

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

*submitted by Harold J. Winston,
Co-Chair*



Harold Winston
Co-Chair
Bylaws Committee

The Bylaws Committee is charged by the Delegates with reporting on both substance and form of proposed Bylaws changes (DM 87-21). We thank the Delegates for adopting some of our proposals at the 2002 meeting, particularly the provisions for special Delegate meetings.

Ernie Schlich (VA) and I serve as Co-Chairs. We thank Mike Nolan (NE) for his past work as Co-Chair.

This will be a short report, as amazingly the 2002 Delegates meeting made no referrals to the committee for the first time in many years.

The committee will try to review any new Bylaws proposals on the 2003 Delegates agenda and will check if any technical amendments are needed to the current Bylaws.

In addition the committee responded to inquiries through Co-Chair Ernie Schlich (VA) and myself. I thank Ernie and all our other committee members for their participation: Mike Nolan (NE), Myron Lieberman (AZ), Bill Goichberg (NY), Guy Hoffman (WI), Al Losoff (IL), Steve Doyle (NJ), David Mehler (MD), Gary Kitts (MI), Randy Hough (S.CA), Richard Koepcke (N.CA), Wick Deer (IN), and Robert Persante (FL).

Please join us at the Bylaws workshop, scheduled for Friday morning August 8, 2003 at the Radisson Hotel at the Los Angeles airport in California.

To contact the committee, please e-mail Co-Chair Ernie Schlich at eschlich@aol.com.

CHESS-IN-EDUCATION COMMITTEE

submitted by Tim Redman, Chair



Tim Redman
Chair
Chess-in-Education
Committee

Although individual committee members were active on various projects during the year, and media attention to the beneficial effects of chess on educational development continued, the committee as a whole was not active. We decided to postpone the planned two-day U.S. Open workshop for teachers for a year because some committee members were uncertain of their plans and because drastic state budget cuts in California made attendance by teachers unlikely. Such workshops, which offer continuing education units for ongoing certifications requirements, are normally supported by school districts. We hope to have more to report next year.

COLLEGE CHESS COMMITTEE

*submitted by Dr. Alan T. Sherman
(UMBC), Chair*



Dr. Alan T.
Sherman
(UMBC) Chair

The following points summarize the activities and actions of the College Chess Committee (CCC).

I. The CCC met at the 2002 *Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship (Pan-Am)* in Miami. Among the issues discussed were future Pan-Ams, NCCL, National Grade Tourney, President's Cup, and eligibility rules for university chess. The committee agreed to continue discussion and vote by email.

II. Thirty teams from twenty-three schools competed in the Pan-Am, which was organized by Arden W. Dilley. UMBC's B team won. Tied for second place were the A Teams from UMBC (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) and UTD (University of Texas at Dallas), with UMBC outscoring UTD on tie breaks.

III. April 4-6, *The President's Cup* was held at the World Chess Hall of Fame in Miami. Generous support for this invitational team-round-robin event was provided by the USCF and the World Chess Hall of Fame. The top four USA schools from the Pan-Am competed. UMBC won, followed by UTD, Miami Dade Community College, and Chicago.

IV. The *National Collegiate Chess League (NCCL)* was held this spring on US Chess Live. Nineteen teams from fifteen universities participated. UMBC and UTD shared the first-place title, with UMBC outranking UTD on tie breaks.

V. The CCC nominates Stanford University for *Chess College of the Year*. Stanford has an impressive history of activity and performance in college chess.

VI. The 2003 Pan-Am will be held December 27-30 again in Miami. The CCC requests that the USCF immediately release \$1,000 to organizer Arden W. Dilley to help promote the event. The CCC welcomes proposals for the 2004 Pan-Am. Dr. Alan Sherman of UMBC offers to organize the 2005 Pan-Am in Washington, DC.

VII. In May, the eight members of the CCC voted by email on each of the following eleven resolutions as follows:

1. Limit on years of eligibility for Pan-Am

1a. No person may compete in the Pan-Am more than six times total, regardless of school affiliation or degree program.

[YES-5, NO-3, Abstain-0. Currently there is no limit on the number of years of eligibility. Some members liked the simplicity of this rule, and one felt the alternative 1b would unfairly hurt community colleges. Some voting against pointed out that simplicity is a poor reason to support this rule.]

1b. No player may be eligible for more than the following maximum number of academic years, counted separately for each of various types of degree programs: undergraduates-five years, master's students-three years, PhD students-six years, law students-three years, and medical students-three years. By entering one or more major college event within an academic year, that academic year counts toward the player's total years of eligibility.

[YES-4, NO-4, Abstain-0. Some members felt the alternative 1a would be highly unfair to PhD students.]

2. Selection of teams for President's Cup

The participants in the President's Cup shall be the top four schools from the Pan-Am.

[YES-5, NO-3, Abstain-0. Currently, the top four USA schools are invited. Members voting against preferred seating the previous winner. Two members voting against preferred inviting top USA schools.]

3. Faculty and alumni in NCCL

Alumni and faculty are not eligible to compete in the NCCL.

[YES-5, NO-2, Abstain-1. Currently, each team may include one faculty member and one alumni player.]

4. Number of alternates in the NCCL

Each team in the NCCL may have an unlimited number of alternates, which must be specified by the registration deadline.

[YES-5, NO-3, Abstain-0. In 2003, up to four alternates were allowed. In previous years, an unlimited number of alternates were allowed. Members voting against preferred a limit of four alternates. Allowing more alternates makes it easier for schools to enter, but some members felt that doing so gives an unfair advantage to schools with large chess programs.]

5. FIDE rules for the Pan-Am

Whereas the Pan-Am is an international tournament, FIDE (not USCF) rules shall apply.

[YES-5, NO-3, Abstain-0. Currently USCF rules apply. Note that players can help monitor time scrambles.]

6. Ratings for the Pan-Am

Whereas the Pan-Am is an international tournament, FIDE (not USCF) ratings shall be used. If a player has no FIDE rating but has a national rating, then an estimated FIDE rating shall be computed as the maximum of the player's home country rating and USCF rating after using the standard conversions to FIDE ratings. If a player was ever rated by any country, then that player shall be considered to be rated, even if the country no longer considers the player rated.

[YES-4, NO-3, Abstain-1. Currently, USCF ratings are used. Members voting against preferred the following alternative: The Pan-Am shall use USCF ratings, and the assigned rating shall be the maximum of the player's USCF, FIDE, and home country ratings after using the standard conversions to USCF ratings.]

7. Minimum GPA for university players

For all major college events (including the Pan-Am, President's Cup, and NCCL), each player must satisfy the following GPA requirements. Each undergraduate must have a cumulative GPA at the current school of at least 2.0. Each graduate student must have a cumulative GPA at the current school of at least 3.0. Cumulative GPA refers to the grade point average of all courses taken at the current school at the current degree level (e.g., all undergraduate courses). We assume that GPAs are in the range 0 to 4.0; schools with different scales must apply these rules using their standard conversion rules.

[YES-5, NO-3, Abstain-0. Currently there is no minimum GPA requirement.]

8. Correspondence and distance courses

In a semester of eligibility, each player must complete at least three credits in a course that physically meets on campus. For this requirement, correspondence or distance-education classes do not count.

[YES-4, NO-4, Abstain-0. Currently a student may take all of his or her courses off campus. Some members note that many legitimate students take distance classes. Others wish to avoid, say, a Russian Grandmaster ringer playing from Moscow. One observer suggested that students be required to live within the same state of the school.]

