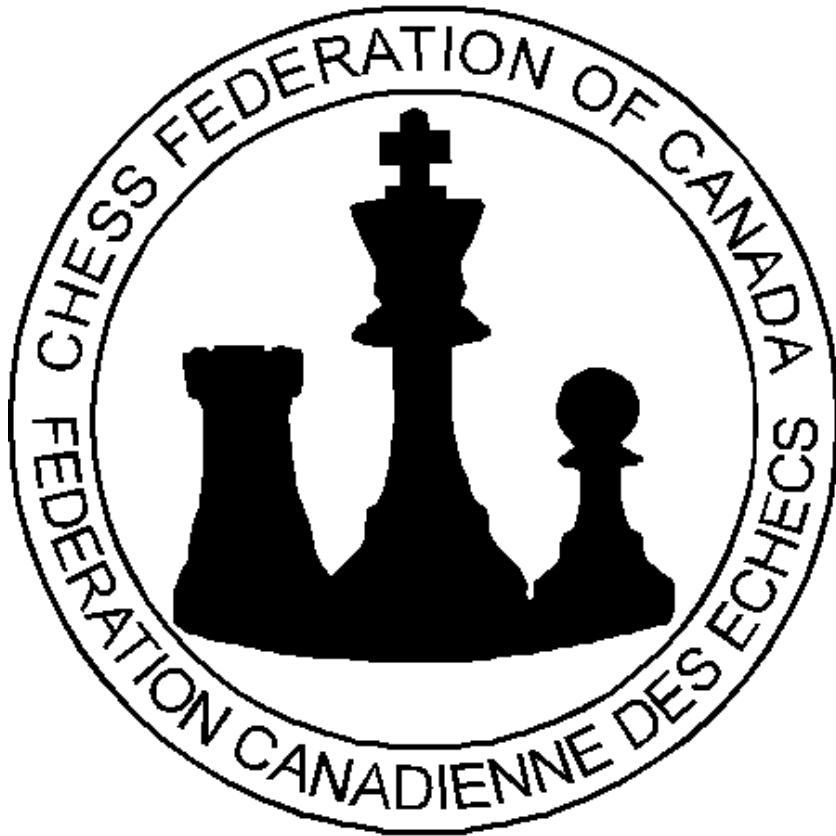


CHESS FEDERATION OF CANADA

GOVERNORS' LETTER FOUR

2009-2010



Responses may be mailed, faxed or E-mailed to the Chess Federation of Canada, 356 Ontario Street, Suite 373, Stratford, ON N5A 7X6, Phone: (519) 508-2362, Fax: (519) 508-6595, E-Mail: secretary@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.

CFC Online Forum: <http://chesscanada.info/forum/>

Deadline for submissions to GL#5 is Friday April 23rd, 2010

President's Message

Greetings CFC governors,

In the interest of not delaying Governor's Letter #4 any longer, I will keep my presidential message short and sweet.

Last year, when I put forward my ambitious platform, I felt that it would take at least two or more years to implement. At that time, I had made a commitment to serve for two years. However, I am now announcing that I will not be running for a second term as president of the Chess Federation of Canada. For now, I will not go into the reasons in depth for my decision, but there are a number of activities and projects, both chess and non-chess related, that I want to commit to next year. I simply do not have the time and motivation to continue as president, assuming I even received approval from the next year's governors.

Before the 2010 CFC Annual General Meeting, I will be publishing a detailed Presidential Report and a CFC Business Plan.

First, I would like to thank the great job that the other members of the executive have done this past year. Stijn De Kerpel worked very hard on my behalf. Without him, the administrative duties of the CFC would have been impossible for myself to carry out. Maurice Smith did an excellent job as Treasurer working closely with Gerry Litchfield on producing financial statements and next year's budget. In addition, he spent long hours updating the handbook. Michael Barron worked very hard in his position as Youth Coordinator and as a member of the 2010 Canada Open organizing committee. Hal Bond has been an excellent FIDE representative and educated me on many aspects of FIDE that I was ignorant of. Lyle Craver as Secretary has done superlative work as always. In particular, he has been extremely patient with me since I have been responsible for all the delays with the Governor's Letters. I am impressed by Tony Ficzere's dedication to continuous improvement of the quality of the newsletter. In my final report, I will attempt to thank all of the chess volunteers I have encountered over my past term as president.

As president, I have learned a great many lessons. The most important one was that as a governor, I was much too hard on members of the CFC Executive. Here I would like to apologize especially to Stijn De Kerpel and Ellen Nadeau. Stijn always forgave me since he knows personally my passion for chess and the promotion of the game. Ellen, on the other hand, only knew me through my writings, which is much less effective than in-person verbal communication. While Stijn is retiring from the CFC Executive, I do encourage Ellen to run for Youth Coordinator. It is my opinion that she is the only person who has the discipline, work ethic, and passion to establish provincial and regional youth chess championships. Since I will not be president, I hope that she will not have any other impediments to run for this position.

I thank all of you for the opportunity for me to serve in capacity as president,

Eric Van Dusen
CFC President

Message from the Secretary:

Here at long last is Governors' Letter 4 which has been 90% complete for the last two weeks.

By the time you see this the online Governors' meeting will be in full swing on the CFC Forum which I urge each of you to check out. The hope of the Executive is that this 'meeting' will serve as a template for other meetings of this sort to allow more online and faster governance of the Federation. The world is very different from the days when the GL was produced by a Secretary who received contributions by Canada Post with Executive discussions primarily by mail or by telephone!

It has been pointed out to me that the annual report of the Chess Foundation of Canada was not published with the rest of the minutes of that AGM but instead ended up in GL 6 of 2008-2009. To quote my correspondent: "In itself, this is not a big problem but for the odd person who tries to find it, they would not necessarily think of looking in GL 6."

