

***British Columbia Chess Federation
Box 15548
Vancouver, BC V6B 5B3
Minutes of 1997 Annual General
Meeting
BC Institute of Technology
May 17, 1997***

1. The meeting was convened at 4:15 p.m. by President Jim Ferguson.

BCCF Members present were Mark Barnes, Ebe Blaauw, Paul Bryan, Francisco Cabanas, Litto Castillo, Lyle Craver, Jim Ferguson, Philip Harris, Ian Higgs, William Lee, Hugh Small, Lynn Stringer, Stephen Wright, Wilson Yeung.

2. Reading of Minutes of 1996 Annual General Meeting. Motion to adopt minutes taken as read (Moved Cabanas, Seconded Yeung). Passed unanimously. (All motions below are passed unanimously except as noted.)

3. **REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

3. (a) President's report: the President noted that the best part of chess in BC this past year has been the junior program run by our Junior Coordinators and the K-12 Chess Association of BC. He indicated their success was due to good advance publicity and that the BCCF in general should do likewise.

Our biggest 'black mark' this past year was the unsatisfactory Counterplay situation. The President noted there had been two BCCF Executive meetings this past year dealing with the Chess 'N Math (Association d'Echecs et Mathematiques) concerning the interest expressed by AEM Director Mr Larry Bevand in expanding his activities in BC generally and the Vancouver area in particular. The position taken by the Executive was to encourage Mr Bevand so long as all Chess 'N Math events in BC would be CFC rated (and possibly rated under the AEM rating system). Mr Bevand's response was that he was not particularly interested in organizing CFC-rated events in Vancouver and thus will not be expanding his operations in BC in the immediate future.

The President feels that our biggest problems have been a lack of coordination between organizers and the Counterplay magazine situation.

Mr Cabanas expressed his opinion that the BCCF under Presidents Yeung and Ferguson has been going through a re-building phase and that there is more activity going on than meets the eye.

Mr Ferguson reported on the BCCF's use of the Internet and World Wide Web; the CFC has not updated the BCCF's "link" on their WWW site — the new URL is:

http://mindlink.net/yan_teplitsky

It should be noted that the BCCF is making an application for the Internet domain name www.chess.bc.ca so the above URL may be temporary. A discussion ensued on the appropriate use of the Internet and World Wide Web by the BCCF.

Moved (Craver/Bryan) to accept the President's report. PASSED.

3. (b) Secretary/Treasurer's report: (see attached). Moved to accept the Secretary/Treasurer's report (Yeung/Small) PASSED.

3. (c) Junior Coordinators' report: none

3. (d) Vice Presidents' reports:

(1) Lower Mainland — Wilson Yeung noted that he had resigned mid-year when he moved to Prince George

He noted that events at the Vancouver Bridge Centre were thriving. He also described the (non-affiliated with the CFC and BCCF) events being held at the Black Dog Cafe which is running weekly Active events. Mr Yeung has discussed with them the possibility of affiliation but has not received any expression of interest. The Black Dog tournaments feature a 5 round Swiss system Active event with \$5 entry fees and their own local rating system. Mr Cabanas asked if they had been contacted about affiliation since the passage of CFC Governors' motions 97-4 and 97-5 (relating to the revised Tournament Membership). Mr Yeung noted that he did not think his successor would find the Black Dog people interested in seeking affiliation at the present time.

Moved (Craver/Bryan) to accept the Lower Mainland Vice President's report. PASSED.

(2) No reports were made by either the Northern or Interior Vice-Presidents. The President noted that in the North there was one major tournament held this year while in the Interior Mr George Hara has run several events with good turnouts.

3. (e) Tournament Coordinator / BC Chess Foundation report: The BC Chess Foundation currently has \$6,227.13 in investments with \$974.69 in its bank account for total assets of \$7,580.55. No separate Tournament Coordinator's report was made.

Mr Cabanas noted that lack of coordination of events is a major problem which needs to be discussed. He noted that free advertising was available to all organizers in En Passant and on the CFC World Wide Web site (www.chesscanada.org).

Moved to accept the Tournament Coordinator / BC Chess Foundation report (Yeung/Small). PASSED.

4. **OLD BUSINESS**: none

5. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**:

(a) The following officers were each elected by acclamation:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| - President: | Jim Ferguson |
| - Vice-Presidents: | Mark Barnes (Greater Vancouver)
Wilson Yeung (Northern BC) |
| - Secretary/Treasurer: | Lyle Craver |
| - Junior Coordinators: | Richard Kryes and Joshua Keshet (jointly) |
| - Tournament Coordinator: | Mark Barnes |

Mr George Hara was nominated for the position of Interior Vice-President - the President is to contact Mr Hara to confirm his willingness to serve. In the event he declined the President will select an alternate as per the BCCF Constitution).

