all those kids receiving our publication? What happened to chess education, the promotion of chess literature, and the dissemination of the USCF message? It was suicide. We killed our fastest growing category by offering an "Economy Scholastic" alternative, to enable kids to save \$5 or \$6 and avoid being exposed to the world of chess.

Here is the calendar year version, which is even more gruesome. The "Economy Scholastic" category started in January 2003 and we have since lost 21,211 of our 42,264 Scholastic Members receiving a publication, more than half!

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Jan-Mar	+405	+2117	+1675	+1718	-4295	-3576
Apr-June	-1950	-1665	-1630	-1164	-5640	-1661*
July-Sep	+229	-110	+142	+534	-1589	
Oct-Dec	+2241	+3840	+2604	+4572	-4455	
TOTAL	+925	+4182	+2791	+5660	-15979	

When Scholastic dues went from \$13 (no commission) to \$19 (\$17 through affiliates), Economy Scholastic was created for \$13 (\$12 through affiliates). At least, did that dollar less through affiliates increase overall scholastic (Scholastic plus Economy Scholastic) Memberships? Hardly. Here is that breakdown:

	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
June-Aug	-579	-779	-398	-297	-1359
Sep-Nov	+2396	+3464	+3052	+4151	+2329
Dec-Feb	+1507	+1970	+1689	+1445	-673
Mar-May	-458	-1630	-935	-2689	-2917
TOTAL	+2866	+2445	+3408	+2610	-2620

And here is the calendar year version of Scholastic plus Economy Scholastic. Note that unlike Youth, the worst seems yet to come- consider the horrible 2004 numbers, as the first crop of Economy Scholastic members who joined in 2003 fail to renew in droves. Our renewal rate is 46.9% for Scholastic members, and only 25.4% for Economy Scholastic! (NOTE: It's interesting that the renewal rate for Regular Adults is 61.8%, Economy Adults 32.2%.)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Jan-Mar	+405	+2117	+1675	+1718	-14	-56
Apr-June	-1950	-1665	-1630	-1164	-2869	-2894*
July-Sep	+229	-110	+142	+534	-363	
Oct-Dec	+2241	+3840	+2604	+4572	+1288	
TOTAL	+925	+4182	+2791	+5660	-1958	

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

Here is a 29-year history of USCF's junior membership categories, showing the effects of offering memberships without a publication, allowing non-members to play in tournaments, various dues increases, etc.

	All members	Jr./Youth	Scholastic	Partic/Econo	Total Juniors	Jr. %
6/30/75 (A)	51842	14837	0	0	14837	28.6
6/30/76 (B)	49179	8784	0	4385	13169	26.8
6/30/77	46175	6022	0	4365	10387	22.5
6/30/78	48837	5791	0	4441	10232	21.0
6/30/79	48707	5400	0	4344	9744	20.0
6/30/80 (C)	47805	5225	0	4303	9528	19.9
6/30/81	49628	5191	0	4496	9687	19.5
6/30/82 (D)	51926	4920	0	5196	10116	19.5
6/30/83	52782	4420	0	5480	9900	18.8
6/30/84	53773	4504	0	5995	10499	19.5
6/30/85 (E)	54961	4279	0	6082	10361	18.9
6/30/86	54957	4342	0	6584	10926	19.9
6/30/87 (F)	58508	4490	0	7465	11955	20.4
6/30/88 (G)	53401	4214	1378	1508	7100	13.3
6/30/89 (H)	51595	4202	2394	681	7277	14.1
6/30/90	52898	4318	3519	672	8509	16.1
6/30/91	57617	4857	6195	193	11245	19.5
6/30/92 (I)	63279	4965	12404	11	17380	27.5
6/30/93 (J)	68746	4847	16543	5	21395	31.1
6/30/94	73485	5531	20587	1	26119	35.5
6/30/95 (K)	81808	7165	25514	1	32680	39.9

	All members	Jr./ Youth	Scholastic	Partic/ Econo	Total Juniors	Jr. %
6/30/96	83082	8901	26008	1	34910	42.0
6/30/97	83469	9483	27415	1	36899	44.2
6/30/98 (L)	83695	11272	27247	0	38519	46.0
6/30/99	83297	11843	27162	0	39005	46.8
6/30/00	85395	12306	30084	0	42390	49.6
6/30/01 (M)	87432	11701	33859	0	45560	52.1
6/30/02	88908	11574	37159	0	48733	54.8
6/30/03 (N)	89814	11380	32329	7053	50762	56.5
5/31/04	85856	11080	21053	16304	48437	56.4

- A. At the beginning of 1975, Regular membership in USCF was priced at \$15 and Junior membership (under 19 at expiration) at \$8.
- B. Effective Dec. 1, 1975, "Participating Junior" membership without a publication was offered for \$2.50. During the 12-year existence of this membership, scholastic organization grew substantially, yet junior membership with a publication collapsed. Even the total of publication and non-publication juniors showed a downward trend for the first five years of this membership, recovering some of the lost ground only in 1986-7 when there was far more scholastic activity than 1975.
- C. Effective Jan. 1, 1980, Regular was raised to \$20, Junior to \$10, and Participating Junior to \$3. The increase was largest for Regular on both an overall and percentage basis, yet the junior percentage of the overall membership continued to decline.
- D. The name of the "Junior" category was changed to "Youth," and "Participating Junior" to "Participating Youth," in Oct 1981.
- E. Effective Jan. 1, 1985, Regular was raised to \$25, Youth to \$12, and Participating Youth to \$3.50. Once again, the increase was largest for Regular on both an overall and percentage basis, and this time the youth categories made a bit of a comeback.
- F. The Participating Youth category was discontinued January 1987, and non-members were allowed to register without charge as JTPs (Junior Tournament Players), to play in scholastic events only. Membership among juniors immediately declined to by far the lowest percentage of overall USCF membership ever.
- G. In October 1987, Youth membership was changed from under 19 at expiration to under 21 at expiration, and Scholastic membership with quarterly *School Mates*, for under 21 at expiration, was initiated with dues \$6. With the help of this new category, the percentage of overall USCF membership consisting of juniors recovered by 1991 to surpass its old low point of 1983.

- H. Effective Jan. 1, 1989, Regular was raised to \$30, Youth to \$15, and Scholastic to \$7.
- I. Free JTPs were discontinued for most tournaments effective Jan 1, 1992. They were continued only for K-3 tournaments and in school tournaments open only to students in that school. This touched off a boom in Scholastic and Youth memberships. During the calendar year 1992, the total of these memberships increased from 12,796 to 20,636.
- J. *School Mates* switched from quarterly to bimonthly, Oct. 1992.
- K. Effective Jan. 1, 1995, Regular was raised to \$40 and Scholastic to \$10. Youth stayed at \$15. The Scholastic rise from \$7 to \$10 appears to have slowed the growth in this category, with only 1516 of the 4927 members gained 7/1/94-6/30/95 being gained in 1995, and smaller gains than before the next few years.
- L. Effective Jan. 1, 1998, Youth was raised to \$17 and Scholastic to \$12, a \$5 affiliate commission was offered for first-time Scholastic members, and the Scholastic age was lowered to under 16 at expiration. The net effect of all this was that the junior memberships continued about the same rate of growth, which was reflected in Youth because of the Scholastic age change.
- M. *School Mates* switched back from bimonthly to quarterly, Sept. 2000. This didn't seem to hurt membership totals. Effective Jan 1, 2001, Youth was raised to \$20 and Scholastic to \$13, and the \$5 affiliate commission on first time Scholastic was ended. These changes also seem to have had little effect on membership.
- N. Effective Jan. 1, 2003, Regular was raised to \$49, Youth to \$25 (affiliates \$23), and Scholastic to \$19 (affiliates \$17). Economy Scholastic without a publication was created for \$13 (affiliates \$12). *School Mates* was ended, and Scholastic members began receiving six issues of *Chess Life* each year rather than four issues of *School Mates*.

Youth membership has not done well since this increase, and for Scholastic (where the cheapest membership remained at the same price, with a \$1 commission added) it was *deja vu* back to 1976 and 1977, as the number of kids receiving a publication was annihilated. And just as in the 70s, the Economy Scholastic category is killing magazine circulation without boosting overall Scholastic plus Economy Scholastic numbers! The percentage of USCF members that are juniors appears to have finally declined this year after 15 straight years of June to June growth, and it is no coincidence that this is happening during the first full year of Economy Scholastic memberships.

DELEGATES AT LARGE

Delegates at Large (DAL)

(* = *Past President*)

Anthony P. Cottell
 Arnold Denker
 Harold Dondis
 Gerry Dullea
 Bill Goichberg
 Jerome Hanken
 F. Woodrow Harris
 Randy Hough
 Al Lawrence
 Myron Lieberman

Rachel Lieberman

Glenn Petersen
 Timothy Redman*
 Harry Sabine
 Donald Schultz*
 Helen Warren
 Harold Winston*

Additional Alternate Delegates (AAD)

(* = *Past President*)

Maxim Dlugy *
 Frank Elley
 Robert Erkes
 Burt Hochberg
 Frank Skoff *
 Gary Sperling*
 Frank Camaratta
 Steve Doyle*
 Leroy Dubeck*

USCF FINANCE REPORT

by *Tim Hanke*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

After several years of six-figure financial losses totaling about \$2 million, USCF apparently turned a profit in the 2004 fiscal year ending May 31, 2004. I say “apparently” because we will not have audited numbers till late July, after this report goes to press.

Regardless of the exact year-end figures, it seems clear that things are looking up. Our accounts payable have been reduced from crushing levels (in the \$400,000 range) in fall 2003 to bearable levels (in the \$100,000 range) in spring 2004. Cash flow appears to be good. Payroll has been reduced drastically. Our major debts have been paid off. Future improvements in automation hold out the promise of reduced operating costs.

Last but not least, we have outsourced our book & equipment business. This frees up large amounts of cash previously needed to purchase inventory, print and mail catalogs, and pay staff in sales and shipping. Not only have we rid ourselves of these substantial expenses, on the plus side we have signed a contract with our outsourcing partner, Chess Café, for a “guaranteed” annual payment to USCF of \$350,000 (more if sales exceed a certain level).

A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE PAST YEAR

After a \$360,000 loss in the 2003 fiscal year, USCF was close to bankruptcy in summer 2003. When the current Executive Board took office in August 2003, USCF did not have enough cash to pay the prizes for the 2003 U.S. Open. There was not enough cash to meet the office payroll. Book & equipment sales were down, in part because our basement was full of wooden pallets holding boxes of tens of thousands of beautiful full-color catalogs that we could not afford to mail.

USCF had spun out of control, and perhaps the best symbol of the situation was that our Executive Director failed to show up at the 2003 annual meeting in Los Angeles and did not respond to phone calls or email. I feel obliged to mention, we later discovered that this same Executive Director had signed several contracts without Executive Board knowledge or approval, and had made a number of oral agreements we felt obliged to honor. These contracts and oral agreements proved to be expensive and burdensome to USCF. To prevent future problems of this sort, rules should be established governing the Executive Director’s ability to make contracts and other financial commitments.

In this crisis, the Executive Board President and Vice President of Finance visited the office in late August 2003 and were forced to make sharp staff cuts, with the support of an Executive Board majority. Since that time, the Executive Board has continued to monitor payroll and other expenses closely.

To be honest, during the dark days of late summer and fall 2003, it was not clear whether USCF could avoid bankruptcy. In addition to reducing payroll and other expenses, a number of positive steps were taken immediately and over the next several months.

We talked to our major creditors, some of whom were irate and had received no communication from USCF for months, and worked out payment plans. Our creditors were understanding once we began talking to them.

During these difficult times, when the Executive Board was literally monitoring the office cash flow week to week and sometimes even day to day, we were grateful to receive crucial help from several faithful friends. The New Jersey State Chess Federation generously prepaid

sums that were not due till several months later. The U.S. Chess Trust, within the limits of its charter, promptly reimbursed USCF for requested sums that were due. The Continental Chess Association prepaid large sums for future advertising.

USCF also received important help in other ways, from our own membership. Mike Nolan of Nebraska briefly served as Chief Operating Officer when we had no Executive Director. After Mike returned home, Grant Perks of Ohio, a CPA, served as Office Manager and helped to organize USCF finances and restore stability to our operations. When Grant returned home, Bill Goichberg stepped in as volunteer unpaid Executive Director, a key role in which he still serves.

After a prolonged bidding process and much Executive Board debate, USCF outsourced its book & equipment business to Chess Café. In doing this, we rid ourselves of a business that we had not operated well for years, and “guaranteed” USCF a minimum income of \$350,000 from book & equipment sales. Executive Director Bill Goichberg took the lead in negotiating this deal.

In early 2004, we liquidated the balance of about \$260,000 in the Life Members Account, to help pay off our \$300,000 line of credit to Key Bank, a debt that was about nine months overdue.

In spring 2004, we negotiated the sale of our building in New Windsor, N.Y., which was now too big for our downsized operations. This building does not have sufficient parking for its size, so it is a good idea to sell it in any case. The building sale is scheduled to close at the end of July, after which time USCF will rent back part of the space from the buyer.

THE BAD NEWS

The bad news is that during the spending spree of the last several years, we have wiped out the \$2 million of liquid assets in the Life Members Account (LMA), which we treated as an emergency cash reserve. (The LMA still owns our building.) We went to the well so often, it is now dry. Another bad year could wipe us out.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Extreme fiscal prudence is in order.

With the LMA cash and equities now gone, the cash from our upcoming building sale will be our last financial reserve. It is true that we are “guaranteed” at least \$350,000 a year from our book & equipment outsourcing partner, but this business arrangement is brand-new and has not been tested. It may not work as well as advertised; a prudent attitude would be to wait and see.

My major piece of advice (other than counseling extreme fiscal prudence for the foreseeable future) is that USCF should rent rather than buy a new building, till USCF finances have stabilized and we have a better idea of our long-term financial position. I know the Executive Director is eager to buy a new building as soon as possible. A majority of the Executive Board also seems to favor buying a building soon. All I can say is, fools rush in where angels fear to tread. There is no shame in renting: many nonprofit organizations rent space rather than buy. In our current situation, with our margin of safety rather thin, I strongly discourage putting most or all of our liquid financial reserves into a building.

On the other hand, I don’t know which to fear most: that USCF will buy a building and then run out of operating cash; or that USCF will not buy a building and will use its cash reserve in foolish, wasteful ways. Our recent history, which is marked by out-of-control Executive Directors and out-of-touch Executive Boards, suggests that either course is more than possible.

USCF Computerization: A year of progress and promises

by Mike Nolan

The past year has seen quite a bit of behind-the-scenes work on the USCF's new computer software, with some visible results and much more coming soon.

On Saturday, August 14th, the Delegates will get a live demonstration of the full range of online services we're working to implement, starting with the creation of an online Tournament Life Announcement, accepting registrations from the USCF website, processing new memberships and finally uploading and validating a rating report.

The MIS Workshop, 9:00 AM on Friday, August 13th, will include a more technical progress report. If equipment is available, it will also include some hands-on training for TDs on the USCF's new TD/Affiliate Support Area, http://www.uschess.org/TD_Affil.

WHERE WE ARE TODAY

As reported in the April Ratings Supplement, the USCF's new database server was installed in February and we switched over to our new membership processing system in mid-March.

One direct result of that changeover is that we are able to process most memberships entered through the USCF website within a few minutes.

We update the membership records on the Members Services Area several times a day. As a result, it is never more than a few hours behind the USCF's new database server. MSA has become the best online source for up-to-date information on USCF members. MSA is at <http://msa.uschess.org>.

All members who provide us with their e-mail address when they join or renew are now sent an e-mail with their ID, expiration date and the PIN they need to access the Members Only section of the USCF website.

USCF members can go to the Members Only area of the website and enter address changes online, with immediate processing and a confirmation via e-mail. At present we only support this feature for USCF members living in the USA and not for affiliates. (But see below for affiliates.)

As of June 25th, the USCF office can process memberships as they are phoned in, with new members receiving their USCF IDs while they are still on the phone, and the office can process tournament registrations through the new membership system.

All the membership department staff have been trained on the new membership software and a number of employees in other departments are also being trained on it.

The new membership programming, the automated processing of memberships from the website and the slowdown that is normal during the summer have enabled the USCF to cut the backlog in membership processing from roughly three weeks in March to less than a week for mailed-in memberships as of the end of June.

Even though the USCF offices are moving next door in July, by the time the Delegates meet we hope to be able to report that there is NO backlog in memberships and that we are processing memberships from the current day's mail by the end of the next business day.

The new database server system produces the ratings supplement (both the printed pages and the files that TDs can download from the website), the Top 100 lists, the labels for Chess Life and labels ordered by affiliates. Among the reports being generated on the new system are our membership statistics and information for our accounting department.

We're also trying to track down and flag duplicate memberships that were created in the past and catch any new duplicates.

As we reported in the April Supplement and again on page 63 of the June Chess Life, rating reports that are missing USCF IDs are a very serious problem for the ratings department and are likely to cause major delays in rating an event.

That's why the USCF has asked TDs to be very meticulous in checking IDs and to hold off sending in rating reports until they have all of the IDs for any new players. That's also why our development efforts so far have focused on ways to improve membership processing.

WHAT'S COMING SOON

The next visible change for members in the next month will be a redesign of the membership and tournament entry sections of the USCF website. This should enable us to automate the processing of tournament registrations through the USCF website. The goal is to process memberships and tournament registrations right away and provide an immediate confirmation. New members will get their USCF ID as part of that confirmation notice as well as by e-mail.

Also coming soon are the first of the features in the USCF's new TD/Affiliate Support area: Membership processing and online TLAs.

As this is an area where we are just starting to make visible progress, for an up-to-date report on these features, see <http://www.uschess.org/rtgchange.php>

The initial goal of the USCF TD/Affiliate Support Area is to enable TDs to enter in the memberships from their tournaments, either as a batch upload or by typing them online. We will issue any new USCF IDs and e-mail them to the TDs, so that the TDs can complete their rating reports by filling in all of the IDs, as we have requested.

Members and TDs willing to supply credit card information will have those memberships processed immediately, just like memberships coming from the USCF website.

However, even if the checks are being mailed in we will issue any new IDs right away and e-mail them to the TD, we just won't be able to activate those memberships or show them on MSA until the payment has been received and processed.

By using the membership feature of the TD/Affiliate Support Area, TDs should be able to get USCF IDs for new members in their tournaments with just a few minutes worth of typing.

By the time this report is in the mail, affiliates should have the ability to review and revise their affiliate information through the TD/Affiliate Support Area, including updating the information displayed in the online club directory.

WHAT ABOUT RATINGS?

However, all of the above features may only whet everyone's appetite for the real meat of the new system, a complete redesign and rewrite of the programs we use to process rating reports. Once this rewrite is completed the USCF will be able to rate an event as soon as it has passed all of the validation steps, and we mean IMMEDIATELY!

By October it should be possible for a TD to run an event on Saturday, submit any memberships and the rating report online Saturday night, get back an e-mailed validation report showing any errors or problems, including potential ID errors, submit any necessary corrections, and have the completed rating report back via e-mail a few minutes later. A few hours later the players in those events will be able to see their updated ratings on the USCF website!

Much of the groundwork for the new programming is already in

place. We have all the current and historical ratings information on the new database server, since that's where we produce the ratings supplements and update MSA.

The current ratings programs (written in 1992) are still being used to rate tournaments today, and that probably won't change until most or all of the pieces are in place for the new ratings system, probably in September.

The one feature TDs have requested for years is the ability to submit rating reports online. That currently requires several steps before we can rate the event on our current ratings programs:

1. Uploading the files via the Internet.
2. Checking those files for internal consistency and valid memberships.
3. Transferring the files to the system that runs the current ratings programs.

The only one of these steps that can't be easily automated using our current hardware and rating programs is the last one. Currently the ONLY way to get the files from the new computer to the old computer would be to copy them to a diskette!

As an interim measure, we plan to give TDs the ability to upload the files from the ratings diskettes so we can check them for problems such as incorrect IDs, but we probably won't be able to use those files to rate the events until we are doing the ratings computations on the new database server.

We are still trying to find a way to make those files accessible to the existing ratings programs without copying them to diskette, but TDs may have to mail in diskettes until the ratings programs are running on the new server.

But there's another problem with the current ratings diskette method. The three files that TDs send us on the ratings diskettes are missing some key pieces of information that we need to rate those events. What's needed is a way for TDs to provide some additional information about the event, the sections in the event and the players in those sections.

For example, the player file (TDEXPORT.DBF) has USCF IDs but not the players' names. If the USCF ID is missing or incorrect, there's nothing we can use to look up current members or to add the IDs for new member. That makes it much harder to spot incorrect IDs, too.

Our long-term solution to this problem will be to develop a new data reporting format. Once it is published, the developers of pairing programs can update their programs to include that additional information.

Until that new format is the one most TDs use, we will continue to accept online submissions using the three files currently being copied

to the diskettes, but the TD will have to fill in some of that additional information as part of the process of uploading the rating report, and those reports cannot have any missing IDs in them, since we cannot do much with rating reports until all the IDs are filled in.

The new ratings programming will also address one of the biggest problems in the current system: making corrections. Right now the process of correcting an event after it has been rated can only be described as painful and might more accurately be described as impossible.

That's why another top goal of the new ratings system will be to make it possible for TDs to correct and rerate an event quickly and easily.

CONCLUSION AND TIMETABLE

We know that members have been pleased with the visible changes we've implemented last year, the introduction of MSA last September and the redesigned rating supplement, and more recently with the automated processing of memberships from the website and the ability to process memberships on the phone.

We think members will be even more pleased with what's coming in the next few months:

Here's an approximate timetable:

July

- Online TLAs
- Batch uploading of memberships from a tournament
- Updating affiliate information in the club directory
- A new membership/tournament entry form for the USCF website to support online tournament registration, including preparing registration files for the TDs to use at our national events.

August

- Uploading of rating reports using the current reporting format for checking of IDs and other data problems
- Validation reports e-mailed to TDs when rating reports are uploaded for checking

September/October

- A new rating report format for online submission
- Uploading of rating reports for processing on the new system
- Immediate processing of validated rating reports
- The ability to correct and rerate events quickly

There may be some adjustment to this timetable, but our goal is to have everything done by the end of October.

VOLUNTEER EXPENSE REPORT

Paid during the Fiscal year ending May 31, 2004

Name	Capacity	Total Amount
Beatriz Marinello	Executive Board	\$ 2,176.62
Donald D Schultz	Executive Board	\$ 223.00
Frank A Camaratta Jr	Executive Board	\$1,711.73
Timothy Hanke	Executive Board	\$ 482.50

The above amounts were paid to the listed individuals for expense reimbursements. In some cases USCF paid Hotels directly.

U.S. CHESS TRUST REPORT

by Chairman Harold J. Winston

The U.S. Chess Trust is a federally tax exempt 501(c)(3) Massachusetts Trust which supports chess nationwide. Your donations allow us to help chess. We owe a great deal to our Chairman Emeritus, Harold Dondis of Massachusetts, whose advice is of great benefit to me and to the Trust. We mourn the passing last fall of former trustee Lee Hyder of South Carolina (also a former USCF Secretary), who worked hard to have the Trust aid chess growth nationwide.

On Friday evening August 13, 2004, the third World Chess Hall of Fame and Sidney Samole Museum annual induction dinner will be held at the Wyndham Bonaventure Hotel in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, the site of the 2004 U.S. Open. Both the first two annual induction dinners were very memorable and this one will be as well. Honorees include former World Champion Anatoly Karpov while GMs Leonid Shamkovich and Anatoly Lein will be inducted in the US Chess Hall of Fame. I urge anyone who has not yet visited the World Chess Hall of Fame and Samole Museum, in Miami, Florida, to do so. You will enjoy this celebration of our Royal Game, thanks to the fine work of Shane Samole, Al Lawrence, Sharon Samole and others. The Trust is very proud of our support of the World Chess Hall of Fame.

Another project the Trust wholeheartedly supports is the Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions, held during the US Open. I was very proud to be at the opening ceremony of the 2003 Denker in Los Angeles, which featured GMs Denker and Susan Polgar, who our state champions greatly enjoyed meeting. This tournament is the concept of GM Denker and owes its level of support to his generosity. The Trust salutes GM Denker on his recently receiving the title "Dean of American Chess" and on being 90 years young.

In this past year, Trust Treasurer Steve Doyle and I negotiated with USCF Executive Director Bill Goichberg to straighten out financial accounts between our two organizations. Some items had been charged to the Trust in error but that has been rectified. Formerly, USCF Executive Directors also served as Trust Executive Secretary, but in the future those roles will no longer coincide. The negotiations resolved all disputed matters on a reasonable basis and resulted in a payment in December of approximately \$7900 in monies owed to the

Trust. In the future all financial matters between the two organizations will be on a clear written basis. I greatly appreciate all of Treasurer Doyle's hard work in solving this problem. USCF has also agreed to give up their veto power over removal of Trustees which should decrease friction between the Trust and the Federation. I commend Trustee Dana Belcher for his promotion of the Trust in the magazine *Empire Chess*, which he and his wife edit.

The Trust continues to support school chess nationwide with donations of sets and boards and providing some free USCF memberships to needy students and by backing American participants in recognized international junior and youth competitions. The Trust also supports the US Olympiad teams. We are also proud of the Scholar Chessplayer Program which gives scholarship awards to high school seniors based on academic and chess achievement. Our congratulations to the newest Samford Fellowship winner, the first woman to win the Samford: Rusudan Goletiani.

Our Managing Director, Barbara DeMaro, who is an independent contractor, has worked on a number of important projects this year, including listing the Chess Trust on Ebay and on Guidestar (a national directory of non-profit organizations), designing and obtaining Chess Trust banners, getting the Trust on ESPN, soliciting donations and matching grants, and maintaining financial records.

Our annual meeting is open to the public. Please join us at the annual Trustees meeting on Thursday afternoon August 12, 2004, at the Wyndham Bonaventure Hotel in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. To contact the committee, email our Managing Director Barbara DeMaro at bduscf@aol.com or email me at HJWinston@aol.com.

I thank Treasurer Steve Doyle (NJ), Chairman Emeritus Harold Dondis (MA), President Shane Samole (FL) and all the other trustees and officers: Scholastic Vice President Pete Nixon (MI), Assistant Treasurer Jim Eade (N.CA), GM Arnold Denker (FL), Dana Belcher (NY), Joel Channing (FL), Leroy Dubeck (NJ), Joe Ippolito (NJ) and Myron Lieberman (AZ) for their work in the past year. The Trustees represent all sections of our nation. Donations should be made out to US Chess Trust and can be sent to US Chess Trust, 3068 Route 9W, New Windsor NY 12553.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE USCF EXECUTIVE BOARD MAY 21-23, 2004 IN NEW WINDSOR, NEW YORK

CONFERENCE CALLS

The Executive Board held a conference call on **February 3, 2004 at 8 PM EST.**

Executive Board Members Present were:

Beatriz Marinello, President
Stephen Shutt, Vice President
Timothy Hanke, Vice President
of Finance

Dr. Frank Brady, Secretary
Donald Schultz, Member-At-Large
Frank Camaratta, Member-At-Large
Bill Goichberg, Executive Director

The first order of business was the resignation of Frank Camaratta from the Executive Board, effective immediately. Mr. Camaratta then left the meeting.

