

# **CHESS FEDERATION OF CANADA**

## **GOVERNORS' LETTER TWO**

### **2007-2008**



**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](mailto: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](mailto:info@chess.ca) if interested.

**Deadline for submissions to GL#3 is MONDAY October 8th, 2007**

## **President's Message**

I apologize for the delay with this GL because it's my fault. The CFC Executive has been quite engaged since the summer election. I want to especially thank Stijn de Kerpel and Bob Gillanders and for their dedication at the CFC Office. A significant backlog of work has been identified and is gradually shrinking. Progress has been slower than hoped but it is happening. The 2006 CYCC report should be ready for GL #3. I also anticipate that CYCC and Canadian Open bids for 2008 will be presented at that time.

After a number of discussions with Treasurer Gillanders we have retained the services of Watson Folkins Correy LLP, to prepare the 2006-07 Financial Statements. They prepared our statements for the past few years. Andrew Plunkett was appointed auditor at the AGM. After 2 months of review however, Bob Gillanders is more comfortable using Watson's firm for the past year due to their familiarity with the file. We would like to accept the offer of Andrew Plunkett for the current year.

A number of decisions were taken by executive vote:

1. To allow IM Artem Samsonkin to play in the Canadian Closed. Artem has not yet met his residency requirements but he is sinking roots in the Toronto chess scene and was considered an asset to the tournament. He was advised that he would not be eligible for a spot on the Olympic team by winning the tournament.
2. Confirmation that the 2007 Canadian Closed would qualify its champion to play on the Olympic team. No real surprise, but a vote was conducted due to FIDE changes relative to the size of the Olympic teams.
3. The CFC will commit \$8,000 to the Karpov Academy's inaugural camp, October 12-14, 2007, in Toronto. This camp will primarily prepare our youth team for the WYCC and was made possible due to the surplus generated by the organizers of the 2007 CYCC, thanks in large part to the sponsorship of Telus. Space permitting, other talented youth players will be invited.

Last but not least, congratulations to our new Canadian champions. Nikolay Noritsyn became our youngest champ ever following an epic playoff match with former champion Jean Hebert. Natalia Khoudgarian successfully defended her Women's title.

Sincerely  
Hal Bond, IO, IA  
President, Chess Federation of Canada

## **Message from the Secretary:**

Thanks again to the kind words from several governors. There are two new motions in this issue concerning CFC dues and the rating of junior tournaments I would like to draw to your attention. Both are calculated to put the finances of the CFC back on a more sustainable basis as we cannot go on having losses like the last two years.

I have not decided how I feel about both motions but strong medicine is needed and we cannot fiddle while "Rome" burns – we need to be taking strong action. I look forward to an exciting Christmas catalog this year as this is probably the most critical marketing opportunity for the CFC for the whole year.

Over the next two weeks I will be out of the country on business but will be in regular e-mail contact and will be returning shortly before the deadline for GL#3.

Finally, this Governors' Letter contains a bid for the 2008 Canadian Junior Championship.

Lyle Craver  
Secretary, Chess Federation of Canada

### **Message from the Treasurer**

First, I would like to express my thanks to those individuals who have expressed confidence in the new executive team to successfully meet the challenges ahead.

I am pleased to report some progress at the CFC office. The backlog of unrated tournaments has been cleared, upcoming tournaments are being updated, and over 200 overdue new and replacement membership cards will be in the mail to members shortly.

Our goal is to create an efficiently run CFC office. We are not yet claiming success, only to achieving some progress towards that goal. There are 2 problems that I hope we can tackle next. Our members' database needs some updating. One field in particular is the expiry date. Another problem is the payment of dues and rating fees from tournament directors. There are too many instances were tournament directors send in the wrong amount or fail to explain what the payment is for. This requires follow up and adds to the workload. To be fair, we have not done a good job of communicating the fee structure.

Last week we received a cheque for approximately \$ 34,000 from the CYCC organizing committee, thus confirming a very successful event this year from a financial standpoint. Further details can be reported once the final accounting report has been reviewed.