9. Semester of eligibility

Each player must be eligible in the fall semester to complete in any fall event, including the Pan-Am, which is held in December 27-30 or December 26-29. Similarly, each player must be eligible in the spring to complete in any spring or summer event.

[YES-5, NO-3, Abstain-0. Currently there is no such requirement. Members voting against supported the concept but preferred eligibility for the Pan-Am to be based on the fall semester or spring semester (or both) of the given academic year. One member felt the President's Cup should have the same rules as for the Pan-Am.]

10. New individual college tournament

Some type of annual individual national college championship should be created and held in October. For example, this event might be held over the Internet, as is the NCCL. Alternatively, there could be several concurrent regional events, followed by a playoff held on the Internet.

[YES-8, NO-0, Abstain-0. Currently, there are no major college events in the fall semester. Years ago, there used to be an annual individual college championship. Sometimes, the Pan-Am would alternate between a team event and an individual event.]

11. College sections at other events

We support Steve Shutt's suggestion that various existing events (e.g., national grade championships) create college sections.

[YES-5, NO-3, Abstain-0. Steve Shutt believes that high school students who like the culture of these events will enjoy returning to them as college students. Moreover this concept will help bridge the gap between high school and

college chess. Members voting against felt that it would be inappropriate to mix college and high school students in this fashion.]

USCF COLLEGE CHESS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2003

The USCF College Chess Committee (CCC) met December 29, 2002, in Miami at the 2002 Pan-Am. The following people attended the meeting and wish to serve on the 2003 CCC. Those present re-elected Alan Sherman as Chair, and they elected Enrique Rios as Vice-Chair.

Dr. Alan T. Sherman (Chair), UMBC, sherman@umbc.edu, 410-455-2666

Enrique Rios (Vice Chair), UTD, BigDaddyUTD@aol.com, 972-948-0413

Artem Gulish, Montgomery College, artul@comcast.net, 301-926-1287

Rade Milovanovic, UTD, mrode@cs.com, 972-671-1454

Bradley Marts, Duke, marts@phy.duke.edu, 919-419-1359

Logan Allin, Duke, lwa@duke.edu, 919-613-1488

Jonathan Heckman, Princeton University, chess@princeton.edu, 609-986-9392

Dave Brogan, Penn State, cow23@yahoo.com, (717) 948-0366

Total: 8

Executive Board Liaison: Dr. Frank Brady

Office Liaison: Tom Brownscombe

Office Executive Assistant: Barbara Vandermark,

ExecAssist@uschess.org

Note: Andrew Whatley, UTD, Rosewoody7@yahoo.com,

972-769-0135 [resigned 4-03]

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS COMMITTEE

submitted by
Harold Stenzel, Chair

The committee had one major issue to deal with this year. The USCF office had temporarily suspended acceptance of entries into tournaments. It was reversed pending reports from Prison Chess and this committee. A full report will be given at the delegate's meeting.



Harold Stenzel
Chair

CRAMER AWARD COMMITTEE

submitted by *Don Schultz, Chair*

The Cramer Awards Committee has terminated its efforts to get Chess-in-the-Schools to fund the Cramer Awards for Excellence in Chess Journalism, as was the intent of former USCF President Fred Cramer in his 1988 bequest to them. The reason we have dropped this is that there doesn't seem to be any chance of success and further attempts such as going to court might damage the very good work Chess-in-the-Schools is doing in the promotion of scholastic chess in New York City.

Through the generosity of other patrons, the committee has secured enough funds, which are on deposit with the U.S. Chess Trust, to continue annual awards of well appreciated Green Pyramid trophy/mementos for Chess Journalist of the Year, Best State Publication, Best Book and Best Chess Column.

The Cramer Committee is working very close with the Chess Journalists of America, particularly in the selection of "The Chess Journalist of the



Don Schultz
Chair, Cramer Award
Committee

Year” We are pleased to see the inclusion of a photo of the “Chess Journalist of the Year” on the Table of Contents page of each issue of *Chess Life*.

DENKER TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

submitted by
Jack C. Mallory, Chair

The Denker Committee continues its efforts to have a representative from every state play in the Denker Tournament of High School Champions. We reached a new record of 45 players in 2002.

IGM Arnold Denker, The University of Texas at Dallas, the U.S. Chess Trust, and American Chess Equipment continue to support this event.

IGM Arnold Denker contributes expense monies each year. The University of Texas at Dallas will contribute as many as two full scholarships in 2003. These scholarships are valued at more than \$40,000 each.

The U.S. Chess Trust increased its contribution for 2003.

American Chess Equipment, in addition to hosting the Denker Reception in 2002, added medallions for each participant and a trophy plaque for the winner. These trophies and the reception will be repeated by American Chess Equipment in 2003.



Jack C. Mallory
Chair, Denker
Tournament Committee

ELECTION PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

submitted by
Bill Goichberg &
Mike Nolan,
Co-Chairs



Bill Goichberg
Chair



Mike Nolan
Co-Chair

The Election Procedures Committee has been helping the USCF Secretary, the Board and the office devise procedures for the first national OMOV election that are fair and proper under our Bylaws.

Most of this communication has been by e-mail, though we did hold an unscheduled committee meeting in New Windsor last February when both of the co-chairs were available.

We have tried to learn from the problems experienced in past national elections, and in the final hours before the ballot needs to be submitted to the printer we are engaged in a rapid reworking of the ballot to use a procedure that we feel will be both simpler for the voter to follow and less costly to the Federation.

Based on our experiences, we will be offering several ADM's on the election process. Some are to simplify the process of preparing a future mail ballot. Another is to recommend that the Delegates authorize the Board to implement on-line voting if suitable procedures can be developed. Those voting members unable to vote on-line will still be able to request a ballot by mail.

We wish to offer our thanks to the USCF office staff for their work in helping us all getting ready for this election, with special thanks to Barb Vandemark.

ETHICS COMMITTEE

submitted by
Kenneth Sloan, Chair

This has been a very busy year for the Ethics Committee. When the year began, there were a number of open cases in various stages of neglect. In at least one case, the files were simply “lost.” This was largely due to shifting responsibilities in the Office. Ethics complaints often begin with poorly articulated grumblings — the person making the complaint knows that something bad has happened but isn't quite sure what to do about it. This stage of the process requires the judgement of a senior staff person who can identify the problem as an Ethics issue and help the “plaintiff” produce a well-formed Ethics Complaint. The Ethics Committee considers the initial complaint to make sure that it lies within our jurisdiction. This is easy when the complaint is specific about the unethical actions and also specific about the part of the USCF Code of Ethics (COE) which has been violated. The COE is intentionally vague, so this is sometimes a problem, but often it is possible to be very specific about what has been done and why it is wrong.

The Office then supervises a process of data collection. The initial complaint is sent to all interested parties (usually, the “defendant”) for comment. These comments are sent to the plaintiff for rebuttal. That rebuttal is sent to the defendant(s) for a final comment. All of this takes time. Most of the time, the Office is waiting for a response. Usually 2 weeks is allowed for each response. When a response comes in it is essential for the Office to turn that response around and get it back in the hands of the U.S. Post Office ASAP.