EB 04-36 (Board) The Executive Board accepts with regret the resignation, for personal reasons, of Frank Camaratta. **Passed unanimously 5-0** In favor Marinello, Shutt, Hanke, Brady and Schultz

After a lengthy discussion, the following motion was voted upon:

EB 04-37 (Board) The Executive Board accepts the bid by Chess Café for outsourcing and merging USCF's book and equipment business, effective April 1st, and hereby authorizes the Executive Director to finalize the contract with USCF's attorneys. **Passed unanimously 5-0**

In favor Marinello, Shutt, Hanke, Brady and Schultz

The Executive Board held a conference call on **February 27, 2004 at 9:30 AM EST.**

Executive Board members present were:

Stephen Shutt, Vice President
Frank Brady, Secretary
Don Schultz, Member-at Large
Also present was Bill Goichberg, Executive Director

EB 04-38 (Board) The Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to sign the outsourcing contract with Chess Café. **Passed 3-0** In favor Shutt, Brady and Schultz

The Executive Board held a conference call on **March 1, 2004 8 PM EST.**

Executive Board Members Present were:

Beatriz Marinello, President
Stephen Shutt, Vice President
Timothy Hanke, VP of Finance
Dr. Frank Brady, Secretary

Donald Schultz, Member-At-Large
Frank Camaratta, Member-At-Large
Bill Goichberg, Executive Director

EB 04-39 (Board) The Executive Board ratifies the Chess Café contract.

Passed 5-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Hanke, Brady and Schultz

OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE

The following motions were sent out for passage by Objections Procedure:

MARCH 17, 2004

EB 04-40 (Frank Brady) The relocation plans of the USCF are to be re-considered. A Relocation Committee to evaluate a move will be appointed by the EB. Bidding instructions for sites interested in housing the USCF offices are to be made available by April 15 in a special delegate mailing and also will be posted on www.uschess.org and other websites and newsgroups. All bidders must have their bids finalized by July 1. The relocation committee will present their recommendations for ratification at the August USCF Delegates meeting. **PASSED** Without Objection

EB 04-41 (Frank Brady) The new relocation committee will be chaired by USCF President, Beatriz Marinello. Other committee members are: USCF Vice President-Finance Tim Hanke; Mike Carr (Southern California) and GM Ilya Gurevich (New York). Dave Knudson was subsequently added and accepted the appointment). **PASSED** Without Objection

The Executive Board held a conference call on **March 25, 2004 8PM EST.**

Executive Board Members Present were:

Beatriz Marinello, President
Stephen Shutt, Vice President
Timothy Hanke, Vice President
of Finance

Dr. Frank Brady, Secretary
Donald Schultz, Member-At-Large
Bill Goichberg, Executive Director

The conference was held to discuss the Women's Olympiad and the 2004 US Women's Championship. During the call qualifications were established for both the 2004 Women's Championship and the Women's Olympiad.

OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE

The following motions were sent out for passage by Objections Procedure:

APRIL 11, 2004

EB 04-42 (Hanke) The Executive Board instructs the Executive Director not to spend more than \$55,000 on payroll expense in any month, starting in May 2004, without written approval from the USCF President. Payroll expense shall be defined as all personnel expenses, including but not limited to salary, wages, benefits, payroll taxes, part-time employees, and independent contractors. The Chief Financial Officer will receive a copy of this instruction in writing and is required to abide by it strictly. In case of any ambiguity, the Chief Financial Officer is instructed to consult first with the USCF Executive Director, and then with the USCF President or the USCF Vice President of Finance. **PASSED** Without Objection

EB 04-43 (Hanke) The Executive Board Office Committee (Marinello, Schultz, Hanke) will examine the office payroll and notify the Executive Director by May 1, 2004 of any changes that must be made. No future hires will be made without written approval from the Office Committee. **PASSED** Without Objection

The intent of these motions is to safeguard against the type of mismanagement that has occurred in USCF under past leadership. The approval of these motions should not be interpreted as implying dissatisfaction with the current Executive Director.

OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE

The following motions were sent out for passage by Objections Procedure:

EB 04-44 (Board) The Executive Board authorizes any two of the following, Bill Goichberg, Executive Director, Judy Misner, Managing Director of Business Operations or Ken Thomas, CFO to be signers on the Key Bank accounts. **PASSED** Without Objection

MINUTES OF THE MAY 21-23, 2004 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD AT THE U.S. CHESS FEDERATION OFFICE IN NEW WINDSOR, NEW YORK

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2004

Meeting of the Executive Board and Co-Chair of the Scholastic Council, Sunil Weeramantry. Present were President, Beatriz Marinello, Vice President Steve Shutt, Member at

Large, Don Schultz, Executive Director, Bill Goichberg, Scholastic Council Co-Chair, Sunil Weeramantry, Executive Board Candidate, Mikhail Korenman, Barb Vandermark and John McCrary. Member at Large, Frank Brady and Council member Mike Nietman joined the meeting while in progress. Also present for all or part of the Saturday and Sunday meetings were Judy Misner, Joan DuBois, Ken Thomas, Barbara DeMaro and Bill Kelleher, FIDE Delegate.

Five issues were brought before the Board that is of concern to the Scholastic Council. The first one, lack of communication between the Executive Director and the Scholastic Council, was discussed. This was settled by agreeing that the Council should be copied or consulted on issues when the decisions would impact the Scholastic community. The next two, the possible reducing of Diane Reese's status from full-time to part-time and the World Youth Qualifications were discussed and resulted in passing the motions below. Diane will remain on full-time status. The Council wanted to address the \$5 per entry surcharge that was being added to tournament entry fees for use for Scholastic purposes. It was agreed that a special bank account would be set up for this money. An account will be set up and the signatories will be EB Vice President, Steve Shutt and Director of National Events and Scholastic Programs, Diane Reese. The final issue was the possible elimination of the Economy Scholastic membership. A compromise was reached by passing motion EB-63 to be presented to the Delegates in August.

Sunil thanked the Board and everyone agreed the meeting was very productive. Sunil also let the Board know that he would not be serving on the Council next year and that the Council would have two new members Aviv Friedman and Cindy Hawkinson.

EB 04-45 (Board) The Executive Board authorizes to adopt the revised qualification requirements for the World Youth Festival submitted by the Scholastic Council as outlined in their memorandum of May 21, 2004 effective for the 2004 event, under the following criteria.

WORLD YOUTH CHESS

FESTIVAL (U10, U12, U14, U16 and U18)

A. Within each age and gender cate-

gory, players may qualify to represent the USA under any of the following criteria:

1. be established as one of the three highest rated candidates by peak post-tournament rating in the previous 12 months, ending with events included in the April Rating Supplement;

OR 2. be listed within 50 rating points or less from third qualifying spot;

OR 3. have earned a personal right to compete by virtue of one's performance at this event in a previous year;

OR 4. be selected under extraordinary circumstances by the Scholastic Council in conjunction with the Executive Board.

B. the top qualified player in each category will be considered the official candidate and will be entitled to receive whatever financial assistance is offered towards the cost of participation.

C. If the top qualified player declines the invitation, the next player in line will be entitled to the financial assistance described above.

D. If a qualified player is unable to attend, that place will not be offered to a non-qualified player ranked lower on the rating list.

E. All qualified players will have the right to participate and will be considered to be part of the national team.

F. The Scholastic Council Chair shall review the rating history of all qualified players before approving the final selection.

PASSED 4-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Brady and Schultz Absent Hanke

EB 04-46 (Board) The Executive Board announces its intention to hire a full-time Scholastic Coordinator who will report to Diane Reese, Director of National Events and Scholastic Programs. The Board commends Diane for her outstanding work in promoting and organizing the National Scholastics.

PASSED 4-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Brady and Schultz Absent Hanke

EB 04-47 (Board) The Executive Board places the following Advanced Delegate Motion on the agenda with recommendation from the Board. The Bylaws will be amended as follows: The Economy Scholastic membership will be offered only to students within a subsidized lunch program or attend-

ing a Title I school on the condition that the membership is purchased through their school affiliate.

PASSED 4-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Brady and Schultz Absent Hanke

EB 04-48 (Board) The Executive Board requires that the *Chess Life* editor insert 8 pages of additional material in every other issue of *Chess Life* to better inform and teach Scholastic members 10 years old or younger.

PASSED 4-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Brady and Schultz Absent Hanke

EB 04-49 (Shutt) The Executive Board endorses the idea of offering Scholastic Affiliates a series of on-line beginners/intermediate lessons. This service can be accessed for an additional \$10 over the current Scholastic Affiliate fee.

PASSED 4-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Brady and Schultz Absent Hanke

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2004 MOTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION

The Closed Session included a report from Executive Director, Bill Goichberg covering the topics of litigation, personnel, relocation, the U.S. Chess Trust and Games Parlor. It should be noted that there is no pending litigation at this time.

EB 04-50 (Board) The Executive Board ratifies the appointment of Ken Thomas as Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

PASSED 4-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Brady and Schultz Absent Hanke

EB 04-51 (Board) The Executive Board approves that the contract for *Chess Life* Editor, Kalev Pehme is extended for the period of one year until July 2005.

PASSED 4-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Brady and Schultz Absent Hanke

The Board visited a possible relocation site in New Windsor with realtor Michael Reis but the Board determined that it would not be suitable for various reasons.

EB 04-52 (Board) The Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to begin renovations downstairs to create additional office space.

PASSED 5-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Brady, Schultz and Hanke

John McCrary addressed the Board regarding the status of the Anderson/McCrary proposal. John reported on the input he had received from a Committee of Past Presidents that included himself, Bob Smith, Harold

Winston, Tim Redman, Steve Doyle and Leroy Dubeck. Since there are still so many questions and there seems to be no clear consensus on a proposed possible joining of USCF with America's Foundation for Chess, the Board felt that President Marinello should meet with Erik Anderson to further discuss this and other options.

EB 04-53 (Board) The Executive Board thanks America's Foundation for Chess for engaging in discussion with us regarding cooperative and joint efforts and we authorize our President, Beatriz Marinello to meet with Erik Anderson to discuss future expansion. **PASSED 4-1** In favor Marinello, Shutt, Schultz and Hanke Opposed Brady

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2004

EB 04-54 (Board) The Executive Board moves to refer the ratings issues to the Ratings Committee for recommendations. **PASSED 5-0** In favor Marinello, Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke

Bill Kelleher, USCF's FIDE Delegate met with the Board to discuss the problems facing FIDE and our relationship with them.

EB 04-55 The Executive Board instructs FIDE Delegate, Bill Kelleher, to place on the agenda of the upcoming FIDE Congress the following motion. We express dismay at how FIDE is managed and if at the time of the Congress if President Ilyumzhinov has failed to meet his financial obligations to FIDE, in full, we vote no confidence in his Presidency. **PASSED 5-0** In favor Marinello, Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke.

EB 04-56 (Board) The Executive Board instructs FIDE Delegate, Bill Kelleher, to place on the agenda of the upcoming FIDE Congress the following motion. The zonal structure should be respected and if a qualifier is unable to participate they may only be replaced by the next in line from the Zonal. **PASSED 5-0** In favor Marinello, Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke.

EB 04-57 (Board) Moved that the U.S. Olympic Team will be awarded an honorarium of \$2,000 per player plus a performance bonus based on winning the following Gold Medal \$5,000, Silver Medal \$3,000 or Bronze Medal \$2,000. **PASSED 5-0** In favor Marin-

ello, Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke.

EB 04-58 (Schultz) The Executive Board recommends to the Chess Trust that the new Hall of Fame Committee consists of the following: Chairperson of the Committee will be the Chairman of the Chess Trust, other members will be U.S. Champion, U.S. Women's Champion, USCF President and a representative of the Hall of Fame. This recommendation will be forwarded to the U.S. Chess Trust. **PASSED 5-0** In favor Marinello, Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke.

EB 04-59 (Board) The Executive Board appoints a committee consisting of Executive Director, Bill Goichberg and USCF President, Beatriz Marinello to review the program of the Samford Fellowship and make recommendations.

PASSED 4-0-1 In favor Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke. Abstain Marinello

The major part of Sunday was spent discussing the budget.

EB 04-60 (Board) The Executive Board moves to approve the proposed budget for 2004-2005. **PASSED 5-0** In favor Marinello, Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke.

EB 04-61 (Board) The Executive Board authorizes the Executive Director to open a new bank account with the following signatories: Executive Director, Bill Goichberg, Chief Financial Officer, Ken Thomas and Managing Director of Business Operations, Judy Misner. **PASSED 5-0** In favor Marinello, Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke.

EB 04-62 (Board) The Executive Board announces the following awards for 2004:

Distinguished Service:

Dr. Joseph Wagner

Outstanding Career Achievement:

Jay Bonin

Special Services:

Bob Persante, Don Mihokovich

Meritorious Service: Sunil Weeramantry

Committee of the Year:

College Chess Committee

City of the Year: Linsborg, KS

Organizer of the Year:

Mikhail Korenman

Koltanowski Gold Medal:

Kasparov Chess Foundation

Scholastic Service Award: Individual:

GM Arnold Denker, Organization:

Gilbert Unified School District #41,

(Gilbert, AZ)

Frank J. Marshall: John Curdo

Grandmaster of the Year:

Alexander Shabalov

Chess Club of the Year:

Marshall Chess Club

Chess College of the Year:

Miami-Dade Community College

Honorary Chess Mates: Bernadette

Doyle, Brenda Goichberg and

Teresa Schultz

NEW this Year: Tournament Director of the Year: Carol Jarecki

PASSED 5-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke.

Bill Goichberg led a discussion on membership. He updated the Board on several renewal mailings that he had done and some results of these mailings. Mailings to members notifying them that their memberships were about to expire has not been done in several years and these mailings are showing a positive response. He made some suggestions regarding current membership categories wanting to change some and eliminate others.

The Board submits the following ADMs for Delegates' approval.

EB 04-63 (Board) The Bylaws will be amended as follows: Effective January 1, 2005, the Economy Scholastic membership will be offered only to the following students:

1. Students age 14/below within a subsidized lunch program or attending a Title 1 school, on the condition that the membership is purchased their school affiliate.
2. Students age 14/below living in the same household with a relative who is currently receiving *Chess Life*.

PASSED 5-0 In favor Marinello, Shutt, Schultz, Brady and Hanke.

EB 04-64 (Board) The Bylaws are amended as follows:

1. Effective January 1, 2005 the Economy Adult membership is eliminated.
2. Effective January 1, 2005, the 6 month, \$32 Trial Membership is eliminated. (Note that the 6 month promotional \$27 membership, available through affiliates would remain.)

PASSED 4-0-1 In favor Marinello, Schultz, Brady and Hanke Abstain Shutt

The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.

ADVANCE AGENDA FOR THE
2004 MEMBERSHIP MEETING
OF THE UNITED STATES
CHESS FEDERATION
SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 13, 2004
IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

- I. CALL TO ORDER BY USCF PRESIDENT
PRESIDENT BEATRIZ MARINELLO
- II. CERTIFICATION OF QUORUM
- III. OLD BUSINESS
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
- V. ADJOURNMENT

ADVANCE AGENDA FOR THE
2004 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DELEGATES OF THE
UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION
SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 14-15, 2004
IN FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

Note: All motions in this advance agenda have been taken verbatim from the submissions of individual Delegates. The publication of any motion in the advance agenda does not constitute an endorsement, agreement, or position of the USCF regarding anything included or implied in such motion.

- I. CALL TO ORDER BY USCF PRESIDENT
BEATRIZ MARINELLO
- II. ROLL CALL OF DELEGATES BY SECRETARY
FRANK BRADY

ADM 04-01 (*Harold Winston, IL*): The delegates re-elect as Delegates at Large those whose terms are expiring or have expired and who are present at this meeting. (Names to be filled in.)

- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND STANDING
RULES, AND APPOINTMENT
OF PARLIAMENTARIAN

ADM 04-02 (*Beatriz Marinello, FL; Frank Brady, NY*): The Delegates approve the advance agenda.

ADM 04-03 (*Beatriz Marinello, FL*): The appointment of Mike Nolan as Parliamentarian for the 2004 Delegates' Meeting is affirmed.

ADM 04-04 (*Beatriz Marinello, FL*): The Delegates approve the standing rules.

IV. IN MEMORIAM (A moment of silence for those from the chess community who have passed on.)

- V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE
2003 DELEGATES' MEETING

ADM 04-05 (*Frank Brady, NY*): Moved, that the Minutes of the 2003 Delegates' meeting be accepted as published.

VI. CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

ADM 04-06 (*Frank Brady, NY*): The Delegates certify the special election of Executive Board members for the two unexpired terms ending in 2005. Note: The two new members will take office immediately upon certification.

ADM 04-07 (*Frank Brady, NY*): The Delegates certify the election of Delegates and Alternate Delegates for the 2004-2006 term.

VII. RATIFICATION

ADM 04-08 (*Harold Winston, IL*): The Delegates ratify all actions of the Executive Board appearing in Minutes published in the *Executive Board Newsletters* and the *Delegates' Call*, since the conclusion of the 2003 Delegates' Meeting.

VIII. REPORTS OF USCF OFFICERS AND STAFF

- A. Report of the President
- B. Report of the Executive Director
- C. Report of Mike Nolan on the Computerization Upgrade
- D. Report of the Chairman of the US Chess Trust
- E. Report of the FIDE representatives and officers
- F. Report of the *Chess Life* Editor
- G. Report of the Vice-President of Finances
Presentation of the Planning Budget for FY 04-05

ADM 04-09 (*Tim Hanke, MA*): The Delegates adopt the Planning Budget for the Fiscal Year ending in 2005.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. DELEGATE-ELECTED COMMITTEES
AUDIT
BYLAWS
ETHICS
LMA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
- B. COMMITTEES WITH REPORTS PRINTED IN THE
DELEGATES' CALL
- C. OTHER COMMITTEES

X. OLD BUSINESS

ADM 04-10 (*Harold Winston, IL*): Pursuant to Article III, Section 9 of the Bylaws, the Delegates have reviewed the promotional memberships offered by the Executive Board in 2003-2004 and authorize their continuation.

- 1. Election of members of the Audit Committee
- 2. Election of members of the Bylaws Committee
- 3. Election of members of the Ethics Committee
- 4. Election of the members of the LMA Management Committee

ADM 03-18/DM 03-28 (*Bill Goichberg, NY; John McCrary, SC*): Effective January 1, 2004, USCF shall no longer offer "economy Scholastic" memberships. Replacing this category shall be a six-month scholastic membership with bimonthly publication (three issues of *Chess Life* or two issues of *Chess Life* and one issue of another publication.) The six-month scholastic membership shall be priced at \$13 with a \$1 affiliate commission. **REFERRED TO SCHOLASTIC AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

ADM 03-19/DM 03-29 (*Bill Goichberg, NY*): Effective January 1, 2004, USCF shall no longer offer “Economy Regular” memberships. **REFERRED TO BYLAWS AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

ADM 03-29/DM 03-34 (*Mike Nolan, NE; Bill Goichberg, NY; on behalf of the Election Procedures Committee*): The Executive Board is authorized to implement electronic voting via the Internet. In all cases where the use of *Chess Life* for distributing ballots is referenced, the Bylaws are modified to permit the use of such a designated electronic voting method in place of distributing the ballots in *Chess Life* and with an equivalent voting period. Mail ballots shall continue to be available to those members who cannot or choose not to use electronic voting. **REFERRED TO THE BYLAWS, ELECTION PROCEDURES AND MIS COMMITTEES**

ADM 03-31B/DM 03-16 (*Mike Nolan, NE; and Bill Goichberg, NY; on behalf of the Election Procedures Committee*): Modify the Bylaws to include the following in Article VI: The Executive Board shall, by January 15th of an election year for a regular Executive Board election, choose a date on which ballot counting shall be performed, which date is to be no earlier than the 20th of July and no later than the Wednesday prior to the annual meeting of the Board of Delegates. For a special election, the Executive Board shall choose a date for ballot counting no later than 90 days prior to that date. Ballots shall be authenticated by use of voting member information to be provided with or printed on the ballots. All properly authenticated ballots that have been received by the date designated for counting the ballots shall be counted. The Executive Board shall designate an address for the return of ballots at the time the date of counting the ballots is set. **REFERRED TO THE BYLAWS AND ELECTION PROCEDURES COMMITTEES**

ADM 03-33/DM 03-37 (*Mike Nolan NE*): Modify the Bylaws to delete all references to the Family Membership. **REFERRED TO THE BYLAWS AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

XI. NEW BUSINESS

ADM 04-11 (*Myron Lieberman, AZ; Rachel Lieberman, AZ*): The Delegates approve the merger of the USCF with the America’s Foundation for Chess with all necessary Bylaws changes, including in governance. The name of the final organization shall remain the United States Chess Federation.

ADM 04-12 (*Myron Lieberman, AZ; Rachel Lieberman, AZ*): The installation of incoming Board members, in which they take an oath of office, should be returned to the Delegates’ Meeting agenda as the last item before adjournment.

ADM 04-13 (*Myron Lieberman, AZ; Rachel Lieberman, AZ*): Any former member of the USCF Executive Board (or its predecessor, the USCF Policy Board) who is not already a Delegate (State Delegate, current Board member, DAL, or LAD credentialed as a Delegate at the meeting) is entitled to participate but not vote in any USCF Delegates’ Meeting. This would include sponsorship of motions (including ADMs) and participating in discussions. Please note that this is intended to include any former Board member, including those elected for one-year (special election) terms or two-year (transition) terms.

ADM 04-14 (*Ernie Schlich, VA*): Part 1. Modify the USCF

Bylaws by replacing all of Article VI; Section 4 Nomination with the following language.

Section 4. Nomination

Any USCF member is nominated for election to the Executive Board upon submission of all the following to the USCF Secretary postmarked not later than January 10 of an election year:

1. A valid nominating petition containing the signature of thirty or more Voting Members. A nominating petition listing more than one candidate is not valid.
2. A filing fee of \$250 made payable to USCF.
3. A signed statement that they are running for the Executive Board and that they will serve if elected.
4. Current employees of the USCF must also submit a signed statement that they will terminate their employment with the USCF immediately upon election to the Executive Board.

Part 2. Modify the USCF Bylaws by appending the new paragraph below to the end of Article VI, Section 5 election.

“No USCF employee may be elected to the Executive Board. A signed letter of resignation must be given to the USCF Executive Director or Secretary prior to certification of the election by the Delegates. Any employee not meeting this requirement shall be deemed to have withdrawn for the election prior to the counting of the ballots and the election results adjusted accordingly.”

Justification: At the 2001 Annual Meeting, the Delegates passed 2 DMs with substantial differences changing the language of Section 4. It is not clear what the intent of the Delegates was so I am proposing this ADM to clarify the situation.

Previous language of Section 4 contained a limitation that USCF employees may not serve as EB members. It is unclear to me if we wish to deny employees the right to be nominated or only restricted from serving. In either case, the proposed change to Article VI, Section 5 Election should be made, as we need to cover write-ins. If we do not want to allow employees to be nominated, the proposed language of Article VI, Section 4 should be changed as follows.

1. Change the proposed part of Article VI, Section 4 from “Any USCF member is nominated for election to the Executive Board upon submission of all the following to the USCF Secretary postmarked not later than January 10 of an election year.” to “Any USCF member not currently employed by the USCF is nominated for election to the Executive Board upon submission of all of the following to the USCF Secretary postmarked not later than January 10 of an election year.”

2. Delete condition 4, the requirement for employees to submit a signed intent to resign if elected.

ADM 04-15 (*Jon Haskel, FL*): The Executive Board shall be empowered to set membership fee rates.

ADM 04-16 (*Hal Terrie, NH on behalf of the Ethics Committee*): To make the following changes to the USCF Code of Ethics:

- a) In paragraph 3, move the colon and “(A)” to after “by,” to make it clear that “actions and behavior by” applies to both (A) and (B).
- b) In 5h, add “then only” between and “and” and “for behav-

ior.” The present wording is ungrammatical.

c) In 6d the spelling of “peperson “ to “person.”

ADM 04-17 (Hal Terrie, NH on behalf of the Ethics Committee): To make the following changes to the USCF Code of Ethics: In paragraph 3, add the following sentences after “representatives of the USCF”: This code shall not apply to actions or behavior of employees of the USCF acting in the scope of their duties. Such actions fall instead under the province of the Executive Board.” Make the remainder of paragraph 3 a new paragraph, paragraph 4, and renumber the following paragraphs (including the reference to 6e in 6c) accordingly.

ADM- 04-18 (Hal Terrie, NH on behalf of the Ethics Committee): To make the following changes to the USCF Code of Ethics: In 6b, change “shall be recommended by the Ethics Committee” to “shall be recommended to the Executive Board by the Ethics Committee.” In 6c, change “recommended sanctions” to “sanctions recommended to the Executive Board.” In paragraph 8, change “may recommend no sanctions” to “may recommend to the Executive Board no sanctions.”

ADM- 04-19 (Hal Terrie, NH on behalf of the Ethics Committee): To make the following changes to the USCF Code of Ethics: In paragraph 6, after “with the USCF Ethics Committee,” add the following sentences: “A good-faith

deposit of \$25 must be submitted by the complainant. The deposit shall be returned unless the Committee rules that the case is frivolous. The Committee may determine whether to return the deposit even before it determines jurisdictional and merit questions. The Committee may also, by a two-thirds vote, accept complaints submitted without the \$25 deposit.”

ADM 04-20(Board) The Bylaws will be amended as follows: Effective January 1, 2005, the Economy Scholastic membership will be offered only to the following students:

1. Students age 14/below within a subsidized lunch program or attending a Title 1 school, on the condition that the membership is purchased their school affiliate.
2. Students age 14/below living in the same household with a relative who is currently receiving *Chess Life*.

ADM 04-21 (Board) The Bylaws are amended as follows:

1. Effective January 1, 2005 the Economy Adult membership is eliminated.
2. Effective January 1, 2005, the 6 month, \$32 Trial Membership is eliminated. (Note that the 6 month promotional \$27 membership, available through affiliates would remain.)

XII. ADJOURNMENT

COMPLIANCE REPORT REGARDING MOTIONS PASSED AT THE 2003 DELEGATES' MEETING

Please note that the Minutes of the 2003 Delegates' Meeting contain 30 motions that were passed. Some of those were implemented immediately (such as congratulatory motions and motions electing or appointing persons.) Several motions involved Bylaws changes. Those motions were incorporated into the Bylaws through the Delegate-elected Bylaws Committee.

Of note are the following motions:

DM21/ADM12, free TLAs has been effectively implemented. Free TLAs are given to affiliates running various types of tournaments and criteria has been announced in *Chess Life*.

DM 24/ADM13, archive EBNs. Downsizing of the

USCF office staff during the past year has not allowed time or staff for this. It will be implemented as soon as staff time allows.

DM 25A/ADM 14, post Delegate's Call/Annual Report. This was done for the 2003 and 2004 Delegates Call.

DM 25B/ADM 15, post EBNs. EBNs printed since the 2003 Delegate's Meeting are posted to the website.

DM 26/ADM 16, timing of TLAs and *Chess Life*. *Chess Life* has gone back to mailing the issue of *Chess Life* in the month that appears on the cover. Also, *Chess Life* is now mailed so that most members receive their issue during the first ten days of the month.

BYLAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CHESS FEDERATION

CURRENT THROUGH THE 2003 USCF DELEGATES' MEETING

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the corporation shall be the United States Chess Federation (USCF) also known as the United States of America Chess Federation, commonly known as U.S. Chess.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

SECTION 1. The purpose of the Federation shall be educational and instructional, to broaden and develop chess as art and recreation, as a significant element of culture in America. The Federation shall cooperate with schools, colleges, hospitals, military bases, community centers, recreation departments, and other groups and institutions, in teaching chess, conducting tournaments, and other activities. The Federation shall disseminate information through its publications and representatives, and the Federation shall select the official USA representatives in all international chess affairs. The Federation shall encourage and support chess programs for handicapped individuals and the participation of handicapped in chess activity, including, where feasible, the expansion of opportunities for meaningful participation by handicapped individuals in all chess competition.

SECTION 2. The Federation is pledged:

A. To operate exclusively for educational, recreational, and social welfare purposes;

B. That no part of its contributions, dues, or net income shall inure to the benefit of any individual, except that trophies or prizes awarded in the course of its educational and promotional program shall not be so construed;

C. That the Federation is not operated for profit and that neither principal nor income of any of its funds may be used in any attempt to influence legislation;

D. To promote the study and knowledge of the scientific game of chess;

E. To foster the development of players and to help those who seek to become masters;

F. To encourage the formation of chess groups, clubs, and associations;

G. To hold a tournament no less often than once every two years for the Chess Championship of the United States and to confer upon the winner of such tournament the title "United States Chess Champion;" and

H. To hold an open tournament every summer in the United States.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Regular Membership.

A. Regular Member. Any person may become a Regular Member of the Federation upon payment of \$49 which includes a commission of up to \$4, \$90 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$5, or \$130 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$5. This may also be referred to as Full Adult Membership.

B. Economy Regular Member. Any person may become an Economy Regular Member of the Federation upon payment of \$39

which includes a commission of up to \$3, \$73 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$4, or \$107 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$5.

SECTION 2. Youth Membership. Youth Membership. Any person under 20 years of age and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits his or her membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Youth Member of the Federation upon payment of \$25 which includes a commission of up to \$2, \$49 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$4, or \$70 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$5

SECTION 3. Scholastic Membership.

A. Scholastic Membership. Any person under 15 years of age and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits his or her membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Scholastic Member of the Federation upon payment of \$19 which includes a commission of up to \$2, \$35 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$2, or \$52 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$3. This membership includes a subscription to an appropriate publication.

B. Economy Scholastic Membership. Economy Scholastic Membership. Any person under 15 years of age and a resident of the United States (or if he or she submits his or her membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Economy Scholastic Member of the Federation upon payment of \$13 which includes a commission of up to \$1, \$25 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$2, or \$37 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$3.

SECTION 4. Special Membership. A blind person may become a Special Member of the Federation upon payment of 25% of the regular membership rate. Any person who is incarcerated in a penal institution of the United States may become a Special Member upon payment of 25% of the regular membership rate.

SECTION 5. Senior Membership. A Senior Membership. A person who has passed his or her 65th birthday (and who is a resident of the United States or if he or she submits his or her membership through a USCF affiliate) may become a Senior Member of the Federation upon payment of 75 % of the regular membership rate.

SECTION 6. Family Membership. Family Membership. Any person may become a Family Member of the Federation for one year upon payment of \$23 which includes a commission of up to \$2, \$45 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$4, or \$65 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$5, provided that a relative in the same household is a Life, Sustaining, Regular, Senior, or Special member. Any person under 20 years of age may become a Family Member of the Federation for one year upon payment of \$23 which includes a commission of up to \$2, \$45 for two years which includes a commission of up to \$4, or \$65 for 3 years which includes a commission of up to \$5, provided that a relative in the same household is a Life, Sustaining, Regular, Senior, Special, Youth, or Scholastic member.

SECTION 7. Life Membership. Life Membership. Any person may become a Life Member of the Federation upon payment of \$1000 dues. Any person age 65 years or older may become a Life Member by payment of \$500 dues, or one half of the Life Member rate then in

effect. Any blind person may become a Life Member upon payment of \$250 dues. The Federation may require reasonable confirmation of eligibility from time to time as a condition to continuation of Life membership.

SECTION 8. Sustaining Membership. Any person may become a Sustaining Member of the Federation upon payment of dues equal to twice the current rate for Regular Membership plus a surcharge of \$15. After 10 such timely payments, a Sustaining Member becomes a Life Member, except that the rate for Sustaining Member automatically changes with each dues change for Regular Members.

SECTION 9. Promotional Memberships. Promotional Memberships. In order to facilitate the development of membership promotion, the Executive Board may authorize special promotional membership terms and rates for limited periods of time to determine their feasibility by trial; such terms and rates shall be subject to review annually by the Board of Delegates.

SECTION 10. Trial Memberships. Trial Memberships. Any person who has never before been a USCF Member and who is a resident of the US (or if he or she submits his or her membership through a USCF Affiliate) may become a Trial Member of the Federation upon payment of 75 % of the regular membership rate for the first six months. A Trial Membership is renewable once only for an additional six months upon payment of 50 % of the regular membership rate for the next six months.

SECTION 11. Rights and Privileges. Each Life, Sustaining, Regular, Senior, Special, Trial, and Youth member shall be entitled to receive a regular copy of *Chess Life*. Each Scholastic member shall be entitled to receive an appropriate USCF Publication. Economy memberships do not include a subscription to any publication. Each member shall be entitled to have his or her tournament play officially rated, to participate in the Annual Membership meeting, and to enjoy all other rights and privileges of membership not herein enumerated. Members and Affiliates with mailing addresses outside the United States may be charged an additional fee to cover extra costs.

SECTION 12. Revocation of Membership. The Executive Board, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 13, may revoke or suspend the membership of any member for good cause. The USCF Ethics Committee may recommend suspending or revoking the membership of any person by applying the procedures established by the Board of Delegates in the USCF Code of Ethics.

SECTION 13. Revocation of Membership or Affiliation. In the event that the Executive Board shall revoke or suspend the membership of an individual or affiliate pursuant to Article III, Section 12, or Article VIII, Section 5, it shall, prior to taking such action, give to the individual or affiliate 30 days written notice of the proposed action. Within said time said individual or affiliate may submit in writing to the Executive Board reasons why such actions should not be taken. The Executive Board may thereafter, if it sees fit, act upon the written suggestion or set a date for a hearing to be held at or prior to the next Annual Meeting of the Federation, but before the meeting of the Board of Delegates. Any person or affiliate aggrieved by any action of the Executive Board may appeal to the Board of Delegates at the said Annual Meeting if the action is taken at the said meeting, or at the next meeting of the Board of Delegates. The Board shall affirm, reverse, or modify the action of the Executive Board. Only Delegates present in person may vote on any such appeal. If the Ethics Committee recommends the suspension or revocation of a member through application of the USCF Code of Ethics, the appeals procedure

established in the Code of Ethics shall be applicable, and the remaining provisions of this section shall not be applicable to that case.

SECTION 14. Annual Membership Meeting. The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the membership, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purpose of hearing reports and making suggestions to the Board of Delegates. Twenty-five members present in person shall constitute a quorum. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting. Participation and voting by members at the Annual Membership Meeting shall be limited to those members physically present. Participation through the use of conference telephone or other communications equipment shall not be permitted.

SECTION 15. The actual dollar amount of all other membership dues categories shall be calculated according to the factors indicated in Sections 4, 5, 7, 8, and 10, with the regular membership dues as the base amount from which all other dues amounts are determined. All dues amounts shall be rounded to the nearest dollar, with 50 cents being rounded up the next higher dollar amount.

ARTICLE IV: VOTING MEMBERS

SECTION 1. Responsibility. The Voting Members are responsible for electing the Executive Board and the Delegates and Alternate Delegates that represent their state. An insert containing nominees and voting instructions shall be inserted in an appropriate issue of *Chess Life*.

SECTION 2. Definition. Any current member residing in the USA who is 16 years of age or older as of the time of an election is a Voting Member. For a regular or special election, the membership must be current through the last day of the month in which balloting is to begin and the member must have reached 16 years of age by the last day of the month in which balloting is to begin.

Members not receiving *Chess Life* who are 16 years of age or older at the time of a regular or special election may request a ballot by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to the current USCF office address before the 15th day of the month in which balloting is to begin. Members not receiving *Chess Life* who wish to vote must furnish their date of birth to the USCF office.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DELEGATES

SECTION 1. Responsibility. The Board of Delegates is responsible for the management of the USCF. It shall formulate general policy, adopt the annual budget, and write the Bylaws.

SECTION 2. Number. The Board of Delegates shall be composed of the Executive Board members, the Delegates at Large, and 125 Delegates, apportioned among the states in proportion to their resident USCF membership as of November 1 of the year prior to Delegate elections, except that each state with thirty or more members must have at least one Delegate. Each state with 1000 or more USCF members must have at least two Delegates. In addition, any Executive Board member-elect who is not already a Delegate becomes a Delegate immediately upon certification of the election result.

SECTION 3. Alternate Delegates There shall be 125 Alternate Delegates, with each state having one Alternate Delegate for each Elected Delegate. All Life Voting Members under previous editions of these Bylaws shall automatically become Additional Alternate Delegates if they are not elected as Delegates.

(Bylaws Section 3 governing the currently elected alternate delegates) There shall be 375 Alternate Delegates apportioned among the states

in proportion to their USCF membership as of November 1 of the year prior to the Delegate elections, except that each state with 200 or more USCF members must have at least one Alternate Delegate, and each state with at least 400 USCF members must have at least two Alternate Delegates. All Life Voting Members under previous editions of these Bylaws shall automatically become Additional Alternate Delegates if they are not elected as Delegates.

SECTION 4. Nomination. Members may be nominated for Delegate from the state in which they reside by either submission of a nomination from the official State Chapter to the USCF Secretary postmarked on or before February 1st of an Election Year, and/or by submission of a petition bearing the signatures of 10 USCF members who are residents of their state postmarked on or before April 1st of an Election Year. State Chapters shall submit an ordered list of nominees and the ballots shall list the State Chapter nominees in that order; State Chapter nominees shall have a special symbol on the ballot and shall appear ahead of other nominees. A candidate petition may nominate only one candidate, who must consent to nomination by either signing the petition or by notifying the Secretary. State Chapters shall obtain the consent of all candidates they nominate.

SECTION 5. Election. Delegates and Alternate Delegates for each state shall be elected by the Voting Members of their state. Ballots for that purpose shall be included in an issue of *Chess Life* to be mailed prior to June 10 with ballots to be returned no later than July 20 of a year in which there is an election so that the ballots can be counted no later than August 1. Ballots shall be authenticated by use of official mailing labels provided with the ballots. Candidates nominated by their state chapter shall be designated as such on the ballot.

Each State shall elect the designated number of Delegates. An ordered list shall be created listing candidates in the order of votes received, highest first. A candidate must receive at least one vote to appear on this list. From this list, the designated number of Delegates shall be elected from the top of the list and the designated number of Alternate Delegates elected from the remaining candidates on the list. Once the list of Delegates and Alternates has been certified by the Board of Delegates (pending the breaking of any ties by the State Chapter as described below), any vacancies resulting from the death or resignation of an elected Delegate or Alternate shall be filled by the State Chapter as specified in Article V, Section 6A of the Bylaws.

The ordered list of candidates shall also serve as the initial ordered list for filling vacancies at any meeting of the Board of Delegates Meeting as specified in Article V, Section 6A.

Delegates shall serve a term of two years commencing at the conclusion of the Delegates meeting at which their election is certified. Ties shall be broken by the President of the State Chapter in which the tie occurs. If the President of the State Chapter has not responded by October 1st, or if the President is involved in the tie, the other officers in the State Chapter shall be contacted and asked to break the tie. The response received by November 1st from the highest ranking Officer (in order, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, members at large) shall break the tie. If no response is received, any other official contacts for the State Chapter as provided on their latest affiliate renewal shall be contacted and asked to break the tie. If no response is received by December 1st, the tie shall be broken by the Executive Board. Elections for Delegates shall be held every even-numbered year starting in 2000. A member may not cast more than one vote for any person. Upon resolution of the Board of Directors of a State Chapter, communicated in writing to the USCF Secretary prior to

April 1st of an Election Year, a state may be divided into two voting districts for the purpose of ensuring geographic representation. The resolution must specify how the division is to be made and how many Delegates and Alternate Delegates will be allocated to each district. The allocation shall be roughly proportional to the USCF membership in each district. Only voters from a district can vote for the Delegates and Alternate Delegates from that district.

SECTION 6. Miscellaneous.

A. Vacancies. If one or more Delegates from any state are not present or are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, the ordered list for that state is used to fill the Delegate vacancies for that meeting. The regularly elected Delegates continue in office for the remainder of their term.

The state president or senior state officer present may add names to the end of the ordered list for the purpose of seating Delegates at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates. If a Delegate dies or resigns during the term of office, the vacancy shall be filled for the duration of the term of office in accordance with the ordered list. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate moves from the state of residence, that person shall be deemed to have resigned as Delegate unless the State Chapter indicates otherwise.

Vacancies in the position of Delegate or Alternate Delegate for any state chapter, including those resulting from the promotion of an Alternate Delegate to Delegate, may be filled by the state chapter for the remainder of the term, provided that such appointments are placed at the end of the ordered list for that state chapter.

If no Delegates or Alternate Delegates are elected by a state, vacancies exist which can be filled by the State Chapter.

B. Executive Board Members as Delegates. Any Executive Board member who completes his or her term without re-election to the Executive Board, remains a Delegate until the conclusion of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates in the year following the completion of the Board term, except that if he has Delegate status for that period under another provision of these Bylaws, this provision shall not apply. Any former Executive Board member receiving Delegate status by the provisions of the preceding sentence shall not be a Delegate on the ordered list of any state, and shall not be replaced if he dies or resigns the position.

C. USCF Membership requirement. To serve as a Delegate, an individual must have a current membership as of the first day of the Delegates Meeting.

SECTION 7. Annual Meeting. Annual Meeting. The President shall call and preside at an annual meeting of the Board of Delegates, held in conjunction with the U.S. Open tournament, for the purposes of hearing annual reports, installing officers, and considering other USCF business. A quorum shall consist of one third of the whole Board of Delegates present in person. The Secretary shall publish in *Chess Life* advance notice of the meeting and shall mail to each Delegate, between thirty and forty days before the Annual Meeting, a notice of the meeting and an agenda. Only those certified as Delegates, including any Alternates who have been elevated to Delegate through the death or resignation of a Delegate, may submit motions for the advance agenda. Motions not having a Delegate present as a sponsor or co-sponsor when reached in the meeting shall be deferred to the end of the meeting. Chairs of Delegate or Executive Board appointed committees may submit motions on behalf of their committees. Sponsors are encouraged to add their rationale to Alternate Delegate Motions.

SECTION 8. Special Delegates Meeting: Special Delegates Meeting. Special Delegates meetings can be called by the President or by more than half the members of the Executive Board. Notice of a meeting and its purposes and an agenda must be sent by mail to all delegates and alternate delegates at least 30 days before the meeting. Additional notification may be provided by e-mail or FAX. The notice and agenda shall also be placed on the USCF website at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. The special Delegates meeting has authority to act upon advance agenda items but does not have the authority to take action unrelated to the advance agenda items.

All Executive Board members shall have at least 7 days advance notice before the notice of the meeting is sent. Items can only be placed on the advance agenda by the President or any two Executive Board members.

A quorum shall consist of one third of all Delegates and Delegates will be certified in the same manner as at the Annual Delegates Meeting.

If the meeting notice so provides, the meeting can take place by teleconference at advance designated sites announced in the call of the meeting. Delegates must be present in person at a meeting site.

SECTION 9. Delegates at Large. Delegates at Large shall consist of the following:

A. All USCF Presidents who have served at least three consecutive years, upon completion of their term and are so elected by a majority of the Board of Delegates.

B. Those individuals who have rendered distinguished service to chess and who are elected by at least a 3/4 vote of the Board of Delegates at two consecutive Annual Meetings by a motion on the advance agenda for both meetings. The number of individuals in this category shall not exceed twenty.

The term of the Delegates at Large shall commence at the Annual Meeting at which they achieve Delegate at Large status and continue for three more Annual Meetings. A Delegate at Large whose term is expiring or has expired may be elected to a new term.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1. Composition. The Executive Board shall consist of seven members elected for staggered terms of four years. The Executive Director serves as a non-voting member of the Executive Board, with the right to debate and make motions, but without the right to vote. All Executive Board members are national officers of the USCF.

SECTION 2. Functions. The Executive Board shall manage the affairs of the Federation, including employment and other contracts, between meetings of the Board of Delegates and shall perform other duties as specified in these Bylaws. The Executive Board shall be subject to the authority of the Board of Delegates, and none of its acts shall conflict with actions taken by the Board of Delegates. The Executive Board's direction to the staff shall generally be given by the USCF President.

SECTION 3. Meetings. The Executive Board shall meet at least twice per year, the day and place to be fixed by vote of that Executive Board. Special meetings, including conference telephone calls or Internet conference meetings, may be called by the President or upon the written request of any three members of the Executive Board. Reasonable efforts to notify all Executive Board members of the meeting shall be made by mail, fax, telephone, e-mail, or other means approved by the Executive Board. The minutes of the Executive

Board shall be sent to all USCF Delegates and Alternate Delegates, and posted on the USCF's Internet web site, within six weeks of each meeting. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the elected members of the Executive Board present in person or participating in a conference telephone call or Internet conference meeting. The affirmative votes of at least three different Executive Board members will be required to approve any action, as long as there are at least four members on the Executive Board.

All meetings of the Executive Board, including conference calls, shall be recorded in their entirety with a clear, permanent record by a means determined by the Executive Board. All Executive Board members shall receive copies of any audio tapes or video tapes of meetings within two weeks of those meetings. Any person wishing to obtain copies of audiotapes may do so at cost. The public portion of the permanent record will be available on the web-site within a month of the meeting record.

SECTION 4. Nomination. A USCF member shall be eligible for nomination to an elected office of the Executive Board upon submitting to the Secretary by April 1st, of an election year, his or her own valid petition containing the signatures of 100 or more voting members. Each candidate will submit his or her own petition with no more than one candidate per petition. Candidates are required to make a statement of intent to serve, if elected by, signing their own petition or submitting a statement of intent and willingness to serve if elected. No employee of the USCF is eligible to serve on the Executive Board. Once a candidate is certified, the candidate may purchase labels of Voting Members at the same rate as affiliates. These labels may only be used for campaign purposes.

SECTION 5. Elections.

A. Regular Elections. Executive Board members shall be elected by the Voting Members. Ballots for that purpose shall be included in an issue of *Chess Life* to be mailed prior to June 10 with ballots to be returned no later than July 5 of a year in which there is an election so that the ballots can be counted no later than July 20. Ballots shall be authenticated by use of official mailing labels provided with the ballots. The ballot shall list all duly submitted nominations. Each voting member may vote for as many persons as there are Executive Board positions to be filled. The persons receiving the largest vote totals shall be elected to the available Executive Board positions. The ballots shall be returned by mail to an independent agency and counted by an independent agency or by the Secretary or his or her designee and by tellers appointed by the Executive Board prior to the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates. Ties, if any, shall be broken by a secret ballot vote of the Delegates present in person at that year's Delegates meeting, taken at the time that election results are certified. The election of Executive Board members shall take place in odd-numbered years starting in 2003.

B. Special Elections. The Executive Board, or the Office if the Executive Board is unable, may decide the schedule for a Special Election for the Executive Board, using the deadlines and dates for a regular election as a guide for scheduling reasonable intervals for announcing the special election and calling for nominations, the date for candidate petition filings and the issue of *Chess Life* which will contain the ballots. The requirement for candidate statements and election supplements may be reduced to having this information in a single issue of *Chess Life*. The Board may choose to waive any filing fees for a Special Election.

SECTION 6. Election of Executive Board Officers. At an organiza-

tional meeting immediately following the conclusion of the Delegates' Meeting at which regularly scheduled Executive Board election results are certified, the Executive Board shall elect among itself the following officers: President, Vice President, Vice President for Finance, and Secretary. The term of each officer shall be for two years, except that upon a vote of 2/3 of its membership, the Executive Board may at any time meet in person or by teleconference and elect new officers.

SECTION 7. Terms of Office. The terms of office of the Executive Board members shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and shall continue for four years, except as provided in Section 10 of this article. The terms of the Executive Board officers shall commence at their first meeting, which shall immediately follow the Annual Meeting, and shall continue for two years. No individual shall serve more than eight consecutive years on the Executive Board. No person shall serve as USCF President more than four consecutive years.

SECTION 8. Duties

President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, and Executive Board; carry out all requirements of these Bylaws, represent the Federation officially on occasion, and report annually to the Board of Delegates.

Vice President. The Vice President shall execute the duties of the President when the President is unable to serve and perform such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or the President on its behalf.

Vice President for Finance. The Vice President for Finance shall obtain records of the financial affairs of the Federation, report to the Board of Delegates, and counsel and assist the Executive Board on financial affairs. The Vice President for Finance shall review and have the right to comment on all financial reports, including all financial information presented in interim and annual reports, prior to publication and release.

Secretary. The Secretary shall review Minutes of all Executive Board meetings, Delegates meetings, and membership meetings. The Secretary shall post these minutes, after Executive Board review, on the USCF website and shall mail the Minutes to all Delegates and Alternate Delegates within six weeks of the meetings. The Executive Board shall determine a means of recording all meetings. The Secretary shall act as the custodian of the corporate seal, preside over Federation elections, ensure that the annual report is filed with the Secretary of State of the state of Illinois, and perform such other duties as are prescribed by these Bylaws.

Members at Large. Members-at-Large of the Executive Board shall have such other duties as are assigned by the Executive Board or by the President on behalf of the Executive Board or as prescribed by these Bylaws.

SECTION 9. Vacancies. The Executive Board, or the Office if the Executive Board is unable, may decide the schedule for a Special Election for the Executive Board, using the deadlines and dates for a regular election as a guide for scheduling reasonable intervals for announcing the special election and calling for nominations, the date for candidate petition filings and the issue of *Chess Life* which will contain the ballots. The requirement for candidate statements and election supplements may be reduced to having this information in a single issue of *Chess Life*.

The Board may choose to waive any filing fees for a Special Election.

SECTION 10. Candidate statements and advertising. Each duly

nominated candidate who has met the requirements established in Section 4 is entitled to a 150 word statement plus photo in the issue of *Chess Life* published no later than April 10 of the election year, plus reasonable and equitable space on the USCF website. Election supplements shall accompany or be inserted in issues of *Chess Life* published no later than May 10 and June 10 of the election year. Each duly nominated candidate who has met the requirements established in Section 4 is entitled to one-half page of space in each election supplement. The purchase of additional campaign space in the election supplements or other USCF publications is prohibited.

SECTION 11. Effective Date. Effective Date. Revisions to the bylaws relating to the election of the Executive Board shall take effect on January 1, 2003

ARTICLE VII: OTHER OFFICERS, APPOINTEES, AND COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Officers appointed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall appoint an Executive Director and a Publications Director. The Executive Board shall also give approval to the hiring of a chief financial officer (CFO) by the Executive Director.

SECTION 2. Duties of Appointees. The duties of Officers appointed by the Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and other Executive Board appointees shall be set forth in written memoranda by the Executive Board. Copies of said memoranda shall be added to the minutes for dissemination to the Delegates.

SECTION 3. Committees.

A) The Board of Delegates shall appoint the following Standing Committees:

1) Audit Committee. The Audit committee shall consist of 3 persons; one Exec. Board member, normally the Vice President for Finance appointed by the Exec. Board, and two members elected by the Delegates from among the Delegates and Alternate Delegates who are knowledgeable and, where possible, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or a Certified Management Accountant (CMA). The duties of the Committee shall be:

a) To advise the EB on the appointment of the External Auditors, the audit fee, the provision of any non-audit services by the External Auditors and any questions of resignation or dismissal of the External Auditors.

b) To discuss, if necessary, with the External Auditors before the audit commences the nature and scope of the audit.

c) To discuss problems and reservations arising from interim and final audits and any questions the External Auditors may wish to discuss (in the absence of management, where necessary.)

d) To consider and advise the EB on the establishment of the internal audit service and Head of Internal Audit, if any.

e) To review the internal audit plan, to consider major findings of internal audit investigations and management? response and to promote coordination between the Internal and External Auditors and to advise the EB and the Delegates accordingly.

f) To keep under review the effectiveness of internal control systems and, in particular, review the External Auditors?Management Letter, the Internal Annual Report and management responses and to advise the EB accordingly.

g) To monitor the performance and effectiveness of external and internal audit.h) To consider, if necessary, the draft of the Audited Financial statements.

i) To monitor annually or more frequently, if necessary, the imple-

mentation of approved recommendations arising from internal audit reports, external audit reports and management letters and to advise the EB accordingly.

j) To oversee arrangements made by the Executive Board for the internal audit service and the External Auditors to examine the agency-wide financial statements.

k) To advise the Executive Director, as requested.

l) To report, as appropriate, to the Executive Board.

m) To advise the Delegates as requested and to report, as appropriate, to the Delegates

2) Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee shall choose its own chair.

3) Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee shall choose its own chair.

4) Life Member Assets Management Committee (LMAC). The LMAC is responsible for managing the Life Member Assets. The LMAC shall consist of the Vice President for Finance and six to eight others elected by the Delegates. The LMAC shall choose its own Chair and may appoint other committees to assist it in its work.

B) The Delegates may appoint any other committees as needed. The Executive Board may appoint such subcommittees of the Board or committees as it deems appropriate.

C) In the event of a vacancy on a Delegate-appointed Committee, the committee and Executive Board may appoint a replacement. Such appointment requires a 2/3 majority of both the remaining committee members and the Executive Board.

SECTION 4. Counsel. Legal Counsel shall be appointed by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. Eligibility. None of the National Officers (including members of the Executive Board and Executive Director) shall be officers of other sports organizations recognized by the U.S. Olympic Committee as a national governing body.

ARTICLE VIII: ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS.

SECTION 1. State Chapters. State Chapters. Every state (the District of Columbia being treated as a state for all Federation purposes and Northern and Southern California being treated as separate states for all Federation purposes) shall be entitled to have an affiliate designated as the State Chapter, provided that any state having more than 5000 members may have two state chapters divided along geographical lines. Credentials of affiliates applying for designation as State Chapters submitted before June 1 shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates with recommendations, if any, one month before the next Annual Meeting. Credentials submitted after June 1 shall be presented by the Executive Board to the Board of Delegates one month before the Annual Meeting of the following year.

SECTION 2. Functions. Each State shall guide the chess activity within the state in a manner that provides representation to all groups of chessplayers within its state. Each State Chapter shall nominate Delegates and Alternate Delegates as provided in Article V Section 4 of these Bylaws. Each State Chapter shall fulfill other responsibilities as the Board of Delegates may from time to time designate.

SECTION 3. Affiliates. Any organization of chessplayers may affiliate with the Federation upon payment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chessplayers who are exclusively scholastic players may affiliate with the Federation as a Scholastic Affiliate upon pay-

ment of the fee of \$40 per year. Any organization of chessplayers who are incarcerated in a penal institution may affiliate with the Federation as a Prison Affiliate upon the payment of the fee of \$15 per year. Affiliation does not constitute the affiliate as an agent of the USCF for any purpose.

SECTION 4. Rights and privileges. Each affiliate shall:

(a) Receive a subscription to *Chess Life*.

(b) be entitled to conduct USCF-rated tournaments in accordance with USCF tournament rules;

(c) be privileged to issue Federation memberships per Article III above, and to collect and forward to the USCF headquarters the membership application forms and associated dues amounts due therefrom.