Lyle Craver
Secretary, Chess Federation of Canada

Treasurer's Report

With just two months to go before the end of the fiscal year, it appears that there will be a surplus of around \$9,000. This is quite a turnaround from many previous years and will be a welcome change for the CFC. It shows that the contract with EKG is working and should continue. Personally, I think it can work even better with a strong outline of future planning and marketing given to EKG to work on.

Some things to watch out for this year. Work on a new website is required. This should be a capital expense and come out of the money from the sale of the building being held in trust by the Chess Foundation.

This is an Olympiad year and the budget and our financial picture can be changed dramatically because of this. It is extremely important that we all promote the Olympic fund aggressively to be able to send both teams to the Olympiad.

To summarize then, I have been preaching financial restraint for a year and I congratulate our Executive for showing admirable restraint. This has resulted in the CFC being in a strong financial position as we near the end of the fiscal year. The following year starting in May will bring new challenges and we must be prepared in order not to return to the financial difficulties of the past.

Maurice Smith

FIDE Representative's Report

FIDE Zone Report, January 10, 2010

Hal Bond
FIDE Representative

Youth Coordinator Report

Dear chess friends,

It's my pleasure to inform you about strong Canadian representation at the World Amateur Chess

Championship that currently take place in Skokie, IL USA from March 19 to 25, 2010.

The Canada is represented by 3 young players:

Richard Huang (1993 b.y.),

Regina Veronicka Kalaydina (1996 b.y.), and

Agastya Kalra (1997 b.y.).

All 3 Canadian players won their first and second round games.

Go Canada!

I would like to thank Hart House Chess Club and personally Alex Ferreira for organizing 2010 Canadian Junior Championship on a very short notice.

It's expected to be very eventful year in Canadian Junior (and not only Junior) Chess:

March 19-25: 2010 World Amateur Chess Championship in Skokie, IL USA – please see
<http://www.worldchesschamps.com/world-amateur/pairings/>

April 30 - May 4: 2010 Canadian Junior Chess Championship in Toronto, Ontario – please see
<http://hhchess.sa.utoronto.ca/cj>

July 6-9: 2010 Canadian Youth Chess Championship in Windsor, Ontario – please see
<http://www.cycc.ca/>

July 10-18: 2010 Canadian Open Chess Championship in Toronto, Ontario – please see
<http://chess.ca/canopen.shtml>

August 1-11: 2010 Pan American Youth Chess Championship in Novo Hamburgo, Brazil

August 2-17: 2010 World Junior and Girls Chess Championship in Chotowa Czarna, Poland – please see <http://www.wjcc2010.pl/en>

August 16-19: 2010 North American Youth Chess Championship in Montreal, Quebec – please see <http://chess-math.org/fide-nayc.htm>

August 19-28: 2010 World Youth U-16 Chess Olympiad in Izmir, Turkey

September 19 – October 4: 2010 World Chess Olympiad in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

October 19–31: 2010 World Youth Championships in Halkidiki, Greece

Thank you,

Michael Barron,

Youth Coordinator, Chess Federation of Canada

RESULTS OF VOTES:

Motion 2010-02: (Moved / Seconded Egidijus Zeromskis / Christopher Mallon)

The Constitution change:

"JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

9. Any person ordinarily resident in Canada who is under the age of 18, shall be granted a Junior membership or a Junior Participating Membership."

is replaced with:

"JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

9. Any person ordinarily resident in Canada who has not reached the age of 20 by January 1st of the current year, shall be granted a Junior membership or a Junior Participating Membership."

(The current text of this paragraph can be found at http://www.chess.ca/section_2.htm - please note that since this motion proposes to change paragraph 9 of the CFC Handbook this is a constitutional change and thus is subject to the rules for constitutional amendments rather than simply an ordinary motion - ed. Please note that Motion 2010-12 would amend these quotes from the Handbook by eliminating the Participating Junior Membership)

Votes Yes (26): Armstrong, Barron, Bluvshstein, Brodie, Bunning, Cabanas, Coleman, Craft, Craver, Demian, Dutton, Einarsson, Felix, Gladstone, Haley, Leblanc, Lipic, Mallon, McDonald, McKim, Milicevic, Nadeau, Nunes, Risi, von Keitz, Zeromskis

Votes No (3): Hughey, Marghetis, Rekhson

Abstain (1): Smith

Total Votes Cast: 30 (57.7%)

Motion # 2010-03: (Moved/Seconded Patrick McDonald / Paul Leblanc)

Governors-at-Large – Past CFC Presidents: Section 6 of By-law # 2 is amended by deleting “the past Presidents of the Federation who have served as President for at least two full terms. A term is that period between one annual meeting and the next.”

and deleting

“ the past Presidents who have been granted the life title of Governor at Large as at September 1994. ”

There shall be added after the words “ five years “ in the remaining section, the sentence “ A term is that period between one annual meeting and the next.”

Commentary:

The current appointment of past CFC Presidents under the CFC Handbook is under section 6 of Bylaw 2, which states:

" 6.GOVERNORS AT LARGE

The following persons shall be known as Governors at large: the past Presidents of the Federation who have served as President for at least two full terms. A term is that period between one annual meeting and the next.

the past Presidents of the Federation who have served as President for at least one full term in the immediately preceding five years.

the past Presidents who have been granted the life title of Governor at Large as at September 1994. ”

The **new revised section** will now read (as to the part referring to former Presidents):

" 6. GOVERNORS AT LARGE

The following persons shall be known as Governors at large:...

the past Presidents of the Federation who have served as President for at least one full term in the immediately preceding five years. A term is that period between one annual meeting and the next. “.

It is felt that it is undemocratic in this day and age for CFC to have “Life” governors. Even the Canadian senate now has an imposed retirement age. It unbalances the democratic principles on which the CFC is founded, to give someone a vote for life, where they are not accountable to any electorate any longer.

Thus this motion will eliminate all life governor presidents (appointed on and before September 1994 and any past president who was elected more than five years ago and has served 2 consecutive terms)..