This can involve a lot of tedious work (copying, producing boilerplate letters) and the workload is very spikey. Prompt action requires the attention of senior staff — if only to be sure that Ethics complaints become high priority when a response arrives. The good news is that we are back on schedule. As this is written, there are five “open” Ethics cases in various stages of development and two potential complaints that have not yet been made official. None are now in serious time trouble. This has been entirely due to the efforts of Nancy Evans and Barb Vandermark, who have worked very hard and have succeeded in instituting methods of tracking the paperwork and keeping everything on track.

The Ethics Committee has a tradition of rotating the Chair on a yearly basis. I am looking forward to the Delegates' Meeting with great pleasure.

FIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

submitted by Don Schultz, Chair

Four Advisory Reports were submitted.

A Committee Report on Secrecy recommended:

1) Wider distribution of meeting reports from the USCF Delegate, Zonal President and other FIDE team members.

2) When attending FIDE meetings, daily exchange of information and strategy planning among USCF representatives should be conducted.

A Report on Olympiad Team Performance recommended:

1) USCF put more pre-Olympiad publicity in *Chess Life*.

2) USCF arrange letters and phone calls of support for our team from celebrities.

3) Invitations to meet the team should be routinely extended to the local U.S. Ambassador and Embassy staff during the Olympiad.

4) Player compensation be heavily weighted towards performance.

5) USCF arrange international competition for our budding young stars.

A Report on the FIDE Honorary Presidency recommended:

The Executive Board instruct the USCF representative on FIDE's



Don Schultz
Chair, Cramer Award
Committee

Executive Council to place a motion on the advance agenda of the next FIDE Executive Council meeting that will eliminate the position of Honorary President.

The Advisory Committee gave the following recommendations as a policy for handling visa requests:

1. As a general policy, the USCF will not provide letters of support for visa requests. Exceptions may be made when the USCF seeks permission for GMs and IMs (plus spouses) and leading FIDE and national federation officials to attend tournaments or chess events directly organized and run by the USCF.

2. A reasonable number of associates of that invited guest may, if circumstances warrant, also be invited, but the President and the Executive Director must approve.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

submitted by Mike Nolan, Chair

The good: The USCF did better in 2002-03 than in recent years, and the book and equipment business increased by 44% over last year.

The bad: Expenses are still high, cash is extremely tight and likely to remain so, especially during the summer lull, adult memberships dropped more than had been anticipated, scholastic membership growth seems to have leveled off, book and equipment sales are still below the levels from the mid 1990s and the profit margin from book and equipment sales is down from that era, too.

The ugly: The Finance committee started out with nine members; it finished with four. The audit took far longer than anyone anticipated, something that frustrated the Committee for months, a distraction that probably kept us from analyzing other, more current, financial information. The purpose of the Finance Committee should be to assist the Board and the Executive Director. At times I think we added unnecessarily to Frank Niro's workload with our requests for information.

The USCF's financial problems are far from over and the current fiscal year will be a very critical one for the USCF.

My goal as committee chair was to produce a cost center analysis. A draft version of this analysis was sent to the Finance Committee and the Executive Board for their comments in early May.

Here are some conclusions from that analysis:

Book & Equipment ran at about a \$300,000 loss in fiscal year 2001-02, though that includes the allocation of over \$500,000 in overhead expenses and administrative payroll to B&E. Based on that analysis, the break-even point for B&E was estimated at around \$2.8 to \$3 million. Analysis of the preliminary results for the 2002-03 fiscal year, including similar allocation of overhead expenses, suggests that B&E lost around \$50,000 in the most recent fiscal year on sales of around \$2.6 million. It is important to note that most of the allocated expenses would occur even if we had no book and equipment business, so the computed loss is somewhat misleading. For example, B&E is covering a significant part of the Executive Director's salary.

The USCF ratings department ran at about a \$58,000 loss on revenue of \$112,000. That included the allocation of around \$70,000 in administrative payroll and other overhead expenses. To bring this department to a break-even point would require increasing ratings fees by around 50% across the board, an action that organizers might find unacceptable.

The cost of membership processing ran around \$325,000 in 2001-02. Spread over the 77,000 memberships that were processed during that fiscal year, the cost of processing a membership can be estimated at around \$4.20 per membership.

Changes in the USCF's financial structure, such as the dues revisions passed last year and the agreement with Classic Games & Bridge to extend



Mike Nolan
Chair

the Book & Equipment titles, will change the way this analysis needs to be done for 2002-03 and subsequent years.

Once the audit for 2002-03 is completed, I will be redoing my analysis, including making some revisions based on those structural changes. A more detailed report on both the 2001-02 and 2002-03 fiscal years will be available in Los Angeles.

HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE

submitted by

John Donaldson, Chair



John Donaldson
Chair

The Hall of Fame Committee had few duties the past twelve months as it was a transitional year for the induction process. Previous to 2002 new members were inducted to the Hall of Fame during the Awards Luncheon at the U.S. Open. That changed in 2002-2003 and this past March Grandmasters Walter Browne and Lev Alburt were inducted, along with the late Donald Byrne, in a ceremony held at the U.S. and World Hall of Fame in Miami. This July a call for nominations for 2004 will be issued in the pages of the August *Chess Life* and the Hall of Fame Committee will inform the Trustees of the U.S. Chess Trust of its decision no later than October 1st.

INTERNET CHESS COMMITTEE

submitted by Myron L. Ieberman



Myron Lieberman
Chair, Internet
Committee

The committee considers the production of an introduction to on-line chess, which includes definitions of new terms, descriptions of concepts unique to on-line chess, and rules for both on-line chess and e-mail chess, to be urgently needed.

The publication must make it clear to the inexperienced player what circumstances might exist when playing on-line that would not be a factor in over-the-board competition, what rule differences are necessitated by these factors, and what to expect.

The differences between playing in real time on a server, where there is interaction with the opponent, and play via e-mail, where there is no interaction, must be carefully explained.

The role of USCF in on-line chess should be that of setting standards and certifying playing sites. That cannot be done without the release of publicly available standards that are accepted by those active in on-line chess at all levels.

Unfortunately, the committee was unable to find a group of people who were willing, able, and qualified to help create the standards and rules. Therefore, the biggest need that the USCF currently faces is to locate people who can help on this project and add them to the committee.

Anyone who would like to help with this project should contact Frank Camaratta, who is the Executive Board liaison to the Internet Chess Committee.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ASSET COMMITTEE

submitted by Al Lawrence, Chair



Al Lawrence
Chair

This year, the LMA Committee started out with eight members: Stan Booz, Frank Camaratta, E. Steven Doyle, David Knudson, Al Lawrence, Mike Nolan, Harry Sabine, and Fred Townsend. Al Lawrence was elected chair by the group. During the year, Doyle and

Knudson resigned due to the pressure of their work schedules. Linda Legenos was the Committee's office liaison.

The purpose of the LMA (Life Membership Assets) Committee is made clear by its name. It is a committee created by the delegates in 1994 to manage and preserve the assets set aside by special delegate action to offset the ongoing financial commitment to life members. Pointedly, the delegates created the Committee separate from the powers of the Executive Board. Other committees are staffed by the EB and responsible only to advising the board, which is then free to follow or ignore the advice. In the case of the LMAC, the delegates appoint its members directly each year at the convention, and the Committee has authority over the use and management of the designated assets.

Why did USCF segregate LMA assets in 1986?