The current financial status is somewhat less fragile and more upbeat than reported last month. To borrow a famous quote, "reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated". The CYCC cheque has been helpful, but we must remember that about \$ 20,000 of that is earmarked for the WYCC trip to Turkey in November. I am continuing to work towards a budget where our operating costs are fully funded by a combination of sales, membership dues, and rating fees. I hope to have some budget details and first quarter numbers for the next GL.

Regretfully, I have made very little progress on finalizing the numbers for last year. I have given priority to those issues discussed above based on their urgency. I understand that some of you expected final numbers for last year in this GL. We do need to submit a charitable organization tax return by the end of October, 6 months after yearend. So, you can expect final 2007 financials in the November GL at the very latest.

Respectfully yours,

Robert (Bob) Gillanders  
CFC Treasurer  
August 24, 2007

**RESULTS OF VOTING:** None

## **Motions for Final Vote:**

none

## **Motions for Second Discussion:**

**Motion 2008-01: Moved (Pierre Dénommée / Lyle Craver)** That the CFC Handbook Tournament Rules section be replaced as per Appendix 1 (see below)

(Editorial note: Given a version of this motion has already been defeated it is desired by the mover that this motion be broken into 10 sections to allow Governors to vote for the entire motion or whatever portion of the sub-motions as each Governor deems fit. These are as follows:)

Motion 2008-01a: Article 1	(Administrative Rules)
Motion 2008-01b: Article 2.1 to 2.26	(Additional Rules for Tournament Play)
Motion 2008-01c: Article 2.27 to 2.29	(Regulations re Clocks and Time Controls)
Motion 2008-01d: Article 3	(Exceptions to the Normal Rules)
Motion 2008-01e: Article 4	(Unsportsmanlike Conduct)
Motion 2008-01f: Article 5	(Appeals)
Motion 2008-01g: Article 6	(Interior Rules)
Motion 2008-01h: Article 7	(Players' Code of Conduct)
Motion 2008-01i: Article 8	(Penalties Imposed by the Arbiter)
Motion 2008-01j: Article 9	(FIDE Standards for Digital Chess Clocks)

The motion has been defeated and those who voted against have requested that the motion be split and reintroduced.

The Tournament Rules used to be in Section 3 of the Handbook but they have been removed without authorisation when we have updated to the new FIDE Laws of Chess (fortunately, I still do have a copy of the original text). A 1977 text is no longer adapted to the 2007 rules, especially the digital clocks. There was a rule stating that if Black is absent, white can start Black's clock without making a move. By doing that on most digital clocks, the clock will believe that the player who is actually playing black has the white pieces because his clock has been started first. Consequently, the clock flag may fail to perform properly at move 40. Furthermore, Black is expected to start White's clock when he arrives without playing a move, the clock will have been pressed twice without playing a move, adding 30 seconds to each players and fooling the move counter that the clock is relying upon to determine if the player has played the required number of moves in the allotted time. The only way to keep White move secret that is compatible with digital clocks is to start White clock and for White to seal his move in an envelope, to start Black's clock and to give the envelope to the arbiter

**Ken Craft:** On a point of order, I am requesting that the President rule the motion out of order. The motion was defeated at it is not in order for it to be simply re-introduced in chunks. The proper parliamentary opportunity to divide the motion was prior to the initial vote in which it was defeated.

**Hal Bond:** After discussion with Ken Craft and our Secretary Lyle Craver I have decided to let the motion stand but I believe the vote should be conducted on each article separately.

**Gary Gladstone:** As many of you will know, I am not a chess player, rather the father of a chess player. I will leave the technical chess issues to others, I will try and assist with governance and other matters which are more my expertise. I therefore abstain on 2008-01 and all its subsections.

**Brian Profit:** I continue to be opposed to 3 sections: Unsportsmanlike Conduct, Players' Code of Conduct, and Penalties Imposed by the Arbiter. They seem random and will not be applied consistently. A TD should have the right to remove a player from a tournament for infractions of the rules of chess or for bad behaviour. An organizer should also have the right to deny any player entry into his tournament for previous bad behaviour. Beyond these actions, everything else is overstretching at the tournament site.