We do recognize the loss of experience in the Assembly our motion will cause, and the contributions life governors have made, but we have kept on the past presidents from the last 5 years. These are the presidents that have the most claim on some type of “recently elected” factor. And they are the most current past presidents, and so have been dealing with the newest issues facing the organization. As well, earlier past presidents can always run again for provincial governor if they want to stay active. Also, they can easily let it be known that they are more than ready to give advice when asked, or to serve as member volunteers on committees, etc. Finally, we are proposing that those governors removed by this motion, be reappointed as non-voting Governors at large for 10 years (see our motion # 3).

Currently there are 10 (one apparently has asked to be removed but that hasn’t been done yet) past president governors who are life governors under this section. The Life governors who would be eliminated are: Les Bunning, Francisco Cabanas, Nathan Divinsky, Yves Farges, Terry Fleming Phil Haley, Halldor Palsson, Maurice Smith (he would still be a governor at large though as current Treasurer), Peter Stockhausen and Bruce D. Thomas.. The potential number of such governors-at-large could be reduced to the most recent 5 presidents (and Life Governors eliminated), by deleting the 2 of three categories identified in the motion:

“ the past Presidents of the Federation who have served as President for at least two full terms
“

and

“the past Presidents who have been granted the life title of Governor at Large as at September 1994. “

We feel that this will enhance the democratic nature of the CFC.

Lyle Craver: I will be voting against this proposal as I feel our former Presidents have for the most part continued to provide valuable advice to both the Executive and the Governors for a very long time. I do not believe our Life Governors have ever voted *en bloc* against the collective votes of the remainder of the Assembly of Governors. They have provided invaluable service for the years and I do not support amending the Handbook to “put them out to pasture”

Maurice Smith: I think the amendment by Les Bunning is the most reasonable and intelligent answer to the perceived problem of inactive Life Governors. It keeps the active and loses the inactive. I understand the intent of the original motion but I disagree with one statement. That is that all the Life Governors who even though active would still be terminated in the original can just run again for Governor. In this case it would be keeping back a younger person with new ideas. If we keep the active Life Governors and let new young people in we have the best of both

worlds. Les's amendment covers all this and I believe all Governors should vote for this amendment. If the amendment passes then 2010-4 is out of order.

Gordon Ritchie: I vote YES on 2010-03 and NO on 2010-04.

I find the concept of "life governors" offensive and the idea that past presidents would automatically remain governors for 10 years ridiculous.

I cannot recall ever seeing a more over-govern(or)ed organization.

Votes Yes (27):

Armstrong, Barron, Bluvshtein, Bond, Brodie, Coleman, Craft, Demian, Einarsson, Gladstone, Hughey, Leblanc, Mallon, Marghetis, McDonald, McKim, Milicevic, Nadeau, Nunes, Pedersen, Risi, Ritchie, Starr, Steer, Stringer, von Keitz, Zeromskis

Votes No (5):

Bunning, Craver, Dutton, Haley, Smith

Abstentions (2): Cabanas, Evans

Total Votes Cast: 34 (65.4%)

Motion 2010-04: (Moved/Seconded Bob Armstrong / Paul Leblanc)

There shall be added to Bylaw 2, if Motion # 2 (already filed on behalf of the Coalition) is passed, the following new Section 6A:

“ 6A. NON-VOTING GOVERNORS AT LARGE

The following shall be known as non-voting Governors at large:

the past Presidents of the Federation who have served as President for at least two full terms prior to July 1, 2009. A term is that period between one annual meeting and the next.

And

the past Presidents who have been granted the life title of Governor at Large as at September 1994.

They shall have all governor rights, except the right to vote. They shall cease being governors on July 1, 2019. “

Commentary: Currently the section dealing with past president governors at large is section 6 of Bylaw 2, which states in the relevant part:

” 6.GOVERNORS AT LARGE

The following persons shall be known as Governors at large: the past Presidents of the Federation who have served as President for at least two full terms. A term is that period between one annual meeting and the next. the past Presidents of the Federation who have served as President for at least one full term in the immediately preceding five years.

the past Presidents who have been granted the life title of Governor at Large as at September

1994. "

This Motion will eliminate all the existing life governors at large.. This is necessary because the concept is anti-democratic.

But it is not wanted to lose the experience of the five past president governors who would be eliminated. As well, we wish to recognize their contribution to the CFC over the years. Further, a commitment had been made to these governors of lifetime governorships, and it is felt CFC should go some way towards honouring that commitment to some extent.

Hence we are creating a time-limited special category of governor, the non-voting governor at large. Thus the existing governors affected by motion # 2 will be retained in all respects by Motion # 3, except for their right to vote. It will allow these few past presidents to continue to be involved – they can attend the AGM and be recognized; they will continue as part of the Governors' Discussion Board; they can be put on Committees; they can volunteer; they will still carry the title of Governor. Of course, it is always open to them to run again as a provincial representation governor candidate. This seems a suitable compromise and is an attempt at a kind of "grandparenting" under the change imposed by Motion # 2. The Life Governors who will be moved to this new category are: Les Bunning, Francisco Cabanas, Nathan Divinsky, Yves Farges, Terry Fleming Phil Haley, Halldor Palsson, Maurice Smith (he would still be a normal governor at large though as current Treasurer), Peter Stockhausen and Bruce D. Thomas

Yves Farges: This motion flows from # 2010 – 03 and further defines "Governors-at-Large". Although there is a strong hint of "putting old presidents out to pasture" in this motion, I feel that it is an honest attempt to keep voting rights dynamic.

In my case I cannot remember the last time I actually played Chess, since I have been active as a poker player, and in fact will be playing in the World Poker Tour event in Cyprus September 6th.

Over the past ten years I have been asked a number of times for specific input on chess problems, but not being active in chess organizing at all makes it difficult to justify having a perpetual vote as a voting Governor of the C.F.C.