Why did the delegates, going back to 1986, create a division within USCF's assets? In the 1970s, USCF sold life memberships cheaply (for as little as 10 dollars!) and spent the resulting income, retaining nothing to balance the ongoing obligation. By 1986 we had signed up some 10,000 life members, approximately 20% of our membership. In 1986, when our sales program had generated our first significant organizational profits, USCF used the money to pay off the mortgage on the New Windsor land and office building, and began a separated, protected account of Life Membership Assets. In addition, the delegates established a percentage that had to be deposited in the fund when payments were made on life memberships—five percent of lump-sum payments and 50 percent of sustaining payments. Later, they raised the price of life memberships to a fee actuarially more commensurate with the obligation.

Untouchable Assets

The delegates declared these LM assets—land, building, cash and investments—to be completely untouchable by management. As Executive Director at the time, I chafed at the prospect—should a financial disaster occur—of turning off the lights and sending staff home with assets in the bank we couldn't access because of internal regulations. Fortunately, the point remained moot. Then in the 1990s, the delegates approved rules for emergency borrowing by "operations" — effectively defined as all income and expense other than Life Member Assets.

But isn't it all really USCF's money? And what happened to our fortune?

The LM assets are a part of USCF's total assets. The special fund is very much USCF's money. But the money is not spent at the discretion of operational management. Indeed, sometimes we speak of "operations" as the management of activities and resources other than LMA funds. The effectiveness of operation's management should therefore be assessed based on results other than LMA resources. The "combined" financial statement can sometimes be misleading unless we keep this division of responsibility in mind.

Although operational management is not authorized to spend LM funds, before Frank Niro's stewardship, the LMA kept operations afloat by loaning it large sums of money. In 1996 the total value of the fund was approximately \$2,000,000. But the period between then and Niro's appointment saw our organization run appalling deficits. To keep the operation afloat, various LMAC committees over the years authorized borrowing from these special funds, borrowing that approximated \$700,000. The LMA, in times of emergency, has consistently acted to bail out USCF's operations rather than see it financially crippled.

Are life members a liability?

We're told that there is no legal or accounting requirement to maintain a fund that attempts to offset our commitment to serve life members. Certainly, however, it seems fiscally responsible to do so. If the organization had not put aside these reserves, it's likely—in fact, it seems clear—that the bad results of 1996-2002 would have caused us to implode and perhaps even to collapse. One point separate from facts, figures and legal requirements should be made. Life members themselves should not be viewed as

"liabilities" that keep us from maintaining a positive fund balance. Life members are wonderful assets—people who care enough about the organization to want to belong for life. Such members should be proud of their status. It is USCF's fault, not theirs, that the LMA remains under-funded. And it could be said that, were it not for our life members, USCF may well have foundered in the late 1990s.

How did the fund do this year?

On June 1, 2002, the LMA fund had \$516,368 dollars in its investment account with Oberweis Securities, Inc., of North Aurora, Illinois. On June 1, 2003, the account value was \$369,108. In 2002 Operations transferred \$100,243 from the LMA to Operations. There was no specific committee approval of these two transfers (one on July 12th and one on September 6th). The remaining decrease of \$47,017 is a result of the market fall. Our investments are intended as long-term positions. All such funds will suffer in bear markets and thrive in bull markets. Of course, the building and land remain assets. Fair market value is approximately \$600,000, less needed repairs.

A packet containing the month-by-month fund statements for all 12 months of the fiscal year will be available at the finance workshop in Los Angeles.

Reconstructing past transactions

This year's Committee became concerned about the appropriateness of withdrawals from the fund that may have taken place during the management turnover of recent years. The Committee requested from USCF current management early in the year and repeatedly throughout the year a spreadsheet showing the complete history of LMA transactions—not to the level of individual investments, but the deposits, withdrawals and transfers between operations and the LMA. This request has not been fulfilled. At the end of May, I received a box of materials from which some of this information may be extracted. I hope to have a report for the delegates by the time of the meeting.

The LMA Committee as landlord

The USCF pays rent to itself. That's because operations occupies and uses an LM asset—the land and building. The LMA should thus pay to keep the building in repair—both for the sake of USCF's employees and to protect the asset. In 2002, before Frank Niro became ED, the LMA Committee spent hours of analysis and discussion on a schedule of important repairs. It then authorized a sufficient sum of money for these long-overdue fixes. The work to this day remains undone.

Transfers, imputing and misunderstanding

The rent operations pays to the LMA is sometimes referred to as "imputed rent" because there should be an offsetting flow of credits and debits between operations and the LMA. A portion of Life member payments made to USCF is credited to the LMA. So is the rent. But ideally the LMA should pay approximately \$175,000 per year to operations—\$16.72 per life member—to service life members. So these credits and debits should be reconciled. Four times a year, an actual transfer of funds should take place that balances the accounts.

In previous years and administrations, the LMAC "lent" a great deal of money to operations. It has not been repaid, of course, because until this year, USCF had continued to operate at a loss. The Committee, after repeatedly authorizing large "loans," eventually insisted that, in effect, the fund retain all new payments toward life membership, rather than the percentage stipulated by delegate action. But what happened in actuality was that no transfers were made! Further, the agreement struck with management was that each month, in addition to rent, a payment of more than \$10,000 (principal and interest) would be paid to the LMA. It's not clear if any such payments have been made.

Accountants versus actuaries

According to GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles), USCF's

promise of long-term service to life members does not require a compensating, segregated fund. Accountants within the organization generally want us to refrain from seeing our life members as a financial liability that must be carried on our balance sheet. Actuaries sometimes have an opposing, more fiscally conservative view. They think of such pledges as financial liabilities that play out over a number of decades, requiring designated assets as an offset. The organization has decided, correctly in my view, that we are wise to maintain separate assets. However, management pointed out that there were certain advantages to being able to publish reports that conformed with GAAP. Therefore, the LMAC passed, unanimously, the following motion:

“For fiscal years 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, financial reporting to the Delegates and for other internal purposes must follow the traditional actuarial method of accounting for Life Member obligations. At the same time, a year-closing report, which will be used to document USCF finances to banks and other outside agencies, will be prepared using the Deferred Revenue (DR, which meets GAAP) method. It is understood that the opinion rendered by the auditors will be directly relevant only to the DR method, but a reconciliation between the reports will be prepared and made available by the office.”

Discussion:

1. The motion pointedly avoids transition, which can be the subject of follow-up motions.
2. The motion satisfies the USCF ED.
3. The duality of the reporting would have solid precedent. Prior to 1997, the auditors prepared a year-closing financial report applying depreciation to fixed assets, while we used a different report to the delegates (supplying a reconciliation) that fully expensed all fixed assets.
4. The logic of having the DR report is solid. We want to show ourselves to best advantage — in an audit-certified, GAAP-approved format — for the purposes of getting credit and other support.

USCF's move

The USCF is considering moving and restructuring. If we can sell the currently owned building for fair market value, it would be a good decision, because our parking is severely restricted and the new owner of the adjacent land needs to revoke our parking privileges there. The Committee is currently studying a proposal from Frank Niro. Elements of it would require LMA's approval to dissolve its land and building assets.

The current proposal from management asks the LMA to allow the building to be sold for a net (after repair credits to the buyer) of approximately \$525,000. The majority of this cash would then be used to pay off USCF's existing line of credit, now at its upper limit of \$300,000. Moving expenses are budgeted at \$75,000; new computer systems at another \$75,000. That would leave the LMA with \$75,000 from the sale. But the three acres pledged in Crossville, Tennessee, (the site management is recommending) is valued at \$225,000. This would be transferred to LMA as an asset. So the LMA's asset of the current building would be “traded down” to assets totaling \$300,000 in order to allow USCF to make its contemplated move. These issues are under consideration by the Committee at the time of this writing.

