

British Columbia Chess Federation
Box 15548
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Minutes of the 2003 Annual General Meeting
Plaza 500, Vancouver, BC
May 18, 2003

1. The meeting was convened at 3:00 pm by Secretary/Treasurer Lyle Craver. (As noted below our former president Bruce Harper had resigned in April 2003. The two vice-presidents were both present but declined the chair)

Members present were: Virgil Awasis, Luis Eduardo Azmitia, Mark Barnes, Nathan Bauman, Nick Beqo, Jesse Bouvier, James Chan, Dan Chapman, Lyle Craver, Toni Deline, Edward Enns, Balin Fleming, Alan Forsyth, Evgeny Goutor, Travis Lane, Hugh Long, Brent McLean, Eduardo Moura, John Niksic, Robert North, Joe Oszvald, Stewart Paulson, Russell Remedios, Mike Stanford, Gavin Steininger, Desmond Stephens, Brian Sullivan, Laszlo Tegzes, Stephen Wright, Jack Yoos, Mehrdad Yousefzadeh

Also present were: Katherine Davies, Dale Haukenfrers,

Minutes of the 2002 Meeting: Moved to accept the 2002 Minutes of the AGM as presented (Oszvald/North) Approved (all motions passed unanimously except as noted below)

2. Reports of Officers:

- a) President: (Bruce Harper – resigned April 2003)

3 years ago I was asked to run for BCCF president. At that point the Federation was more or less bankrupt. We are now considerably better off. The question now becomes what the Federation should be doing now that we are financially able to. I resigned because I thought it was time for someone else to be president and resigning before the meeting seemed to be the best way to ensure people would know I meant it.

There is a natural tendency to assume the usual people will choose to do the usual things meaning that 3 or 4 people end up doing nearly everything. The BCCF is a federation in a large province and I think the role of the federation is to coordinate organizers, in Vancouver, Vancouver Island and elsewhere since without the local organizers nothing gets done. People need to consider this when electing the new executive. I would like to see a master schedule of events for the entire year. There need to be certain times where major recognized events take place and we need to plan a year ahead. I consider that the ONLY role of the tournament coordinator is to ensure people know what is going on. The BC Championship, the BC Junior, the BC Women's championship should be decided for at the beginning of each year. The BCCF website is being underused for publicizing our events. I think the role of publicity coordinator (which has been conspicuously vacant these past two years) has a big part to play. The Keres Memorial doesn't need this help – it is well established and people know all about it but there are a lot of things we could do to improve the advertising of our other events.

Again, the biggest weakness in the BCCF is that most of the work is thrown on a very few people and if you have enough people contributing things get done.

Moved (Deline / Azmitia) to accept the President's report. Passed

b) Vice Presidents' reports:

Vancouver Island (Lynn Stringer): Junior chess is very much alive and well on the Island. In addition a group of Victoria players have visited the provincial jails. The CYCC events in particular are thriving Moved (Stephens / Stanford) to accept the Vancouver Island Vice President's report. Passed.

Northern VP – chess in the north has been pretty quiescent with most of activity due to a few players. During 2002 / 2003 the only major event was in Vanderhoof. We have a problem up north with a common attitude being “what do I get from the CFC / BCCF up here”. Alan Whitman and Dave Adamson were key individuals who no longer live in the north. Now that the Canadian Championship is an Open Swiss tournament there is much less interest in qualifier type events.

Moved (Oszvald / Stanford) to accept the Northern BC Vice President's report. Passed

c) Secretary/Treasurer's (Lyle Craver) report : See BCCF Financial Statements for details (Income Statement, Balance Sheet). A discussion of the financial state of the federation ensued including the need for an inventory of equipment owned by the Federation.

Speaking as Secretary, congratulations were made to David Herder for his achievement of the FIDE Master title during 2002/2003.

Moved (North / Enns) to accept the Secretary/Treasurer's reports. Approved.

d) Junior Coordinators (Stephen Wright speaking for himself and Katherine Davies): Two junior grand prix series of events were held in Vancouver and Victoria. There have been some problems with CFC regular vs. CFC active ratings. The CFC rates ALL junior events regular rather than active – but until January 2003 junior events have been reported as active. Many top juniors will not play in Game/30 events if rated active – this creates problems with respect to qualifiers to provincial and national events. Agree with Bruce's and Lyle's comments concerning need to develop more directors and organizers.

Questions from the floor: Why Game/30 using CFC regular ratings? This was a 1999 CFC motion that requires this unless 50% or more of participants are rated over 1500. Note that events officially designated as “junior events” are not allowed to have adults participating and that the CFC does not require CFC membership for junior only events, thus they get a lower turnout if adults take part (and CFC membership is accordingly required)

Questions from floor: What has been done towards making chess part of the BC schools curriculum? Is it resources or other reasons? A. This has not really seriously attempted. Harold Daykin (former junior coordinator) has made approaches to some boards. Q. Any reason we can't make a committee to approach school boards? A. I having nothing against this but this is a huge job. What are you expecting school boards to offer? Money? Teachers? Q. If such a committee is not endorsed by the BCCF why should boards take us seriously?