Again I would like to thank the crafters of these motions for the obvious tact to solve a voting problem by ruffling the minimum number of feathers.

Lyle Craver: I will be voting no on this motion for the same reasons as stated on motion 2010-03

Vote Yes (23): Armstrong, Barron, Bluvshtein, Bond, Brodie, Coleman, Craft, Demian, Einarsson, Gladstone, Leblanc, Mallon, McDonald, McKim, Milicevic, Nadeau, Nunes, Pedersen, Starr, Steer, Stringer, von Keitz, Zeromskis

Vote No (8): Bunning, Craver, Dutton, Haley, Hughey, Marghetis, Ritchie, Smith

Abstain (3): Cabanas, Evans, Risi

Total Votes Cast: 34 (65.4%)

MOTIONS FOR FINAL VOTE:

Motion 2010-05 – Governor Activity Rule

Moved: Bob Armstrong; Seconded: Jason Lohner

(submitted on behalf of the CFC Constitutional Coalition, a grassroots' group of about 40 ordinary CFC members and a few governors, named below in the Notes)

(I've removed the list as it's the same list of names presented in GL#1 – ed.)

There shall be added to CFC By-law # 2, a new section 23 as follows:

“ 23. Governor Inactivity Rule

Any governor, no matter whether provincial representative governor, or governor at large, including the Executive, appointees, etc., who does not vote, move/second a motion, or make a comment (on a motion or generally), in two consecutive Governors' Letters, shall be removed from office, and their position shall no longer be part of a quorum until their replacement, if any. Should it happen that in a GL there are no motions for either discussion or vote, then that GL shall not be counted for the purposes of this section. Once removed, the Governor and his provincial body/appointing body shall be notified. A request that a by-election be held to fill the vacancy shall also be made to the provincial/territorial organization or that the appointing body appoint a replacement, for the balance of the removed governor's term. "

Commentary:

In the 2008-9 year, except for the first four motions of the year (critical CFC restructuring motions in September 2008), all motions subsequently have received less than 50 % vote (some much less), including the motions at the outgoing governors July 2009 AGM (including proxies). Many governors seldom make any comments on motions for discussion, or generally. This participation rate by governors is abysmal. If governors do not want to be involved in governing the CFC, then they should not have stood for office, whether provincial representative, or governor at large representative. It makes the membership skeptical about the governance of the CFC by such neglect of participation. It demoralizes those who are active governors, because they are expecting other governors to share the load, and find there are not other hands to pitch in. Lastly if a constitutional amendment to the CFC Handbook is brought outside of an AGM, the motion not only requires a 2/3 majority, but also a quorum of 50% of the eligible votes. With governors voting less than 50%, constitutional motions cannot be passed outside of the AGM – this is intolerable for an organization that is trying to keep itself legally up-to-date.

Some have suggested that the period of grace should be longer – no communication/vote for 3 consecutive GL's. Others want the governors to vote on at least one motion every GL, or at least make a comment. We have picked the middle ground of 2 GL's – no appearance for 2 GL's, and the governor is removed.

Also, there is an issue of whether the Provincial Association/ appointing body should be able to replace a removed governor. We felt that allowing replacement let the provincial affiliate/appointing body off the hook. They elect/appoint the governors, and we felt they should be taking care that they are good active governors. If they can always replace deadwood governors with other deadwood governors, and never exercise responsible oversight on their governors, what incentive is there for them to ever take the CFC governance seriously? However,

if it means they lose a vote for a full balance of the offending governors' term, maybe next time they will be more careful about whom they elect.

However, it seemed many opposed our view on replacement. As well there was motion 2002-02 in 2001-2 GL 5 that said re governors who were not CFC members, or who had let their membership lapse:

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 suspension, the president of the provincial/territorial organization 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 organization** [bolding added]. "

This appears to be a strong CFC precedent for allowing replacement of "suspended" governors. So we have abandoned our desired position, and adopted the procedure of this CFC precedent (we are indebted to Governor Egis Zeromskis for drawing our attention to this motion)..

We tried to reduce the number of provincial representation governors (Motion 2009-14) at the July AGM, and it failed to get the 2/3 majority required for a constitutional amendment. One comment from many governors was that an activity requirement rule should precede any action to reduce the number of governors. So we have listened to this criticism and are now bringing this activity motion, as seemed to be desired by many governors.

The CFC needs the help of all governors, and the contribution of all their opinions, to help the CFC run at its best. The first duty of governors is to govern; secondarily, it is expected that the governors will also promote chess in various ways. Governors need to debate with each other in the GL (and on the Governors' Discussion Board and the CFC members CFC Chess Forum) in order to get sound governance decisions. That is why we have such an extensive number of governors. If they do not participate, one wonders why we have them at all. They are just deadwood, names on a website. And they fail to represent the provinces/chess bodies who sent them.

We feel this activity criterion will significantly improve the voting record of governors, and the quality of CFC governance decisions.

Eric van Dusen: This is a constitution amendment with voting on this motion governed by Bylaw #3 Section #3

Lyle Craver: This motion appears to be an attempt to ensure we have a smaller, more active Assembly of Governors. I'm frankly undecided on this issue but will note for the record that other than voting on bids for National events it is unusual to get more than 50% of the Governors voting on any given issue and that this has been the case for at least five years. With respect to the previous motion, the activity record of our Life Governors is significantly better than that of Governors elected by Annual General Meetings of the provincial affiliates!

Maurice Smith: While I agree with the intent of the Motion, I am not comfortable with at least two possible scenarios.

Governors are elected by the Provinces and not directly by the CFC. Therefore, surely it is up to the Provinces to decide who are their "inactive" Governors and take steps to see that they are replaced at the appropriate time. I just don't think that the action proposed for the CFC is the right thing to do.