**Motion 2008-02 CFC Web Site (Patrick McDonald / Chris Mallon)** To approve the development of a new CFC website and automated ratings system as shown in appendix. Exact dates may be negotiated by the new CFC Executive for cash flow purposes. *(This is the re-introduction of motion 2007-12 originally moved by Chris Mallon)*

**Gary Gladstone:** APPROVE, I would also like to see all members receive an e-mail at the beginning of each month listing all tournaments in their region for the coming month, an automatic link where possible with complete info. There could also be a link to a "Special" of the month from the CFC store. Of course there would need to be an opt out feature and we'd need to work on gathering more e-mail addresses. This benefit should only be extended to members (not tournament only) and only to tournaments that will be rated CFC.

**Brian Profit:** Utilizing the technology and moving towards a more online presence makes sense. Allowing for quicker rating of tournaments is also a positive.

**Motion 2008-03 (Lyle Craver / Bob Gillanders)** That Handbook paragraph 1206 (b) dealing with the Canadian Olympic team be amended to read:

**(b) National Team:** The National Team shall consist of FIVE players, as follows:

- (i) The Canadian Champion, as of 180 days before the start of the Olympiad.
- (ii) The TWO highest rated players on the Selection Rating list.
- (iii) Two players decided upon by the Selection Committee.

Rationale: this motion is intended to bring the CFC into alignment with FIDE which has mandated 5 player teams for the 2008 Dresden Olympiad (Note: the capitalized words original read 'six' and 'three' respectively)

**Gary Gladstone:** APPROVE, in order to conform to FIDE. I don't know enough on the issue. I do recall a lot of "mess" around the selection last year. Please ensure it is as open and transparent as possible to avoid confusion.

**Brian Profit:** It is clear that a change needs to take place. I am opposed to the numbers for each section. In my opinion, three players should continue to qualify based upon their ratings over the previous period, which promotes more tournament play within Canada. Only one player should now be selected by the committee.

**Motion 2008-04 Governors' Letter (Lyle Craver / Bob Gillanders)** That Handbook paragraph 340(b) be deleted. This paragraph reads:

“b) If the Executive Director submits a Governors Letter to the President for approval and does not receive a revised Governors Letter from the President, or approval, within three weeks, then the Executive Director does have de facto approval, and must send out the Governors Letter. [ref: Motion 89-17; GL,

September 1988, p. 1-30 of Appendix B]"

**Lyle Craver:** The reason I am seeking deletion of this paragraph is that it is not in keeping with the current method of producing the Governors' Letter. Specifically: (a) the GL is produced by the CFC Secretary, not the Executive Director and more importantly (b) this paragraph is inconsistent with producing the Governors' Letter on a monthly basis as mandated by motion 2005-11 which is not in the list of consolidated motions in section 3 of the Handbook but was passed in GL#5 of 2004-2005.

**Gary Gladstone:** APPROVE, but can someone tell me what should happen if (a) the sect'y does not publish a GL and (b) there is information that should be present, but is not available (i.e. president's message, etc..) does the GL get sent anyways

**Brian Profit:** Clearly needs to be changed. Who updates the Handbook with all the motions that are passed?

### **Motions for First Discussion:**

**Motion 2008-06 ( Bond, McDonald)** Effective January 1, 2008, that the CFC adopt the following membership fee structure:

Adult membership:	\$49.00
Junior Membership:	\$29.00
Junior Participating	\$20.00
Family Membership	\$25.00
Tournament membership	\$15.00

In all cases, Provincial affiliates shall receive a 10% rebate on fees collected.

This a departure from current practice. It has the advantage of simplifying our membership fees and providing a needed cash influx for the Federation. While some people believe the tournament membership is harmful to full membership levels, it remains popular so a price increase would alleviate any such harm. At the 2007 AGM a membership fee increase was voted down because our service levels were deemed insufficient. My hope is that by the time we have had 2 GLs of discussion on the matter our service levels will have improved.

