

CHESS FEDERATION OF CANADA

GOVERNORS' LETTER THREE

2001-2002



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 next Governors' Letter is Mar 25, 2002

KEEPING GOVERNORS INFORMED

The following letter was sent to the OCA
The proposal was subsequently ratified by
that group

Martin Jaeger
President, Ontario Chess Association

January 11, 2002

The C.F.C. Executive has agreed in a
majority vote to accept the following revised
Affiliation Agreement.

CFC-OCA Affiliation Agreement for the
period till Dec. 31. 2004

The OCA shall be affiliated to the CFC for
December 31st, 2004 in accordance with the
terms of this agreement, which during its life,
shall only be altered by mutual consent of the
CFC and the OCA. This agreement shall be
renegotiated during 2004.

The CFC shall require all its members
resident in Ontario to be members of the
OCA and the OCA shall require all its
members to be members of the CFC. The
CFC will not collect dues (annual, life)
without collecting applicable OCA dues. The
OCA will not collect OCA dues without
collecting applicable CFC dues. For
tournament memberships, both CFC and
OCA tournament memberships are to be
collected at the same time regardless of the
residence of the player.

Membership cards with respect to new life
memberships for Ontarians will reflect that
OCA life membership has been purchased.
Upon provision of information by the OCA
with respect to OCA life membership by
existing CFC life members, the CFC will
reissue membership cards to reflect OCA life
membership. The OCA will reimburse the
CFC for out-of-pocket costs of such

reissuance. CFC membership lists for its life
members will reflect OCA life membership
where applicable

The CFC will transmit any OCA dues it
collects within 120 days of collection by the
CFC and the CFC will transmit any CFC
dues it collects within 120 days of collection.

Upon request by the OCA the CFC will
semi-annually transmit to the OCA Treasurer
an electronic copy of its current list of CFC
members in Ontario. Periodically the CFC
shall transmit to the OCA Treasurer a list of
any non complimentary life members who
have moved to Ontario since the last
transmission.

The CFC recognizes the right of the OCA to
protect up to two tournaments/calendar year
and will co-operate in such protection. The
OCA shall have the right, upon a vote of its
Directors, to bring about such protection by
giving notice to the CFC. Providing the CFC
is given at least nine months notice prior to
the date if the tournament to be protected,
the CFC will not advertise any other
tournament to be held in the proscribed area
of Ontario during the tournament period.

This agreement enters into force the date on
which it shall have received approval by both
the CFC and the OCA the period ending

End of agreement.

Maurice Smith
C.F.C. Past President

The following letter was sent Jan 26, 2002, on behalf of the CFC Executive to Denis Nadeau, Chairman, 2003 Canadian Open Committee.

The Chess Federation Of Canada fully supports the efforts of the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund and the Municipality of Kapuskasing and those individuals so involved in helping to bring the Canadian Open and the Canadian Youth Chess Championships to Kapuskasing in 2003.

We will be delighted to hear that all of the organizations for these events are going ahead as planned. On behalf of the CFC Executive, please thank all involved for their time and efforts and we look forward to seeing you all in Kapuskasing in 2003.

Maurice Smith
Past President
Member Of The Executive-CFC

Dale Kirton
President
Chess Federation of Canada

CFC TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Anyone interested in working with a group of volunteers and the business office to re-establish this important program should contact me at fred_mckim@hotmail.com I've had a couple of volunteers and am still looking for one or two others.

Fred McKim
Secretary
Chess Federation of Canada

NEW MOTIONS

Motion 02-3: (Gebhardt/McKillop) That the CFC start accepting bids for a tournament run for the purpose of determining

qualification spots to the World Amateur Championship.

D. Gebhardt: Background: The World Amateur Championship is run every year by FIDE and is open to anyone without a FIDE rating. I have personally played twice in this tournament when it was part of the Hastings Chess Congress in England. It has now started moving around the world and has since been held in Spain and Brazil (the Bengawwans went to Brazil this year).

This is a single section event with the top finisher receiving an FM title and FIDE rating of 2200. The top female receives a WFM title and a FIDE rating of 2050. The second place finisher receives a FIDE rating of 2100 and the third place finisher receives a FIDE rating of 2050.