SECTION 5. Revocation. The Executive Board may, subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 12, revoke or suspend the affiliation of any affiliate for good cause shown.

ARTICLE IX: SUNDRY BYLAWS

SECTION 1. Authority. These Bylaws have been adopted by the Delegates under the authority of the charter issued to the United States of America Chess Federation by the State of Illinois.

SECTION 2. Amendment. These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Delegates present at an Annual or a Special Delegates' meeting except that any proposal not specifically included in the Delegates' advance agenda shall require a 2/3 majority vote to pass.

SECTION 3. Office. The registered office of the Federation shall be at such address in the State of Illinois as is designated by the Executive Board.

SECTION 4. International Affairs. International Affairs. The Federation is the official USA unit of FIDE and shall be represented officially in all FIDE affairs by a Permanent Delegate appointed by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. Publications. *Chess Life*, a periodical, or its successor publication, is designated an official publication.

SECTION 6. Fiscal period. The Fiscal period shall be the year ended May 31.

SECTION 7. Fund Depositories and Disbursements. All funds, other than Life Member Assets, shall be deposited in one or more federally insured depositories, or other vehicles approved by the Executive Board, disbursable only by withdrawal authorized by two or more of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director, and such senior staff as the Executive Board shall designate. The Executive Board may authorize petty cash accounts, whose amounts may not exceed \$500.00, and disbursable only by check signed by one of the above, or any two employees approved by the Executive Board.

SECTION 8. Accountants. Early in each fiscal year the Executive Board shall engage properly qualified independent certified public accountants to review the Federation's accounts in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The choice of accountants shall be subject to ratification by the Board of Delegates.

SECTION 9. Encumbrance.

A. No asset of the Federation may be encumbered without the approval of the Executive Board or Board of Delegates, except as provided in Section 10 below, and any mortgage, loan, or borrowing agreement must be signed by at least two of the following: President, Vice President for Finance, Executive Director.

B. The building and land cannot be encumbered, liened, or mortgaged in any fashion without action by the Delegates at a regular meeting or special meeting called for that purpose, except as provided in Section 10 below.

SECTION 10. Life Member Assets Management.

Borrowing of an aggregate of more than \$200,000 is possible only when:

1. The Executive Director certifies that there is a need for such borrowing.
2. The Executive Board approves of the borrowing.
3. The Life Member Assets Management Committee approves of such borrowing.
4. A report shall be made to the Delegates in the Annual Report describing the funds borrowed and repaid during the past year.

SECTION 11. The Federation will publish an annual report within four months of the end of the fiscal year. The report will contain, among other things, a complete presentation of the audited financial statements.

SECTION 12. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Indemnification of Directors and Officers. Each member of the Board of Delegates, national officer (hereinafter "officer"), and employee of the corporation now or hereafter serving as such, shall be indemnified by the corporation against any and all claims and liabilities to which he or she has or shall become subject by reason of serving or having served as such director, officer, or employee or by reason of any action alleged to have been taken, omitted, or neglected by him or her as such a director, officer, or employee; and the corporation shall reimburse each such person for all legal expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with any such liability, provided, however, that indemnification shall be limited to cases in which such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal act or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; and provided further, however, that as a member of the Board of Delegates such a person shall only be indemnified for his or her acts or omissions at an Annual or Special Meeting of the Board of Delegates and not for any local or other activities.

To the extent that a director, officer, or employee of the corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any action, suit, or proceeding, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him or her in connection therewith.

Any indemnification against any and all claims (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the director, officer, or employee, is proper in the circumstances because he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable

cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. Such determination shall be made (A) by the Board of Delegates by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors who were not parties to such action, suit, proceeding, or claim, or (B) if such a quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable, a quorum of disinterested directors so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion.

The right of indemnification herein above provided for shall not be exclusive of any rights to which any director, officer, or employee of the corporation may otherwise be entitled by law, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, or employee, and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, and administrators of such a person.

The corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, or employee, or agent of the corporation, against any liability asserted against him or her and incurred by him or her in any such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liability under the provisions of this article.

SECTION 13. Ratification of Voidable Acts. Any transaction questioned in any suit brought by any member on the grounds of lack of authority, defective or irregular execution, adverse interest of any director, officer, employee, or member, nondisclosure, miscomputation, or the application of improper principles or practices of accounting may be ratified before or after judgment by the Board of Delegates and, if so ratified, shall have the same force and effect as if the questioned transaction had been originally duly authorized, and said ratification shall be binding upon the corporation and its members and shall constitute a bar to any claim or execution of any judgment in respect of such questioned transaction.

SECTION 14. Reliance on Records. Reliance on Records. Each officer, member of the Board of Delegates, or employee shall in the performance of his or her duties be fully protected in relying in good faith upon the books of account or reports made to the corporation by any of its officials, or by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or by an appraiser selected with reasonable care by the Board of Delegates, or in relying in good faith upon other records of the corporation.

SECTION 15. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be used at all meetings of the membership, Board of Delegates, Executive Board, in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules which have been adopted.

SECTION 16. Eligibility for International Competition. Eligibility for International Competition. Eligibility criteria for international competition may not be more restrictive than the eligibility criteria established by the internationally recognized Chess Federation.

SECTION 17. Non-Discrimination. Participation in chess shall be open to athletes, coaches, trainers, team captains, managers, seconds, and analysts without discrimination.

Revision Date: 09/01/03

DELEGATE ACTIONS OF CONTINUING INTEREST

1. **SITES OF USCF-SPONSORED TOURNAMENTS.** Since the U.S. Chess Federation is open to all players, regardless of race, sex, creed, religion, or national origin, and is interested in promoting chess among all groups, all tournaments sponsored by USCF are to be conducted at sites accommodating the right to play of all USCF members. (1960)
2. **TOURNAMENT COORDINATION.** The USCF shall exert its influence through its Regional Vice Presidents and Officers to coordinate and schedule sanctioned tournaments sponsored by regional or state chess organizations (without conflict of time and place). (1964)
3. **SPEED OF RATED GAMES.** Any change in the speed of rated games requires approval by the Board of Delegates. (1971)
4. **MEETING INFORMATION.** USCF Delegates shall be informed well in advance of the Annual Meeting of Board of Delegates of any substantive matters known to be on the advance agenda for the Delegates' Meeting.
5. **MONTHLY RATING SUPPLEMENTS.** The Executive Board is authorized by the Delegates to publish annually the ratings in *Chess Life* and to publish monthly [later changed to bi-monthly] a supplement (with the biannual issue to be cumulative) to be sent to every affiliate, and to any other member who wishes to pay the cost of reproduction. (1972) (2002)
6. **ANNUAL U.S. CHAMPIONSHIP.** It is the intent of the Board of Delegates that a U.S. Championship be held annually. (1972) (1982) (1983 — with \$25,000 budgeted each year)
7. **ADJOURNMENTS AT U.S. OPENS.** In the U.S. Open, the players shall not be compelled to adjourn if both players and the tournament director agree to play on for one more time-control period.
8. **EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES.** Approximately four times per year, the Secretary shall mail to the Delegates copies of the minutes and records of all votes of the Executive Board held during the period. (1973)
9. **UNFINISHED DELEGATE BUSINESS.** All motions not acted on by the Delegates at the Annual Meeting that deal with matters which the Executive Board can act on under the Bylaws, shall be acted upon by the Board. These actions shall be reported in the *Executive Board Newsletter* and at the next year's Delegates' Meeting. (1978) Motions limiting the Executive Board or disagreeing with the decisions made by the Executive Board shall automatically retain their place on next year's Delegates' agenda. (1980)
10. **SMOKING.** Tournaments which prohibit smoking in the playing room of a USCF-rated tournament shall be so indicated in the Tournament Life Announcement in *Chess Life*. Smoking is prohibited at the following National Tournaments: U.S. Open, National Open, U.S. Amateur, U.S. Junior Open, U.S. Class. There shall be no smoking permitted in any contract areas of all national scholastic tournaments. (1998)
11. **STATE CHAPTER RECOMMENDATIONS.** For the text of these recommendations on State Chapters, see *Policy Board Newsletter #4* of 1980-81.
12. **USCF REGIONS AND REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT RECOMMENDATIONS.** For the text of these recommendations, see *Policy Board Newsletter #4* of 1980-81.
13. **PAID TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS AT NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS.** No Executive Board member shall serve as the paid TD of more than one USCF National Tournament or International Tournament during a calendar year unless the same opportunity has been declined by all non-members of the Executive Board who are qualified to direct the tournament. (1975) No Executive Board member shall be awarded a paid directorship or concession at a National Tournament on which he/she participated in the award vote, except in the case of an uncontested bid. An Executive Board will not be restricted in the number of awarded paid directorships or concessions received at any National Tournament when the award vote and the acceptance of a paid directorship or concession for the National Tournament occurred before the Executive Board member was elected to office. (1984, 1993, 1994)
14. **TELLER'S PROCEDURES.** Unless some independent agency handles the election, provision shall be made to allow the tellers to properly fulfill their duties unencumbered by the burdens of a large-scale public meeting.
15. **TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION.** Tournaments announced in *Chess Life* may not be cancelled unless the cancellation notice appears in *Chess Life*. Cancellations which occur too late to appear in *Chess Life* are permitted only if it is physically impossible to hold the tournament (for example, in the case of extreme weather conditions). Cancellations for any other reasons without notice are not permitted. Disappointing advance entries do not constitute a valid reason for cancellation. Organizers violating this rule shall be prohibited from listing their tournaments in "Tournament Life" or advertising in *Chess Life* for 3 years. Exceptions can be made by the USCF President or Executive Director in extreme circumstances. (1979) (2002)
16. **CHESS LIFE.**

GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION. The goal of *Chess Life* shall be to promote the United States Chess Federation and chess in the United States and the world. *Chess Life* shall be the journal of record of chess play in the U.S.

As the Federation's most important means of communication to its members, and as the Federation's most visible service, the magazine should be as attractively and professionally produced as resources allow, making use of photography, artwork, cartoons, and other graphic devices, as warranted.

Mindful of our members and potential members, the wide range of playing strengths and interests represented therein, and our overall goal, *Chess Life* should present a comparable range of subject matter. Instructional analysis (aimed at a variety of skill levels), correspondence chess, reader opinion, non-technical (i.e., historical articles, fiction) and human-interest material (i.e., interviews), rules changes, national and international news, and providing coverage of international, national, and regional events, are suggested, but do not delimit areas of concentration.

Consistent with our stated goal, advertising in *Chess Life* is a service to readers as well as a significant source of revenue. The editor and publisher (Executive Director) will be responsible for ensuring that the overall advertising content in *Chess Life* and subject matter are appropriate. The editor and publisher, in their best judgment, have discretion to refuse any advertisement.

COMPOSITION OF *CHESS LIFE*. The following items shall be required *Chess Life* content:

Chess Life should provide a regular section for announcements of upcoming tournaments. This Tournament Life section should be well-organized, informative, and as helpful as possible in order to encourage participation in USCF-rated events, particularly USCF titled events, Grand Prix events, and American Classic events.

In contested elections to the Executive Board, *Chess Life* shall publish a campaign statement of up to 110 words for each candidate in the July issue.

The January issue of *Chess Life* shall contain an annual rating list for over-the-board players.

The April issue of *Chess Life* shall be the yearbook issue, containing general information about the USCF and about chess governance and activity in the U.S. Suggested content includes, but is not limited to, such things as names and addresses of significant individuals and organizations, top and busiest lists, and historical data.

RESPONSIBILITY. Journalism is a public trust which is best served by the protection of the public interest and the preservation of the credibility of the publication. The reader's right to know is best served when given accurate and complete, unbiased, and factual reporting. Opinion must never be confused with fact.

Criticism must be supportable by factual evidence. The purpose and nature of such criticism must be demonstrably in the public interest and not serve merely to harass or discredit. Fairness dictates that a person whose actions are criticized must be given the timely opportunity to explain those actions or reply to the criticism, although practical considerations may not permit concurrent response.

The editor is hired by the USCF Executive Board. The editor will be accountable to the publisher for the performance of his duties in a timely, responsible, and professional manner. The performance of the editor, with respect to the stated goal of *Chess Life*, will be subject to periodic review by the Executive Board. (1991)

YEARBOOK (ANNUAL YEARBOOK IN *CHESS LIFE*). The Annual Yearbook be restored to either March, April, or May issue of *Chess Life*. (2001)

DELEGATE INFO (*CHESS LIFE* PUBLICATION). The issue of *Chess Life* that appears in the March, April, or May shall contain the names and contact information of current USCF Delegates and Alternate Delegates. (2001)

17. FREE MEMBERSHIP TO GRANDMASTERS AND WOMAN GRANDMASTERS. USCF membership shall be awarded to International Grandmasters, including Women Grandmasters, when it is determined by the Executive Director that a player is registering with FIDE as an American player; or when an American player is awarded the title by FIDE. (1980, 1991)

18. PROFITS FROM SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENTS. Any profits generated by National Scholastic Tournaments that are earned by USCF will be retained by USCF and earmarked for Scholastic Chess. (1998)

19. CALLING THE QUESTION. At USCF Delegates' meetings, the practice of a speaker calling the question immediately after speaking to the merits of a motion shall not be permitted. (1993)

20. REVIEW OF DMS. At every Executive Board meeting, the Executive Board shall review the resolutions passed by the last annual Delegates' meeting to make certain those resolutions are being

enforced. (1993)

21. SUPPLEMENTAL MOTIONS. All supplemental motions presented to the Delegates that are printed and received before the Delegates' meeting contain a rationale or discussion by the sponsor, limited to 50 words. (1993)

22. CHOOSING COMMITTEES. It is the sense of the Delegates that committee chairmen shall be fully consulted prior to selection of committees and there shall be continuing consultation concerning committee membership and work through the liaison. (1994)

23. PRESENTING COMMITTEE REPORTS. All annual committee reports not published in the annual report will be presented to the Delegates after the published committee reports have been presented to the Delegates and will be limited to a ten-minute presentation. (1994)

24. DISTRIBUTING COMMITTEE REPORTS. All printed committee reports distributed at the Delegates' meeting shall be offered to all Delegates who express an interest in the reports before copies are left unattended for general pickup. No reports may be left unattended until after the committee presentation to the Delegates has been completed. The presentation is to include mention that the printed reports are available and copies are to be handed to any Delegate that asks for them. (1994)

25. INVESTMENT OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP ASSETS. The LMA Committee shall establish an investment policy that is expected to produce an aggregate return equaling or exceeding 6% on its invested assets (excluding the USCF office building). (2002)

26. PERSONNEL. All Board-approved changes to employee compensation will be subject to a vote of the full Board and the vote will be recorded in open session. The text of any Board-approved change to employee compensation will be recorded as a confidential BINFO item.

Any Board-approved change to an employee incentive plan must be finalized no later than 90 days after the plan has been approved. Any Board-approved employee contract must have the signature of no fewer than one officer and one other Board member. Board-conducted employee reviews must be discussed and written before presented. (1997)

27. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR THE USCF EXECUTIVE BOARD. The USCF Board of Delegates establishes the following standards of conduct for Executive Board members in the performance of their duties:

GENERAL PRINCIPLES. Members of the USCF Executive Board have responsibilities of the highest order for the promotion of chess and for stewardship of the resources of the USCF. In the execution of these responsibilities, they are expected to act lawfully and in accordance with USCF policy, and to adhere consistently to the principles of fairness, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. They are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner throughout the performance of all duties, contributing thereby to maximum effectiveness in the achievement of the goals of the USCF.

(1) Executive Board members are expected to contribute to the functioning of the Board as a cohesive unit, with information flowing comfortably among all its members. Actions that interfere with comfortable and open communication among all Board members should be avoided.

(a) All Board members have the right to receive all information pertinent to the making, monitoring, and implementation of USCF policy. Board member(s) should not withhold full and accurate information from other Board members, when that information is relevant to Board decisions or potential decisions. Where decision-making authority has been given to a specific officer by the Board or the Bylaws, that officer must keep all Board members fully and accurately informed of all decisions made and factors influencing those decisions.

(b) All Board members have the right to be involved in the determination of all Board decisions. A Board majority has no authority except as a majority vote within the context of a properly called Board meeting. Board decisions must result from discussions in which all Board members have had the opportunity to participate.

(c) Board members are responsible for contributing to constructive communication within the Board. Board members are responsible to communicate directly with each other whenever there is misunderstanding or ill will, making strenuous efforts to resolve the issue amicably through such communication, before making the dispute public.

(2) Executive Board members must be motivated solely by the best interests of the USCF in exercising their duties. Any potential conflict of interest, whether due to financial, political, personal, geographical, organizational, familial, or other considerations, must be prevented from affecting any Board member in the discharge of his or her duties.

(a) Except where noted below, no Executive Board member or a member of his immediate family may receive financial compensation from the USCF for any reason, except for standard reimbursement of expenses, during his tenure on the Board, or for two years after completing his tenure if such compensation results from bids accepted or agreements made by the Board during his tenure. In claiming expense reimbursement, a Board member must claim only that portion of expenses that were incurred in non-political activities that were a legitimate exercise of the Board member's duties. Any unusual expenses for which reimbursement is questionable must be referred to the full Board for consideration. Board members are expected to exercise all reasonable frugality in incurring expenses to be reimbursed.

(b) No Executive Board member, or a member of his immediate family, may profit financially from organizing or directing a national tournament or activity organized or co-organized by the USCF, or from any business activity of the USCF, if the Executive Board or the USCF business office is involved in determining the arrangements; such restriction applies during the Board member's tenure and for two years thereafter, with respect to actions taken during his or her tenure on the Board. This provision does not apply if the bid, and all relevant financial arrangements, were finalized before the member was elected to the Board, and are not changed to his advantage during his tenure.

(c) No Board member may participate in consideration of bids for any event or for any expenditure of USCF funds if he or his immediate family member has any office or other interest in any entity offering a bid. He is required to inform the Board whenever there is a conflict of interest. However, the Board member may provide information on behalf of such a bid, provided that his opportunity to provide information is the same as for those involved in other bids. The Board member with a potential conflict of interest may not make or

second motions, enter into debate or discussion in the capacity of a Board member, or vote on the bids or on any issue reasonably related to the bid consideration. If consideration of the bid involves sensitive matters that require a closed session, a Board member who has a potential conflict of interest may not attend the portion of the closed session involving that bid, unless all parties representing competing bids are permitted to attend.

(d) Any Board member who believes that he or another Board member may have a conflict of interest on any matter is expected to inform immediately all members of the Board.

(e) A Board member should not pressure any USCF employee by means of stated or implied threats to employment. Specific criticism of other USCF employees should be conveyed discreetly to the Executive Director.

(3) The Executive Board is responsible for conducting business in an efficient, constructive, and open manner.

(a) All actions taken by the Executive Board must be consistent with the Bylaws of the USCF, and with all policy established by the USCF Board of Delegates.

(b) Executive Board members must respect the dignity of all persons in all statements and actions. Any derogatory and/or sarcastic statements attacking an individual in a personal manner, or intended to bring scorn or ridicule on an individual, shall be considered out of order at any and all times in an Executive Board meeting, whether in open or closed session. Any angry and heated exchanges in a Board meeting should be considered out of order. The Chair of the meeting shall be responsible for promptly ruling such utterances out of order, or any member may raise a point of order to that effect. Personal differences must be privately resolved without disturbing the efficient conduct of USCF business in a Board meeting.

(c) A closed session should be held only when the best interests of the USCF are definitely served by doing so. Examples of when closed sessions are proper would include the discussion of matters that are legally sensitive, issues involving sensitive negotiations, or matters in which the privacy rights of any individual may be at risk. Closed sessions should not be scheduled to permit the airing of heated or derogatory comments, which should be out of order in any meeting discussion, or to avoid the necessity of Board members' dealing with unpopular issues publicly. The Board may invite other persons into the closed session if such persons possess special information or expertise needed by the Board, but a certified Executive Board candidate who is not currently on the Board should not be included in a closed session unless all Board candidates present at the meeting are also invited.

(d) Board members should be sensitive to the feelings of volunteers and staff members whose names may be mentioned, or whose work may be criticized, during Board discussion.

(e) All Board members must strictly observe confidentiality of closed sessions. In the case of a conference call, the Board members must clearly understand what portions of the call are considered open or closed, for the purpose of determining what information in the call must be considered confidential.

(4) When appointed by the Delegates, the USCF Ethics Committee may consider an allegation by any USCF member that an Executive Board member has committed significant violations of this code of conduct. The Ethics Committee may, if it determines that such viola-

tions have occurred, either warn the Board member or recommend actions, such as recall of the member, to the Board of Delegates in accordance with the Bylaws of the USCF. (1997)

28. THE CODE OF ETHICS OF THE UNITED STATES CHESS FEDERATION.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. The purpose of this code of ethics is to set forth standards to which the conduct of players, tournament directors, sponsors, and other individuals and entities participating in the affairs of the United States Chess Federation (USCF), including tournaments and other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF, should conform; to specify sanctions for conduct that does not conform to such standards; and to specify the procedures by which alleged violations are to be investigated and, if necessary, the appropriate sanctions imposed.

2. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics are not equivalent to criminal laws and procedures. Rather, they concern the rights and privileges of USCF membership, including, but not limited to, the privilege of participating in tournaments, events, or other activities as a member of the USCF.

3. The standards, procedures, and sanctions set forth in this code of ethics shall apply only to: (a) actions and behavior by members of the USCF that occur in connection with tournaments or other activities sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF; and (b) individuals and entities acting in an official capacity as officers or representatives of the USCF. Each member of the USCF and each participant in a USCF activity shall be bound by this code of ethics.

THE USCF ETHICS COMMITTEE

4. The USCF Ethics Committee is appointed in accordance with procedures consistent with the Bylaws of the USCF. The committee exists to consider allegations of unethical conduct at or in connection with events sanctioned by the USCF, and allegations of unethical conduct involving the USCF and its activities, in accordance with the standards and procedures contained in this code. The committee will exercise all other duties as may be assigned by the Bylaws or by action of the USCF Board of Delegates.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

5. The actions and behavior of individuals participating in USCF activities, or in events sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF, shall be lawful and in accordance with all USCF rules and regulations, and consistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others. The following is a list of examples of actions and behavior that are considered unethical. The list is not intended to be exhaustive, and any action or behavior that is unlawful or violates USCF rules and regulations, or is inconsistent with the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for the rights of others, may be considered to fall within the scope of this code of ethics.

(a) Intentional violations of tournament regulations, or of any other regulations pertaining to USCF activities and goals, particularly after being warned.

(b) Cheating in a game of chess by illegally giving, receiving, offering, or soliciting advice; or by consulting written sources; or by tampering with clocks; or in any other manner.

(c) Deliberately losing a game for payment, or to lower one's rating,

or for any other reason; or attempting to induce another player to do so. Deliberately failing to play at one's best in a game, in any manner inconsistent with the principles of good sportsmanship, honesty, or fair play.

(d) Deliberately misrepresenting one's playing ability in order to compete in a tournament or division of a tournament intended for players of lesser ability; players with foreign ratings are expected to disclose those ratings.

(e) Participating in a tournament under a false name or submitting a falsified rating report.

(f) Participating in a tournament while under suspension.

(g) Purposely giving false information in order to circumvent or violate any rule or regulation or goal recognized by the USCF.

(h) Attempting to interfere with the rights of any USCF member, such as by barring someone from entering a USCF-sanctioned event for personal reasons. Generally, no individual should be barred from a USCF-sanctioned event for which he or she meets the advertised qualifications, without appropriate due process, and for behavior inconsistent with the principles of this code and/or the rules of chess. If a ban on future participation is imposed, the individual should be notified of the ban prior to his attempting to appear at future events.

(i) Violating federal, state, or local laws while participating in activities that are associated with the USCF.

PROCEDURES

6. Any USCF member may initiate procedures under this code of ethics by filing a complaint in a timely manner with the USCF Ethics Committee. In the case of any accusation that does not fall clearly under the "Standards of Conduct" above, the Ethics Committee shall have the authority to decide whether the alleged conduct is within the scope of the code of ethics. In the case of each alleged violation that is within the scope of the code of ethics, the following steps shall occur in a timely manner:

(a) A factual inquiry shall be made by the Ethics Committee, assisted as necessary by the USCF staff. Previous findings of the Ethics Committee or other USCF entities may be included among the evidence considered by the Ethics Committee, if relevant to the circumstances of the present case. As a part of such an inquiry, any person accused of unethical conduct shall have the right to examine the evidence against him or her, the right to respond to the accusation, and the right to produce written evidence in his or her behalf.

(b) Appropriate sanctions, if any, shall be recommended by the Ethics Committee. In recommending sanctions, the Ethics Committee may consider any previous ruling or finding of the Ethics Committee, or other USCF entity, pertaining to the past conduct of the person being sanctioned. In recommending sanctions, the person being recommended for sanctions must be informed. Any person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall be promptly notified.

(c) Except as specified in 6(e) recommended sanctions shall be deemed final unless appealed to the Executive Board by the person or persons upon whom the sanctions have been imposed, or upon the initiative of any member of the Executive Board. Such an appeal must be made within 30 days of the date that notification of recommended sanctions occurred, except that the Executive Board may extend the deadline for appeal if in its judgment an unavoidable delay in communications or other valid cause prevented a timely

appeal. If an appeal has not been filed by the deadline the recommended sanctions shall be placed into effect.

(d) Upon appeal, a review of the facts and the appropriateness of the recommended sanction shall be undertaken by the Executive Board. The person against whom the sanction has been recommended, as well as the person filing the initial complaint, shall be given notice of the time and place the Executive Board will review the case. The person against whom sanctions have been recommended shall have the right to appear before the Board and present evidence. In all appeals the recommended sanctions imposed by the Ethics Committee shall not be in effect until the appeal hearing is completed. The recommended sanctions shall be either confirmed, modified, or revoked by the Executive Board.

(e) If the person against whom sanctions have been recommended is a member of the USCF Executive Board, he or she may not appeal the sanctions to the Executive Board, but may appeal to the USCF Board of Delegates at its next scheduled meeting.

(f) If any member of the Ethics Committee or of the USCF Executive Board has a conflict of interest of any kind that might preclude objective participation in the consideration of any case, that person may not act in the capacity of a committee or board member on the case.

Sanctions

7. The following are some of the sanctions that may be imposed as a result of the procedures specified above. In unusual cases, other appropriate sanctions may be imposed, or these sanctions may be varied or combined.

(a) Reprimand. A determination that a member has committed an offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. A reprimand automatically carries a probation of at least three months, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probation, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.

(b) Censure. A determination that a member has committed a serious offense warranting discipline becomes a matter of record, but no further sanction is imposed at the time. Censure automatically carries a probation of at least one year, or longer if so specified. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during the probationary period, he or she is then liable to further sanctions for both offenses.

(c) Suspended sentence with probation. A determination is made that the member has committed an offense warranting discipline. When the discipline is imposed and execution thereof suspended, such suspension shall include probation for at least six months longer than the discipline imposed. If the member is judged guilty of another offense during this period, unless otherwise decreed, the original discipline shall be added to such new discipline as may be imposed for the new offense.

(d) Suspension. Suspension is a determination that the member has committed an offense warranting abrogation, for a specified period of time, of all membership rights and privileges.

(e) Expulsion. Expulsion is a determination that a member has committed an offense warranting permanent abrogation of all membership rights and privileges. An expelled member may be readmitted to membership only by the USCF Executive Board or by the USCF Board of Delegates.