**Motion 2008-07:** (Bond, Craver) Effective January 1, 2008, "youth only" tournaments which do not require CFC membership shall be subject to the full rating fee of \$3.00 per player.

These tournaments are a drain on our resources. It's bad enough that membership revenue is waived, but to then rate the events for \$.50 per player doubles the pain. The motion proposed will still permit youth players to obtain a CFC rating without the up front membership fee.

### **General Comments from Governors:**

**Michael Barron:** I would like to congratulate elected CFC Executives and wish them success in managing our Federation!

I hope we will continue to receive Governors' Letters monthly with detailed timely reports and comments from the CFC Office and Executives.

Please pay attention: Message from the Treasurer dated July 20, GL#1 distributed August 17, and Deadline for submissions to GL #2 is August 24. If we believe that 1 week is enough to respond

to GL, the similar deadline should be applied for GL preparation – Executive reports should be prepared not more than a week before GL issue. Our financials are really hot issue, and I hope the Treasurer has already more recent information on this matter.

Another important issue is implementing our decisions.

We decided at the AGM that “Organizers of CFC sponsored national tournaments must provide the CFC with a full financial accounting within 30 days of the conclusion of the event”, and it was expected that 2007 CYCC and CO financial reports should be published in GL#1. I think nobody wants to discuss in July 2008 if Halldor Palsson owes money to CFC or the CFC owes money to Halldor Palsson as a result of 2007 CYCC/CO that were finished a year ago.

If the CFC Office received such financial reports, please publish it in the GL#2.

I hope to see in the GL#2 as well financial reports of 2007 Canadian Closed, Women's and Amateur Championships that concluded in Kitchener in August.

We need as well improve our communications with FIDE - Canadian Junior Champion IM Leonid Gerzhoy, which will represent Canada at World Junior in October still listed in FIDE as Israeli player. We have another recent immigrants who could represent Canada next year, but we need submit to FIDE request to change Federation for them in time.

FIDE-rated tournament reports should be submitted to FIDE during 30 days after conclusion to avoid late fees. I still don't see at FIDE website such tournaments as Toronto Closed and Canadian Closed. Please note – to be included in October FIDE Rating list, they should be submitted by September 1.

The GTCL bid for the 2008 Canadian Junior Championship was announced as Standing Bid at the AGM, and now it's time to approve it.

At the 2007 Canadian Junior Chess Championship we had only 12 players, and only 1 of them was from outside of Ontario. The main reason for such poor attendance was very short notice.

I don't want to repeat the same mistake again and ask CFC Executive to approve the bid by Labour Day weekend - I would like to announce 2008 Canadian Junior Chess Championship during Labour Day Open.

I attach this bid again for publication in GL#2. (*Note: this is Appendix 1 – ed.*)

**Gary Gladstone:** I wish the new executive much luck in getting the office in order. From casual conversations at the last few tournaments, the Ontario chess public, at least, is giving everyone a bit of breathing room and seems to think there is an improvement. The simple things like answering phones, returning calls, responding to posts on Chesstalk and processing memberships with rated tournaments on time will make a huge difference to everyone's perception.

Could we please have an update as to where we stand with the Canada Revenue Agency Audit?

Has the executive received a full and final recap from the CYCC / CO organizers?

As an outsider looking in, it seems strange that the CFC doesn't have a bit more control of its two flagship events, the CYCC and the CO. Local volunteers are the lifeblood of the organization and have shown they are more than capable of running the events, but it is my belief that the CFC

must have overall control of each event to ensure that the CFC name and brand is protected and enhanced. Can there be some discussion on this?

When the executive makes decisions on issues which they must, are the governors notified in the next GL?

*(This normally takes place in the Message from the President section – Ed.)*

There are a few points in the GL where an Appendix is referred to, I did not receive any  
*(That would be my fault – this was taken out of the final draft and I had thought I had removed all references to it – Ed.)*

David - as time permits and the information becomes available, could you update the governors list on the CFC website.