Replenishing the LM fund and other recommendations

After USCF's move, the LMA clearly can't continue to pay the \$175,000 annually to underwrite services to USCF's life members. ED Frank Niro agrees with this assessment and maintains that no further such payments should be budgeted. Regardless of the legalities, USCF should continue to segregate LM Assets and to replenish the fund. ED Frank Niro agrees with the plan to rebuild the fund. (And the issue of operation's agreed-upon payments of principal and interest on outstanding loans must be resolved.) The delegates should continue to name and authorize its LMA Committee. The system has worked well, helping to preserve and apply USCF's financial resources.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS (MIS) COMMITTEE

submitted by George C. John, Chair

This committee has pushed aggressively for many years to have the USCF take serious action to correct the computer and systems problems that are crippling the office. We have watched as one Executive Board replaces another, and Executive Directors come and go, but the computer systems just keep deteriorating unchecked.

Executive Director Frank Niro has presented his vision of relocating USCF headquarters, and improving internal processing so that the office will need only half as many people to operate. He has hired a Chief Information Officer, the first in USCF history, to handle the technical aspects of carrying out the internal reforms. This subject is so important that the committee has had extensive discussions with the CIO to make sure that real action will be taken. We believe that a sensible and realistic plan is in place for finally cleaning up the computer mess that blocks Frank Niro's plans.

The only problem is that the USCF has failed to allocate the necessary funds to carry out the work. In order for Frank Niro's strategic vision to work, the internal efficiency gains must be achieved by the time the USCF moves, which is now only twelve months away. It is astonishing to the committee that the planning budget for the fiscal year that began on June 1 does not earmark any money for capital improvements or software upgrades.

The committee calls on the Executive Board and Executive Director to clearly spell out how they intend to fund this plan.

OLYMPIC PARTICIPATION TASK COMMITTEE

submitted by Tim Redman, Chair

This report will be in two parts. The first is taken from my notes from the meeting of the FIDE Medical Commission in Bled, Slovenia on November 4, 2002. The second part, by John Fernandez, will be on work he has done about worldwide support for chess coming from Olympics-related sports groups.

Jana Bellin, M.D., chaired the meeting and took over the office of President of the Commission. Dr. Bellin is a Women's International Master and a former member of the English Women's Olympiad team. What follows came from announcements and discussion at the Commission meeting.

Drug testing at the Bled Olympiad began on the day of the Medical Commission meeting. Six players were tested; the four winning teams will also be tested. It was not the first tournament with anti-doping measures. Testing was done at the December 2001 world individual championship and also in Continental tournaments in several venues. Dr. Bellin sought guidance from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and a Slovenian professor as to how to implement testing without alienating our players. Testing in the Olympiad was the most limited kind compatible with Olympic ideals and WADA regulations. Urine samples only were taken. Dr. Bellin remarked that chess is a young person's sport and we have to send the right signals.

A question was raised as to the consequences to an individual who tests positive or refuses to take the test. Dr. Bellin responded that there would be no financial penalties. Individual circumstances would be considered, e.g., whether or not the drug is dangerous and the method of ingestion. The first reaction would be a warning, and confidentiality would be maintained. Refusal to submit to testing would be a petulant gesture. Competitors have come to the Olympiad knowing that testing is going on; a refusal would be very damning. Dr. Bellin strongly recommended that national federations advise their players not to refuse a drug test, particularly in light of the decision to interpret a positive test according to individual circumstances.

WADA is currently redrafting its recommendations for new regulations;



Tim Redman
Chair
Chess-in-Education
Committee

they can be found on its website. The proposals seem more reasonable than our current FIDE regulations — e.g., there is no mention of financial penalties — thus the FIDE rules need to be modified. They are too draconian. WADA regulations will be finalized in January 2004. Some forms of testing are not suitable for chess. For example, the new WADA proposal does require testing for anabolic steroids. A new category of mind- sports drugs needs to be considered. Dr. Bellin believes that we can put into effect something practical that would work for chess.

WADA told her that chess is a low-risk sport. She said that the large amount of money in some sports makes doping very tempting. Drug testing in chess competitions shows good will and compliance with the Olympic ideal. Testing in chess will be minimal, but players should be cooperative as a matter of principle and because they are top-level competitors and need to set an example to youth.

A representative from the German Chess Federation noted that doping is something that hurts your body and your mind. Anti-doping has an established history in sports, but is new to chess, which is causing problems. He also asked about caffeine. Dr. Bellin responded that coffee was not a problem. She thinks the scare about caffeine is unnecessary. No one will be banned for slightly high caffeine levels. Cannabis is not being tested for nor is alcohol. Nicotine patches are on the banned list.

The German representative also asked whether banning players for taking steroids wouldn't be silly. Dr. Bellin responded that it would not be silly because the players are giving a bad example and harming their bodies. WADA wants to give players every opportunity for review of a decision. Bans are for two months to two years in duration.

I asked about drugs under development that could enhance memory and cognition. Dr. Bellin responded that there was no need to start testing for a longer list of drugs that may be developed. According to both the Olympic ideal and the doping concept these drugs would not harm.

FIDE Treasurer David Jarrett announced that starting January 1, 2003, organizing federations running FIDE events must include drug testing in their budgets. A few days after the meeting, USCF President John McCrary met with Dr. Bellin. He will be working with her and the Commission.

John Fernandez's report

One of the most important successes by FIDE in the past decade has been the achievement of Chess becoming a recognized sport by the International Olympic Committee. This has gotten Chess to become a medal sport in many continental competitions, among them the All African Games and the Southeast Asian Games. By far, the major benefit for a National Chess Federation such as ours is the recognition by the National Olympic Committees. A majority of FIDE members are recognized by their National Olympic Committees, and of those, many receive financial support.

For the USCF, recognition by the United States Olympic Committee would be quite beneficial for us. The major benefit of USOC recognition is beneficial. The first benefit is that as a USOC member, the USCF would receive 501(c)(3) tax-deductible status from the IRS. This would allow the USCF to solicit tax-deductible donations, which could no doubt improve our financial standard. Another major benefit is direct grants from the USOC. In 2001, the USOC gave over \$49.5 Million dollars to National Sport Federations. A major goal should be to be recognized by the USOC.

Here is the breakdown of available data on National Olympic Committee recognition of National Chess Federations for FIDE's 166 member federations. Data is being updated on a daily basis. Those that have information, want the current information, or have any questions or comments can contact me at jfernandez@jfern.com and +1 (917) 771 - 0102.

NOC Recognition:

- 88 - Countries Recognized by their NOC
- 36 - Countries not Recognized by their NOC
- 42 - Data Not Available

NOC Financial Support:

- 40 - Countries that receive NOC Financial Support
- 53 - Countries that don't receive NOC Financial Support
- 73 - Data Not Available

Drug Testing:

- 20 - Countries with Drug Testing Programs
- 72 - Countries with no Drug Testing Programs
- 74 - Data Not Available

We have confirmed financial data on 21 Countries, which receive NOC support of approximately \$1.7 Million Dollars. Here are the totals as of March 15, 2003 exchange rates:

Afghanistan:	\$	1,000	Barbados:	\$	21,000
Belgium:		1,807	Colombia:		25,000
Croatia:		39,600	Egypt:		5,000
Fiji:		2,605	Israel:		150,000
Italy:		50,000	Lebanon:		15,000
Libya:		20,000	Mexico:		300,000
Netherlands:		194,412	Nigeria:		2,000
Portugal:		150,000	Qatar:		350,000
Seychelles:		5,000	South Africa:		1,000
Spain:		371,670	Surinam:		10,000
Switzerland:		3,797			
TOTAL:		\$1,718,891			

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

submitted by
Myron Lieberman, Chair



Myron Lieberman
Chair, Internet
Committee

The three most important efforts of the Outreach Committee continue to be Chess For Prevention, Media, and the 2006 Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary.