The qualification tournament would simply be to decide which two players would be nominees of the CFC. (nominees receive free entry to the World Amateur Championship). The tournament entry fee less expenses could be used to reimburse (partially or fully, depending on number of entrants and location of the World Amateur Championship tournament) one participant's travel and lodging expenses. If there was any money left over, it could be used to reimburse, partially or fully, the second entrant's travel and lodging expenses.

This tournament is a great experience and, the two years I played in it, was very competitive. It would be a great opportunity for some of the stronger non-FIDE rated players to gain some international experience and have some fun against new competition.

Motion 02-4. [Formerly Straw Vote Topic 02-1]: (Peter McKillop/Dave Gebhardt) Regarding candidates for positions on the CFC executive:

a) Any member of the CFC who wishes to stand for election to a position on the CFC's executive committee, and who is eligible to do so in accordance with the applicable CFC bylaws, rules and regulations, must declare his or her candidacy for such office by notifying the CFC's Secretary in writing (e-mail is acceptable) prior to the submission deadline for the June issue of *En Passant Magazine*. If there is only one declared candidate for a particular position on the CFC's executive committee, then that candidate will be deemed to have been elected by acclamation. If there is no declared candidate for a position on the CFC's executive committee then, at the next Annual General Meeting of the CFC, the incoming Assembly of Governors will, in whatever manner it deems fair and expedient, select a person to fill the vacant position.

b) In the June issue of *En Passant Magazine* each year, the CFC will publish the names and contact particulars (mail address and e-mail address, if available) of all declared candidates for positions on the CFC's executive committee together with a brief statement (not to exceed 200 words) from each candidate. A candidate should limit the brief statement to his/her qualifications for the position s/he is seeking and his/her position on key issues.

P. McKillop: Publishing the names of candidates for executive offices and incoming governors in the June issue of *En Passant* will give CFC members an opportunity to voice their preferences /concerns to their local incoming governors prior to the CFC's AGM, thus (hopefully) making the whole process somewhat more democratic than it is now. The current process seems to entail, generally speaking, the identities of candidates not being available to the general membership prior to the AGM. I feel this is unacceptable for any

organization which claims to represent the interests of its members. Referring to Section 2, II, 6 of the CFC's Handbook, publication of candidates'/incoming governors' names in the June issue of EP would be consistent with the CFC's stated object of publishing "...a medium from which chess players may learn of the progress of chess in Canada..." .

Motion 02-5. [Formerly Straw Vote Topic 02-2]: (Peter McKillop/ Dave Gebhardt) Regarding nominees for CFC Governorships:

a) All affiliates of the CFC who are entitled to nominate individuals for the position of CFC Governor must submit the names of their nominees in writing to the CFC's Secretary prior to the submission deadline for the June issue of *En Passant*. If the number of nominees named by an affiliate is less than the number to which the affiliate is entitled then, at the next Annual General Meeting of the CFC, the incoming Assembly of Governors will, in whatever manner it deems fair and expedient, select a person(s) to fill the vacant governorship(s).

b) In the June issue of *En Passant Magazine* each year, the CFC will publish the names and contact particulars of all incoming governors.

P. McKillop: (see discussion for Motion 02-4)

Motion 02-6 (Peter McKillop/Dave Gebhardt) That the rules, regulations and bylaws of the CFC be amended as necessary in order to put the following into effect:

a) Establish a permanent sub-committee of the Board of Directors and name it the Finance Committee.

b) The permanent members of the Finance Committee shall be the President, the

Treasurer and the Executive Director.

- c) The Chair of the Finance Committee shall be the Treasurer.
- d) In those cases where the Finance Committee can not reach a decision on the basis of consensus, a majority vote by the permanent members of the Finance Committee shall decide.
- e) The permanent members of the Finance Committee shall have the power to appoint, as they deem useful and expedient, additional Directors and/or Governors to temporary membership in the Finance Committee.
- f) The primary and permanent responsibility of the Finance Committee shall be the preparation of an annual budget. Specifically, by not later than March 15th of each year, the Finance Committee shall present to the Board of Directors of the CFC the Finance Committee's recommended budget for the next fiscal year. The recommended budget must take into consideration all revenue and expense categories and must include a listing of the assumptions used by the Finance Committee in arriving at the budgeted figures.
- g) It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors to consider the Finance Committee's recommended budget, amend it as necessary, and approve a finalized budget by not later than April 30th each year.
- h) The finalized budget, together with a listing of the assumptions used, shall be made available to all CFC members at the CFC's website by May 31st of each year.
- i) Any additional duties or responsibilities to be assigned to the Finance Committee shall require the approval of the Assembly of Governors by a majority vote.