Also, the term "inactive" can mean different things to different people. There are sometimes Motions in the GLs that should actually be ruled out of order, others may have no particular significance to some Governors in particular Provinces. Yet Governors in those areas may be very good, active chess people who relay CFC news to their members and resolve any problems their members may have with the CFC. I can see that if this Motion passes, some Provinces in the smaller populated areas may wind up with no Governors at all. Do we want to see Provinces not represented? I hope not. This motion intent on solving a problem shows that the "cure is worse than the disease."

Michael von Keitz: I am fully in favour of this motion; however, as indicated, it will certainly be defeated if the vote is not deferred to the AGM. The requirements for a governor to be considered active, as outlined in this motion, are minimal. If selected representatives cannot adhere to these standards, then it seems difficult to justify their continued involvement in the governance of the CFC.

Motion 2010-06: CFC Fees (Moved / Seconded Bob Armstrong / Gary Gladstone)

First-Time CFC Member Introductory Discount –

Section 375 (Tournament Playing Fee) of Section 3 (Motions Applicable to No Other Section) of the CFC Handbook is deleted. Substituted for it is:

“ 375. An annual membership discount of 40% will be given for first time CFC members (CFC will publish a rounded off figure for the convenience of organizers). “

Lyle Craver: This is what the Tournament membership was intended to address though it has had the result that many players have used this as an alternative to Regular membership which has had the effect of lowering participation nationally.

Ellen Nadeau: It makes sense to encourage new memberships.

Michael von Keitz: Under a variety of schemes, the intent of the single tournament fee has been circumvented, with, as Lyle says, many players using it as an alternative to regular membership. It seems that this motion does not address the underlying problems with the current method employed, but, nonetheless, may serve as an improvement. However, with a full adult membership being far from prohibitively expensive, I think, in future, we may wish to discuss the elimination of all forms of discounted adult membership.

Maurice Smith: The Movers of this Motion want to change item 375 in the Handbook. Yet this item was changed less than nine months ago. The Motion 2009-7 Lavin/Smith doubled the Tournament fee to \$20, Junior to \$10. The idea being that some players would start thinking that they might as well just get a regular CFC membership. This Motion was passed in March with 19 to 9 in favour. The seconder of this new motion voted in favour of the old motion. The mover of this new motion did not vote at all in response to the old motion.

Surely we should give Motion 2009-7 a chance to work. If the movers of the new Motion thought it so bad, why didn't they either amend it or vote against it?

Motion 2010-07: (Moved/Seconded Michael Barron / John Coleman) To amend the CYCC rules to include the following:

"Canadian Youth Chess Championship is a qualifier to international youth chess competitions. Top 3 finishers in each section are qualified for: 1) World Youth Chess Championship; 2) Pan American Youth Chess Championship; 3) North America Youth Chess Championship.

Michael Barron: Every qualified player can be official Canadian representative at one of these events, others could be additional players.

Usually the Champion represents Canada at WYCC, 2nd place finisher - at Pan American, and 3rd place finisher - at NAYCC.

But the Champion could choose any one of these tournaments, and 2nd place finisher - one of remaining 2."

The intent of this motion is to emphasize the importance of CYCC as a qualifier for all International Youth competitions: WYCC, Pan American YCC and North American YCC, and allow top 3 CYCC finishers to represent Canada at one of these events.

This motion clarifies who has a right to be an official Canadian representative, but not limit participation at Pan American YCC and North American YCC only for 3 top finishers – we could register many additional players. All possible conflicts will be discussed and solved by the CFC Youth Committee.

Lyle Craver: I'm unclear on the intent of this motion. Is it to allow a champion to participate in other events or is it to make our champs qualify for all three events at once? If the latter I would expect this would tighten competition for these spots though travel costs may make it impossible for our champs to participate in all events they qualify for particularly as junior players (unlike adults) seldom travel alone! Of the three, which is our priority?

Ellen Nadeau: The intent is good, and will hopefully encourage more participation at CYCC to access international tournaments.

As long as all three winners may participate in all three international tournaments. (Only one receives free room and board) Should 2nd and 3rd place not want to represent Canada at any of the tournaments, this should be offered to the first place winner.

Michael von Keitz: In principle, I am in favour of the bookkeeping nature of this motion, but I would like to see it reworked. Yes, the CYCC does serve as a Canadian qualifier to the three events mentioned; however, the original wording of the motion does not state that any given qualifier may only attend one of the three events. Further, the motion makes no effort to clarify the nature of the allotment of these qualifications.

MOTIONS FOR SECOND DISCUSSION:

Motion # 2010-08 – New Section of Bylaw 3, Duties of Officers, Section 4 - President

Moved / Seconded: Robert Armstrong /Ken Craft

That Section 4 of Bylaw 3 , Duties of Officers, dealing with “ President “ be deleted and the following substituted for it:

“ PRESIDENT

4. The President shall be the chief executive Officer of the Federation. He shall preside at all meetings of the Assembly of Governors, or of the Board of Directors, when he is personally present. He shall exercise constant active and general supervision of the Officers of the Federation, and the conduct of its affairs, with the exception of:

- (a) Those matters which are reserved to the Assembly of Governors or the Board of Directors.
- (b) Those matters which have already been delegated to Committees appointed by the Assembly of Governors.

Where there is no time for a major decision to be made by the governors, the president shall preside over a meeting of the executive to make such decision. The president will then bring that decision to the governors as soon as possible for review. Where there is no time for a major decision to be made by the executive, the president shall make such decision, and bring that decision to the governors as soon as possible for review. In other matters within his authority, where an immediate decision is not required, the

President will confer with other members of The Board of Directors. In any matter covered by his general authority and not coming within the duties specifically allotted to any other Officer or Officers, the decision of the President shall override that of any other Officer.

The President shall exercise constant and active supervision over the chief employee of the Chess Federation of Canada (commonly known as the Executive Director) if there is one, or over any office services under outsourcing contract.