(f) Exclusion from events. This is a more selective determination that

a member has committed an offense warranting abrogation of the right to participate in certain specified events or activities.

8. If the person being sanctioned is a member of the USCF Executive Board, the Ethics Committee may recommend no sanctions other than censure or reprimand, but may also recommend to the Board of Delegates other actions.

9. In the case of every sanction that involves suspension or expulsion, a member may not hold any office in the USCF or participate in any capacity in any event or activity sponsored by or sanctioned by the USCF.

10. The USCF Business Office shall be informed in writing of all official recommendations by the Ethics Committee, and shall record any recommendations. The USCF Business Office shall inform the Executive Board of any sanctions recommended.

29. FIDE POLICY. The U.S. Chess Federation adopts the following position:

The U.S. Chess Federation (USCF) endorses the concept of a strong world organization of chessplayers, which supports a system of competitions for the strongest players in the world culminating in a valid world championship. The USCF also firmly embraces the principles of freedom of action and freedom of speech that are the foundation of the American way of life. In accordance with these principles, the USCF adopts the following position with respect to the FIDE Commerce proposal as it has been presented:

1. The USCF cannot accept any regulation that limits journalistic freedom or freedom of expression for any individual, or interferes with the efforts of free enterprise to promote chess. The USCF cannot recognize a censure, boycott, sanction, or other restrictive or punitive action that contradicts our principles of freedom of action, speech, or the press, or that is imposed for behavior that does not violate the USCF's Code of Ethics.

2. The USCF must reserve the right to recognize or withhold recognition of any world championship event or title, in accordance with the principles established by our Board of Delegates regarding the validity of the world championship title. The USCF endorses the principle of compromise in helping to bring about a universally accepted world championship.

3. The USCF endorses working toward a more logical program of high-profile tournaments and toward cooperative Internet ventures, and might be willing to consider entering contractual arrangements toward those ends. Questions of open accounting and of legitimacy of funding must be addressed prior to any such arrangement and as part of any such arrangement.

4. The USCF considers that conflict-of-interest issues must be satisfactorily addressed in any plan to grant economic interest in any venture to any person or organization within FIDE, or any organization affiliated with FIDE, or to give voting rights to any individual or organization whose financial gain would be affected by the exercise of such voting rights.

5. The USCF considers that any plan to be put into effect must have the approval of the FIDE General Assembly and must not be inconsistent with the principles in this position statement.

6. The USCF Delegate or representative to FIDE is instructed to act in accordance with this motion.

- 30. DELEGATE MEETING DATES.** The Delegates' meeting will be held no later than the first full weekend of August. This requirement is in effect for all U.S. Opens for which dates had not been set as of August 2000. (2000)
- 1.* No round of the U.S. Open may be scheduled to conflict with the Delegates Meeting. (2001)
- 31. EB TRANSCRIPTS AND MINUTES.** The following procedure was adopted for the documentation of the proceedings of Executive Board meetings:
- 1.* The Secretary or his or her designee shall prepare Minutes based upon the documentation of motions in the transcripts of the meeting and submit them to the Executive Board for comments, corrections, and/or suggestions.
- 2.* The Secretary or his or her designee shall consider the comments made by the Executive Board and may revise the Minutes where appropriate. Any deviation from the transcript must be indicated with an explanation and a reference to the transcript. The transcript must be available concurrently.
- 3.* The transcript of all Open session meetings are to be posted on the USCF website as soon as practical, so that anyone who has any questions can access the basic documentation for all motions and can access Open session discussions that are not likely to be in the published Minutes. Since any motions made in Closed session must be voted in Open session as well, the Open session transcripts will be sufficient to document all motions.
- 4.* The transcripts are to include all Open session activity. The stenographer must record everything until the meeting is actually adjourned. No motions are to be voted on the absence of the stenographer. If it is not on the Open session transcripts it did not happen! (2000)
- 32. BINFO SYSTEM.** In the interest of both history and accountability, the Board information (BINFO) system should be maintained and used in the following manner:
- 1.* The Executive Board and Executive Director will place documents relating to their decisions and discussions in this record system.
- 2.* An effort will be made to include all relevant documents bearing on the making of USCF policy and other decisions.
- 3.* At the request of any single Executive Board member or the Executive Director, a document will be placed in the system.
- 4.* BINFO documents may be classified as confidential, using strict, documented criteria.
- 5.* Classified BINFO's will be reviewed periodically for declassification. This will include but not be limited to documents now in the system and placed there by previous Boards.
- 6.* Non-classified documents will be supplied to members on request; a reasonable duplication fee may be charged.
- 7.* Binders of non-classified documents will be maintained at the USCF office and will be available on request to visiting adult members to examine while in the office.
- 8.* Updated, descriptive indexes of the BINFO system will be available on the USCF website in the most expeditious manner possible, and available in hard copy on request for a reasonable duplication fee. (2000)
- 9.* Non-confidential BINFOs are to be made available electronically without cost to any Delegate or Alternate Delegate that asks to receive them. This is to be done by making them available on the USCF website in a public area and/or setting up a read-only mailing list and adding to the list anyone who wants to receive the BINFO's via e-mail. (2001)
- 33. U.S. OPEN SCHEDULING.** The U.S. Open shall finish no later than August 15th. (1999)
- 34. SCHOLASTIC CHESS.** The USCF shall have a full-time Scholastic Director, working in consultation with the Scholastic Committee. The job description and workload priorities of the Scholastic Director will be developed jointly by the Scholastic Committee and the Executive Director.
- The Finance Committee shall include at least one member recommended by the Scholastic Committee.
- The USCF shall implement an income and expense system, which separately identifies scholastic chess activities. (1999)
- 35. ADM VOTES ON THE WEBSITE.** The final decision of the Board of Delegates on ADMs shall be recorded and published on the USCF website. All available information regarding the vote shall be included. (1999)
- 36. BALLOTS.** Ballots shall contain only a candidate's name and state. No titles, credentials or other honors shall appear on ballots. (1999)
- 37. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP.** The U. S. Chess Federation officially recognizes the following principles regarding the World Championship of Chess:
- 1.* The title of World Champion is a symbol of the recognition given by the chessplayers of the world to the most skilled chess competitor at any point in time. As such it cannot logically be an object of property subject to ownership.
- 2.* It follows from point one that the title of World Champion, to be valid, must be conferred by an organization representing the world's chessplayers. The Championship must be awarded as the result of a system of competition, which is fairly and objectively organized to determine the strongest competitor at that point in time. Such a competition must eliminate, to the extent possible, the effects of luck or other factors irrelevant to skill.
- 3.* The U.S. Chess Federation directs its leadership and its representatives to strive to help create a unified system of competition for the World Championship that is fully consistent with principles one and two. (1998)
- 38. COMMITTEE ACTIONS.** USCF Committees, excepting those appointed by the Delegates, exist to advise and recommend, but may not make any ruling that affects the status of any member without ratification by the Executive Board, Office or Delegates. (1998)
- 39. DELEGATE COMMITTEES.** All newly-created Delegates' Committees must have a statement of purpose defining their function. (1998)
- 40. LMA ANNUAL REPORT.** The LMA Management Committee shall publish an annual report showing the performance of the fund's investments, the investments owned, the investment strategy, and an assessment of investment risks. (1998)
- 41. BASED ON PRIZES.** Effective January 1, 1999, all tournaments without exception advertised in *Chess Life*, Tournament

Life, or elsewhere shall be required to pay at least 50% of any based-on prize advertised if the prize fund is over \$500. Based-on prizes in tournaments with an advertised total prize fund of \$500 or less must be paid in proportion to turnout. Minimum penalty for violation of this rule shall be disqualification from advertising in *Chess Life* for one year. Additional penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the Executive Director. If a tournament is affected by an act of God, then the organizer may appeal to the Executive Board. Exceptions can be made by the USCF President or Executive Director in extreme circumstances. *Chess Life* shall print no display ads for "based-on" tournaments which mention the "based-on" prize fund without indicating that this prize fund is based on entries. (1998) (2002)(2004)

- 42. VOLUNTEER EXPENSES.** A summary of all reimbursements to each member of the Executive Board, International Delegations, and all other volunteers shall be published in the Executive Board Newsletters and on the USCF website. (1990, 1998)
- 43. EXECUTIVE BOARD NEWSLETTER.** The EBN shall include prompt reports of actions taken by the membership, quarterly state-by-state membership statistics, quarterly USCF financial information, financial outlines of national tournaments completed each quarter, notice of major changes in staffing assignments, prompt reports of actions proposed or taken by FIDE that directly affect the USCF or its members, and USCF committee reports when available. A five-year graph charting USCF membership statistics in all categories shall appear annually in the EBN. (1990)
- 44. MEMBERSHIP ACCOUNTING.** 90% of the income from life memberships and 50% from sustaining memberships shall be deposited directly in to the LMA. Services provided to life and sustaining members shall be funded quarterly. (1996, 1999)
- 45. BYLAWS COMMITTEE.** To aid the Delegates and the Executive Board in informed decision making, the Bylaws Committee shall advise the Executive Board and the Delegates concerning both the substance and the wording of proposed bylaws changes. (1987)
- 46. DRUG TESTING.** The Delegates believe that drug testing is unnecessary in chess and urge FIDE to limit testing only to events where it is absolutely essential for qualification into the Olympic Games. (2001)
- 47. CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE (EXECUTIVE BOARD CANDIDATE DISCLOSURE).** Executive Board candidates are asked to disclose if they are employed full time or are a candidate for full-time employment with any organization that is a vendor for the USCF, a competitor to USCF in any area, or has any significant other business interest (including substantial ownership of a business) that could be affected by decisions made by the USCF. Failure to disclose these interests would not disqualify a candidate from running, but could effect the voter's evaluation of the candidate. (2001)
- 48. DELEGATES CALL (REPORT IN DELEGATES CALL).** A report on compliance or noncompliance with the previous year's Delegate Motions will be provided in the Delegates Call each year. (2001)
- 49. DELEGATE ELECTIONS (BALLOTS AND STATE ELECTIONS).** Ballots should indicate that voters may vote for up to as

many persons as there are positions to fill. To minimize ties, State Chapters are encouraged to nominate more persons than there are positions to be filled. Each ballot will specify the number of Delegate positions for each state. (2001)

- 50. COMMITTEES (NO PAY FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS).** Members of USCF Committees shall not be paid for committee work without authorization of the Delegates. They may continue to receive reimbursement for expenses. (2001)
- 51. RATING LISTS (VIA HARD COPY OR ELECTRONIC).** Rating Lists (annual lists and supplements) can be received via hard copy or electronic media at the discretion of the affiliate or subscriber at no additional cost. (2001)
- 52. USCF REGIONS.** Executive Board election results shall once again be tabulated by region, beginning in 2003. There shall be twelve regions, each consisting of the same states that the region included before the discontinuation of regions. (2002)
- 53. FINANCIAL REPORTS ON WEBSITE.** Comprehensive USCF financial reports including at least a balance sheet and statement of all activities will be posted on the USCF website on at least a quarterly basis. (2002)

The United States Federation found its own voice on September 5, 1946, when Volume 1, issue 1 of *Chess Life* was published as a semi-monthly newspaper. In January of 1961, *Chess Life* became a monthly magazine. In 1969, the USCF purchased *Chess Review* from I.A. Horowitz, and from November of that year through December of 1979, the official publication of the USCF was known as *Chess Life & Review*. *Chess Life* once again became the official title starting with the January 1980 issue.

EDITOR	FIRST ISSUE	LAST ISSUE	# of ISSUES
Montgomery Major	September 5, 1946	December 20, 1957	147
Fred Wren	January 5, 1958	December 20, 1960	47
Frank Brady	January 1961	December 1961	11
J.F. Reinhardt	January 1962	May 1966	65
E.B. Edmondson, Bill Goichberg	June 1966	November 1966	6
E.B. Edmondson, Burt Hochberg	December 1966	December 1966	1
Burt Hochberg	January 1967	October 1979	165
Fairfield Hoban	November 1979	January 1982	38
Frank Elley	February 1982	December 1984	34
Larry Parr	January 1985	March 1988	51
Fairfield Hoban	April 1988	April 1988	1
Don Maddox	May 1988	July 1989	14
Boris Baczynskij	August 1989	August 1989	1
Julie Ann Desch	September 1989	October 1990	13
Glenn Petersen	November 1990	October 2000	120
Peter Kurzdorfer	November 2000	August 2003	31
Glenn Petersen	November 2003	December 2003	2
Kalev Pehme	November 2000	Present	6

2002-2004 DELEGATES & ALTERNATE DELEGATES

* Delegate at Large or Additional Alternate Delegates, **Current EB Members. (None of these count toward state allocation.)

ALABAMA D 1/AD 3

Jack Mallory
1. Ken Sloan
2. Bill Melvin
3. Robert Rieves
Frank Camaratta*

ALASKA D 1/AD 1

Eric Bohlen
1. Colin Sells

ARIZONA D 5/AD 15

Myron Lieberman*
Rachel Lieberman*
Robert Tanner
Spencer Lower
Steven Kamp
David Small
Lyle Engle
1. Michael Reading
2. Robby Adamson
3. Lee LaFrese
4. James Todd
5. Will Wharton
6. Laurie Reading
7. Martin Schneider
8. Jon Shacter
9. David Bohm
10. Tom Arn
11. Mark Ginsburg
12. Shirley Cox
13. Gavin Wharton
14. Scott Stevenson
15. Cindy Hawkinson

ARKANSAS D 1/AD 2

Bill Beck
1. Stephen Paulson
2. John Purtle

CALIFORNIA

(NORTH) D 6/AD 21

Tom Dorsch
Hans Poschmann
Frisco Del Rosario
Carolyn Withgitt
Richard Koepcke
Alan Kirshner
1. Elizabeth Shaughnessy
2. Mike Goodall
3. Jim Eade
4. Jennie Frenklakh
5. Eric Schiller
6. Michael Aigner
7. Kris Mac Lennan
8. Ray Orwig
9. Doug Shaker
10. John McCumisky
11. Richard Peterson
12. Alfred Hansen
13. Charles Pigg
14. Fred Leffingwell
15. Thomas Maser
16. Mike Splane
17. Chris Torre
18. Mark Pinto
19. Dennis Wajckus
20. Michael Sallasay
21. Robert Blatt
Frank Elley*

CALIFORNIA

(SOUTH) D 6/AD 20

Joseph Wagner*
Jerome Hanken*
Randy Hough*
Mike Nagaran
Michael Carr
Gerald Blem
Jay Stallings
Dewain Barber
Ron Rezendes Jr.
1. John Surlow
2. John West
3. Alina Markowski
4. Jack Peters
5. Cyrus Lakdawala
6. Joseph Wagner
7. Barbara McCaleb
8. Ben Nethercot
9. Chris Roberts
10. L. Gordon Brook
11. Elliot Landaw
12. Richard Rico

13. Fred Brock
14. Oscar Maldonado
15. David Saponara
16. Michael Jefferys
17. Al Massip
18. V. Charles Rostedt
19. Michael A. Purcell
20. Chuck Ensey

COLORADO D 2/AD 5

Richard Buchanan
Andrew Rea
1. Doris Thackrey
2. Michael Fuchs
3. Dean Brown
4. Mary Nelson
5. Daniel Avery

CONNECTICUT

D 2/AD 6
Richard Bauer
Fred Townsend Jr.
1. Robert Milardo
2. Rich Jackson
3. Fred Townsend III
4. James Celone
5. Robert Musicant
6. Mary Conlon

DELAWARE

Phillip J. Simkin Jr.
1. Leon Tschantre

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (DC)

D 1/AD 1
Ralph Mikell
1. William Barnes

FLORIDA D 5/AD 17

Beatriz Marinello**
Don Schultz**
Arnold Denker*
Harvey Lerman
Robert Persante
Don Mihokovich
Jon Haskel
Peter Dyson
1. Bill Cornwall
2. Charles Hall
3. Arden Dilley
4. Susie Dilley
5. Shane Samole
6. Franc Guadalupe
7. Alex Zelner
8. Mark Ritter
9. Larry Storch
10. Charles Musgrove
11. Gabriel Schwartzman
12. Bruce Fortado
13. Wayne Meyerson
14. John White
15. Joel Channing
16. Lee Reynolds
17. Julia O'Neill
Bob Smith*

GEORGIA D 2/AD 7

Thad Rogers
Rich Bellezza
1. Scott Parker
2. Ted Wieber
3. Steve Schneider
4. Daniel Lucas
5. Renee Lucas
6. Alexis Fairweather
7. Lew Martin

HAWAII D 1/AD 1

(Pending)
1. Frank Alejandro
2. Guy P. Ontal
3. Randy L. Prothero

IOWA D 1/AD 4

Roger Gotschall
1. Steve Young
2. Robert Vance
3. Mark Capron
4. Craig Brophy

IDAHO D 1/AD 1

Bill Mabry
1. Jeffery Roland

ILLINOIS D 7/AD 24

Helen Warren*
Harold Winston*
Kevin Bachler
Tim Just
Jim Warren
Al Losoff
Walter M. Brown
Tom Fineberg
Larry Cohen
1. Garrett Scott
2. Bill Smythe
3. Bill Brock
4. Al Chow
5. Dennis Bourgerie
6. Fred Gruenberg
7. Dmitry Gurevich
8. Roger Birkeland
9. Michael Zacate
10. Todd Barre
11. Howard Cohen
12. Bill Naff
13. Colley Kitson
14. Jim Oberweis
15. Hector Hernandez
16. Ken Marshall
17. Josh Flores
18. Leslie Bale
19. Thomas Knoedler
20. Tom Larson
21. Wayne Clark
22. Marvin Dandridge
23. Blair Machaj
24. Jim Brotsofs
Frank Skoff*

INDIANA D 3/AD 9

David Frey
Gary Fox
Steve Stepe
1. Terry Winchester
2. Roger Blaine
3. Mike Zabawa
4. Tom Harris
5. Jay Carr
6. Wick Deer
7. Joseph Riegsecker
8. John Cole
9. Tom Byers

KANSAS D1/AD4

Ralph Bowman
1. Laurence Coker
2. Ron Pasik
3. Neil Andrews
4. Duane Johnson

KENTUCKY D 2/AD 6

Steve Dillard
Ben Bentrup
1. Wayne Bell
2. Rory Fugate
3. Eric Yussman
4. Stephan Miller
5. James Peden
6. Doug Crafton

LOUISIANA D 1/ AD 4

Richard Crespo
1. Sam Breaux
2. James MacManus
3. Douglas Southon
4. Alfred Carlin

MAINE D 1/AD 2

Marc McPheters
1. George Zimbis
2. Jonathan Drake

MARYLAND D 3/AD 8

Allen Beadle
Larry Kaufman
James Mennella
1. Alan Sherman
2. David Mehler
3. Bernard Davis
4. Leif Karell
5. David Pelletier
6. Denis Strenzwilk
7. Ed Westing
8. Tom McNamara
Robert H. Erkes*

MASSACHUSETTS

D 3/AD 10
Tim Hanke**
Harold Dondis*
Steve Frymer
Gilbert Gosselin
Mark Kaprielian
1. Mark Donlan
2. Michael Gosselin
3. Severine Wamala
4. George Mirjianian
5. Stephen Dann
6. Harvey Reed
7. Joseph Sparks
8. Robert King
9. Peter Lee
10. Robert Oresick

MICHIGAN D 3/AD 11

Fred Lindsey
Jay Carr
Tosh Imai
1. Bill Calton
2. Ed Mandell
3. Paul Grams
4. Bob Ciffano
5. Jennifer Skidmore
6. Peter Nixon
7. Tim Sawmiller
8. Paul Kane
9. Gary Kitts
10. Tony West
11. Bradley Rogers

MINNESOTA D2/AD 5

Phil Smith
David Kuhns
1. Ed Conway
2. Bert Wilson
3. Don Aldrich
4. Dan Vojte
5. Roger Redmond

MISSOURI D 2/AD 5

David Cole
William H. Wright
1. James Ellis
2. Randy Merrell
3. Selden Trimble
4. Charles Ward
5. Ronald Luther

MISSISSIPPI D 1/AD 1

Dr. Michael LeBlanc
1. David Newell

MONTANA D1/AD 0

Melvin Drake

NEBRASKA D 1/AD 2

Mike Nolan
1. Ken Kiewra
2. Tom O'Connor

NEVADA D 1/AD 4

Daniel Conner
1. Norman Harvey
2. Charles Hatherill
3. Jerry Weikel
4. John Trivett

NEW HAMPSHIRE

D 1/AD 2
Henry Terrie
1. John Elmore
2. Lynn Friedel

NEW JERSEY

D 5/AD 15
Anthony Cottell*
Glenn Petersen*
Roger Inglis
Herman Drenth
Mike Somers
Harrison Coleman
Joe Ippolito
1. Ron Groseoble
2. George Krauss
3. Leo Dubler III
4. Bill Coburn
5. Todd Lunna
6. Rich Costigan
7. Stan Rosanoff
8. Bob Donaldson
9. Bill Cohen

NEW MEXICO

D 1/AD 3
Jeffery Burch
1. Arthur Glassman
2. Dale Gibbs
3. Susan Koenigh

NEW YORK – DOWNSTATE

D 7/AD 26
Frank Brady**
Joel Benjamin
Robert Byrne
Steve Immit
Harold Stenzel
Phyllis Benjamin
Polly Wright
Bruce Pandolfini
1. Sophia Rohde
2. Sunil Weeramantry
3. Carol Jarecki
4. Carrie Goldstein
5. Ed Frumpkin
6. John MacArthur
7. Joe Felber
8. Fred Wilson
9. Dorothy Teasley
10. Joel Salman
11. Leonard Chipkin
12. Larry Tamarkin
13. William Arluck
14. Howard Prince
15. Ron Young
16. Tim Mirabile
17. Martin Merado
18. Mark Kurtzman
19. Sherman Boim
20. Kevin Coyle
21. Dave Spigel
22. Bob Moran
23. Robert Rizzo
24. Jeremy Graham
25. John Fernandez
Burt Hochberg*
Gary Sperling*

NEW YORK – UPSTATE

D 4/AD 12
Albert J. Lawrence*
Gerard Dullea*
Ron Lohrman
Arthur Bisguier
Walter Buehl
Karl Heck
1. Larry King
2. Ken McBride
3. Brenda Goichberg
4. Bob Nasiff
5. Dave Blaisdell
6. Bruce Steffek
7. Alan Kantor
8. Alan LeCours
9. Bill Townsend
10. Keith Bergerstock
11. Carl Adamec
12. Dana Belcher

NORTH CAROLINA

D 2/AD 8
Kevin Hyde
Robert Singletary
1. Pat Hoekstra
2. Jill Bambara
3. Leland Fuerstman
4. Neal Harris
5. Wilder Wadford
6. John Thomas
7. F. Eugene Davenport
8. Charles Palmer

NORTH DAKOTA

D1/AD 1
Mike Sailer
1. Cliff Berger

OHIO D 4/AD 14

Grant Perks
Joe Yun
Jim Pechac
Donald Randolph
1. William B. Wright
2. Thomas Green
3. Paul Gardner
4. Riley Dan Driver
5. Wuyanbu Zutali
6. Earle Wikle
7. Michael Steve
8. Steve Charles
9. Mike Anders
10. Jeff Ross
11. Larry Alexander
12. Fred Schwan
13. Cunejd Tolek
14. D. David Cutler

OKLAHOMA D 1/AD 3

Frank Berry
1. Byron Sidlinger
2. James E. Berry
3. John M. Acken

OREGON D 1/ AD 4

Carl Haessler
1. Mark Clairborne
2. Paul Shannon
3. Peter Prochaska
4. Wray Maxwell

PENNSYLVANIA

D 5/AD 16
Steve Shutt**
Ira Lee Riddle
Dan Heisman
Eric C. Johnson
Tom Martinak
Alex Dunne
1. Tom Mager
2. Bob Ferguson
3. Stanislav Kriventsov
4. Ed Formanek
5. Norman Rogers
6. Stan Booz
7. Delbert Tyler
8. Greg Vaserstein
9. Michael Cox
10. Robert Ross
11. Michael Schneider
12. Ed McKenney
13. Bob Dudley
14. Larry Pugh
15. Keith Kuhn
16. Steve McLaughlin

RHODE ISLAND

D 1/AD 1
Don Colbert
1. Paul Taylor

SOUTH CAROLINA

D 1/AD 3
Mike Spohn
1. Henry White
2. Bill Willard
3. Doug Florian

SOUTH DAKOTA

D 1/AD 3
Dave Knudson
1. Terry Likens
2. Mark Gerdes
3. Curtis Carroll

TENNESSEE D 2/AD 7

Harry Sabine*
Bill Orgain
Mark Ishee
1. Leonard Dickerson
2. Brad Watson
3. Kent Meadows
4. Peter Berelos
5. Jeff Penning
6. Angela McElrath-Prosser
7. Joseph Crump

TEXAS D 9/AD 29

Tim Redman*
Selby Anderson
Luis Salinas

Katie Stone

Bill Sneed
Catherine Calloway
Enrique Rios
Brenda Hardesty
George John
Greg Wren
1. Alexey Root
2. Gary Gaiffe
3. James Liptrap
4. Betty Dingus
5. Sonny Kamberi
6. Sharon Pernes
7. Jose Juan Guajardo
8. Forrest Marler
9. Frank Roberts
10. Andrew Whatley
11. Susan Strahan
12. Drev Sarkisian
13. Gary Simms
14. Manuel Espino
15. John DeVries
16. Wayne Sampson
17. Bryan Smith
18. Kenneth Henkelman
19. Mario Leal
20. Bob Jame
21. James Bradford
22. Clemente Rendon
23. W. D. Dan Veatch
24. Mac Novosod
25. Bruce Donohoe
26. Byron Way
27. William Tompkins
28. John Farnocchia
29. Andrew Thall

UTAH D 1/AD 2

John Minnoch
1. John Coffey
2. Grant Hodson

VERMONT D 1/AD 1

1. Jonathan Winer
2. David Carter

VIRGINIA D 3/AD 11

Woodrow Harris*
Helen Hinshaw
Mike Atkins
Ernie Schlich
1. Allen Hinshaw
2. Mark Johnson
3. John Campbell
4. Macon Shibus
5. Peter Hipkin
6. Mike Cornell
7. Ted Watkins
8. Catherine Clark
9. Joseph Wheelhouse
10. Mickey Owens
11. Merv Clark

WASHINGTON

D 2/AD 8
Fred Kleist
Russell Miller
1. Duane Polich
2. Eric Tangborn
3. Murlin Varner
4. William Schier
5. Kevin Korsmo
6. Robert Karch
7. Paul Bartron
8. Paul Zurybida

WEST VIRGINIA

D 1/AD 2
Jim Meyer
John E. Homer
(1) vacancy

WISCONSIN D 2/AD 5

Mike Nietman
Guy Hoffman
1. Andrew Becker
2. Dave Granik
3. Kelly Borman
4. Peter Webster
5. Herman Presswood

WYOMING D 1/AD 0

Allan Cunningham

USCF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

- * **Audit Committee:** Stan Booz, 2690 Fawn Lane, Warrington, PA 18976, stanbooz@comcast.net
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 - * **Rules Committee:** David Kuhns, 12 E. Golden Lake Road, Circle Pines, MN 55014, e4e5@direcway.com
 - * **Scholastic Council/Committee:** Ralph Bowman, 215 S. Webster St., Erie, KS 66733, rebowman@terraworld.net; Sunil Weeramantry, PO Box 1628, White Plains, NY 10602, pawntunes@aol.com
 - * **Senior Committee:** Mike Carr, 25601 Chrisanta Drive, Mission Viejo, CA 92691, mrcarr@pacbell.net
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 - * **Tournament Director Certification Committee:** Tim Just, 37165 Willow Lane, Gurnee, IL 60031, timjust@ind.com
 - * **Website Committee:** George John, PO Box 710750, Houston, TX 77271, george@neosoft.com
 - * **Women's Chess Committee:** Susan Polgar, Polgar Chess, Inc., 97-09 64th Road, Rego Park, NY 11374, SusanPolgar@aol.com
- * USCF REPRESENTATIVES TO FIDE:**
- * **FIDE Vice President:** E. Steven Doyle, 17 Stonehenge Road, Morristown, NJ 07960
 - * **Delegate:** Bill Kelleher, 20 Melendy Ave., Watertown, MA 02472
 - * **Zonal President:** Robert Tanner, 1722 East Diamond Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204
- * HOW TO STAY IN TOUCH** USCF members are part of a nationwide network. To find other chess players in your area, send us a stamped, self-addressed envelope and request any of these special lists:
- * STATE ORGANIZATIONS:** Contacting your state organization is the best way to find chess competition in your area. Many states have active organizations sponsoring official championships and publish newsletters and magazines for members.
- * CHESS MAGAZINES:** Everything from local club newsletters to general-interest magazines regularly published in the United States. **CHESS CLUBS:** The addresses of chess clubs in your area.
- * TOURNAMENT CLEARINGHOUSES:** If you organize tournaments, you should check your tournament dates with the clearinghouse in your area. This list is in every USCF Rating List sent to all of USCF's affiliated clubs.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

submitted by Harold J. Winston, Co-Chair

The Bylaws Committee is charged by the Delegates with reporting on both the substance and form of proposed Bylaws changes. (DM 87-21) Ernie Schlich (VA) and I serve as co-chairs. I thank Ernie for all his work this year, including revising the Bylaws to incorporate changes made at the 2003 Delegates meetings.

