

CHESS FEDERATION OF CANADA

GOVERNORS' LETTER FOUR

1999-2000



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 March 27, 2000

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There are three items that I wish to discuss in this issue. Actually, the first two are for your information and the other item is mentioned to solicit opinions.

- a} I received a letter back from my Member of Parliament following my request for Government funding for chess. My original letter was sent last July, and I received an answer written on January 19th this year. My request had been forwarded to the Honourable Sheila Copps, the Minister of Canadian Heritage. Quoting from the body of the letter, "The Sport Canada Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage provides funding to national sport organizations that are eligible for financial assistance within the Sport Funding and Accountability Framework {SFAF}. The program is unable, at present, to provide funding to many sport organizations, including those on the Olympic Program. In addition, as chess is not classified as a sport, it does not meet the Framework's criteria and is, therefore, ineligible to receive support under the SFAF." That was after I had explained in my letter that the IOC had officially recognized FIDE. The letter from Parliament concluded that a new portfolio of Sport had been created and will be reviewed and revised. So, we keep trying.
- b} It has come to my attention that a couple of geographical areas are considering making changes to the ways that Governors are selected. I remind everyone that the C.F.C. By-Laws specifically state that Governors are to be appointed by the Provincial Associations {where there are Provincial affiliates}. The appointment of Governors in an affiliated Province should be made at a meeting of the Directors of that particular Provincial Association. In Ontario, where the Provincial Association delegates this authority to its Leagues, the League Directors should appoint Governors from their geographical areas at similar meetings. I urge everyone to keep these By-Laws in mind and act accordingly.
- c} Recently we had a situation in Ontario where an organizer scheduled an International event one week after another one was due to take place. The first organizer considered this a conflict that would adversely affect his tournament and considered canceling his event. *[North Bay 2000 is actually canceled. See Motion 00-08. Halldor Palsson]* This raises many questions.
 - 1} While similar major tournaments held in the same area in the same week can be considered as conflicting, what about similar tournaments held one week apart? Do they feed off each other and add participants to each event or do they take away from each other?
 - 2} If major tournaments are considered to be conflicting, should the C.F.C. take any action?
 - 3} If the answer to 2 is yes, what action should be taken? Under consideration has been not to accept advertising and not to rate a tournament. This is strong medicine. After all, generally speaking we are talking about two independent organizers running C.F.C. rated tournaments. Is competition always good? Is it live and let live? If one tournament cancels then maybe it is live and let die.
 - 4} If action should be taken, and it is not either of the above items mentioned, then should the action be punitive to one organizer, or should the C.F.C. try and help the event that seems to be in trouble? If so, what way?
 - 5} There is also a suggestion that the C.F.C. should not allow International tournaments in a Province closer than three months apart. Again though, is this not being too restrictive on independent organizers?

I can see that some Governors might think that this is an Ontario problem so they don't have to consider it. However, this situation can happen anywhere. Supposing a major tournament is scheduled in Vancouver the same week as the Paul Keres event? Supposing an organizer schedules an event the same week as the Canadian Open? Many questions to think about. I would like to hear governors answers and how they feel on these situations. These issues are difficult and we must try to be fair to everyone. I welcome all comments.

Maurice Smith
President
Chess Federation Of Canada

KEEPING GOVERNORS INFORMED

The following are Executive Motions passed since the previous G.L.

Executive Motion Stockhausen/Smith The CFC commences to have our web site translated into French and provide \$600 for the initial translation services of the following components: Rating Page, Cross Table Page, CYCC Page, Book & Equipment Page, News Page.

Executive Motion Stockhausen/Keshet 2106 Junior Incentive Program:

The CFC membership requirement is waived for Junior events {tournaments or matches}. An event is considered Junior for the purposes of this section if all the players meet the age requirements of the World Junior of the year following the year in which the event ends.

Amend 731 to read as follows:

731: Fee: The rating fee for all events {tournaments or matches} with the exception of Junior events is \$2.00 per player. The rating fee for Junior events is \$0.50 per player. An event is considered Junior for the purposes of this section if all the players meet the age requirements of the World Junior of the year following the year in which the event ends.

{Note: This effectively changes the rating fee for Junior events to \$0.50 a player instead of \$1.00.}

Executive Motion Keshet/Palsson

1. The Executive hereby decides to allow Canadian Youths to represent Canada in the yearly Pan-Am Games.
2. For this year {Year 2000}, no more than one participant per age and gender groups will be allowed to represent Canada in each of the five age groups of the Pan-Am Games.
3. For this year {Year 2000}, one age 18 participant and one age 16 participants will qualify from the Canadian Junior 2000. These two qualified participants will be the top two finishers who meet the age category {other than the winner of the event}.
4. The Executive may also award up to \$300 per player.
5. The CFC Junior Coordinator will select a maximum of one participant per age and gender category for all of the other age and gender categories. The selection will be limited to only one participant from the top three of the rating list who wish to participate at their own expense.
6. Rules of how to qualify, and the availability of partial support in subsequent years, will be drafted separately {by the end of February by Joshua Keshet}. The intention is to qualify participants through the CYCC games for the younger age groups and through the Canadian Junior for the older age groups.