The President must present a budget for the new fiscal year for approval to The Assembly of Governors, in consultation with the Treasurer, within 1 month of the start of a new CFC Administration. This budget must indicate a surplus for the upcoming fiscal year. The President will make best efforts to ensure that the annual budget is adhered to by the Executive Director or outsourcing contractee. “

Commentary:

The current section 4 of Bylaw 3 states:

“ PRESIDENT

4. The President shall be the chief executive Officer of the Federation. He shall preside at all meetings of the Assembly of Governors, or of the Board of Directors, when he is personally present. He shall exercise constant active and general supervision of the Officers of the Federation, and the conduct of its affairs, with the exception of:

- (a) Those matters which are reserved to the Assembly of Governors or the Board of Directors.
- (b) Those matters which have already been delegated to Committees appointed by the Assembly of Governors.

The President shall have full power to take such action in the name of the Federation, as he may in his sole discretion decide.

In matters where an immediate decision is not necessary, the president shall confer with the other Officers of the Federation, but as a matter of general policy only, and not so as to limit in any way his authority. In any matter covered by his general authority and not coming within the duties specifically allotted to any other Officer or Officers, the decision of the President shall override that of any other Officer.

The President shall exercise constant and active supervision over the chief employee of the Chess Federation of Canada (commonly known as the Executive Director). “

The proposed duties of the President in the executive motion 2010-01 were:

“ President

The President has the full power to make any and all decisions on any matter that is not explicitly the responsibility of the Assembly of Governors and/or The Board of Directors (aka – The Executive). In matters where an immediate decision is not required the President will confer with other members of The Board of Directors.

The President must present a budget for the new fiscal year to The Assembly of Governors at least 30 days prior to the start of the new fiscal year. This budget must indicate a surplus for the upcoming fiscal year. The President will make best efforts to ensure that the annual budget is adhered to by the Executive Director. “

The new section we have proposed is an amalgam of the above 2. It seeks to make clear the paramount role of the Governors to run the Corporation, and the limited powers within this exercised by the President.

You will note that we have deleted from the current section the following sentences:

“ The President shall have full power to take such action in the name of the Federation, as he may in his sole discretion decide. In matters where an immediate decision is not necessary, the president shall confer with the other Officers of the Federation, but as a matter of general policy only, and not so as to limit in any way his authority”

We have done this because we believe this sentence introduces an element of ambiguity into the issue of division of power between the President and the Assembly. It purports, in our view, to give some type of absolute power to the president, which is contrary to the fact that the governors run the corporation. There is sufficient wording in the new section proposed, to show the “ emergency “ nature of some of the president’s power.

As well, we have moved the date for presentation of a budget to within 1 month of the start of a new CFC Administration. We feel this is necessary so that the budget is not a reflection of the priorities of the old CFC administration, but of the new administration that comes in in July at the AGM. What happens now is that the budget is presented around the start of the new fiscal year by the old administration, and then the new administration in July says they want to “ revise “ the budget. And then the process of revision drags on. Under our proposal, the budget would have to be presented by early August, given when we have our AGM (if the AGM would in future, under changes being discussed currently, be moved to earlier in the year, then the budget would come in earlier than 3 months into the new fiscal year).

Eric van Dusen: This is a constitution amendment with voting on this motion governed by Bylaw #3 Section #3

Michael von Keitz: In general, I favour this motion; however, stipulating that a "budget *must* indicate a surplus" seems unreasonable to me. I would much prefer a statement to the effect that the budget must not indicate a deficit.

Motion # 2010-09 – Amending Section 5 of Bylaw 3 – First Vice- President

Moved: Robert Armstrong Seconded: Hal Bond

That in Bylaw 3, Duties of Officers, Section 5 – First Vice-President, the word “ First “ be deleted throughout the section.

Commentary:

The current section 5 of Bylaw 3 reads:

“ FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

5. The First Vice-President shall assist the President in the discharge of his duties whenever requested by the President. He shall perform the duties of the President whenever the President is unable to perform them owing to his absence from Canada, or his absence from any Province of Canada where at the time such duties must necessarily or can most conveniently be performed, or to illness or other temporary incapacity.

The First Vice-President may also act in the place or stead of the President when specifically delegated to so act by the President; provided, that any delegation of authority by the President to him shall specify the matter to which his authority is delegated, and in the absence of such specifications the First Vice-President shall be deemed to be assisting the President only, and not acting in his place.

Whenever the First Vice-President is delegated by the President to act in his place and stead as to any specified matter, the First Vice-President shall possess and may exercise all the powers of the President. Any delegation of the President, to the First Vice-President may be revoked by the President at any time. “

Our amendment is purely technical in nature – CFC has never referred to the Vice-President as the “ First Vice- President “ and there has never been a “ Second Vice-President “. We have made the section conform with CFC common practice when referring to the position.

Eric van Dusen: This is a constitution amendment with voting on this motion governed by Bylaw #3 Section #3

Michael von Keitz: I have no qualms with this motion.

Motion # 2010-10 – Amending Section 8 of Bylaw 3 – Treasurer

Moved: Robert Armstrong Seconded: Paul Leblanc

That Bylaw 3, Duties of Officers, Section 8 – Treasurer - be deleted and that the following replace it:

“Treasurer

8. (a) The Treasurer will be responsible for reviewing the financial records maintained by the Executive Director, or his/her equivalent, who shall:

i) keep the general books of the account of the Federation, in which shall be recorded all receipts and disbursements. He shall have the custody of such books of account and all bank books, cancelled cheques, vouchers, statements, and other documents pertaining to the general bank account or bank accounts of the Federation, other than banking resolutions touching the authority of signing officers, which shall be entered in the Minute Book, and retained by the Secretary.

ii) from time to time, as may be requested by the President, furnish him with such information as to the financial affairs of the Federation, as he may desire.

iii) Annually, as of the last day of the fiscal year, shall close the accounts, and shall prepare a Financial Statement of the Affairs of the Federation as at that date, showing all receipts and disbursements, under such groupings and classifications as he may deem desirable, together with a Balance Sheet showing the assets and liabilities of the Federation as of that date, and shall file a copy of these statements with the Secretary, over his signature.

iv) file a copy of these statements also with the Auditor to the Federation, and shall submit for his examination, such books and records as the Auditor may require to effect an appropriate examination, and issue a Certificate in connection therewith.