This year the Delegates referred four items to our committee: two concern elections and two concern dues. First, DM 03-16 proposes that the Executive Board set the ballot count date for regular Executive Board elections by January 15 of each election year, and calls for the Board to set the date of special elections at least 90 days in advance. Our committee favors this by a vote of 10 yes, 0 no, and 3 abstentions. We believe it is useful to have the vote count date known in advance. A sub-issue that may need discussion at the workshop involves what the range of dates should be for counting in a regular election.

The second election item involves DM 03-34 concerning Electronic Voting, authorizing the Executive Board to implement electronic voting via the internet but also allowing mail ballots for members "who cannot or choose not to use electronic voting." Here, our committee split: 4 yes, 4 no, 3 abstentions, 2 in favor of deferring to Election Procedures and Management Information Systems. Some committee members believe this is not yet the time for electronic voting as there are security issues which first need to be addressed. Some committee members first want a clear procedure or method for electronic voting in place.

The two dues proposals referred each involve eliminating a membership category:

Economy Adult Memberships (DM 03-29) and/or Family Memberships (DM 03-37) In both cases the proposals were also referred to the Finance Committee. Also for both proposals our committee is divided with a group preferring to defer to the Finance Committee on substance.

The Bylaws Committee was slightly in favor of eliminating Economy Adult Memberships:

3 yes, 1 no, 3 abstentions, 4 in favor of deferring to Finance, and 1 opposing but voting to defer to Finance. Those favoring the proposal believe there is a low renewal rate in this category and that adult members should receive our magazine. The vote on eliminating Family Memberships

was 3 yes, 3 no, 3 abstain, 2 defer to Finance, 2 in favor but voting to defer to Finance. Several committee members defended Family Memberships because one person in the household receives the magazine.

Co-chair Ernie Schlich and I also responded to various inquiries from the USCF Executive Board and from USCF members.

Our committee will try to review any new Delegate Bylaws proposals for the 2004 Delegates agenda. Please join us at the Bylaws Workshop on Friday morning August 13, 2004, at the Wyndham Bonaventure Hotel in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. To contact the committee, please email the co-chairs: eschlich@aol.com and HJWinston@aol.com.

I thank Ernie and all our other committee memberships for their participation: Mike Nolan (NE), Myron Lieberman (AZ), Guy Hoffman (WI), Steve Doyle (NJ), Randy Hough (SCA), Gary Kitts (MI), Richard Koepcke (NCA), David Mehler (DC), Robert Persante (FL), and Al Losoff (NV). Bill Goichberg (NY) was also elected to this committee by the Delegates but since becoming Executive Director Bill has asked to be a non-voting committee member. The Bylaws Committee mourns the passing of former committee member (and former USCF President) Denis Barry of Arizona and New Jersey.

CHESS-IN-EDUCATION COMMITTEE

submitted by Tim Redman, Co-Chair

Since the committee is made up largely of educators, it usually doesn't go

into action until summer. This year Co-Chair Cindy Hawkinson is collecting methods for teaching chess that will be posted on the USCF website as a resource for all teachers. I have asked the Vice-Chair, Javier Pinedo, to work on organizing another workshop on chess in school for an upcoming U.S. Open. My own activities have been focused on chess and education in Dallas and editing the book of selected papers from the Koltanowski Conference. I have also begun a conversation with the education director of America's Foundation for Chess about a curriculum exchange and another conference.

Chess can be pursued recreationally, competitively, or developmentally. Chess in Education focuses on the latter use of chess, using chess as a tool to develop mental infrastructure for the 21st century. Many nations are pursuing this use for chess; the United States, despite outstanding programs such as New York's Chess in the Schools, is not in the lead in this area. So much more remains to be accomplished.

COLLEGE CHESS COMMITTEE

submitted by Tim Redman, Co-Chair

The major change to college chess competition in the last year came with the Executive Board's adoption of the new College Chess Eligibility Requirements. They went into effect as of January 1, 2004. They can be found in Appendix B of the Executive Board Newsletter Number 1-3 for 2003/2004, on page 26. The new requirements were drawn up by an ad hoc committee appointed by the McCrary Board in August 2002, and they were extensively reviewed by the College Chess Committee.

The rules are meant to prevent older grandmasters, international masters, and perpetual students from playing on college teams. Unfortunately, a fairly serious problem occurred before their adoption when a grandmaster in his thirties played for the winning "Final Four" team and then left the university without even finishing the semester. The new rules state that GMs and IMs are eligible to play for college and university teams only if they are less than 26 years old as of September 1 in the academic year in which they play. Players may also only compete in college competitions for a total of six years.

College chess continues to draw important media attention to chess. Articles over the past four years, since the development of the President's Cup - the "Final Four" of college chess - in Spring of 2001. Literally hundreds of articles have appeared in newspapers nationwide about that event, and college chess is starting to be covered in the sports pages of a few leading newspapers. An article highlighting the new developments in college chess was published recently on the front page of the Chicago Tribune.

Regrettably, the USCF was unable to sponsor that important event this Spring. Only due to the heroic efforts of Dr. Mikhail Korenman was the event saved.

The development of college chess is one key to keeping student members and having them continue into their adult years. It is imperative that the USCF budget at least \$10,000 on college chess each year to keep up this momentum. Of that amount \$1,000 should go, as per contract, to the organizer of the Pan American Intercollegiate Chess Team Championship for advance publicity, and the rest should go towards organizing the President's Cup. The media coverage alone justifies this expenditure.

The University of Texas at Dallas took first place in the 2003 Pan American held in Miami last December while the University of Maryland Baltimore Country took first in the "Final Four" held in Kansas in Spring. Thus that old rivalry continues. However, there are some promising new college chess programs coming into prominence including one at St. John's University in New York and another at Miami Dade College. Only when there are a dozen schools fielding teams that could finish first in one of those national events will we be able to say that college chess is a success.

A promising new event was held for the first time in Chicago last December: the Individual College Chess Championship was held in con-

junction with the National K-12. This event should continue. The forthcoming Pan American will be held in Wichita, Kansas next December. There is some talk, however, of making Miami the tournament's permanent home and gaining for it FIDE recognition.

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS COMMITTEE

submitted by Harold Stenzel, Chair

The committee had no work this year. There was one untimely appeal to the committee of a decision made by the office last year. Alex Dunne has offered to take over some of the duties in correspondence chess currently performed by the office.

CRAMER AWARD COMMITTEE

submitted by Pete Tamburro, Chair

The Cramer Committee will have met in June to consider the winners for its awards. It continues to work cooperatively with the Chess Journalists of America. We are still relying on private donations to fund the awards

DENKER TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

submitted by Jack C. Mallory, Chair

Players, including three masters and 11 experts, represented 38 states in the 15th Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions. Competition was keen. (See TD Stephan Gerzadowicz's report on page 22 of the January 2004 issue of *Chess Life*.)

The pre-tournament reception, sponsored by Dewain Barber, was special in that GM Arnold Denker attended and presented Denker Medallions to the players. GMs Arthur Bisguier and Susan Polgar also participated in the ceremony.

The University of Texas at Dallas continued its practice of presenting a full, four year scholarship, valued at \$40,000, to the winner.

The Denker Committee changed the time control for 2004 to Game in 180 minutes.

ELECTION PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

Mike Nolan, Co-Chairs

A presentation on the 2004 election will be made as part of the certification of election results. The proposal to authorize electronic voting (ADM 03-29) will be discussed in the Bylaws Workshop.

Electronic voting is a rapidly evolving field and one where numerous safeguards would be necessary, many of which cannot be anticipated this far in advance or until some of the technical details are selected, so implementation details would be left up to the Executive Board, presumably with assistance from the Election Procedures Committee.

ETHICS COMMITTEE

submitted by Hal Terrie, Chair

The Ethics Committee had a busy year, handling about a dozen cases. A backlog of cases, which had developed, has been cleared and there is currently only one active case.

At last year's Delegates Meeting, a number of motions relating to the Code of Ethics were withdrawn for further study. The Committee has reviewed and revised them and offers them on this year's agenda. Most are just technical corrections but two are substantive.

The first of these would give jurisdiction over complaints against USCF employees who were acting in the performance of their duties, to the Executive Board instead of the Ethics Committee. The Committee would retain jurisdiction over employees when they were not acting within the scope of their duties, for example when they play in or organize tournaments.

The second would implement a \$25 fee for Ethics complaints, as is the case for Rules complaints. The Committee hopes that this will deter some frivolous complaints and will also help defray some of the costs to the office for duplicating and mailing, which are much more extensive than in Rules cases.

The Committee urges your support for these motions.

-- Hal Terrie, USCF Ethics Committee Chair

HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE

submitted by John Donaldson, Chair

The Hall of Fame Committee is honored to announce that Grandmasters Anatoly Lein and Leonid Shamkovich will be inducted into the USCF Hall of Fame this August. Lein and Shamkovich, who were born in the Soviet Union, settled in the United States in 1976. The past three decades they have had a significant impact on American chess as players, authors and teachers.

MILITARY CHESS COMMITTEE

submitted by Major David Hater

The main priority for the Military Chess Committee is the same as past years: organizing the Armed Forces Open Championship. A secondary mission is support of the Department of Defense (DoD) sponsored Service Championships, Inter-Service Championship, and NATO Championship.

In 2003, the Marines hosted the Armed Forces Open. Staff Sergeant (retired) John Farrell organized the tournament at Henderson Hall Marine Base in Washington DC. The tournament was a remarkable success and was won by Captain (retired) Paul Waldowski. The only challenge for tournament director Petty Officer First Class (retired) Ernie Schlich was when the electricity for the base went out for over 24 hours. Unfortunately, this also resulted in a player having to be "rescued" from an elevator!

In 2004, plans are well under way for the Navy to host the tournament at the US Naval Academy at Annapolis MD. Committee member Captain Tom Belke has done an outstanding job in laying the groundwork for a successful tournament. Some corporate sponsorship has been lined up, numerous VIPs from DoD and the chess world have been invited, and a GM lecture/simul is planned as a side event. We expect increased participation to result from the publicity which now includes letters to numerous ROTC programs in the country.

The Committee does not have any official involvement with the DoD sponsored Invitational Chess Championships. However, we support the tournaments by publicizing the events through word of mouth, articles in *Chess Life*, and other means. This year the Army held its usual 12 player round-robin service championship which was won by Specialist Mustapha Kahlouch. The Air Force held a seventeen player 9 round Swiss Invitational Championship which was won by Staff Sergeant Robert Keough. The Navy and Marine Corps select their players from among those that apply.

The Inter-Service Championship will be hosted by the Air Force at Keesler Air Force Base from 20-25 June. The United States will then select a joint service team to travel to the Netherlands for the NATO Championship from 8-13 August.

A tremendous success story is the use of the internet to promote military chess. Committee member Master Sergeant Stephen Rollins runs a website and message board located at <http://games.groups.yahoo.com/group/militarychess/>. Petty Officer (retired) Ernie Schlich also has a website where military chess information is posted. It is located at <http://home.earthlink.net/~eschlich/>.

A future goal of the military chess committee is increasing the number of military members who donate to the US Chess Trust via the Combined Federal Campaign. We are somewhat hampered in promoting this because there is no "official" database of military chessplayers who are USCF members. Many of us have our own databases, but they are only as good as the information received from volunteers.

Two items of support the Committee needs from USCF are: support for

the Armed Forces Open, and identifying USCF members in the military. I am happy to report that we do receive prize support for the Armed Forces Open from USCF. We usually receive discontinued/marked down books from the USCF bookstore. Support for the second initiative is dependent on an upgrade in computer capabilities at the business office. We understand this and look forward to the day when this is an option.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

submitted by Myron Lieberman, Chair

ARTICLES AND MEDIA COVERAGE

Please check Google News regularly for coverage of chess, including USCF press releases.

There has been very good media coverage of the value of chess to society, chess in schools, chess against computers, and many other aspects of chess. The ESPN coverage of the Kasparov - Computer battles has proven to mainstream media that chess coverage can get good ratings and chess can be enjoyed by the public if properly presented.

Examples of recent articles that might help with future presentations are:
11/24/2003 - Syndicated Column - "Man vs. Machine" by Charles Krauthammer

12/12/2003 - Associated Press - "Chess Club Gets \$50,000"

01/2004 - Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School - "The Chess and Mathematics Connection: More Than Just a Game" by Robert M. Berkman

01/18/2004 - Boston Globe "Learning How to Think - Piece by Piece" by Clare Kittingred

03/15/2004 - Seattle Times "Got Game? Foundation Promotes Chess as Classroom Learning Tool." By Sanjay Bhatt

05/20/2004 - East Valley Tribune "Smart Moves" by Carrie White

Please remember to notify local media whenever you, a friend, or a family member plans to participate in a national tournament or wins any significant tournament or title. It can result in coverage of the event as well as the people.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TERCENTENARY

John McCrary has been working with the Franklin Tercentenary Commission to provide a historical perspective of Franklin and chess for their site. An exchange of links is being explored.

The Friends of Franklin, working with other organizations, will hold a special chess festival in late 2005 or early 2006. It will probably take place in Philadelphia. Anyone willing to volunteer to help with that event (especially masters willing to donate their time for simulms or other activities) should please contact me at azchess@cox.net. Friends of Franklin will help sound out other Franklin organizations regarding a chess stamp in honor of Franklin.

FUNDRAISING

Anyone looking for government grants should check out www.grants.org. It is a simplified and improved government site to locate what might be available, the requirements for each grant, and application forms for many.

Rachel Lieberman is continuing to seek sponsorship and donations from corporations and foundations.

G-CAPP

Paul Truong is writing a comprehensive training program for Jane Fonda's G-CAPP target schools and will expand its availability through inclusion in an upcoming book by Susan Polgar. G-CAPP will receive copies of the book as well. Susan Polgar has made free online chess training available to G-CAPP's schools as well.

PROMOTION

The World Peace Festival took place in the Newburgh, NY, area in September of 2003. Over 20,000 people were there. Paul Truong, Susan Polgar, Frank Niro, and Jami Anson brought chess to their attention.

Jami Anson is currently promoting chess through her work with the

Sidney Samole Museum and World Chess Hall of Fame. Frank Niro is currently promoting chess through his work with the Polgar Foundation. Thanks.

Orrin Hudson, who previously worked with G-CAPP, has continued to promote chess with his "Be Someone" organization. He has been featured on CNN and his book "One Move at a Time - How to Win at Chess and Life" is nearing release. The recognition that he has received included the 2004 Martin Luther King Award for Community Service, the 2004 TBS Superstition Pathfinders Award for Education, and the 2004 Beacon of Hope Award for Volunteering. These awards and the work of Orrin Hudson and others help bring the values of chess to the attention of the media and the general public.

Don Imus is continuing to make chess visible in his radio and TV program.

Rachel Lieberman is continuing to provide materials and support for those who want to start chess clubs, make presentations for special programs or other projects that are designed to expand the public awareness of chess and availability of chess. She can be reached at queencapa@cox.net.

Fernando Moreno will discuss his book "Teaching Life Skills Through Chess" and the basic concept in an education panel at the Game Manufacturers' Association (GAMA) convention in June. Susan Polgar will also be at the convention and will promote chess and the USCF.

Susan Polgar represented chess, the Polgar Foundation, and the USCF at the first annual "Xentopia", sponsored by Worldasia and held in Hawaii. Xentopia is a multicultural event that features celebrities in a number of fields. Forty Thousand people attended and Worldasia broadcast the event.

Arnold Schwarzenegger is still an activist for the "After School All Stars" program, which includes chess. He continues to be a good friend of chess.

Thanks to committee members Daren Dillinger, Rachel Lieberman, John McCrary, Fernando Moreno, Susan Polgar, Paul Truong and everyone else that helped for their work toward chess outreach this year.

Thanks also to Maurice Ashley, Barbara DeMaro, Yasser Seirawan, X3D, and all others who helped make the ESPN coverage of the Kasparov - Computer match a success.

SUSAN POLGAR COMMITTEE

submitted by FM Paul Truong, Chair

This is the first year of existence for the Polgar Committee. The Polgar Committee currently consists of 4 members: Susan Polgar, Dewain Barber, Ralph Bowman and me. Our first item on the agenda was to put together the rules and regulations for the Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls. With the assistance of Mr. Jack Mallory, chairperson of the Denker committee, our first set of rules were created.

Even though there are a lot of similarities between the two events, there are a few distinct differences between the Polgar event and the Denker event.

- A. The Polgar tournament is opened for girls under the age of 19 as of September 1 of the year in which the tournament is held and **NOT** just for high school champions.
- B. The prize fund, sponsored by the Susan Polgar Foundation is \$1,250 divided into four scholarship prizes: 1st \$500, 2nd \$300, 3rd \$250, 4th \$200.
- C. The time control is **Game/120 minutes**.
- D. The Chairman of the Polgar Committee and its members may elect to award up to 2 wild cards each year for the Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls based on very special circumstances and in its sole discretion.

It is the goal of the Polgar Committee to have all 50 states (2 for California), the District of Columbia, and the Territories of the United States represented. We would like to motivate many more young ladies to play chess.

We are very pleased to receive so much support and encouragement from countless parents, coaches, and many young players themselves. Chess is a beautiful game and we hope that this prestigious tournament will help encourage more young female players to stay with the game.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

submitted by Herman Chin, Chair

Many changes have taken place in the Publications Committee since our annual report in Los Angeles. The most important is that we appointed a vice chair (Randy Hough) and made the committee chair a rotating position, with the vice chair to take over every fourth year. Thus, I served as chair from the 2001 U.S. Open, and Randy will serve as chair from the 2004 U.S. Open until the 2007 U.S. Open. In the future the vice chair will be elected from among the committee members.

These steps will ensure that we can continue to offer the Executive Board fresh ideas and that no single chair serves so long that the position becomes a fiefdom.

Also, in March we appointed three junior members to the committee, each to serve for one year. We made this move because about 60 percent of the federation's members now are under 21, but all of the committee's members are eligible to join the American Association of Retired Persons. We need input from juniors to find out what they like and don't like about *Chess Life*, what they find useful and useless, and what they want added that is not offered now. That will help retain interest in the USCF, and more importantly, members, since retention of junior members has been a major problem.

We also accepted with regret the resignation of Dr. Ira Lee Riddle from the committee. Dr. Riddle has long served the committee and the USCF with distinction and dedication, and we will miss his talent, his knowledge and his hard work.

As for *Chess Life*, we noticed a number of marked improvements following the appointment of a new editor. Probably the most important is that the magazine now reaches members earlier than anyone on the committee can remember. This means tournament life announcements and advertisements, many of which were outdated by the time they were seen, will once again be useful. In addition, the magazine appears to be better planned than during the past three years. Photographs, articles and sidebars appear to be well-coordinated now, along with ads.

We do still have a number of concerns. The major one is that we think it remains more important than ever that the board take steps to ensure that editorial control remains with the editor, that his powers are not usurped by non-editors, and that he be insulated from chess politics and not beholden to any person or faction. There are a number of ways to do this, but we suggest that the editor's duties be put in his job description.

Another major problem that has recently been introduced is that all of the columns have now been buried at the end of the magazine, and all of the articles placed at the front. Although this might be good practice in newspapers, which often place all columns in one section, it is contrary to magazine design theory. That's because separating the articles and columns in such a way will cause many parts of a magazine to remain unread. Many readers will skip to their favorite column and not even look at the news and features. Or those who don't read the columns might never look at the back. Such situations might not appeal to advertisers.

Better ways might be: 1) to start out with a strong feature, then a column, and then save a strong feature or column for the middle and end, so every section will have appeal; or 2) to use the columns to sandwich the strongest feature.

Other changes could further improve *Chess Life*. One is that our junior members are unanimous in pointing out that even the instructional columns by Lev Alburt and Bruce Pandolfini are too complicated for members under 1200. They suggest incorporating a regular column written by a scholastic coach. If so, we suggest someone such as Sunil Weeramany for this. In addition, they seem to think it's counterproductive to send every other issue of the magazine to scholastic members because those members will lose interest. We also agree. We suggest the USCF begin sending scholastic members *Chess Life* every month. Students have many other activities available, and if chess can't hold their attention they'll play tennis or soccer or join the drama club.

Also, we still think it's absolutely imperative to have an editor on-site because some editing is still being done by non-chessplayers. Although having an off-site editor seems to be working out better than before, the arrangement is still resulting in ridiculous mistakes. In the Winter 2004 issue, for example, the opening of a game from the King's Island Open was designated "Ruy Lopez Defense." We would guess that this was put in by a non-chessplayer or clerk for purposes of consistency since other openings were named the "Sicilian Defense" and "Caro-Kann Defense." However, even a beginner would have known that "Ruy Lopez" was the name of a person and an opening for white. It is not a defense. An editor on site would have prevented this embarrassing error.

Most of the magazine seems to be more closely edited now, but there have been some major, noticeable exceptions. Some articles (the Corus report and the queen-development piece in the June issue) were verbose and repetitious, and should have been cut to half their length. The space saved could have been used for other material. Two other articles by well-known grandmasters recently appeared in the magazine in broken or poor English, and appeared to be lightly or not-at-all edited. The committee members were concerned about these articles and urge the editor to continue applying the same sharp pen to all copy, whether written by grandmasters or 1500 players.

Further, as we mentioned in our semi-annual report, *Chess Life* could benefit from more consistency in style. We suggest it adopt the Associated Press Stylebook as its principal stylebook and standardize use of chess terms. In copy on various pages of the Winter 2004 issue the days of a November 2003 tournament were variably referred to as "November 14 through 16" and "November 14-16," and the title awarded to the game's highest-ranked players, when used as a stand-alone in copy, was variably called "GM," "grandmaster," and "Grandmaster."

We suggest using AP style for all dates. Thus, the date of the King's Island Open should have been written "Nov. 14-16." Also, we suggest using "grandmaster," "international master" etc. when those titles stand alone in copy, and "GM" and "IM" only before a name. It's unnecessary to use the title on second reference. It would be repetitive and kowtowing, for example, to write "GM Shabalov" each time he is referred to.

Other constant style errors we noticed involved use of "United States" and the designation of the two sides of the board. When a noun, the name of our country should be written "United States;" when an adjective, "U.S." The two sides of the board should be written "kingside" and "queenside" (both one word), according to the AP stylebook.

Subject-pronoun agreement, especially when a compound singular is present, also continues to be incorrectly used. In general, a singular verb or pronoun should be used with a singular subject/noun. But when a collective singular (a subject/noun that denotes a unit) is present, a singular verb or pronoun is called for. Thus, it would be correct to write, "The team won its first trophy," and "The group sponsored its first tournament."

When members of a group are identified, a plural pronoun is called for. For example, "The team members won their first team trophy," and "The group members sponsored their first tournament." A common mistake has been to use a plural pronoun for a singular subject such as "The hotel set their lowest rates in years," or "The company sponsored their first tournament." These are incorrect.

Attention to all of these points would improve *Chess Life* even more than it has improved since last August. We hope that, along with the input from the junior members on our committee can help it become even better.

Sincerely,

Herman Chiu (Chair), Randy Hough, (Vice Chair), Jerry Hanken, Harvey Lerman, Ira Lee Riddle, Matthew Cyr (Junior), Ryan Ko (Junior), Ben Marmont (Junior)

RATINGS COMMITTEE

submitted by Mark E. Glickman, Chair

This was a relatively quiet year for the Ratings Committee (RC). With no

charged tasks, we encountered two issues that were discussed among committee members during the year. These are described below. A part from these issues, the committee chair has been in contact with the USCF office about the USCF system upgrade to make sure the transition of the rating system is carried out seamlessly. The RC will make sure that this transition would include the ability to have the rating system monitored according to the approach the RC has been working on over the past several years.

The first main issue we encountered was the news that the USCF had made the decision to allow events with Game/5 time controls to be rated under the Quick Chess system, which prior to 2004 included time controls as quick as Game/10. Unfortunately, this decision was made without consultation of the committee. It is arguable that games with Game/5 time controls require a type of skill not necessary for longer time controls, so that the Quick Chess rating system as it stands may not be appropriate. In discussing the issue among RC members, two approaches to addressing the problem arose.

One method is to implement an entirely new rating system that would be specific for blitz chess. The second method is to use Quick Chess ratings, but in updating ratings from blitz chess events, the rating change would be a fraction (e.g., 1/2 or 1/4) of the normal rating change. This is an example of the so-called "fractional-K" method. We conveyed to the RC liaison to the Executive Board these possible approaches, and to discuss these possibilities at the January 2004 EB meeting. Based on recent communications, we anticipate revisiting this issue in the coming months.

The second issue we addressed was in response to an announcement that select FIDE events would be USCF-rated for players who had USCF ratings, and that the method was to add 50 rating points to FIDE ratings in calculating rating updates. In response, we pointed out that the RC devised a method 10 years ago which was in place in 1994 to update USCF ratings from FIDE events. We advised that the USCF office continue to use this procedure.

SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE

submitted by Ralph Bowman, Co-Chair

Every four years there will be a SuperNationals tournament, where the National Elementary, Junior High/Middle School, and High School tournaments are combined under one roof. The first was in 1997 in Knoxville, the second was in 2001 in Kansas City, and the third will be in 2005 in Nashville.