G-CAPP continued to use chess to help the inner city children in Georgia, and remains committed to the development of the program. The G-CAPP program generated both major accomplishments and major challenges that underscored the need for a clear and consistent media policy. It is important that media coverage of highly visible activities be coordinated between the organizations involved. USCF Executive Director Frank Niro will be working with G-CAPP Executive Director, Michelle Ozumba, to help G-CAPP develop a strong healthy chess program for the upcoming school year.

An interesting concept arose during discussions with marketing people from the Arizona Rattlers (Arena Football League team) and America West Arena. They were interested in allowing the arena to be used as the site of a tournament in exchange for the purchase of a minimal number of Rattlers tickets at significantly discounted rates. The tickets could be used as tournament prizes, participation awards, or re-sold. The Rattlers also provided door prizes for a number of Phoenix area chess tournaments. It is likely that other teams, arenas and event venues might be open to similar ideas.

Judge Wally Hoggatt in Cochise County, Arizona, implemented a chess program for youth offenders. Thanks to Judge Hoggatt for establishing the program and to Paul Lane for working with the kids.

Thanks to Joe Wagner, Jerry Hanken, and volunteers from the San Diego Chess Club for representing USCF at the AARP conference.

Contact was made with the CEO of Envista Corporation, who may be a potential sponsor in the future.

Information regarding chess for prevention was sent to Dr. Ronald Stephens, Executive Director of the National School Safety Center, and organization dedicated to creating safe schools and environments for chil-

dren. Rachel Lieberman has already discussed the value of chess with him. Chess would seem to be a natural tool for him to be using. He had no current needs, but we are on file as a resource for his organization.

Packets of information regarding chess for prevention and assistance in starting clubs have been sent to a number of teachers, coaches, and agency heads.

Thanks to Rachel Lieberman for her continuing efforts to make private foundations aware of the value of chess for prevention and to locate potential donors to the U.S. Chess Trust.

While the Outreach Committee was not involved in the arrangements for the coverage of game 6 of the Kasparov vs computer match, the committee would like to thank and commend all of those who were involved in arranging for coverage, including Barbara DeMaro, sponsors FIDE and X3d Corp., and many others. Yasser Seirawan and Maurice Ashley proved that chess can be presented in an interesting manner to the general public. ESPN was pleased with the ratings and indications are that they will consider coverage of future chess events.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

*submitted by
Herman Chiu, Chair*

Selby Anderson, Jim Eade, Randy Hough, Harvey Lerman, and Ira Lee Riddle are also on this committee.

During the past year there have been substantial improvements in a number of areas in *Chess Life*. These include a noticeable reduction in the number of serious errors, noticeably better planning, and more timely reports of tournaments and events. Overuse of long, transcribed interviews appears to be in the past, and interviews are now mostly used as they should be — to add “color” or human interest to main stories. There has also been an increase in ad lineage, which permits the magazine to support itself to a greater extent rather than depend on (or drain) federation funds.

However, errors and missteps have not disappeared. As in the past, we cannot emphasize enough that most of these problems could probably be prevented with an on-site editor who is both a chess player and experienced journalist. If allowing the editor to telecommute was a cost-cutting measure we suggest that it be reversed — the money saved is not worth the public relations cost of repeated misspellings of famous players’ names, missing moves, and the major gaffes that continue, even though fewer.

We also suggest again that some method be devised to assign responsibility for checking pages. Hiring a copy editor who is a strong player, or a similar method might be the answer. So might checking page proofs as a whole rather than individual articles. Many high-profile errors appear to be introduced in production, and we think this in conjunction with assigning responsibility for page checks could eliminate most errors.

Mistakes that continue in *Chess Life* fall under the categories of fact, judgment and technique. Just one example was in the *Chess Life* dated September, in which there was a ghastly error in the obits on page 50. The bold head for Jack Pratt indicated he was born in 1934 and died in 2001, but the copy indicated he was 94.

In addition, there were two errors in judgment on that page. First, the obit for Pratt indicated that his original name was Piatigorsky. That cried out for an explanation in view of the contributions Jacqueline Piatigorsky made to U.S. chess and the two Piatigorsky Cup tournaments. Second, why were we running an obit for Bobbie Lee Taylor? He was apparently just a local chess personality who died in 1995.

Technical problems included a yellow headline on a lavender page on pages 34-35 of the December 2002 magazine (in almost all cases, a background of more than 10 percent color or gray makes copy difficult to read); a bizarre position in the diagram on page 39 of the January issue; and three black knights in the diagram at the bottom of page 14 in the May 2003 issue. An on-site editor could have prevented these problems.

Burn-ins — the inseting of captions into photographs — also seem to

have become a fad in recent months. An experienced journalist would know that these most often do not work because the wrong color copy may end up on the wrong part of the photograph, and become unreadable. A recent example is on page 59 of the May 2003 issue. These unreadable burn-ins could have been prevented by trying the technique before publication, not in the magazine for all the members to see (or not see).

And worse, in one of the most appalling examples of poor journalism, the subjects in dozens of photographs from the National Scholastic K-12 Championship on pages 46-49 of the May 2003 issue were simply labeled with identifications such as “4th place bughouse team winner,” with no names. The winners, and indeed all USCF members, deserve better than that.

Other gaffes and problems occurred in the story on CHESStathon last year, in which the name of the well-known German grandmaster and arbiter for the first Fischer-Spassky match Lothar Schmid misspelled in a caption, and in an article by Daniel King, in which just about every rule of English grammar was violated.

Another, potentially more serious problem has crept up: the magazine is getting later and later again. In 11 of the last 12 months it has not arrived until the 18th or 20th of the month. That means many of the Tournament Life Announcement organizers are paying for are seen after the tournament takes place, and that attendance suffers. The date on the cover of *Chess Life* was advanced two years ago to enhance newsstand sales, but the magazine is now as late as it ever was.

Again, we think most of these problems could be eliminated or prevented with an on-site editor who is both a chess player and experienced journalist. We see no reason why *Chess Life* can’t only be a first-class chess magazine, but also adhere to the highest standards of journalism.

Please feel free to contact me at: 588 NW Maxine Ave., Corvallis, Or. 97330, at (541) 753-2521, or at hbc41f@mizzou.edu if you have any questions. Thanks.

RATINGS COMMITTEE

*submitted by
Mark E. Glickman, Chair*

The Ratings Committee (RC) this year was charged with two major tasks. The first was to investigate methods for monitoring systematic drift in ratings. There has been some anecdotal evidence that ratings had been on the decline in the 1990s, and in response to this assertion the RC has begun examining approaches to detect significant deflation or inflation in ratings. The second task was to prepare a proposal for a norm-based title system. The Delegates in 2002 passed a motion to adopt a Title system, giving the Executive Board the authority to implement it. As many USCF members may recall, a norm-based title system was in effect in the early 1990s, but contained a flaw that enabled players to earn titles easily in events with many rounds. The flaw was corrected in the mid-1990s, but the system was discontinued. We now introduce a revised version of the norm-based title system for the delegates’ consideration.