(b) The Treasurer will also be responsible for developing, in conjunction with the President, an annual budget, to be presented by the President for approval to the Assembly of Governors within 1 month of the start of a new CFC administration. ”

Commentary:

The section proposed in Motion 2010-01 telescoped the financial duties so much, that the specifics of what records are to be kept, as set out in the current section, is being lost. There needs to be a statement somewhere of what financial records must be kept, and this section is the place to do that. For this reason we wish to keep the current section, in a slightly amended form. The amendment is that for years the Treasurer has not prepared and maintained the financial records of the corporation – this has been done by the Executive Director. The duty of the Treasurer has been merely to oversee this process. So we have amended the section to make this clear.

Also, the CFC has never operated on a formal budget system. The reason for a budget is to guide spending during the fiscal year, to make certain that spending does not exceed revenue, and the Corporation end up with a deficit. The CFC has just come off 5 consecutive years of deficits averaging \$ 30,000 per year. If any corporation is in need of a budget, it is the CFC. We have decided that such budget should be prepared by the new Executive. The proposed motion states that it is to be prepared 1 month before the end of the fiscal year, but this leads to the problem we have seen this year. The old administration prepares a budget for the coming fiscal year, by the end of March, but then the new administration is elected in July, and they have different priorities, and so they then go and “revise” the budget. We think it is better to delay the

budget to the end of July or start of August, so that a budget with new administration priorities will be presented. As well, it may be that in future, the CFC AGM may be advanced to earlier than July, in which case this would assist in the budget coming in earlier in the new fiscal year. Finally, we have made it clear that the budget by the President, prepared in consultation with the Treasurer, is presented for the approval of the Assembly of Governors.

Eric van Dusen: This is a constitution amendment with voting on this motion governed by Bylaw #3 Section #3

Michael von Keitz: As with Motion 2010-09, I have no issue with this constitutional amendment.

Motion # 2010-11 – New Section of Bylaw 3, Duties of Officers, Section 8D– FIDE Representative

Moved: Hal Bond Seconded: Robert Armstrong

That there be added to Bylaw 3 , Duties of Officers, a new Section 8D dealing with “ FIDE Representative “, as follows:

FIDE Representative

8D. The FIDE (Federation Internationale des Echecs) Representative shall be an officer of the corporation and a member of the Executive, and shall:

- i) be the official liaison between the Chess Federation of Canada and FIDE;
- ii) be the FIDE Zone President for Canada
- iii) deal with matters relating to the FIDE Americas Continent;
- iv) if funding is available, at minimum, attend the annual FIDE Congresses;
- v) work with the Public Relations Coordinator in dealing with mainstream media on chess promotion as it relates to FIDE issues.

Eric van Dusen: This is a constitution amendment with voting on this motion governed by Bylaw #3 Section #3

Lyle Craver: While I have no objection with the intent of the motion, I want to take this opportunity to point out that when the job is done right, most present and previous FIDE reps would agree this is one of the most difficult and labor-intensive jobs on the CFC Executive!

Michael von Keitz: The FIDE Representative is a vital member of the CFC Executive. A purview of the duties of this role belong in the constitution. I am fully in support of this motion.

Motion 2010-12: (Moved/Seconded Eric Van Dusen / Maurice Smith) The Junior Participating Membership shall be stricken from the CFC Handbook.

Eric Van Dusen: Rationale: The need for the Junior Participating Membership has disappeared since the CFC no longer publishes a hard-copy periodical that involved cost of printing and distribution.

Ellen Nadeau: This makes sense as long as the \$10 Jr one time tournament fee is still available.

Michael von Keitz: As stated, the intent of this membership category is no longer relevant. I intend to vote in favour of this motion.

Motions for First Discussion:

Motion 2010-13: (Moved / Seconded Mark Bluvshstein / Bob Armstrong):

That CFC Handbook Section 8 on Canadian Championships be amended as follows:

1. Section 801 be deleted, except for the section reference, and the following substituted for it:
“ Canadian Championship and Canadian Zonal Tournament:

A Canadian Championship shall be held each year. But there can be substituted for it a Championship Tournament known as the "Canadian Zonal Championship Tournament", hereinafter referred to as the "Zonal Tournament", which shall normally be held in Canada to coincide with the FIDE World Championship cycle. The winner of the Zonal Tournament will be that year's Canadian Champion. “

2. there be added before the words “ the Zonal tournament “ wherever they occur, the words “ the Canadian Championship or “in the following sections: 803. Players; 804. Provincial Champion (a) and (b); 805. Rating Requirements (a); 806. Additional Places; 807. Citizenship and Residency for Canadian Championship; 808. Entries;
3. that there be added to Section 803 on “ Players “ a subsection (h) as follows: (h) the Canadian Women's Closed Champion;
4. Section 811 on “ Prize Fund “ be deleted and the following substituted for it:

811. (a) Each player will be responsible for paying his own entry fee, accommodation and meal expenses with the exception of the following:

(i) the Canadian Champion and Runner-Up shall have their entry fee, accommodation and meal expenses paid by the tournament organizers;

(ii) free entry shall be given to IM's and GM's;

(iii) free accommodation should be provided for GM's;

(b) The organizers shall provide a prize fund; part of this obligation shall be to make a significant effort to find sponsors;

(c) For the Zonal Tournament, first prize shall be travel to the next round of the world championship cycle and a cash prize of at least 20% of the balance of the prize fund. With the exception of the travel prize, cash prizes will be shared by players in the same score group and not be subject to tie-break.

