

CHESS FEDERATION OF CANADA GOVERNORS' LETTER TWO 2002-2003



Responses may be mailed, faxed or E-mailed to the Chess Federation of Canada,
E-1 2212 Gladwin Crescent, Ottawa, ON, K1B 5N1, fax: 613-733-5209, E-Mail:
info@chess.ca

ATTENTION ALL GOVERNORS: Anyone with an E-Mail address can have their
Governors' Letter sent to them via E-Mail and save the CFC paper and postage
costs. Please E-Mail info@chess.ca if interested.

Deadline for submissions to GL #3: October 31st 2002

KEEPING GOVERNORS INFORMED

Dear Governors,

Preparations for the Olympic Team are in full swing and so are the preparations for the competitors to this year's WYCC.

Richard Berube will be the coach for the CYCC competitors.

As of this October we will offer Full Junior Members who have a rating of 1300 or less the choice of EP or Scholar's Mate magazine. Since Scholar's Mate is an outstanding magazine for beginning juniors, we strongly encourage them to take advantage of this opportunity.

Our financial situation is rapidly improving under the watchful eyes of Gerry Litchfield and Les Bunning. After 5 months of operation this year our sales are above budget and our Net Profit is a shade above \$11,000. This compares to a Net Loss of about \$9,000 last year at the same time.

Preparations for next years CYCC and Canadian Open are also progressing very well. The organizers are working not just very hard, but also very smart. The event will be without a doubt a tremendous show.

All the best.

Peter Stockhausen

New Motions

Motion 2003-04: (Cecil Rosner/John Remillard)

Be it resolved that the CFC support the Abe Yanofsky Memorial Tournament in Winnipeg by funding the travel and expenses of the Canadian champion and Canada's active grandmasters to facilitate their participation in the tournament, to a maximum of 2,500 dollars.

Discussion:

The Abe Yanofsky Memorial Tournament is scheduled for Winnipeg Aug. 29 to Sept. 1, 2003. This event will honour the memory of Canada's most important chess personality. Organizers are planning to raise a substantial sum for a significant prize fund and international grandmaster participation. In addition, there will be a cultural component to the event. Canada Post has strongly indicated it will

agree to issue Canada's first-ever chess stamp during the event.

This event will draw significant national attention to the game of chess. The promotional value for the CFC will be enormous. There will be a book and equipment selling opportunity, which will benefit the CFC financially. Abe Yanofsky was a strong asset for Canadian chess and the CFC for decades, establishing Canada's reputation as a credible chess entity and helping to bring significant international tournaments to this country (the 1967 Centennial Grandmasters Tournament, the 1974 Pam American International Event, etc.) This is an opportunity for the CFC to contribute something in return so as to ensure the permanence of his legacy.

Motion 2003-05: (Stockhausen/Smith)

Be it resolved that the CFC adjust the Rating Fees for FIDE rated events as follows:

A, Round Robin and Matches:
Category 0 – 3 \$55
Category 4 & 5 \$110
Category 6 & 7 \$165
Category 8 to 10 \$220

For higher categories, multiply Category by \$44

B, Swiss Tournaments
Players 1 to 300 = \$2.20 per player
Players 301 and up = \$1.10 per player

C, Team Tournaments
Per Team \$33

Discussion

This fee structure reflects the charges that FIDE bills us for. A small cushion (5%) is included to guard us against currency fluctuations.

Discussion on Motions

Motion 2003-01 (Cabanas/Stockhausen) Life Masterships

Hal Bond: The idea is good, but I don't like the idea of dumping another job on the National Office. Is there a way to implement this procedure without burdening them too much? Perhaps the Rating Auditor could take care of nominations / verification and the office is simply issued a list of names.

David Gebhardt: I completely agree with this idea.

Recognizing our master players is something that should definitely be done.

Lyle Craver: I favor the principle of Life Mastership certificates but would prefer the administration of this be done by someone other than the Business Office.

Motion 2003-02 (Cabanas/Stockhausen) CYCC Organization

Hal Bond: Regarding the CYCC: This event is the CFC's hottest property and its organization must be very clear to all concerned, to that end this discussion is welcome. If the event is run well the current price per player is a bargain. If it is run poorly then even free entry is a perceived rip off. So let's get it right! And let's not be afraid to consult with CMA about actual playing conditions when players and parents are involved. They haven't perfected the art either, but a wealth of experience is available. Additional input should be considered from past Canadian delegations to the WYCC in hopes of presenting an event, which resembles the WYCC as much as possible.