At this point the meeting consensus was to hold this discussion over for new business since it went well beyond the contents of the Junior Coordinators' report.

Moved (Stanford / Deline) to accept the Junior Coordinators' report. Passed.

Mr. Wright then discussed the BCCF E-mail bulletin which has been going on for several months – it is free and can be signed up for through the BCCF web site.

Clubs coordinator (Joe Oszvald): There is a very active inter-club team schedule. The league is stronger than last year – we considered CFC rating match games but many players did not want to “put their ratings on the line” for club matches. Some controversy exists concerning some teams fielding teams including non-members.

Moved (Azmitia / Wright) to accept the Clubs Coordinator's report. Passed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President: Joe Oszvald and Robert North were nominated and a tie vote was recorded. While the scrutineers were counting the votes we went on to acclaim the following as regional Vice-Presidents:

Vice Presidents: Vancouver Island: Lynn Stringer
Interior: Wally Steinke (subject to acceptance by Mr. Steinke)
Northern: John Niksic

Once the presidential tie vote was announced it was moved (Azmitia / Wright) to adjourn the meeting to 2 pm May 19th. PASSED.

The meeting was resumed at 2pm Monday May 21st.

Present were: Eduardo Azmitia, Mark Barnes, Nathan Bauman, Nick Beqo, Brad Booker, Dan Chapman, Lyle Craver, Katherine Davies, Toni Deline, Edward Enns, Balin Fleming, Alan Forsythe, Nigel Fullbrook, William Jung, Mike Kindret, George Kosinski, Hugh Long, Brian McLaren, Brent McLean, Dragoljub Milicevic, Eduardo Moura, Gerry Neufahrt, John Niksic, Robert North, Joe Oszvald, Stewart Paulson, Rod Planas, Richard Reid, Mike Stanford, Gavin Steininger, Desmond Stephens, Lynn Stringer, Brian Sullivan, Robert Topic, Stephen Wright, Jack Yoos plus one illegible.

The following officers were elected for 2003 / 2004

President: Joe Oszvald
Secretary: Lyle Craver
Treasurer: Lyle Craver
Junior Coordinators: Katherine Davies, Stephen Wright
Webmaster: Mark Barnes
Tournament Coordinator: Robert North
Clubs Coordinator: Hugh Long
Publicity Coordinator: Nathan Bauman

Members at Large: The following were acclaimed as BCCF Members at Large:
Peter Stockhausen, Mike Stanford

The following were acclaimed as Governors of the Chess Federation of Canada for 2003 / 2004 (referred to in the Governors; Letter as "Incoming Governors"): Mark Barnes, Lyle Craver, John Niksic, Joe Oszvald, Mike Stanford, Stephen Wright

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Schools Committee: Desmond Stephens is interested in forming a committee with the goal of getting chess more recognized in the BC public schools system. Desmond asks that the AGM set out the criteria for this committee. Recommended committee members were Harold Daykin, Katherine Davies, Stephen Wright, Gregory Churchill, Desmond Stephens, Joe Oszvald.

Desmond wants the committee to gather information, to develop its mandate, and most of all coordinate to avoid duplicating each other's work.

2. Keres Memorial 2004 – can we do something about billets for next year? It was noted this is common in Victoria tournaments but unusual in Vancouver. Could we have a section for juniors only with trophies but no cash prizes

3. 2003 – 2004 Tournament Schedule: There is a strong need for more directors and organizers. Excluding the Keres and 1 round per week format events, there were 5 adult weekend Swiss tournaments in Vancouver in 2002 / 2003 all organized by the junior coordinators. It was suggested each club organize one weekend Swiss tournament per year. This would greatly add to the number of events held in Vancouver

4. Keres 2005 – 30th anniversary of the Keres and also 15th anniversary of the death of Dr. Macskasy. It would be desirable to use this occasion to run two separate events so that the same players could play in both the Macskasy memorial plus the Keres memorial and the Washington Open (currently held in successive weeks). Robert North and Bruce Harper expressed interest in serving on a Keres 2005 / Macskasy Memorial 2005 committee.

5. BC Championship 2003 – Lynn Stringer would like to hold the BC Closed in Victoria during the Thanksgiving long weekend. The format of the tournament is to be announced. Are there others interested in holding such an event?

Moved to adjourn Niksic / North The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

2003-2004 BCCF Executive (* represents CFC Governors)

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VP Northern BC	John Niksic *	1005 1st Ave. W. Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1B5 (250) 624-2937	jniksic@citytel.net
VP Interior BC (pending acceptance)	Wally Steinke		wsteinke@sd22.bc.ca
Past President	Bruce Harper	3641 West 48 th Avenue Vancouver, BC V6N 3R2 (604) 263-8264	bruce54321@shaw.ca
Secretary Treasurer	Lyle Craver *	4797 Hoskins Road North Vancouver, BC V7K2R3 ph/fax (604) 980-2040	lcraver@shaw.ca
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