The monitoring system that the RC has been examining is based on tracking the rating behavior of players who have been established, active, and in an age group that would have an overall tendency to remain unchanged in playing strength. Elo’s gerontology work suggests that players between 30 and 45 years old do not improve or become worse, on average (of course, there is plenty of room for individual variation). Our data analyses were based on annual rating lists from December 1992 through December 2002. After trying various criteria for inclusion in our analyses, we focused on examining rating changes for players between 35 and 45 years old in year “Y” who were established and active for a specified number of years prior to year “Y”. The goal of such an analysis was to determine the relationship between rating changes and the year “Y”. For example, we



Mark E. Glickman
Chair

were interested in examining typical rating changes from 2001 to 2002 for players active in the previous 5 years (1995 to 1999), compared to typical rating changes from 2000 to 2001 for players active in the previous 5 years (1994 to 1998). Some interesting patterns emerged from our analyses. First, regardless of the number of years a player was active prior to year "Y", average rating gains in 1996 through 2000 were negative, and in 2001 and 2002 they were positive. Essentially this means active players' ratings (no matter how "active" is defined) were decreasing steadily from 1996 through 2000, and then were increasing in 2001 and 2002. This finding is not surprising: In 1996, the 100-point rating floors were dropped without a counteracting measure to stem off deflation, so ratings started to drop. In 2000, the new rating system was implemented with a low bonus threshold for two years that intended to re-inflate ratings back to the 1996 levels. A second finding of our work is that rating changes from year to year for active players tend to be positively skewed. This means that, regardless of whether there were rating gains or losses in a year, there were more active established players whose ratings increased substantially over one year (e.g., more than 200 rating points) than decreased substantially. We also noticed that the conclusions of our analyses did not change by examining the 35 to 40 years olds separately from the 40 to 45 year olds. The overall conclusion of our work is that monitoring should involve the analysis of rating changes for established players active at least four or five years, though the exact mechanism for determining when the rating system needs adjustment has not yet been worked out. We plan to continue our monitoring work this coming year.

In the 1994 and 1996 RC reports, we introduced and developed a reconstruction of the USCF Title System which had been approved for implementation by the Policy Board. The Title system was constructed to reward players with titles based on qualifying performances. Before the system was implemented, interest developed in devising a method of rewarding achievement by keeping ratings above specified thresholds. This led to the Life Achievement proposal, which was approved by a new Executive Board in 1998. While neither system was implemented, the current focus has been to improve and implement the Title system from the mid-1990s. This year we reintroduce that system with refinements as a proposal for issuing titles to players competing in USCF events.

The basic premise of the proposed Title system is to award permanent titles based on sustained performances at particular rating levels. To be more concrete, a player who is vying for the expert title would need to demonstrate several qualifying tournament performances in which his game results would be considered notable for someone rated 2000. For each qualifying performance, a single norm or multiple norms are awarded. Once either three, four, or five norms are collected (more norms are required for higher titles), a title for that level is issued. Norms and titles cannot be lost through poor performance or inactivity. The new main fea-

ture of the currently proposed system is to add a minimum rating threshold, so that a player who earns five norms for the expert title must also have, or have had, an established rating of at least 2000. The proposed system has no effect on the original Life Master title, which requires 300 games above a rating of 2200. The complete proposal can be accessed on-line as a pdf file at <http://math.bu.edu/people/mg/ratings/titles2003.pdf>

The committee has engaged in two other activities worthy of mention. First, the bonus point threshold, which was set in the year 2001 to re-inflate ratings for the next two years, was supposed to be reset to its normal value in January 2003. Apparently, this has not yet happened (as of May 2003). The RC is currently working with the USCF office to make sure the change is implemented soon. The other activity is that the RC will plan to work with the USCF office on the redesign of the USCF relational database environment. The RC recognizes the importance of this work in its impact on the administration of ratings, so we will assist with the conversion.

SCHOLASTIC COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE

submitted by

Ralph Bowman, Co-Chair



Ralph Bowman
Co-Chair

We set another attendance record with the National Scholastic (K-12) Grade Tournament. The attendance at the three Spring Nationals was down (4,940), but that was not unexpected due to the War in Iraq. Tom Brownscombe (Scholastic Director) and Diane Reese

(Events Manager) did a great job with the tournaments. The highlight of the year for many kids (or parents) was receiving their awards on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry at the National Elementary in Nashville.

At the Spring Nationals extra sections were added this year to reduce some of the large numbers in sections. It proved very beneficial in providing more equal sections.

The Scholastic Council spent a weekend revising the Scholastic Regulations. One major change will be coming next year with the addition of a Collegiate Section to the National Scholastic (K-12) Grade Tournament and renaming that tournament the National K-12/Collegiate Tournament. The major purpose of this change is to hopefully entice college players into retaining their USCF membership by giving them a tournament to attend that will have a section just for them. A second major change will be the addition of an unrated section to each of the Spring Nationals for next year, which will hopefully create a more level playing field in the other sections.

We are pleased to announce that our initial figures have National Scholastic Chess Tournaments making over \$150,000 in profits for USCF since last August. More specific figures will be presented at the Delegates Meeting.

DELEGATES AT LARGE

Delegates at Large (DAL)

(* = Past President)

Denis Barry *
Anthony P. Cottell
Arnold Denker
Harold Dondis
Steve Doyle*
Leroy Dubeck*
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)

SENIOR COMMITTEE

*submitted by
Michael R. Carr, Chair*

The main function of the Senior Committee is to promote chess among those USCF members that are in the "second half century" of their lives. With this in mind the main event that we can hold is the U.S. Senior Open Championship, a National event for those age 50 and over. Over the week of November 6-11, 2002 the most successful U.S. Senior Open Championship in recent history was held in Ventura, California.

What made this event so successful? It took about eleven months of work and planning by the organizers to work out every little detail. With the able assistance of former Senior Committee Chair and current Executive Board member Dr. Joseph Wagner, and Senior Committee member Parker Montgomery we managed to put on a premier event. Parker Montgomery, who was the chief promoter and a major patron had a vision for this event. It was to "raise the standard" by which all future U.S. Senior Open Championships would be measured. We feel this vision was accomplished. Most tournament organizers want to run events, and hopefully show a profit. This was not the main goal of the 2002 U.S. Senior Open Championship. We wanted to run a quality event for the players, which would include additional amenities. We were able to accomplish this through the generous donations of major patrons to this event. With the additional funding we were able to have an awards banquet which was free to all players staying at the site, which included a wonderful chess presentation by Dr. Joseph Wagner; have daily game bulletins free to all players; free analysis of games by GM Arthur Bisguier; chess sets provided by National Chess & Games; book and equipment concession provided by National Chess & Games; round by round pairings posted in advance on the web; and a lecture by Dr. Joseph Wagner, a noted Civil War historian, on the Battle of the Crater at the Ventura County Museum, which was free to all players.

The 2003 U.S. Senior Open Championship will be held this year in Wilmington, Delaware, concurrently with the Delaware Chess Festival in July. The organizer has seen fit to use virtually the same format as we used for the 2002 event. He told me that he didn't want to "reinvent the wheel" when last year's format was so successful. Apparently Parker Montgomery's vision of the 2002 event setting the standard for future events has taken hold. If we hold quality events more and more seniors will look forward to playing. In closing I would like to quote a famous line from the movie *Field of Dreams*: "build it and he will come".