Motions 1011 and 1061 appear to be duplicated.

The only mention of a fee to the organizers (I mean the real ones, not the CFC) of future CYCC's is \$5 per player "for securing the site". This is not reasonable. I'm all in favour of maxing out the funding for travel to the WYCC, but don't insult the organizer.

It seems to me that \$100 per player should go to the travel fund and the rest to cover expenses, including at least \$35 for the organizer.

David Gebhardt: I have not had a chance to digest all of the parts of this, but I am particularly pleased that it states that the CFC wants to take back primary responsibility for (at least some of) their national events. I think this is a key point in ensuring that the events are run in a professional and consistent manner.

Motion 2003-03 (Cabanas/Stockhausen) Changes to Active Chess Regulations

Hal Bond: Regarding Active Chess: I have grown less enchanted with sudden death time controls over the years, and I think time increments should be promoted more vigorously. They allow time for recording and making a move, thereby allowing the chess board to play a bigger role. That being said, does this motion plan to abolish active chess ratings in Canada? I'm not sure about that. If anything I

think the CFC should look at more "official ratings" opportunities and negotiate the best merchandising deal we can with CMA.

General Comments from Governors:

Gordon Taylor: I have just read through GL#1 and feel I must comment on the financial loss suffered by the CFC in its fiscal year ending April 30, 2002. The loss is horrendous, and reading the audit report is like watching a train wreck. It shows that not only did the Executive Director lack basic accounting skills, but also that the CFC Executive failed badly in its mandate to supervise and oversee the operations of the Business Office. The auditor's report is bad enough, but when I read between the lines it gets far worse. The failure to remit GST and PST owing from sales, or the income tax, CPP and EIC deducted from salaries is not something we can blow off. These can have serious implications for any corporation and are in themselves, in my opinion, grounds for dismissal. The absence of vouchers / invoices is very disturbing -- in essence the auditors ended up having to estimate many of the items on the financial statements; accordingly, we the Governors still don't have a clear idea of where the \$34K went.

I've recently enjoyed a trial subscription to "The Economist", a truly excellent magazine. One of the phrases they constantly use is "good governance", and they apply it equally to business and government. I think we can agree that good governance was not much in evidence at the top of our organization during the last fiscal year.

David Gebhardt: Re: John Rutherford's AGM Motion #1. I had a discussion with John Rutherford about the number of governors allotted to the NOCL by the OCA. Like the CFC, the OCA awards governors based on regional membership and there is no provision for doing anything other than that in the OCA Constitution. I had advised John that there was nothing that the OCA could do and, although I did not see anything in the CFC Handbook to support this, I suggested that if he wished, he could ask the CFC if there was any way to appoint two additional governors. This is why it was brought to the CFC's attention at the AGM, and not dealt with solely by Ontario.

The main reason that I suggested John approach the CFC was not because he wanted two additional governors, but because of the people he wanted to add. In addition to himself, the other candidates represented the francophone population and the First Nations population in his region. John's feeling, and my feeling also, was that the added visibility of a

governor representing these two groups could lead to increased membership. In the end, John decided to step aside as governor and allow Ellen Nadeau to take the position.

I am not sure whether there is any need for the CFC to allow the appointment of additional governors under special circumstances. I can certainly see some definite drawbacks to the idea, but perhaps some discussion of the idea could help.

The main drawback I see is the imbalance that it creates. All of a sudden, a region can have more governors than it is entitled to, which would probably not sit well with the other regions. One solution might be to appoint a special governor as a nationwide governor, rather than as a governor for a specific region. While theoretically this solution could work, I am somewhat dubious about the practical implementation of it.

I do not know and I suspect nobody knows) what percentage of CFC members are francophone outside of Quebec or First Nations, but, along with women, these may be the largest population groups to look at increasing membership representation from.

David Gebhardt: Re: David Gebhardt's AGM Motions. I was notified by Maurice Smith that the majority of these Motions were ruled out of order because they were submitted too late. I have no

problem with that since I was unclear as to what the process would be at the AGM (i.e., would they be voted on there or later?). I will resubmit these as soon as I can.

Motions for Final Vote None

Motions for Second Discussion

2003-01: (Cabanas/Stockhausen) Life Masterships

2003-02: (Cabanas/Stockhausen) CYCC Organization

2003-03 (Cabanas/Stockhausen) Changes to Active Chess Regulations

Motions for First Discussion

2003-04: (Rosner/ Remillard) Grant to Abe Yanofsky Memorial :

2003-05: (Stockhausen / Smith) Changes to FIDE Rating Fees:

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