(d) Bidders for the Canadian Championships shall take into account in their bids this section 811 of section 8 of the Handbook, and if they intend to exempt themselves from any of the conditions herein, they shall clearly note such in their bids, so the CFC can determine whether such bids will be accepted.

5. Section 812 on “ Travel “ be amended by adding after the heading the words “ for the Zonal Tournament “;

Commentary::

Though this section of the Handbook is entitled Canadian Championships, it then goes on to only deal with the Canadian Zonal Championship Tournament. It should refer as well to the Canadian Championship in non-zonal years. Our amendments correct this deficiency.

We also feel that in the interest of promoting women's chess in Canada, the Canadian Women's Champion should be a player entitled to play in the Canadian Championships and we have added her into section 803.

The Canadian Closed Championships (both zonal and non-zonal) have lost some of their prestige in recent years. Many of the top Canadian players have not played in recent Canadian Championships. We hope that the quality and importance of the tournament comes back. We have provided some guidelines for what we believe to be a bare minimum for the Closed Championships, in an attempt to standardize and improve the event. We have made these conditions a part of the bidding process by organizers of the Closeds. First of all we have added to the Procedures that the Canadian Champion and Runner-up are entitled to preferential treatment, to accord with their positions in the Canadian chess community – to the current payment for them of their accommodation, we have added entry fee and meals.. In order to encourage Canadian GM's and IM's to attend, raising the quality of the Closeds, we have had the organizers give them free entry. And to recognize Canadian GM's, of whom there are not many, we have added that the organizers must pay for their accommodation. We recognize that these expenses may be difficult to cover only through entry fees, so we have added that organizers must make significant efforts to obtain sponsorships, to help cover all tournament costs.

Motion 2010-14: (Moved / Seconded: Mark Bluvshtein / Bob Armstrong)

That CFC Handbook Section 9 on Important Events in Canada – Guidelines, Bids, be amended as follows:

2. Section 900 be deleted, except for the section reference, and the following substituted for it:

“ In evaluating bids for important events in Canada, a factor shall be whether the bidder has made every effort to provide:

- (1) good playing conditions for the participants; and
- (2) good viewing conditions for the spectators.

Consideration should be given to the following points:

(Note: original section drafted by : **Phil Haley**, International Arbiter, Member FIDE Rules Commission.) “

3. Section 904 shall be amended by adding at the start of the section the sentence:

“ A minimum of 3 demonstration boards should be provided for the top boards.”

4. Section 912 shall be amended by adding at the start of the section the sentence:

“ FIDE-approved pieces, boards and clocks should be provided by the organizers. ”

5. Section 917 shall be amended by adding at the end the sentence:

“ Name cards should be made for all top players (all players in the Canadian Closed/Zonal tournament), with name, rating, title (if any) and province noted, and displayed at their board.”

6. Section 933. shall be added as follows:

For the Canadian Closed, whether or not a Zonal, round by round bulletins should be provided, either online or in print. These should include all the games from each round.

7. Section 934 shall be added as follows:

For the Canadian Closed, whether or not a Zonal, a tournament website should be created with a minimum of:

- A. Live transmission of a minimum of the 3 top boards.
- B. A players' list, and pairings and standings updated after each round.
- C. Photos of the players and the event.

Commentary:

The proposed changes enhance the current section 9 to make the event more spectator and sponsor friendly.

Item 1 makes it clear that these conditions will form part of the evaluation of a bid.

Items 2-4 enhance the already existing sections.

Item 5 gives the Canadian Closed, whether or not a Zonal, a professional profile, and the bulletins help players prepare, and promote the tournament to, and create more interest in it for, spectators and the public.

Item 6 modernizes the most important Canadian Closed, whether or not a Zonal. It is now standard for major world tournaments to have their own websites. This creates a professional profile for the tournament, and greatly enhances public interest in the tournament.

General Comments from Governors:

David Steer: Motion 2010-03 Yes, under protest

Motion 2010-04 Yes, under protest

My protests are based on the arguments put forth by Bob Armstrong, Patrick McDonald, and Paul Leblanc. In my opinion, the Executive should have responded to these arguments prior to Tuesday Feb 23, the date of this e-mail. To be perfectly frank, I find the Executive's failure to respond somewhat troubling. Effective leadership is dependent upon open, frank, and timely communication.

Motions for Final Vote:

2010-05:	Governor Inactivity Rule		
	Vote YES	NO	ABSTAIN
2010-06:	CFC Membership Fees (discount for first-time members)		
	Vote YES	NO	ABSTAIN
2010-07:	CYCC Qualification Rules		
	Vote YES	NO	ABSTAIN

Motions for Second Discussion:

Additional motions concerning role of Executive

Motion # 2010-08 – New Section of Bylaw 3, Duties of Officers, Section 4 - President

Motion # 2010-09 – Amending Section 5 of Bylaw 3 – First Vice- President

Motion # 2010-10 – Amending Section 8 of Bylaw 3 – Treasurer

Motion # 2010-11 – New Section of Bylaw 3, Duties of Officers, Section 8D– FIDE Representative

Motion # 2010-12 – Abolition of the Junior Participating Membership class

Motions for First Discussion:

Motion # 2010-13 – Canadian Closed Regulations

Motion # 2010-14 –Important Events in Canada – Guidelines, Bids

(note – please vote ONLY on motions 2010-05 through 2010-07 – only these motions are up for vote in this Governors’ Letter)

Deadline for submissions to GL#5 is Friday April 23rd, 2010
Responses may be mailed, faxed or E-mailed to the Chess Federation of Canada, 356 Ontario Street, Suite 373, Stratford, ON N5A 7X6
Phone: (519) 508-2362, Fax: (519) 508-6595, E-Mail: secretary@chess.ca