Maurice Smith
President
Chess Federation Of Canada

MOTIONS

Motion 00-1 (Jaeger-Langen) "That as a matter of policy the CFC should make available to affiliated provincial associations En Passant space for communication to association members.

The aggregate of such space shall be decided annually by the CFC executive and its allocation among associations be proportionate to the square root of CFC provincial ordinary memberships equivalents. (Example: if Province A has 400 CFC ordinary members' equivalents it shall be entitled to twice the space of a province that has 100 membership equivalents).

Where there is no affiliated provincial association the use of space shall be made available to an association in that province/territory from among associations applying for the use of the space".

VOTES YES (5)	NO (5)	Abstain (1)
Jaeger	Stockhausen	Bunning
Langen	Taylor	
Stringer	Craver	
Brodie	Cabanas	
Von Sarac	Palsson	

MOTION DOES NOT PASS.

Motion 00-2 (Bunning-Cabanas) "That the tournament membership fee be increased to \$12 per tournament effective January 1, 2000."

VOTES YES (4)	NO (6)	Abstain (0)
Bunning	Taylor	
Cabanas	Stringer	
Stockhausen	Brodie	
Palsson	Von Sarac	
	Craver	
	Jaeger	

MOTION is DEFEATED.

Motion 00-3 (Allan-Hartman) "In any Canadian Championship tournament, including CYCC events, where one or more players will qualify for a FIDE event, the time control shall be the same as for the FIDE event."

Denis Allan: This issue arose at the Canadian Closed players' meeting and the majority reached the conclusion as in the motion. I am more immediately concerned with the 2000 CYCC event where it is proposed to use the normal time control for the U18 and U16 sections, but a faster time control for the other sections, presumably on the basis that the younger players usually play more quickly. No doubt this is generally so, especially since the Swiss format is intended to attract a high number of players, thereby reducing the average strength. In the World Youth Championship, most of our players needed their full time allotment. Even our two youngest girls, Alexandra Benggawan and Stacey Kazekevich, played most of their games close to four hours, and some into the second time control. Playing our national championship at a faster rate only encourages poor playing habits, and is no proper preparation for the World Championship. If some players do not want to use the full time available, so be it - that is no reason to penalize the more serious players. When Chess'n Math organized the CYCC, the only criticism I heard from the players was that the time control was too fast, the result of playing five rounds over a two day weekend. Now that three full days are available, and the intention is to use the normal time control for some age groups, it can and should be used for all sections.

Motion 00-4 (Allan-Hartman) "The 2000 CYCC shall have separate events in each group for girls. In each age group the format, including tie-break, shall be decided by a representative of the organizing committee in consultation with the Junior Coordinator and the Women's Coordinator. If they are unable to agree, the final decision shall be made by the Junior Coordinator. This decision shall be made after the entry list has been finalized."

Denis Allan: This is consistent with the announcement over Mr. Bunnings name in the last two issues of En Passant. However, it is now proposed to have a combined Swiss system in each age group, qualifying three boys and three girls. Qualifying three boys is problematic enough. The Swiss system is pretty good at picking a winner, and with enough rounds can even be accurate beyond first place. The middle of a Swiss, where the best girls would likely be, is hopeless. One half point there is meaningless. Our representatives to the World Championship could be decided by the luck of last round pairings. For example, one girl might play a boy with nothing to gain, and happy to make a quick draw, (especially if he likes the girl) while another girl plays someone who is out to win. I understand that there may be an intention to somehow manipulate the pairings to try to arrive at correct placements for the girls - that is simply not realistic. I expect the concern is that not enough girls will come to Edmonton to hold separate events. That judgment should not be based on the Vancouver event, which was not advertised as a qualification event for girls. The U18 section is the only one which may be problematic, as there are not many girls of this age playing at all to my knowledge. Further, if not many girls come in any particular age group, a round robin, or even double round robin, is better than a combined event, and would certainly produce a more fair result. Having attended the past three World Youth Championships, I know most of our top girls and their families. I do not know of any who do not want a separate event. I appreciate that some governors oppose any separate events for women or girls. That is surely irrelevant to this motion. Since we are presently committed to sending representatives to the girls sections of the World Youth Championship, it is only consistent to qualify them from their own events. This motion is somewhat related to the motion re time controls. Generally the girls tend to do less well at faster time controls: the present intention to have combined events, with faster time controls in U14, U12 and U10 is a recipe for disaster.

I might add that I do not agree with qualifying three representatives for either boys or girls from the CYCC final - I would like to see at least one place reserved for qualification by rating, in an attempt to mitigate the risk of the Swiss system by ensuring that our best players do not miss the World Championship because of one bad tournament \game\move. However, I will leave that issue for now to anyone who may feel more strongly about it than I do.