STATES COMMITTEE

submitted by Guy Hoffman, Chair

Since nothing was referred to us from the last Delegate Meeting, we had very little activity. Comments were made bemoaning the loss of SASP, which we realize is not returning any time soon. Another noted problem

was the late arrival of *Chess Life*, causing TLAs to appear within days of the tournament, leaving no time to actually receive advance entries. There was brief mention of "border wars" (interstate matches), as opposed to civil wars, which have occurred in the past. No action was taken on any of these, but could be discussed at the workshop.

SURVEY COMMITTEE

submitted by Mike Nolan, Chair

My goal for the Survey Committee this year was simple: to find an academic institution we could partner with to begin to design a statistically sound survey of our membership, with the goal of performing such a survey in the 2003-04 fiscal year, as we had no funding for such a survey in the budget for the current fiscal year.



Mike Nolan
Chair

In this regard, the committee's goals have been exceeded. In March, the USCF was contacted by Michael Tuffiash, a psychology graduate student at Florida State University. Mr. Tuffiash, with some assistance from Mark Glickman of the Ratings Committee, is working on revalidating Dr. Arpad Elo's ratings work and was seeking detailed information on chess player ratings and activity.

In addition to the mathematical data, Mr. Tuffiash will be doing a survey of chess players, and he plans to begin testing his survey instrument this summer. We have agreed to provide him with the ratings data and to assist him with his survey research by adding him to the survey committee.

It is my hope that the USCF, or possibly the Chess Trust, will be willing to assist him in funding his research, which he hopes to complete in the 2003-04 academic year. Thus, while we have no survey results to present yet, I have good reason to believe that we will be able to perform this long-needed survey in the next 8-12 months.

TDC COMMITTEE

submitted by Tim Just, Chair

This year the committee focused on updating the TD exams to match up with the 5th edition of the rulebook. One or more versions of the exams are scheduled to be available by the effective date of the new rulebook.

Joan Schlich did yeoman's work on the Senior and Local exams while Ira Lee Riddle revised the NTD and ANTD exams.

The committee extended for one year only the TD certification of a Club level TD who needed the time to get a rating. A Senior TD's request for a requirement waiver in order to apply for ANTD certification was denied.

Carol Jarecki consulted with the USCF office regarding IA application procedures for one applicant.

Committee members include: Guy Hoffman, Randy Hough, Carol Jarecki, Alan Losoff, Joe Lux, John McCumiskey, Ira Lee Riddle, Joan Schlich, Mike Somers and chair Tim Just.



Tim Just
Chair, TD Committee

WOMEN'S CHESS COMMITTEE

*submitted by
GM Susan Polgar, Chair*

The Women's Committee has had a very busy year. There were four main agenda items on our list for the year. We have hit the mark on all four.

1. Enhance the overall chess-playing level of our current top young women players.
2. Build a strong and solid foundation for young girls of future generations through the National Chess Training program.
3. Create excitement, enthusiasm, and further promote chess among young players (with a strong emphasis for girls) and be great role models for our youngsters.
4. Help raise money for the U.S. Chess Trust to support various National Scholastic programs, especially programs for young girls who play chess.

One of the first things we did to enhance the overall chess-playing level for our top women players was to create a serious "Women's Olympiad Training Program" with the help of Paul Truong and Michael Khodarkovsky. This is a program that is run jointly by the Susan Polgar Foundation and Kasparov Chess Foundation with the approval and endorsement of Executive Director Frank Niro and the USCF Executive Board.

The list of invitees for this program include: WGM Anna Zatonskih, IM Irina Krush, WGM Camilla Baginskaite, WIM Jennifer Shahade, WGM



Susan Polgar
Chair

Rusudan Goletiani and WIM Anna Hahn. Even though not everyone accepted the invitation or was able to participate, the players who accepted their invitations will have the opportunity to work with many World-Class trainers in a group and individual basis until the 2004 Chess Olympiad. Our goal is to eliminate many weaknesses and increase the overall playing strength of our top women players to have a chance to compete for the Gold Medal in the next Chess Olympiad. The list of trainers so far includes GM Boris Gulko, GM Gennady Zaitchik, famed coach Michael Khodarkovsky, myself with the supervision from FM Paul Truong. There will be many more top coaches participating in this program in the near future.

2. A National Chess Training program for young gifted players with a separate emphasis for young gifted girls is being created later this year to build a strong and solid foundation for young players, especially girls. This program is also run jointly by the Susan Polgar Foundation and Kasparov Chess Federation. Our goal is to train the nation's top talents the right way and help produce new young crops of strong players to be role models for future generations.

In addition, with the help of Dewain Barber, Frank Niro and USCF, I have agreed to create and fund the annual Susan Polgar National Invitational Championship for girls. This tournament will be run at the same time as the Denker Tournament of Champions. We are working on obtaining chess scholarships for the tournament winners. Funding for this tournament will come from the Susan Polgar Foundation as well as private donations and sponsorships. The first annual SPNIC is expected to commence at the 2004 U.S. Open.

3. In order to create excitement, enthusiasm and further promote chess among young players, I have attended a number of National Scholastic Events on behalf of USCF and U.S. Chess Trust. The motivational speaking engagements, simuls, book signings, chess lectures for young players, their parents and coaches, etc. have created a tremendous buzz. I am committed to do a lot more to help USCF bring chess in America to a whole new level. With the encouragement of the Executive Director Frank Niro and my long time friend FM Paul Truong, I have agreed to come out of retirement to lead the U.S. Women's Olympiad Team in the 2004 Chess Olympiad. The idea of this is to help the U.S. Women's Team win the first ever medal (hopefully a Gold Medal). The U.S. Women's Team has never won a medal. I am confident that the success of this team will help ignite women's chess in America the way the U.S. Women's Soccer Team did for women's soccer by winning the 1999 World Cup.

4. In order to help raise money for Scholastic Chess and create special programs for young girls who play chess, I have agreed to volunteer to do a number of activities and promotions on behalf of the U.S. Chess Trust

through Barbara DeMaro and USCF. We hope to generate support from generous patrons across the country as well as raise chess awareness throughout America. We have had moderate success in our fundraising campaign during the 2003 National Junior High and National Elementary Championships. We hope to have even more success in the upcoming year. A nationwide tour to promote chess for young players especially girls is in the works. To check future locations, please check my website www.susanpolgar.com.

My special thanks go to some of the people who have been instrumental in helping me with various initiatives for the Women's Committee: Frank Niro, Paul Truong, Barbara DeMaro, Michael Khodarkovsky, Beatriz Marinello, members of the Executive Board and many others. I hope that 2003 and 2004 will be the beginning of a new revolution in Women's Chess in America!

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

**Affiliate Affairs Club Development Master Affairs
Membership Growth Military Chess Organizers Prison Chess Rules Website.**

VOLUNTEER EXPENSE REPORT

Paid during the Fiscal year ending 5/31/03

Name	Capacity	Total Amount
Frank Camaratta	Executive Board	\$421.00
Bob Smith	Executive Board	602.50
Ernest Schlich	Bylaws Co-Chair	583.72

The above represents reimbursable expenses paid directly to individuals. In some cases hotel bills were paid directly by the USCF.