- (b) Election of CFC Governors: The following were elected as CFC Governors: Jonathan Berry, Lyle Craver, Jason Feng, Jim Ferguson (as president, automatic under BCCF Motion 96-4(c)), Wilson Yeung.

It was noted that Messrs Francisco Cabanas (CFC President), Yves Farges, Peter Stockhausen (CFC past presidents), Nathan Divinsky (former FIDE representative) and Yan Teplitsky (Canadian Closed runner-up) are also CFC Governors not elected by the BC Assembly.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- (a) PRESENTATION BY THE CFC PRESIDENT: Mr Cabanas noted that the CFC has made major gains in the past three years with the focus being on efficiencies in services to members. He noted that the CFC had made a major investment in computer technology and noted that order processing costs were much smaller than 3 years ago. He also noted that a higher percentage of orders are going out same or next day with a lower percentage of errors than ever before.

He emphasized the services available on the CFC's World Wide Web site (<http://www.chesscanada.org>), the introduction of a new edition of the pamphlet "So You Want to Play Chess" and the change in Tournament Membership fee structures brought about by the passage of CFC Governors' motions 97-4 and 97-5. He especially drew members' attention to the free advertising of CFC rated events in both En Passant and on the WWW site with the only proviso being that the WWW site was only updated at the time the tournament advertisement section of En Passant was being prepared so it is important to get ads in before the EP deadlines.

He also noted that the CFC Governors will be voting on a resolution at the CFC Annual General Meeting to reduce the CFC rating fee for "Junior Events" from \$2.00 per player to \$1.00 with a "Junior Event" being an event where all players qualify for the following year's World Junior Championship or this year's Canadian Junior Championship. He specifically noted that this motion did NOT apply to juniors taking part in events open to adults.

On the issue of revised Tournament Memberships he noted that what services the CFC provided to these people was more of a business marketing issue rather than an issue for the provincial federations or Governors but that an effort would be made to encourage as many of these people as possible to seek regular CFC membership.

- (b) Tournament Memberships: Moved (Cabanas/Craver) that the BCCF portion of the revised CFC Tournament Memberships be \$4 for adults, \$1 for juniors. PASSED.

With this motion the total Tournament Membership fee becomes \$10 for adults (\$6 CFC, \$4 BCCF) and \$4 for juniors (\$3 CFC, \$1 BCCF).

- (c) COUNTERPLAY / BCCF Fees: Moved (Cabanas / Yeung) that "based on the BCCF ending funding of Counterplay magazine in its present format, BCCF dues be changed to \$12/year for ordinary members, \$6/year for family members and \$3/year for junior and junior participating members".

Mr Cabanas noted that 10 years ago the cost of producing Counterplay was much lower and with better volunteers than exist today. Now organizers have free En Passant ads, WWW access (both the CFC and BCCF "home pages") with rating lists deliverable by other means. He also noted that most non-announcement material (rating lists, tournament ads, etc.) in Counterplay was of sufficient quality to merit publication in En Passant (which he felt needed more material from BC). He suggested the Executive distribute bi-annually or quarterly a 4 page newsletter to the membership giving what information was not available by other means.

The possibility of a partial rebate of BCCF membership to players renewing memberships during 1997 was discussed but deferred to the Executive.

- (d) BC Closed Championships: will be held as a 10 player FIDE-rated Round Robin June 11-15 at the Vancouver Bridge Center. This will be in conjunction with the BC Open to be held June 13/14/15.
- (e) 1998 Keres Memorial Committee: Volunteers were sought to plan for next year's tournament: Messrs. Bryan, Craver and Yeung volunteered their services while Mr Cabanas offered to distribute our fliers at events in Eastern Canada.
- (f) Macskasy Memorial Steering Committee: Volunteers were sought to begin organizing for this event which we hope to run in 1998. The desirability of offering GM norms were made and it was suggested the BCCF should seek inquiries from players already with one or more IM or GM norms.
- (g) K-12 Chess Association of BC: Mr Bill Lee thanked the members for their past support particularly with the BC / Washington match and looked forward to this year's match where BC will be the 'home' team.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**: Moved (Craver / Small) to adjourn at 5:50 pm. PASSED.