***Ellen Nadeau:*** -I'm very happy to see support for collaborative efforts with the Fédération Québécoise des Échecs (FQE).

Apparently the CYCC motion passed when the motion was amended and all proxies were eliminated. This motion makes it very difficult for future organizers of the event. Is making a slight amendment the way to dispose of proxies in the future?

-My proxies for the outgoing and incoming AGM were given, by me, to the Executive Directeur the Friday of the CYCC. When I noticed no mention of my proxy in the minutes I asked the ED who held my proxy. After three requests with silence as a response I am disappointed. If the ED had responded "I'm sorry, I lost the proxies or forgot about them" I would have been unhappy but I could understand it. No response from him is not acceptable.

*Appendix 1:*

**CHESS FEDERATION OF CANADA  
2008 Canadian Junior Chess Championship Bid**

<b>Organizing Body</b>		Greater Toronto Chess League
<b>Chief Organizer</b>		Michael Barron President, GTCL
<b>Organizing Committee</b>		The GTCL 2008 Junior Committee
<b>Advertising</b>		3 issues of Chess Canada Echecs (free advertising to be provided by CFC for this event) Internet, Newspapers, Magazines
<b>Publicity</b>		EXTENSIVE PUBLIC RELATIONS –Pre-Event Starting October – Onsite Live Coverage -- Post Event Updates
<b>Internet Site/ Coverage</b>		Will have Daily Internet Updates
<b>City</b>		Toronto
<b>Address</b>		Bayview Games Club 1681 Bayview Avenue Suite 202
<b>Registration</b>		Advance Registration - prior to December 24, 2007; Late registration - additional \$10 up to 6 PM EST on Wednesday, January 2, 2008 subject to availability.  The GTCL reserves the right to limit participants to 60 players, and to guarantee space for last years Canadian Junior Champion, last years Runner-up and for each province (and the Territories) up to 3 representatives including their provincial Junior Champion, and up to 6 additional players at the discretion of the GTCL.
<b>Dates</b>		January 2-6, 2008
<b>Format</b>		5 Round Swiss
<b>Time Control</b>		90 minutes for 40 moves and 15 minutes

	for the rest of the game with 30 seconds increment from the first move.
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<b>Rounds</b>	5 rounds, 1 game per day starting at 6:30 PM, Wednesday, January 2 to Saturday, January 5; last round at 2:00 PM Sunday, January 6, 2008
<b>Playoffs</b>	Sunday, January 6, if required
<b>Rated By</b>	CFC and FIDE
<b>Equipment Provided</b>	All equipment including clocks provided by the Bayview Games Club (if necessary, additional clocks could be borrowed from OCA).
<b>Prizes</b>	<b>Winner will be Canada's representative at the World Junior (paid for). Top Girl will be Canada's representative at the World Girls (partially paid for – depends on the number of participating girls).</b>
<b>Entry Fees</b>	<b>\$150 (cash or cheques received by December 24, 2007)</b> <b>Late Fee: on day of tournament \$10 extra.</b> <b>\$100 from each entry will be transferred to CFC for World Junior expenses.</b>
<b>TD</b>	Vlad Dobrich
<b>Side Events</b>	none

<b>Budget</b>	
	Revenues
	- Entry fees (20x\$150) \$3,000
	Total Revenues \$3,000
	Expenses
	- Prizes (20x\$100) \$2,000
	- Advertising \$ 200
	- TD Fees \$ 500
	- Meeting Space \$ 200
	- Misc \$ 100
	Total Expenses \$3,000
	CFC to pay for CFC and FIDE ratings, and to provide free advertising in Chess Canada Echecs
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	June 10, 2007
<b>Submitted by:</b>	Michael Barron
<b>Accepted by:</b>	

**Deadline for submissions to GL#3 is Friday October 5th, 2007**  
**Responses may be mailed, faxed or E-mailed to the Chess Federation of Canada, E-1 2212 Gladwin Crescent, Ottawa, ON, K1B 5N1**  
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