The statistics for the three years in between these special tournaments show some trends. Each year there can be differences in the numbers for a specific tournament based on the change in location around the country. However, when looking at the numbers for all three Spring National Tournaments combined there have been increases each year over the previous one for almost two decades. Now that trend is changing. In 2002 there were 5,030 players in attendance at the three Spring Nationals, in 2003 that number dropped 2% to 4,942, and in 2004 that number plummeted an additional 9% to 4,478. Why? Some blame the national economy, some blame date conflicts, there are a myriad of reasons but no one reason we can easily put our finger on.

Now let us look at the profits that the Spring National Scholastic Tournaments have earned for USCF during those same three years. In 2002 USCF earned \$86,087 from the three Spring Nationals. In 2003 that amount declined 12% to \$75,964. However, in 2004 despite a 9% reduction in attendance the profits increased 28% to \$105,023 due to the tremendous efforts of USCF Events Director Diane Reese.

We believe that without the efforts and hard work of Diane Reese, the welfare of Scholastic Chess and perhaps USCF in general would be greatly diminished. We wish to sincerely thank her for her efforts in behalf of Scholastic Chess.

The Scholastic Committee has adopted a zero tolerance policy against all forms of cheating in the National Scholastic Tournaments and we are working diligently in maintaining the integrity of this great game.

The Scholastic Committee believes that if USCF were to advertise the Economy Scholastic Membership, it would help to reverse the decline in attendance at these tournaments and would in turn increase profits even more.

With regard to regular scholastic memberships, the Scholastic Committee applauds the recent Board resolution to add an eight page insert featuring content suitable for 10 year olds and younger in every other issue of *Chess Life*.

Finally, in order to provide our young players with more opportunities for international competition, the Scholastic Committee recommended relaxing the qualification rules for the World Youth Festival. These recommendations were adopted by the Board at its May meeting. Players may now qualify under any one of the following criteria: (1) be placed in the top three rated players by peak post-tournament rating in the April supplement; or (2) be placed within 50 rating points or less from the third qualifying spot; or (3) have earned a personal right to compete, as determined by FIDE, by virtue of his/her placement in a previous World Youth; or (4) be nominated under exceptional circumstances by the Scholastic Council and the Executive Board. All qualified players will be considered to represent the USA. The additional players will not represent an increased financial burden on the USCF.

SENIOR COMMITTEE

submitted by Michael R. Carr, Chair

For the first time, the US Senior Open was given a qualifying spot for the US Championship. Nine players paid their qualification fee to compete for this spot. FM Fabio La Rota of Florida won the both the title of US Senior Champion and the qualifying spot. In 2005 and thereafter it is anticipated the US Senior Champion will be seeded into the US Championship without the players or organizer having to pay the qualification fees.

This year's Senior Open was played in Boca Raton, Florida. Sixty Six players competed and the following champions were crowned:

- * US Senior Champion: Fabio La Rota, Florida
- * US 50-54 Champion David Rupel, Washington and Hal Terrie, New Hampshire
- * US 55-59 Champion IM Victor Adler, Minnesota
- * US 60-64 Champion Denis Strenzwilk, Maryland
- * US 65-69 Champion IM Anthony Saidy, California
- * US 70-74 Champion Ed Epp, Massachusetts
- * US Over 75 Champion Dan Mayers, Oregon

The Florida tournament featured several special activities:

GM Yuri Averbach gave an outstanding seminar on chess history and noted chess teacher IM Roman Pelts of Canada gave a seminar on the differences of teaching chess to different levels of playing strength of students, also outstanding.

The games on the top boards were broadcast by ICC. The highlight of the week was GM Arnold Denker's 90th Birthday Celebration at which time GM Denker received a plaque from the USCF designating him as the third recipient of the title: Dean of American Chess. The previous recipients were Herman Helms and GM George Koltanowski.

The entire weeks events were video taped and will be available for purchase on DVDs.

The Senior Committee already has an indication from Charles Hatherill of Las Vegas that Charles will be submitting a bid for the 2005 US Senior. Charles attended the Boca Raton Senior.

STATES COMMITTEE

submitted by Gny Hoffman, Chair

The States committee had a busy year, most of it taken up by the civil war in Oklahoma. Basically, a new group got elected to the OCA by "stuffing the ballot box", whereupon, the few remaining members of the previous group left and formed a new organization, that then attempted to usurp the title of State Affiliate. This committee decided that the actions of the OCA

were legal under the OCA bylaws, thus, preserving its status as the State Affiliate. (By the time this is printed, I expect the bylaws to be amended to prevent any such actions in the future.)

Then, with a good example in front of us, we discussed a request John McCrary made before resigning: to determine a method of action in handling disputes between rival organizations. We leaned toward Delegate Motion 91-27: Duties and Responsibilities of State Affiliates, which listed five mandatory requirements, but only three of which are still applicable (old numbering system):

1. Pay its affiliate membership when due and payable.
3. Directly sponsor and hold (or arrange for) an annual USCF rated State Championship.
4. Have a formal organizational structure as laid out in bylaws or article of association which includes but is not limited to specifying the governing authority and their selection, meeting schedule and purpose of the state chapter, and provide opportunities for membership and participation by all USCF members residing in the state.

Also of interest, which encompasses most of the other suggestions, is:

10. Responsibly act in the best interests of its entire State Chapter membership, encouraging and promoting chess activity statewide. The State Chapter affirms its intention to comply with the duties and responsibilities of credentialed State Chapters.

Of course, this last one is open to interpretation, and should require some solid evidence to back up any claims.

I would like to thank the members of my committee: Frank Berry, Walter Buehl, Larry Cohen, Ed Conway, Mike Goodall (briefly), Roger Gotschall, Richard Koepcke, and Harvey Lerman.

TDC COMMITTEE

submitted by Tim Just, Chair

One suspended TD was given a probationary reinstatement. When a final draft of the rulebook is available the committee looks forward to revising the TD exams. No TD complaints were processed.

WOMEN'S CHESS COMMITTEE

*submitted by GM Susan Polgar, Chair
FM Paul Truong, Assistant Chair*

The Women's Committee has had another very busy and spectacular year. We have worked hard to continue to promote chess and our 2003 goals. Many of our activities were done in conjunction with the Outreach Committee and the Polgar Committee. Our main focuses were within the following three areas:

ENHANCE THE OVERALL CHESS-PLAYING LEVEL OF OUR TOP YOUNG WOMEN PLAYERS.

The "Women's Olympiad Training Program" is continuing strong with the help of FM Paul Truong (Captain and Manager), IM Michael Khodarkovsky (Head Coach), Garry Kasparov, the Kasparov Chess Foundation and the Susan Polgar Foundation. Current members of this program include: WGM/IM-elect Anna Zatonskih, IM Irina Krush, WGM Rusa Goletiani, WIM Jennifer Shahade and me. In February 2004, all members of the program participated in a special tournament in Stillwater, Oklahoma together for the first time. This wonderful event was organized and hosted by Mr. Frank Berry who is a big supporter of our team.

Members of the team have performed very well in the past 12 months. WGM Anna Zatonskih finished as the top woman player at the 2003 US Open in Los Angeles. She has since satisfied all the requirements by FIDE and will soon be the newest IM in the United States. Anna is currently ranked as the 24th highest rated woman player in the world. IM Irina Krush has played very well as well and she is now the 17th ranked woman player in the world. WGM Rusa Goletiani won the prestigious 2003 Ladies Continental in impressive fashion. Rusa is the first woman ever to be awarded the Samford Fellowship. Jennifer, Irina and Rusa all qualified and participated in the Women's World Championship in Elista in May 2004.

The team completed a second three-day training session with Garry Kasparov over the Memorial Day Weekend. There will be more training sessions before the Olympiad. The Olympiad will be held from October 14-31, 2004 in Mallorca, Spain. We are looking forward to giving our best shot to bring home the first ever Women's Olympiad medal for the United States.

Respectfully, USCF takes a moment to recognize those USCF members who have passed away.

Obituaries for those listed below were published between January 2003-July 2004

Eric Channing Allen • 1985-2004

Channing Allen, a four-year member of the Morgan County H. S. chess team had been active in the County chess program since the fourth grade.

Denis Barry • 1929-2003

Denis Barry, former USCF President (1994-1996), helped to establish many new national events such as the U.S. Amateur East. He regionalized the Amateur and Amateur team competitions.

Al Breaux, Jr. • 1949-2004

Life Member Al Breaux was a long-standing member of the Pennsylvania State Chess Federation. He felt the fun of playing chess always made him a winner.

Earll Briggs • 1915-2003

Earll, an avid d4-player, was a lifelong member of the USCF. An energetic man and solid B-player, he continued to play well into his 80s.

Russ Chauvenet • 1920-2003

Life-member Russ was the 1959 U.S. Amateur Champion as well as the several-time champion of Virginia and two-time champion of Maryland. He was the highest-rated deaf player in the U.S.

Leonid Filatov • 1959-2002

Leonid Filatov, U.S. master and FIDE master, participated in many tournaments and was devoted to chess until the end of his life.

Dr. M. Lee Hyder • 1936-2003

Dr. M. Lee Hyder was a strong player who had served as USCF secretary and also as a Trustee of the U.S. Chess Trust. He was a S.C. State Champion.

Charles Kalme • 1939-2002

Charles Kalme, a former U.S. Junior and U.S. Intercollegiate titleholder, tied for 1st place in the 1957 North Central Open, in which he defeated Bobby Fischer.

Thomas "Tom" J. Keffer • 1953-2004

Tom was an avid chess player all his life, and at one time was the USA Class A Chess Champion (now Expert). Thomas was a Life member of the U.S. Chess Federation.

Forrest M. Mounts • 1959-2003

Forrest M. Mounts was an avid chess player for over 30 years. He was a USCF member who participated in over-the-board tournaments and achieved an expert rating in correspondence chess.

Ludek Pachman 1924-2003

Ludek Pachman, one of post-war Czechoslovakia's strongest grandmasters, was one of the leading players of his generation. He was a seven-time Czech champion and a prolific chess author and journalist.

James Rachels • 1941-2003

Jim Rachels was a chess organizer, director, player, and, most of all, he was a fan of the game's beauty. He was a world-famous moral philosopher, his books selling over 200,000 copies in half-a-dozen languages.

Harold C. Schonberg • 1916-2003

Pulitzer Prize-winner Harold C. Schonberg was the senior music critic for the *New York Times* from 1960 to 1980. Schonberg's interest in chess culminated during the first Spassky-Fischer World Championship match in Reykjavik, where he covered the historic meeting for the *New York Times*.

Milan Vukceovich, Ph.D. • 1937-2003

Milan excelled in all forms of the game. First a Yugoslav Master, he then became the first American to hold the FIDE International Grandmaster of Chess Composition title (1988). Milan was an accomplished player, composer and chemist.

BUILD STRONG AND SOLID FOUNDATIONS FOR YOUNG GIRLS THROUGH NATIONAL CHESS TRAINING PROGRAMS AS WELL AS EXCITING NATIONAL CHESS EVENTS.

A chess training program for young gifted players with a separate emphasis for young gifted girls has started in the New York area at the Polgar Chess Center. Five of the trainees are highly nationally ranked in their age group. Our goal is to expand this program to other cities in 2005.

The inaugural Annual Susan Polgar National Invitational Championship for girls is taking place during this year's US Open. Funding for this tournament comes from the Susan Polgar Foundation as well as private donations and sponsorships.

Paul Truong and I were present in Chicago to support the First Annual All-Girls National Chess Championships from May 14-16, 2004. This magnificent event drew 187 participants and it is sponsored by the Kasparov Chess Foundation.

CREATE EXCITEMENT, ENTHUSIASM, AND FURTHER PROMOTE CHESS AMONG YOUNG PLAYERS (WITH A STRONG EMPHASIS FOR GIRLS) AND BE GREAT ROLE MODELS FOR OUR YOUNGSTERS.

I participated in two Battle of the Genders Internet matches against Grandmasters Alex Stripunsky and Boris Gulko on September 20 and 21, 2003 (30th anniversary of the famous tennis match between Billy Jean King and Bobby Riggs at the Houston Astrodome) to help promote US Chess and the USCF. The female gender was fortunate enough to win by the score of 4-0. In

addition, I attended a number of National Scholastic Events across the country (Dallas, Chicago, Pittsburg, and Tucson, etc.) to promote chess among young players, especially girls.

On September 18-19, 2004, I will be participating in a historic chess match against 7-time World Champion Anatoly Karpov. The match will be held in Lindsborg, Kansas. We will be competing in the most exciting triple challenge of Rapid Chess, Blitz Chess and Advanced Chess. This historic colossal battle and unique match will mark the first ever official chess match between a Men's World Champion and a Women's World Champion. This match is expected to draw an incredible amount of interest from the media, fans, and chess enthusiasts.

Many more incredible events and activities are planned for the remaining of 2004 and in 2005. We will continue to work hard to boost women's chess in America. My special thanks to all members of this committee (Barbara DeMaro, Frank Niro, Dr. John McCrary, Rachel and Myron Lieberman and Paul Truong) for their wonderful support and encouragement.

The following committees have not submitted a written report as of deadline: An Oral report may be given.

- ***Audit***
- ***Finance***
- ***Internet Chess/MIS***
- ***LMA***
- ***Rules***
- ***Survey***
- ***Website***

SCHEDULE FOR 2004 U.S. OPEN WORKSHOPS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00
WEDNESDAY August 11	States	Chess Journalists	College Chess	Lunch	TDCC	TDCC/Problem Solving	Senior Chess	Correspondence Chess
	Denker	Polgar	Publications		Outreach		Scholastic Committee	
THURSDAY August 12	Executive Board (closed)	Executive Board (open)		Lunch	Chess in Education			
	Rules Workshop		Ratings		Chess Trust			Hall of Fame
FRIDAY August 13	Women's Chess	Bylaws		Lunch	Finance/LMA		International Affairs	Staff Forum/General Membership Meeting
	Internet Chess/MIS							
SATURDAY August 14	Delegates' Meeting			Lunch	Delegates' Meeting			
SUNDAY August 15	Delegates' Meeting			Lunch	Delegates' Meeting			

Executive Board Meeting Sunday evening, time will be announced.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8: Denker Tournament of High School Champions and Polgar Invitational for Girls Reception, 9 a.m.
Thank you American Chess Equipment for sponsoring the Denker and Polgar Invitational Reception!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13: Hall of Fame Induction and USCF awards dinner, 7 p.m.

The Delegates Meeting will be in the Amphitheater.

Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and USCF Awards Ceremony

A special Hall of Fame Induction ceremony and USCF Awards ceremony are being held together at a dinner on Friday evening, August 13th. Invited guests will receive formal invitations. Please note: ALL other attendees are expected to purchase their own tickets no later than Wednesday, August 11th. Tickets will not be available after August 11th.

The price of a dinner ticket is \$60 and can be purchased at the bookstore. Dinner will include tomato basil bisque, spinach salad, grilled chicken with mushroom tomato roulade, bread, coffee/tea and cheese cake. Grandmasters Leonid Shamkovich and Anatoly Lein will be inducted into the US Hall of Fame. The World Hall of Fame inductee will be former World Champion Anatoly Karpov.

2004 U.S. Open Schedule

August 7 – August 16

Saturday, August 7

10:00 AM	Weekend Schedule
12:30 PM	Matinee Schedule
2:00 PM	Weekend Schedule
6:00 PM	Weekend Schedule
7:30 PM	Traditional Schedule

Sunday, August 8

9:00 AM	Denker & Polgar Reception
10:00 AM	Weekend Schedule
11:00 AM	Denker & Polgar Tournament
NOON	US Blind Championship
12:30 PM	Matinee Schedule
1:00 PM	Side Event: US Open Blitz Championship
2:00 PM	Weekend Schedule
7:00 PM	US Blind Championship
7:30 PM	Traditional Schedule

Monday, August 9

10:00 AM	US Blind Championship
11:30 AM	Side Event: Manatee Quads
11:00 AM	Denker & Polgar Tournament
12:30 PM	Matinee Schedule
5:00 PM	US Blind Championship
7:30 PM	Traditional Schedule

Tuesday, August 10

10:00 AM	Side Events: Simul and lectures
11:00 AM	Denker & Polgar Tournament
12:00 Noon	Side Events: Simul WGM Kosteniuk
12:30 PM	Matinee Schedule
12:30 PM	6-Day Schedule
7:30 PM	Traditional Schedule

Wednesday, August 11

9:00 AM	See Committee Meeting Schedule
11:00 AM	Denker & Polgar Tournament
12:30 PM	Matinee Schedule
12:30 PM	6-Day Schedule
1:00 PM	Side Event: Beach Bughouse
6:30 PM	5-Day Schedule
7:30 PM	Traditional Schedule

Thursday, August 12

9:00 AM	See Committee Meeting Schedule
10:00 AM	5 Day Schedule
11:00 AM	Denker & Polgar Tournament
11:30 AM	Side Event: Dolphin Action Swiss
12:30 PM	6-Day Schedule
7:30 PM	All Schedules Merge

Friday, August 13

9:00 AM	See Committee Meeting Schedule
11:00 AM	Denker & Polgar Tournament
11:00 AM	All Schedules, Round 7
5:00 PM Approx	Denker & Polgar Awards Ceremony
7:00 PM	HOF Induction and USCF Awards Dinner
7:30 PM	Alternate Schedule for Round 7

Saturday, August 14

9:00 AM	Delegates Meeting
10:00 AM	Side Event: Lauderdale Weekend Swiss
11:00 AM	Scholastic Quick Swiss
2:00 PM	Side Event: Lauderdale Weekend Swiss
6:00 PM	Side Event: Lauderdale Weekend Swiss
7:30 PM	All Schedules

Sunday, August 15

9:00 AM	Delegates Meeting
10:00 AM	Side Event: Lauderdale Weekend Swiss
2:00 PM	Side Event: Lauderdale Weekend Swiss
7:30 PM	All Schedules
TBA	Executive Board Meeting

2004 U.S. Open Side Event Schedule

August 8. U.S. Open Blitz Championship (Rated) 7SS, G/5. Play each opponent twice: once as black/once as white! Reg: 11-12. Start Time: 1pm. Prizes b/entries. Return 80% of total entries as prizes: First receives 25%, Second receives 15%, four class prizes receive 10% each. Classes: U2200, U1900, U1600, U1300. EF: \$25 onsite only.

August 9. U.S. Open Manatee Quad #1, 3RR, G/60. Reg: 10-11am. Rds: 11:30-2-4. Prizes: \$25 first place winner each quad. EF: \$15.

August 10. Simul 12 noon WGM Alexandra Kosteniuk \$25 per player.

August 11. U.S. Open Beach Bughouse Championship (Not USCF Rated). 6SS, G/5. Reg: 11-12. Start Time: 1pm. Prizes b/entries. Return 80% of total entries as prizes: First Team 40%, Second Team 25%, Third Team 15%. EF: \$25/team.

August 12. Dolphin Action Swiss. 4SS, G/30. 9:30-10:30am. Rds: 11:30-1:30-3-4:30. Prizes b/entries. Return 80% of total entries as prizes: First receives 25%, Second receives 15%, four class prizes receive 10% each. Classes: U2200, U1900, U1600, U1300. EF: \$20.

August 14. (QC). The Seagull Scholastic Quick Swiss. 7SS, G/15. Reg: 9-10am. Rds: 11-12-1:30-2:30-3:30-4:30-5:30. Prizes b/entries. Return 80% of total entries as prizes: Trophies top 3 and top in K-3, 4-6, 7-9, K-12. EF: \$20 onsite only.

August 14-15. The Lauderdale Swiss. 5SS, G/90. Reg: 8-9am. Rds: Sat 10-2-6; Sun 10-2. 80% of EFs returned in prizes: First 25%, Second 15%, four class prizes 10% each. Classes: U2100, U1800, U1500, U1200. EF: \$30.

Additional lectures and games analysis to be announced!

1979-2004 AWARD RECIPIENTS

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

1979 George Cunningham, Arpad Elo, Burt Hochberg, George Koltanowski
 1980 Ed Edmondson, Isaac Kashdan, Paul Webb
 1981 John Collins, Marshall Rohland, Frank Skoff
 1982 Fred Cramer, Lina Grumette, Gary Sperling
 1983 Arnold Denker, Van Vandenburg, Bill Goichberg
 1984 Lynne Babcock, Pearle Mann, George Tiers
 1985 Denis Barry, Harold Dondis, Tim Redman
 1987 Leroy Dubeck
 1988 Gerard Dullea
 1989 Myron Lieberman, Don Schultz
 1990 Steve Doyle
 1991 Harry Sabine, Yasser Seirawan
 1992 Harold Winston
 1993 Robert Erkes, Carol Jarecki, Helen Warren
 1994 C. Norman Peacor, Fred Townsend
 1995 Jerry Hanken, Martin Morrison
 1996 Woodrow Harris
 1997 Anthony Cottell, Frank Camaratta
 1998 Glenn Petersen, Faneuil Adams
 1999 Jerry Spann (posthumously)
 2001 Sid Samole (posthumously)
 2002 Randall Hough, Rachel Lieberman
 2003 Dr. Lee Hyder

2004 *Dr. Joseph Wagner*

OUTSTANDING CAREER ACHIEVEMENT

1986 Allen Hinshaw, Helen Hinshaw, Bob Dudley, Robert Erkes, George Mirijanian
 1987 Alan Benjamin, Phyllis Benjamin
 1989 Peter Lahde, Alina Markowski, Larry Paxton, Glenn Petersen
 1990 Roger Blaine, Lee Hyder, Russell Miller
 1991 Mike Goodall, Ira Lee Riddle, Fjola Vandenburg
 1993 Robert Karch, Robert P. Smith
 1994 Clarence Callaway
 1995 Pete Nixon, Warren Pinches
 1996 Burt Hochberg
 1997 J.C. Thompson, Leroy Dubeck, Bill Snead
 1998 Steve Frymer
 1999 Stuart Laughlin, Robert Fischer, James Hurt
 2000 Harold Dondis
 2001 John Collins
 2002 Robert Ferguson, Jerry Hanken, Carol Jarecki
 2003 John Donaldson, Thad Rogers

2004 *Jay Bonin*

SPECIAL SERVICES

1983 Hal Bogner, Arnold Denker,

1985 Thad Rogers, Hyman Rogosin, Eric Schiller, Don Schultz
 1986 Lackland Bloom, Martin Morrison
 1988 Fred Gruenberg, Richard O'Keefe, C. Norman Peacor, Ron Warnicki
 1989 Fred Townsend, David Welsh
 1991 Larry Evans, Lev Alburt
 1992 Ron Lohrman, Les Leroy Smith
 1993 Jeremy Gaige, John Varis
 1994 Garrett Scott, John McCrary, Warren Pinches
 1995 Jo Eglon, Doris Thackrey
 1996 Herb Hickman, Hanon Russell, Helen Warren
 1997 Jim Pechac, Denis Barry, Robert John McCrary
 1998 Harold Stenzel, Gary and Addie Prince
 1999 Tim Just, Mike Carr (posthumously)
 2000 Alice Loranth
 2001 Ken Horne (posthumously), Sid Samole, Rachel Lieberman
 2002 Tom Doan, Pat Hoekstra, Myron Lieberman
 2003 Dewain Barber, Ralph Bowman, Mark Glickman, Al Lawrence, Mike Nolan
 2004 Lynne Chapman, Kelly Jacobs, Ken Sloan
 2004 *Bob Persante*
 2004 *Don Mihokovich*

MERITORIOUS SERVICE

1980 Robert Tanner
 1985 Joseph Wagner
 1986 Lincoln Chess Foundation, Glenn Meachum, Ben Munson, Sunil Weeramantry
 1987 Don Maddox, Jules Stein, Charles Pashayan
 1988 Harry Lyman
 1991 Imre Konig, George Leighton
 1992 David Mehler
 1993 Allen Kaufman, Dale Brandreth
 1994 Paul Shannon, Randall Hough
 1995 Frank Brady, Billy Colias, Ernest Marx
 1996 Paul Gold, Myron Lieberman
 1997 Alan Sherman, Randall Swanson, Jim Warren
 1998 James Bolton, Richard Verber
 1999 Erv Sedlock, Selby Anderson, Ken Smith (posthumously)
 2000 Randy Hough
 2001 Gary Prince
 2002 Joe Ippolito, Ollie LaFreniere, Beatriz Marinello
 2003 Mike Nolan, Harry Sabine

2004 *Sunil Weeramantry*

COMMITTEE OF THE YEAR

1982 Computer Committee
 1988 Hall of Fame Committee
 1989 Scholastic Committee

1990 Tournament Direction Certification
 1993 Special Committee on Rulebook
 1994 Ratings Committee
 1995 Computer Communications Committee
 1996 Chess in Education Committee
 1997 Finance Committee
 1998 Internet Committee
 1999 Rules Committee, Finance Task Force
 2000 Scholastic Committee
 2001 Internet/Computer Committee; Outreach Committee
 2002 FIDE Advisory
 2003 Women's Chess Committee
 2004 *College Chess Committee*

CITY OF THE YEAR

1983 Pasadena, California
 1984 New York, New York
 1985 Foxboro, Massachusetts
 1986 Charlotte, North Carolina; Somerset, New Jersey
 1987 Pulaski, Virginia; Terre Haute, Indiana
 1988 Albuquerque, New Mexico; Memphis, Tennessee; Southfield, Michigan
 1989 Knoxville, Tennessee; Peoria, Illinois; Seattle, Washington; Tempe, Arizona; Lexington, Kentucky
 1993 Durango, Colorado; Reno, Nevada
 1994 Bloomington, Illinois; New York, New York
 1995 Chicago, Illinois; Key West, Florida
 1996 Tucson, Arizona; New York, New York
 1997 Knoxville, Tennessee; Sioux Falls, South Dakota
 1998 Peoria, Arizona
 1999 San Francisco, California; Gilbert, Arizona
 2000 Louisville, Kentucky; Dallas, Texas
 2001 Kansas City, Missouri
 2002 Miami, Florida, New York City; and Seattle, Washington
 2003 Nashville, Tennessee

2004 *Lindsborg, Kansas*

ORGANIZER OF THE YEAR

1994 Bill Goichberg
 1995 Al Losoff
 1996 Nick Conticello, Manhattan Chess Club
 1997 Jose Cuchi, E. Steven Doyle
 1998 Robert Tanner
 1999 De Knudson, John Donaldson
 2002 Yasser Seirawan and America's Foundation for Chess (Formerly the Seattle Chess Foundation)
 2003 Arden Dille, Phillip Simpkins

2004 *Michael Korenman*

KOLTANOWSKI MEDAL

- 1979 *Gold:* Bill Church, Jacqueline Piatigorsky, Louis Statham
- 1980 *Gold:* Thomas Emery, Lessing Rosenwald
- 1981 *Gold:* Fred Cramer;
Silver: Howard Gaba, Fred Gruenberg, Al Hansen
- 1982 *Gold:* Rea Hayes;
Silver: Nibert Leopoldi
- 1983 *Silver:* Stephen Jones, Don Richardson, John Rylowski, Ralph Slottow
- 1984 *Gold:* Jose Cuchi;
Silver: M. Vacheron
- 1985 *Gold:* Frank Normali;
Silver: R. W. Twombly
- 1986 *Gold:* Shelby Lyman, NCR Corp.;
- Silver:* Faneuil Adams, Jr., Paul Arnold Associates, Equitable Life Assurance, Prudential Insurance
- 1987 *Gold:* Frank Samford
- 1988 *Gold:* Sid Samole
- 1989 *Gold:* Novag Industries
- 1990 *Gold:* Arnold Denker, Helen Warren
- 1991 *Gold:* Ted Field;
Silver: Neil Falconer
- 1992 *Gold:* Banker's Trust;
- 1994 *Silver:* Dr. Martin Katahn
- 1996 *Gold:* Saitek Industries, Ltd.;
- Silver:* Zamagias Properties
- 1997 *Gold:* Interplay Productions;
- Silver:* Wizards of the Coast, Novag Industries
- 1998 *Gold:* Chess in the Schools;
Silver: Internet Chess Club (ICC)
- 2000 *Gold:* The University of Texas at Dallas; (UTD)
- Silver:* The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD)
- 2001 *Gold:* Seattle Chess Foundation
- 2002 *Gold:* Floyd and Bernice Sarisohn, and Dato' Tan Chin Nam
- 2003 *Gold:* Dr. Martin (Dick) Katahn
- Gold:* Tennessee Tech University
- 2004 *Gold:* *Karparov Chess Foundation*