P. McKillop: Never have I encountered a

successful business or not-for-profit association (over the years I've been a member of the boards of 4 such associations, excluding the CFC and OCA) which didn't undertake a rigorous budgeting exercise as part of an overall planning process for its next fiscal year. Even if the CFC doesn't have a longer term (i.e. multi-year) plan, the discipline of having to budget annually for the next fiscal year will, if handled responsibly, impose on our Board of Directors the need to at least develop a short term (one year) plan. That plan, in some years, may simply consist of maintaining the status quo. Still, that is better than no plan at all. Our annual revenues are in the \$350,000 range. That is a significant amount of money. We need to have some reasonably well defined idea of where we're headed, even if it is only for one year ahead. Regarding the timing I'm proposing, anyone who is involved in business knows that, all other factors being equal, you make your best efforts to complete your major planning for the next fiscal year prior to the end of the current fiscal year. The posting of the approved budget at the CFC's website will allow interested members to review it well in advance of the AGM. If any member should have a specific concern, s/he can pass that along to her/his local incoming governor along with a request that the matter be addressed at the AGM (that doesn't mean that it will be addressed but a member should at least have an opportunity to be informed and to make informed requests of her/his local governor).

Motion 02-7 (Peter McKillop/ Dave Gebhardt)
By June 30th in each year, the CFC's reviewed, or audited (as the case may be), financial statements prepared as at the immediately preceding fiscal year-end shall be made available to all CFC members at the CFC's website.

P. McKillop: For reasons similar to those outlined in my commentary to motion 02-7, members should have an opportunity to be

informed about the CFC's results for the most recent fiscal year prior to the AGM. Regarding the proposed deadline of June 30th, I'd like to make it earlier but time has to be allowed for the CFC's chartered accountant to complete the financial statements.

Motion 02-8: (Peter McKillop/ Dave Gebhardt) Any expenditure which will cause the CFC to exceed the amount approved in the annual budget for the pertinent expense category, or which will add to an existing excess in the pertinent expense category, will require the prior approval of: a) the Board of Directors if the amount of the proposed excess plus any existing excess will represent less than 10% of the annual budget for the pertinent expense category; b) the Assembly of Governors if the amount of the proposed excess plus any existing excess will represent 10% or more of the annual budget for the pertinent expense category.

P. McKillop: There isn't much point in going through a formal budgeting process if the budget will then be ignored during the course of the new fiscal year. There will always be unexpected expenditures or expenditures which were overlooked during the budgeting process. This motion is an attempt to bring some accountability to the process by imposing constraints on free spending while at the same time allowing for some reasonable flexibility (e.g. Board of Directors approve excesses up to a certain level).

MOTIONS for 1st DISCUSSION

Motion 02-1: (Peter McKillop/Tony Ficzere): Regarding Canadian Youth Chess Championships, that the CFC's policies and procedures with respect to such events be amended such that:

a) There will be a single championship tournament for each age group. Boys and girls in each age group will compete together.

b) The prioritization of subsidies, if any, granted by the CFC to assist with the travel expenses of players playing in any section (Open or Girls) of the World Youth Chess Championships will be as follows:

First priority: the reigning first place finisher in each age group of the CYCC, starting with the U18 group and working down to the U10 group.

Second priority: the reigning second place finisher in each age group of the CYCC, starting with the U18 group and working down to the U10 group.

Subsequent priorities: as determined by the CFC at its sole discretion.

Tony Ficzere: With only a handful of women players in this country, it seems to make little sense to run separate events at this time. Anyone who believes that women are intellectually inferior to men is wrong. The reason women don't play as well as men is that they are not interested in the game. Simple. We should be working at promoting chess to women and not segregating as this only hampers a woman's development in the game, and as the records in the CFC database will prove, this approach has done nothing to bring more women members into the CFC. Hazel Smith did exceptional at the WYCC, one wonders how she would have done against everyone else in her age group. I can assume that Hazel plays at her current strength not because she is playing strong women players, but because she has been playing in mixed events. In general, having separate women's events does nothing to promote chess among women.

P. Stockhausen: This motion strikes me as inappropriate for the following reasons:

A, the CYCC qualifies 10 champions to the WYCC, five of each gender.

B, The policy is VERY successful in increasing girl's participation rate. (see statistics below)

CYCC Participation			
	Finals		
	Boys	Girls	Total
1999	93	8 (7.9%)	101
2000	117	29 (19.8%)	146
2001	121	38 (24.2%)	157

Given this track record, we should continue on our general current set up and avoid **anything** that would endanger this very positive trend. Clearly, removing the five qualification spots for girls would be one such step.

As an aside, I'm all in favour of having only "combined" sections (Highest scorer for each gender qualifies), but I think the Junior Coordinator should canvass the parents of the girls first. I just hate to see the momentum lost by an ill-considered motion.

Motion 02-2: (Lyle Craver/Ken Craft)
Addition to CFC Bylaw 1, paragraph 13 concerning eligibility of members for CFC Governorship:

Any provincially elected Governor found not to be a CFC member in good standing shall have his/her voting privileges suspended. Once suspended the governor and his provincial body shall be notified and requested to bring his/her membership into good standing not later than 30 days from his/her election or expiration of membership. In the event that the Governor's membership still not be in good standing 30 days after the suspension, the president of the provincial / territorial organisation and the Governor shall be notified that the Governor's seat is declared vacant. A request that a by-election

be held to fill the vacancy shall also be made to the provincial / territorial organisation."

L.Craver: Rationale: Non-members of the CFC should not be voting on CFC business period - and I think the procedure indicated above is reasonably and fair given how members typically renew their CFC membership. I would suspect (and should probably ask BCCF president Bruce Harper who is a lawyer or some other lawyer in our assembly) that there might be liability issues if we allow non-members in our assembly.

P. Stockhausen: Agreed, individuals who are not members in good standing have no business voting on CFC issues.

Straw Vote Topic 02-3: (Gordon Taylor)
That a committee be struck to do a feasibility study into ways by which the Board of Governors can conduct the business of the Chess Federation of Canada via Internet. If approved, said committee shall report their findings to the Board within three months.

G. Taylor: A CFC member recently sent me an email suggesting that the business of the CFC could be better conducted through the medium of the Internet. He suggested Internet conferencing, which I have to admit I am not entirely familiar with. But I think most of us are familiar with message boards such as ChessTalk (<http://www.chesstalk.com>) and how it operates. In any case the possibilities are limitless and, sooner or later, are certain to become standard practice for most organizations. Let's look into it now. Accordingly I propose this motion.

The blunt reality today is that the Governors' Letter does not function well in so far as most of the dealings of the Federation are concerned. Most decisions are left, either explicitly or implicitly, with the Executive. In today's electronic age this need not be the case.

The foremost objection to the Board conducting its business in this manner at present is that not all Governors enjoy Internet access. But if we agree that change is required, or desirable, then the provincial associations will simply have to make it a requirement that the people they choose to serve as Governors do have access. More than half our Governors are effectively inactive already so I doubt those inconvenienced would be much missed. Also, most public libraries now provide free Internet access to the public, albeit for fixed time allotments only, so that even those few without access to the Internet at home can enter into the decision making process with but a little effort.

DISCUSSION ON MOTIONS

Motion 02-1

Lyle Craver: Vote YES - Regretfully I have to agree with this motion from an operational point of view. With more participants I'd be voting differently. I disagree with Mr. Ficzere that the fact that Hazel Smith and other girls routinely play in mixed events implies girls events are of no value - one may as well make the same argument concerning juniors who play in open events.