SCHOLASTIC SERVICE

- 1994 Harry Sabine
- 1995 Ron Lohrman
- 1996 Lee LaFrese
- 1997 Robert Ferguson
- 1998 Sunil Weeramantry
- 1999 Faneuil Adams (posthumously)
- 2001 Beatriz Marinello
- 2003 Ralph Bowman

- 2004 *Individual:* *GM Arnold Denker*
- Organization:* *Gilbert Unified School District #41, Gilbert, Arizona*

U.S. CHESS HALL OF FAME

- 1986 Paul Morphy, Robert Fischer, Reuben Fine, Frank Marshall, Isaac Kashdan, George Koltanowski, Harry Pillsbury, Sammy Reshevsky
- 1987 Sam Loyd, Wilhelm Steinitz
- 1988 Arpad Elo, Hermann Helms
- 1989 I.A. Horowitz
- 1990 Hans Berliner
- 1991 John Collins, Arthur Dake
- 1992 Arnold Denker, George MacKenzie, Gisela Gresser
- 1993 Pal Benko, Victor Palciauskas
- 1994 Larry Evans, Robert Byrne, Arthur Bisguier
- 1995 Ed Edmondson
- 1996 Fred Reinfeld
- 1997 Kenneth Harkness
- 1998 Dr. Milan Vukceвич
- 1999 Benjamin Franklin
- 2000 Edmar Mednis
- 2001 Lubomir Kavalek
- 2002 Donald Byrne
- 2003 Lev Alburt
Walter Browne
- 2004 *Anatoly Lein*
Leonid Shamkovich

FRANK J. MARSHALL

- 1994 Albert Sandrin
- 1995 GM Arthur Dake
- 1996 GM Arnold Denker
- 1997 IM Maurice Ashley, IM John Donaldson
- 1998 GM Arthur Bisguier
- 1999 Faneuil Adams (posthumously)
- 2001 GM Pal Benko
- 2002 GM Lev Alburt
- 2003 GM Sam Palatnik
GM Yasser Seirawan
- 2004 *John Curdo*

GRANDMASTER OF THE YEAR

- 1997 Alexander Yermolinsky
- 1998 Joel Benjamin
- 1999 Nick de Firmian
- 2001 Yasser Seirawan
- 2002 Larry Christiansen
- 2003 Maurice Ashley
Susan Polgar
- 2004 *Alexander Shabalov*

CHESS CLUB OF THE YEAR

- 1999 Pittsburgh Chess Club
- 2001 Rochester Chess Club; Dumont Chess Mates
- 2002 Metrowest Chess Club (MA)
- 2003 Rochester Chess Club

- Miami International Chess Academy
- 2004 *Marshall Chess Club*

SPECIAL TASK FORCE AWARD

- 2000 President's Special Committee on Finances; Computer Evaluation Task Force
- 2003 Rulebook Revision Task Force

CHESS COLLEGE OF THE YEAR

- 2000 University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
- 2001 University of Texas at Dallas (UTD)
- 2002 University of Maryland at Baltimore County, Rhode Island College and St. Johns University
- 2003 Stanford University
- 2004 *Miami Dade Community College*

HONORARY CHESS MATES

- 1998 Ethel Collins, Nina Denker, Nancy Edmondson, Leah Koltanowski, Carrie Marshall
- 2001 Norma Reshevsky
- 2002 Madge Byrne
- 2003 Baiba Mednis
- 2004 *Bernadette Doyle,*
Brenda Goichberg
Teresa Schultz

"NEW THIS YEAR" TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

- 2004 *Carol Jarecki*

A Guide to Robert's Rules of Order for USCF Delegates

By Mike Nolan, USCF Parliamentarian. (*Revised June 2001*)

Reference: *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, 10th Edition (published in 2000), edited by Robert, Evans, Honemann and Balch, Perseus Publishing, 0-7382-0307-6. (List price \$17 in paperback.)

This is a simplified selection of some key points from Robert's Rules of Order, with a few explanatory remarks and examples and some exceptions and extensions that have come into general use by the Delegates.

DEFINITIONS

Parliamentarian: The Parliamentarian serves as a resource to the chair, offering advice on rulings and other matters to assist the chair in keeping the meeting orderly and productive. The Parliamentarian never 'rules' on a question, the chair has that privilege and may ignore or not solicit the advice of the Parliamentarian before making any ruling. The Parliamentarian also serves as a resource to Delegates, to advise them on proper parliamentary procedure.

2nd: Indicates a willingness to have the Delegates consider the motion, not any support for it. Except for motions on the advance agenda, motions arising from a committee and motions arising from the Membership Meeting, all main and subsidiary motions and most privileged or incidental motions require a 2nd in order to be considered by the Delegates further. While the maker of a motion is expected to argue in favor of it during debate, the seconder is under no such requirement.

Debatable: Discussion of the merits of the motion is permitted. An undebatable motion must be voted upon immediately *without discussion* unless an amendment or higher ranking motion is in order and offered.

Majority: A simple majority means that more people vote 'yes' than 'no', A 2/3rd majority means that at least twice as many people vote 'yes' as 'no'. To abstain from voting means to yield to the will of the majority that does vote, whatever that majority is. It does not matter whether the number of 'yes' and 'no' votes adds up to a quorum or not, as long as a quorum is present. Although a count of abstaining Delegates is sometimes requested of the chair, it is not mandatory under Robert's Rules.

Reconsider: A motion to reverse an earlier vote. A motion to reconsider may only be offered by someone who voted on the prevailing side on the earlier vote. A motion to reconsider always requires a simple majority, even if the motion being reconsidered required a larger majority to succeed. When a motion to reconsider is successful, the matter becomes active again, although it might not be the current order of business if some other business is also pending. Some motions may not be reconsidered, such as a failed motion to postpone indefinitely.

Chair: The person running the meeting. The chair assigns the floor during debate and recognizes members, including responding to points of order or privilege (and making rulings as required), parliamentary inquiries, and to request whether a speaker will yield to a point of information. All questions should be addressed to the chair, not to other members, including the member who currently has the floor. The chair is expected to remain impartial and must refrain from debate on the merits of any issue. A chair who wishes to speak to the merits should yield the chair by passing the gavel to another person

for the duration of the debate on that issue.

Agenda: The agenda is the order in which business is to be conducted. Many organizations have adopted a standard agenda for meetings, indicating in which order officer and committee reports are to be given, etc. It is also common for organizations to prepare an advance agenda of matters likely to come before the body. Sometimes the Bylaws specify that certain matters cannot be enacted unless pre-announced in the advance agenda, or require a different majority to pass if not pre-announced, such as amendments to the Bylaws. But the advance agenda is an informational document only until such time as it is adopted by the body during the meeting once a quorum is established.

The 13 ranking motions: (Larger numbers indicate motions that take precedence over lower ranking ones.) Except where indicated, none of these motions are in order when someone else has the floor:

1. **Main motion.** Requires a 2nd (except for motions on the advance agenda or arising from a committee), debatable, amendable, may be reconsidered, passes by a simple majority unless the subject matter requires a higher majority, such as Bylaws changes which were not in the advance agenda. A main motion may not be made when some other motion is pending. The chair will call up as main motions items printed in the advance agenda in the order in which they appear, though motions may be called up by a committee out of the preprinted order if the motion was sponsored by or referred to the committee. Motions may be brought up in any order either by unanimous consent of the Delegates or by suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority..

The following are subsidiary motions, and generally apply only to a main motion or a motion relating to a main motion. These motions are in order of increasing priority. For example, a motion to commit takes precedence over a motion to amend, and a motion to table takes precedence over all other subsidiary motions

2. **Postpone indefinitely.** Requires a 2nd, debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority, may only be reconsidered in the affirmative. If successful, the main motion to which it applies is killed for the duration of the meeting and may not be reintroduced. Because of its low ranking, this motion may only be made when the main motion is under discussion, not when any amendments or other motions are pending.
3. **Amend.** Requires a 2nd, debatable if the motion to which it applies is debatable, amendable (but an amendment to an amendment is not further amendable, because it gets too confusing to keep track of things), may be reconsidered, requires a simple majority. (See below on the 'friendly amendment'.)
4. **Commit (refer).** Requires a 2nd, debatable if the motion to which it applies is debatable, amendable, requires a simple majority, may be reconsidered. If successful, the current main motion including all pending motions such as amendments, is referred to the designated committee(s) and the order of business is now the next item on the agenda. With some exceptions, such as a motion to amend the Bylaws,

the Delegates may refer a matter to the Executive Board or to a committee with the power to implement it. Motions may also be referred to the Executive Board or to a committee with instructions to report back at the next Delegates Meeting. By convention, unless otherwise indicated a referral to a committee includes instructions to report back at the next Delegates Meeting, but referrals to the Board do not include instructions to report back at the next Delegates Meeting, unless the Board does not have the authority to implement and that power is not attached in the motion to refer.

5. **Postpone to a definite time.** Requires a 2nd, debatable, amendable, generally requires a simple majority, may be reconsidered. (If made a special order, requires a 2/3 majority. See 'call for the orders of the day'.)
6. **Limit debate.** Requires a 2nd, not debatable, amendable, requires a 2/3 majority to pass, may be reconsidered if still possible. Used to limit the rights of the Delegates to debate an issue, such as placing a time limit on an item of business, limiting the length of individual speeches, or the number of times a Delegate can speak on any one issue during debate on a motion.
7. **Previous question** (call the question). Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a 2/3 majority to pass, may be reconsidered. Used to end debate on a motion and proceed to an immediate vote on it. In its basic form it applies only to the current pending motion (such as an amendment), but may also be applied to motions below that one in order, all the way back to the current main motion.
8. **Lay on the table.** Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority to pass, may not be reconsidered. Often used improperly to kill a motion, but more properly used to permit the Delegates to set aside a subject in order to move on to a more pressing one, since the tabled matter may be brought back to the floor by a simple majority vote later on, whereas one that is postponed indefinitely may not be brought to the floor later in the meeting. Tabled matters that are still tabled at the end of the meeting are automatically referred to the Executive Board, which may act upon a motion, refer it to appropriate committees, or place it on the agenda for the next year's meeting, although the EB is not required to take any of these actions. Motions for which the Executive Board does not have the authority to take final action, such as a Bylaws change, may still be referred by the Executive Board to committees or placed on next year's agenda, but unlike motions specifically referred to the Board this is not mandatory.

The following motions are privileged, may be made at any time, and do not refer to a pending main or subsidiary motion.

9. **Call for the orders of the day.** *Does not require a 2nd, may be made when someone else has the floor,* not debatable, not amendable, does not require a vote, may not be reconsidered. The orders of the day are any motions that have been passed calling for consideration of a particular subject at a particular time as a special order. When the appointed time arises, any member may call the chair's attention to the matter by calling for the orders of the day, and the current pending matter must be set aside and the

subject of the special order brought to the floor immediately.

10. **Raise a question of privilege.** *Does not require a 2nd, may be made when someone else has the floor,* not debatable, not amendable, is acted upon by the chair without a vote, and may not be reconsidered. A question of privilege deals with the rights of the Delegates or an individual Delegate to participate in the business at hand or correct the record on previous business. For example, if the speaker system isn't working and a Delegate can't hear the debate, that would be a question of privilege. Similarly, a loud disturbance from elsewhere would be a question of privilege. A question of personal privilege is often invoked when a member's name is mentioned in debate, but this is not proper unless this has been done in such a fashion as to incorrectly place into the record the member's participation or lack of participation in matters previously dealt with or to circulate a charge against that member's character. (The more proper motion to deal with an imprudent remark about you made by the speaker during debate is to raise a point of order to 'call the member to order', that is to have the chair request that the speaker refrain from making further improper personal comments about other members.)
11. **Recess.** Requires a 2nd, not debatable, amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. Once a motion to recess is passed, the Delegates are in recess until the time specified for the meeting to resume, at which time the chair may resume the meeting as soon as a quorum is present.
12. **Adjourn.** Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. Properly used as it applies to the Delegates meeting, this motion is only used to end the meeting. A motion to adjourn to 9AM tomorrow morning should actually be made as a motion to recess until 9AM, and the chair should rephrase it as such.
13. **Fix the time to which to adjourn.** This motion has no practical application to the Delegates meeting, since the meeting is short and of a fixed duration and except in special circumstances would not continue beyond that time frame.

Other motions:

The following motions are restorative, they bring a matter back before the Delegates that had previously been tabled or voted upon:

- A. **Take from the table:** Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. (But a new motion to take the matter from the table may be offered later on.) This motion is only in order when there is no main motion pending, and it brings a matter before the Delegates that had been tabled earlier in the meeting, in the exact form it was in at the point at which it was tabled. See discussion above as to the disposition of motions left on the table at the end of the meeting.
- B. **Reconsider:** Requires a 2nd, debatable if the motion to which it applies is also debatable, may not be amended, requires a simple majority, may not be made a 2nd time if unsuccessful. If a vote is reconsidered, any earlier disposition is reversed and whatever action is taken on the motion after reconsideration overrides any earlier action. If an action is irreversible, the matter cannot be reconsidered.

This motion must be made by someone who voted on the prevailing side of the motion being reconsidered.

The following are some incidental motions that may arise, there is no order to these motions.

- A. **Suspend the rules.** Requires a 2nd, not debatable, not amendable, requires a 2/3 majority, may not be reconsidered. This is a motion to suspend Robert's Rules or any standing rules or customs. The Bylaws may not be suspended, they must be amended. Suspending the rules is often requested to change the order of business to consider something ahead of its place in the agenda. Although not debatable, the maker of the motion generally offers a short explanation as to why the rules should be suspended or what action will be taken once the rules are suspended. If a motion to suspend the rules for a particular purpose is unsuccessful, it may not be renewed without unanimous consent of the Delegates.
- B. **Point of Order.** *May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd, is not debatable, is not amendable, may not be reconsidered, and is ruled upon by the chair rather than voted upon by the Delegates.* A point of order is a request for the chair to enforce the rules under which the Delegates operate, such as dealing with a motion or member being out of order. For example, if an amendment to an amendment to an amendment is offered, it would be out of order and if the chair doesn't rule it out of order, a Delegate should raise a point of order to have the chair enforce the rules and declare the amendment out of order. A ruling by the chair is made, possibly after consulting with the Secretary or Parliamentarian, and once made the ruling may be appealed by any two Delegates (an appeal requires a 2nd), a simple majority being needed to reverse the ruling of the chair. A point of order can also be made to enforce the rules on decorum in debate, to enforce a time limit on debate or the number of times a speaker is recognized, or to clarify the status of the motion(s) currently before the Delegates.
- C. **Parliamentary Inquiry.** *May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd, is not debatable.* Similar to a point of order, but generally limited to inquiring as to the proper motion to make under some circumstance or to ascertain the effect of such a motion or any pending motion. The chair answers the inquiry and may consult with others, such as the Parliamentarian or Secretary, for advice before answering. Since this is not (yet) a ruling, it may not be appealed.
- D. **Point of Information.** *May be made when someone else has the floor.* This is not a motion, per se, but a request for permission to seek further information about the pending matter from the current speaker or for a brief answer from someone else with expertise in the subject, generally another Delegate or a USCF staff member. The speaker is not obliged to yield the floor to hear the question. This motion is often improperly used to interrupt a speaker just to rebut the speaker's debate, and in proper usage the interrupter should not make the rebuttal argument immediately but limit the interruption to a request that the speaker yield for a question, since the proper means for rebuttal in debate is to gain the floor through the usual means.
- E. **Object to the consideration of a question.** *May be made*

when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd, is not debatable, is not amendable, requires a 2/3 majority, may not be reconsidered. This motion may only be applied to a main motion when it is first introduced, its purpose is to prevent any discussion or debate on the motion, including any discussion as to why the question should not be considered. Another way to think of it is as the opposite of a 2nd, it indicates a lack of willingness to have the motion considered by the Delegates. An immediate vote on the objection should be taken and, if successful, the motion is killed and may not be reintroduced during the remainder of the meeting..

- F. **Division of a question.** Requires a 2nd, not debatable, amendable, requires a simple majority, may not be reconsidered. This is a request to split a motion into several parts, and is only in order when the motion is easily severable.

Division of the assembly. *May be made when someone else has the floor, does not require a 2nd, is not debatable, is not amendable, may not be reconsidered, does not require a vote.* Used to request a tabulated vote when the vote announced by the chair is disputed by the Delegates. A first request for a division should almost always be granted, as should a second request for a very close vote, but repeated requests for recounts of a close vote are a stalling tactic and after a vote has been carefully tabulated twice unless there is still a reasonable doubt as to the outcome the chair may ignore further requests for a division of the assembly and declare the vote concluded. Though it has been done on occasion, there is no specific provision in Robert's Rules or in the USCF Bylaws for ordering a roll call vote, and due to the time involved such an order should be used sparingly.

Appeal. *May be made when someone else has the floor, requires a 2nd, is debatable if applied to a question which was debatable, requires a simple majority.* Decisions of the chair regarding points of order, points of privilege, or assignment of the floor during debate may be appealed. Such an appeal must occur immediately after the ruling to which it applies, and the motion to appeal takes precedence over the motion which was pending at the time the decision was made. Rulings regarding decorum in debate or the priority of business are not debatable, and a ruling made while a nondebatable motion is pending is also nondebatable. However, the chair is entitled to explain the ruling even if an appeal is nondebatable.

Standing rules or customary rules used by the USCF Delegates at past meetings, including procedural rules initially developed by the USCF President for use at the 1998 Delegates meeting:

- A. A speaker may not move the previous question (call the question) after speaking to the merits of an question in that turn at the microphone. [Passed by the Delegates as a standing rule.]
- B. Except for motions arising from the USCF Membership Meeting, if the sponsor or co-sponsor of a motion is not present at the time it is reached in the agenda, it goes to the end of the agenda, after all other advance motions and motions filed with the Secretary before or during the meeting but not included in the advance agenda. A request for

unanimous consent or a motion to suspend the rules may be offered to bring the motion back to the floor ahead of then. (Congratulatory motions generally made at the end of the meeting are usually deferred until all other Delegate motions are dealt with, including those moved to the end of the agenda.) Motions on the advance agenda do not require a second, a Delegate who objects to such a motion should raise an objection to consideration of the question, either during adoption of the advance agenda or when the motion is reached in the meeting. Delegate motions not printed in the advance agenda do require a second.

- C. A Delegate may withdraw a motion as long as it is still in its original form, even during debate, but once a motion has been revised from its initial form it may only be withdrawn by unanimous consent. All co-signers to the original motion must also consent to its withdrawal. (The person who seconded the motion does not need to consent to its withdrawal, since seconding a motion does not express an opinion on the merits of the motion, and the seconder is always free to attempt to gain the floor to make the motion again, at which time it requires another Delegate to second it.) When a motion is divided into multiple questions, each of the parts is now a separate motion and such a separated motion may be withdrawn if it is still in its original form.
- D. The maker of a motion may accept as an improved version a 'friendly amendment' from another Delegate. Such a motion is still considered to be in its original form. The seconder does not have to consent to the friendly amendment, since the person offering the improvement is obviously willing to have the motion considered, which is the point of requiring a second. [This is a deviation from Robert's Rules, which now has a reference to the friendly amendment in the 10th edition, but in a much more restricted sense than found in common practice, including at USCF Delegates Meetings.]
- E. Committee chairs may only bring to the floor during their reports motions that were referred to them by the previous or current Delegates meeting, motions referred to them by the Executive Board and printed in the Executive Board Newsletter or (preferably) placed on the advance agenda, or motions that the committee, or the committee chair on the committee's behalf, placed on the advance agenda. In specific, motions from workshops have no special standing with the Delegates, though they may be brought to the floor as main motions later in the meeting in the usual manner or offered as amendments during debate.
- F. Straw polls may be made at the sole discretion of the chair, although the speaker may request them of the chair. The chair will conduct all straw polls and votes. [Because they neither advance nor defeat the issue, the use of straw polls is not sanctioned by Robert's Rules, which suggests that a form of 'committee of the whole' be used instead.]
- G. All main motions and amendments not appearing in the advance agenda should be submitted to the Secretary in

written format, to assist the chair in the orderly conduct of the meeting and the Secretary in preparing an accurate set of minutes.

- Pro and Con microphones will be placed on the floor. All Delegates wishing to debate a motion should stand in line at the appropriate microphone and wait to be assigned the floor by the chair. If an amendment or other debatable motion is offered, the Pro and Con microphones will now refer to that motion, and Delegates wishing to speak on that subject should move to the appropriate microphone, others should stand aside or sit down.
- A podium may be provided for committee chairs to make their committee reports from. A committee chair or other Delegate at the podium is not entitled to any preference in debate but may be called upon to answer points of information regarding a committee's views on motions referred to it, in the advance agenda, or arising from the committee workshop. Makers of main motions may also be requested to present their motions from the podium and to remain at the podium to answer points of information.
- Motions introduced and passed at the USCF Membership Meeting for consideration by the Delegates are entered on the agenda as the first items under New Business, and are brought to the floor in order at that point in the agenda. These motions do not require a second. The maker of the motion during the Membership Meeting, if not a Delegate, is not entitled to speak at the Delegates meeting without the unanimous consent of the Delegates.
- Delegates who have already spoken to the merits of a pending question are requested to defer to Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merit of that question. The chair may recognize Delegates who have not yet spoken to the merits of a pending question ahead of those who have already spoken on it. Where possible the chair will alternate between speakers for and speakers against the pending question. The maker of a motion is always entitled to the first opportunity in debate to speak to the merits of that motion. The chair assigns the floor, a Delegate may not yield the floor to another Delegate without the unanimous consent of the Delegates. Except for committee chairs giving their report, the Parliamentarian (if not a Delegate) and USCF staff members presenting a staff report or answering a point of information, non-Delegates are not entitled to speak to the Delegates without unanimous consent.
- As indicated above, motions not reached by the Delegates or motions tabled by the Delegates are automatically referred to the Executive Board at the conclusion of the Delegates Meeting, but without the power to implement (where applicable) and without instructions to report back to the Delegates, so they will not appear on the advance agenda of the next Delegates Meeting except by specific action of the Executive Board, nor does progress on these motions need to be reported upon in the Executive Board Newsletter.

U.S. CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Aug 20-22 or 21-22, Des Moines, Iowa

at the historic Hotel Fort Des Moines



\$10,000 projected prize fund, \$6,000 minimum guaranteed!

5 round Swiss, 40/2, SD/1 (2-day option, rds 1-2 G/60).

At **Hotel Fort Des Moines**, 1000 Walnut Street, Des Moines IA 50309. Elegant downtown hotel, listed in Natl. Register of Historic Places. Free parking on weekend, free airport shuttle.

\$10,000 prize fund based on 200 entries, else proportional, except minimum guarantee 60% of each prize.

In 8 sections. Unrated must enter Unrated Section. Rated players may play up one class.

Master (2200/up): \$1000-500-300. FIDE rated. ChessCafe.com Grand Prix Points: 20.

Expert (2000-2199): \$800-400-200.

Class A (1800-1999): \$800-400-200.

Class B (1600-1799): \$800-400-200.

Class C (1400-1599): \$800-400-200.

Class D (1200-1399): \$800-400-200.

Class E (under 1200): \$300-200-100.

Unrated: \$300-200-100.

Entry fee: 3-day \$88, 2-day \$87 mailed by 8/12, both \$89 online at uschess.org by 8/17, \$92 phoned to 1-800-388-KING by 8/17, \$100 at site. No checks at site, credit cards OK.

Special EF: Class E or Unr Sections, \$40 less.

Advance EF \$10 less if paid with \$49 USCF dues. Renew early and save! USCF membership required.

3-day schedule: Reg. ends Fri 6:15 pm, rds. Fri 7 pm, Sat 11 & 6, Sun 9 & 2:30.

2-day schedule: Reg. ends Sat 10:15 am, rds. Sat 11, 2:30, 6; Sun. 9 & 2:30.

All: Half point byes OK all rounds (rds 3-5 must commit before rd 2). No smoking. Bring clocks, sets, boards if possible-none supplied.

Hotel rates: \$86-86, 800-532-1466, 515-243-1161, reserve by 7/31 or rate may increase.

Entries: US Chess Federation, Attn: US Class, 3068 Rt 9W, Suite 100, New Windsor NY 12553

Entry form- use for any tournament- photocopy if desired

Name _____ Tournament _____ Section _____

Number of days _____ USCF ID _____ Rating _____ Entry fee _____ Memb. dues _____

Address _____

ChessCafe Selected to Run USCF Book & Equipment Sales

Beatriz Marinello, President of the United States Chess Federation (USCF) has announced that ChessCafe.com has been chosen to operate the USCF book and equipment sales department. "We are pleased to have ChessCafe, with its fine reputation for sales and service, take over this critically important department for us. This is a great step forward for the USCF, its members and ChessCafe" said Marinello. The arrangement, scheduled to begin April 1, was approved unanimously by the USCF Executive Board.

ChessCafe's owner and founder Hanon Russell stated, "It is an honor and privilege to represent the U.S. Chess Federation. We are prepared to re-establish the USCF as the major retail vendor of chess books, sets, and software in North America." The current ChessCafe online store will be merged with the USCF online store, while mail-order and telephone services will be expanded, all under the USCF banner. The book and equipment division will now be called "USCF Sales."

Russell added that the online catalog would feature a special section for USCF members only. "Dozens of books, sets and software programs will be offered at substantial discounts, well below our already very competitive prices. And the items in this section will change monthly. It will definitely 'pay' to be a member."

Under the new arrangement, ChessCafe will also be responsible for all "USCF Sales" advertising in *Chess Life* as well as the full-color mail-order catalogs. ChessCafe will take advantage of the USCF's strong position in scholastic chess to improve and enlarge the USCF Sales program in this area. Expanded service will include: tracking information on each order sent to the customer by e-mail when the order enters the shipping pipeline, same-day shipping whenever possible, and minimal back orders.

Except for the merging of its online store with the USCF's, ChessCafe will continue to operate as it has since it opened its electronic doors in 1996. With some of the most respected chess journalists writing for it, ChessCafe.com is considered by many to be the premier chess content website in the world.

The United States Chess Federation, founded in 1939, serves as the governing body for chess in the United States and is devoted to extending the role of chess in American society. It promotes the study and knowledge of the game of chess, for its own sake as an art and enjoyment, and as a means for the improvement of society. The USCF is a not-for-profit membership organization with more than 90,000 members.

There are now **three easy ways to order:**

Online, safely and securely, at
www.USCFSales.com

Toll-free at 1-800-388-KING (5464)

By mail, at USCF Sales, PO Box 5460,
Milford, CT 06460



 **ChessCafe.com**