Dave Gebhardt: I agree with the part of this motion that states that having mixed sections is desirable. In the long term, that can only increase the level of play by the girls. Playing against what generally is stronger competition will increase the girls' ability to compete at the WYCC. I completely agree that running separate women's events is harmful, but the occasional segregated event, such as the Women's Championship, is acceptable.

I disagree with potentially not sending a girls representative unless she finishes in the top two in her age group. I would be happy to

place a minimum score that a player must achieve before they are subsidized, but I cannot agree with the motion as written. For quite a number of years businesses of all kinds have realized that in order to attract more women to their products, they have to create an incentive for them. Many companies now spend far more advertising dollars on ads geared towards women than those aimed at men. And who ever heard of a gentleman's night at a bar or a club?

One of Mr. Ficzere's arguments why few women are involved in chess is that "they simply are not interested in the game". If we look back through history, arguments were made that women weren't interested in working, in politics, or in entering other male-dominated areas such as engineering or medicine. Time and again this argument has been proven to be totally inaccurate. Even today, there may not be as many women engineers, politicians or doctors, but the gap is narrowing all the time. Even when some women did want to work or were interested in politics, they were viewed as the odd exception and not representative of women in general.

There are three major barriers to increasing women's participation in chess.

1. With relatively few girls participating in chess, those who do take part are viewed by their peers as abnormal. Peer pressure being what it is, these girls drop out of chess in order to avoid having any "stigma" attached to them.

2. Again, because there are few female chess players, it is not always a comfortable situation for a few, or sometimes even just one, woman to be entered in a predominantly male tournament.

3. Probably the largest drawback to women's chess is the lack of publicity. Last summer there was a Women's Championship, but I doubt that many women who are not

CFC members knew anything about it (just as an aside, this is also a problem with Canadian chess in general – how many non-chess players knew about the last Canadian Championship?).

Attracting women to chess is not an easy task, but many companies have invested the time and effort. Simply saying that women are not interested in chess or running events for women that non-CFC members have no knowledge of is completely contrary to what everyone else is doing. It may be unfair to promote one group over another, but it is completely necessary for the health of the CFC.

Ken Craft: Opposed. The primary purpose of the CYCC is to qualify individuals for the WYCC. Currently, the CYCC sections mirror WYCC sections. The CYCC is doing a good job of picking our representatives. I do not see a need to change the format at this time.

Eric Van Dusen: It is my opinion that the restructuring of the CYCC and the prioritization of subsidies are separate issues, and should be dealt with in separate motions as the CFC can decide on the prioritization of subsidies without restructuring the CYCC.

I make a motion to split Motion 02-1 into Motion 02-1a and Motion 02-1b.

I am not supportive of Motion 02-1a. I find the arguments of the sponsor of this motion unconvincing. He makes a generalization that females simply do not like the game based on Canadian experience, but this is certainly not the case in Great Britain and the United States, if reading Chess Life and Chess Monthly are any indication. There is no statistical evidence for the basis of any of his arguments, and it is unscientific, as well as dangerous thinking, to draw general conclusions from the anecdotal evidence of one person. Furthermore, until FIDE, of which

the CFC is a federated body; and the Olympic Association, and the World Youth Chess Championships give direction on integrating males and females into a single event, it would be reckless to completely restructure its events without consulting any of these bodies. It would prudent for the CFC to consult with the USCF and the BCF. Until Motion 02-1a is decided, I make a motion to table Motion 02-1b.

[Editor's Note: There was no seconder specified for this amendment. I have nonetheless included Mr. Van Dusen's arguments]

Richard Bowes: I am not clear as to what this motion seeks to accomplish or what problem it alleges to be addressing. The idea of female intellectual inferiority being a factor in FIDE's format is an unwarranted assumption by the movers, probably designed to inflame opinion. It introduces more problems than it solves (i.e. qualification rules – if you use a rating cutoff will some sections exclude girls altogether?). I believe the CFC format should parallel that of FIDE.

Motion 02-2

Lyle Craver: Vote YES - the Handbook requires all Governors to be CFC members but provides no sanctions against those who are not. There are two situations here: (a) CFC members whose membership has recently (e.g. within a month or two) expired DURING their term of office and have not gotten around to renewing and (b) non-CFC members and former members whose membership is not current at time of nomination by their provincial affiliate. I would expect situation (a) to recur now and then while situation (b) ought never to occur at all. The Handbook is clear who is eligible for election to the Assembly of Governors and provincial affiliates ought never to nominate a non-member in the first

place. Having said that I know that this has happened in at least two provinces including my own. This motion is simply intended to regularize what should be the normal state of things in the first place and I urge all of you to support it.

Ken Craft: In favour. Membership has its privileges...

Eric Van Dusen: I support this motion.

Richard Bowes: I do not support this motion. No problem was identified. It will only lead to a lot of red tape. Vote scrutinizing, by-elections, arguing over adequacy/timing of notices, constant changes of personnel. Better to simply advise that any Governor without a paid up membership should refrain from voting until he renews (honour system). The provincial associations can act on these instances if they so desire.

Motion 02-4 [Formerly Straw Vote 02-1]

Lyle Craver: YES - I have been a governor for 10+ years and have always felt uncomfortable not knowing in advance who my proxy is going to be cast for. Almost always it is clear who the nominees are for the top jobs, but it is not always clear who is running for the lesser positions.

I'm not sure how one decides what the key issues necessarily are - for instance I am CFC Treasurer and thus my main interest is the financial stability and growth of the CFC. I believe strongly that this is best achieved by having a smooth-running Business Office and a commitment to increasing our membership nationwide. Achieve that and the Federation as a whole grows.

Dave Gebhardt: I agree with both of these straw votes (01 & 02). Because I run my own computer business and need to support my customers, it is difficult for me to attend the

AGM (or even to take a holiday). Without fully knowing who is running for positions in advance, it is very difficult to vote. If I know in advance that someone is running and I know something about the person, I will generally vote for them (unless I feel some compelling reason not to do so). If you do not state your intentions until the AGM (or at least until after the proxy deadline), you are handing a vote to your opponent. I realize that quite often only one person runs for a position, but that is not always the case.

I also agree with publishing the names of the incoming governors, with the note of course that anything published in June would be a list of nominated governors, since I believe the lists will not actually be approved until the AGM.

Ken Craft: Abstain. Many individuals make the final decision whether or not to seek office at the AGM. As it stands now, an individual could lose a presidential election and then offer for another position. I believe this flexibility is a strength of the current system. However, I am sensitive to individuals who would like to know who the candidates are prior to the AGM especially if they are Governors who are unable to attend.

Eric Van Dusen: I support this motion as I agree with P. McKillop that it is important to use the En Passant as a means of communication to the general membership.
[Comments apply as well to 02-5]

Richard Bowes: A good idea in theory but may face some practical difficulties. I'd prefer a toned down version in which this was less a requirement than an option. Acclamations based on June deadline submissions may be premature.

Motion 02-5 [Formerly Straw Vote 02-2]

Lyle Craver: NO - CFC Governors are typically elected at the AGMs of their

provincial affiliate. These Annual General Meetings take place at various times throughout the year usually at major events in their province. For instance the BC federation selects their incoming Governors during the May long weekend each year. Obviously publication in the June EP would be too late for this.

I am unclear whether the full list of incoming Governors would be available before the June EP deadline but definitely should be published as soon as possible probably in the August issue.

P. Stockhausen: In general, these (Straw Vote 01-02 and 02-02) are reasonable concepts, so an actual motion will still need a lot of work. Also, EP is probably not the right publication for this material. In every survey since the 70's, the readership has indicated that they do not wish to see any "politics" covered in EP. They want "chess". Period. So the web and the GL are probably the "right" vehicles.

Ken Craft: Opposed. Many affiliates nominate their Governors at tournaments which are held after the deadline proposed. NB is one such province.

Richard Bowes: This isn't practical in the case of the NBCA whose AGM and election of incoming Governors may not occur until after the June E.P. submission deadline. In any event, the NBCA elects its' incoming Governors sufficiently in advance of the CFC AGM to allow for members to contact their Governors elect.

Straw Vote 02-3

Lyle Craver: YES - I don't necessarily think this is completely desirable but favour the issue being studied. I am willing to be convinced.

P. Stockhausen: Agreed, an "electronic" GL would be very good.

Dave Gebhardt: I agree that the internet is likely the most effective way to conduct CFC business. It is inconvenient to those who do not have e-mail or internet access at home, but those governors can get access from a number of public sources if they wish.

In the past two years, we have had three people resign from an elected Executive position very shortly after the AGM. I would feel more comfortable if, with so much time remaining in the term, a new vote to fill the vacant position were to take place rather than an appointment being made. Conducting business via the internet would allow this to happen.

Ken Craft: Strongly in Favour. This idea is long overdue. It will strengthen the Governors role in the Federation.

Eric Van Dusen: I whole heartedly support Gordon Taylor's suggestion with the proviso that as part of the feasibility study that Internet access of governors is examined. Taylor also mentions an aspect of CFC business that I also find discouraging: The lack of participation of governor's in the decision-making of the CFC. From my count, normal participation in voting by governors is about one third. This lack of participation undercuts the notion of the CFC as a functioning democracy.

Peter McKillop: I'm in favour.

Richard Bowes: Excellent idea. The present method of using the GL for making motions and holding votes is outdated and entirely too cumbersome. For this reason (presumably) the CFC executive has been usurping the authority of the Governors Assembly in many areas. Promoting efficiency of communication

will benefit the CFC with the increased exchange of ideas and through encouraging involvement.

GENERAL REMARKS on CFC BUSINESS

a) GL #2 - Comments on Canadian Closed (from General Remarks)

Tyler Johnson: I am a little confused by the comments made regarding the 2002 Closed. It would seem to me from my experience on the BCCF executive (and a long time chess player) that organizers are hard to come by, donating their time with little thanks. And to come across a highly competent organizer with the connections to business that Peter has is a very rare thing. He has done a fantastic job so far, and it would seem a little petty to worry about a rating cut off. Perhaps there is a wealth of organizers elsewhere in the country, but there certainly isn't in B.C. We have not hosted a Closed since sometime in the mid-sixties according to my conversations with Duncan Suttles, so we are glad to have it. We hope that it will be a highly successful event, and much has and will be done to this end. Perhaps the unsuccessful bidders will get the 2003 Closed as we will not be forwarding a bid."

b) GL #2 - Keeping Governors informed Item # 2

Peter Stockhausen: Thanks to the CFC Executive for at least reducing the totally

inappropriate amount of money given to the "organisers" of the CYCC Final. I would urge the Executive and the Governors to "return" to the original preposition for the CYCC Finals and amend Sections 1011 and 1012 of the CFC Handbook appropriately. The original idea was as follows:

- A. The Organiser of the CYCC Final is the CFC.
- B. The Organisers of the Canadian Open would book the playing hall for three days extra prior to the Canadian Open and the CFC would pay the rent for this portion out of the CYCC Fund.
- C. The office staff and the junior co-ordinator with some local help would run the actual tournament. All expenses for such items as trophies, score sheets etc. would be handled directly by the CFC via the CYCC Fund.
- D. All income from the CYCC cycle after expenses and prizes would remain dedicated to Junior issues and the funds would not be co-mingled with the General Revenues.
- E. The benefit that accrues to the Canadian Open organiser is about 40 to 60 additional entries which would otherwise not have attended. What precisely are the organisers in Montreal delivering for \$12.000? (160 x \$75) Based on my experience, this is a vastly excessive amount.

Motions for 2nd Discussion

- 02-1 McKillop/Ficzere. Prioritizing CYCC Funding.
- 02-2 Craver/Craft. Removing non-member CFC Governors.
- SV 02-3 Taylor. Feasibility study re on-line Governing of CFC.

Motions for 1st Discussion

- 02-3 Gebhardt/McKillop. CFC accept bids for World Amateur Championship.
- 02-4 McKillop/Gebhardt. CFC Executive Candidate Submissions.
- 02-5 McKillop/Gebhardt. CFC Governor Submissions.
- 02-6 McKillop/Gebhardt. Finance Committee.
- 02-7 McKillop/Gebhardt. CFC Financial Statements.
- 02-8 McKillop/Gebhardt. Excess expenditures over budgetary amounts.

Deadline for next Governor's letter is Mar 25, 2002

Chess Federation of Canada - Governor's Letter #3 - 2001/02