Motion 00-5 (Spraggett-Stockhausen) "Olympic Team Member Selection - Replace Section 1203(a) and (b) with:

1203 Selection of the National and Women's Team

a) The National Team shall be comprised of 5 or 6 players. One shall be the winner of the most recent Canadian Closed and Zonal, two players shall be chosen by a Selection Committee and the remaining players to be the highest rated chosen from the selection rating list as outlined in 1204. If a player declines after selection, the replacement player shall be filled from the selection rating list.

b) The Women's Team shall be comprised of 3 or 4 female players. One shall be the winner of the most recent Canadian Women's Closed and Zonal, one female player shall be chosen by a Selection Committee with the remaining player(s) to be the highest rated female players from the selection rating list as outlined in 1204. If a player declines after selection, the replacement female player shall be filled from the selection rating list.

Replace Section 1204 with:

1204 Selection Rating List

(a) Eligible Ratings Only Established CFC Ratings will be considered in determining the Initial Ratings and the Selection Ratings.

(b) Rating Lists: The Initial Rating List is the last published rating list on the CFC Internet site 16 calendar months before the announced date by FIDE for the start of the Olympics. The Final Rating List is the last published rating list on the CFC Internet site 4 calendar months before the announced date by FIDE for the start of the Olympics.

(c) Initial Rating: The initial rating is the "new" rating from the most recent regular tournament cross-table rated before and including the initial rating list, provided that 12 CFC rated games have been played in regular tournaments during the 12 calendar month period before and including the initial rating list. If the required 12 games above have not been played then the initial rating is the "new" rating from the earliest regular tournament cross-table, in which the required 12th game was played, provided this regular tournament is rated after the initial rating list but before and including the final rating list.

(d) Selection Rating: The Selection Rating is the highest of the Initial Rating and all the "new" ratings from the regular tournament cross-tables rated after the regular tournament cross-table that determines the initial rating for the player but before and including the final rating list.

(e) The Selection Rating List: The interim selection rating list shall be published on the CFC Internet Site after each rating update during the period between the initial rating list and the final rating list, provided the dates of the Olympiad are known. The final selection rating list shall be published on CFC Internet Site and in the Magazine.

The Selection Committee for 2000 shall comprise of the following individuals:

The Canadian Closed and Zonal Champion

Mr. Dennis Allan

Discussion:

Kevin Spraggett: I think the country needs the selection committee's approach to fielding the Olympic team. Please re-read my report on the Canadian Nation Team's participation in Kalmykia to fully understand my position.

The Selection Committee was done away with in '98. Probably not without some reason. The CFC had erred the year before in picking people who were too young and inexperienced to do the job that was expected of them. However, I think that the CFC's reaction was drastic and at best premature.

It is now time to reconsider our options, as the deadline for picking the 2000 Olympic Team approaches.

Under the rules now in place the next National Olympic Team will be picked by rating (plus the Canadian Champion, who happens to be rated number two at the present) If all 6 top rated players accepted to play on next years' National Team then we would have quite a good team...in fact we would probably have our best team ever fielded for the Olympics.

But experience, and years of it, has shown that our very best players aren't very interested in all coming out at the same time! The epidemic of last minute withdrawals and refusals says it all.

So, why should we be stuck with the 'rating criteria when it doesn't give us our best chances for putting up a really good team? As pointed out in my report, the level of our 'best' rated players drops very quickly after we pass 5th or 6th position on the rating list.

We need to incorporate our younger players on our team. Give them a chance to gain experience and develop as players. Most of our top young players aren't anywhere near high enough rated to qualify for the next National Team, yet some of them would be able to make real contributions if they had the chance. What I am arguing for is for us to give them that chance-via the selection committee.

In Canada the lack of strong tournaments means that the chances to improve the younger players' ratings in just a few years time is unlikely. The 'established' players with higher ratings (some of whom hardly play enough) have a big advantage over our younger, rapidly improving players when it comes time to picking the National Team...unless we have the selection committee.

But please note that I don't want to see the Selection Committee re-instated just to see it 'behave' as it has in the past. I want to see some positive changes. What I would like to see is a selection committee that stops picking 'established' players over 40 years old, and instead concentrates exclusively on our younger players! I think Canada has a number of 'non-established' players between the ages of 15 and 35 who just don't have the rating to qualify for our National Team, but who have a lot to give if they had the chance to play on that team!

If we re-instate the selection committee in time for the 2000' Olympics, we still won't have a really great team, but by allowing our younger players the experience and the opportunity to contribute to our National Team we will be building towards the day when we will have a really great team.

Support this motion.

Peter Stockhausen: This motion is intended to reverse 98-8 which abolished the Selection Committee. Going ONLY by rating does not provide the best possible team. Motivation, attitude, team spirit and a host of other "non chess" factors contribute to this.

Motion 00-6 (Barnes-Stringer): "That tournament announcements for En Passant's Coming Events section be accepted for publication irrespective of prize fund format."

Mark Barnes: This motion will reverse the Executive motion announced in Governors' letter three that banished tournament ads from En Passant's Coming Events section unless they conformed to a format favored principally by large Ontario organizers.

Volunteer tournament organizers who return all entry fees after expenses do not have profits from well attended tournaments that allow the subsidizing of poorly attended tournaments. Each tournament must pay its own way. This is a perfectly legitimate way to run things, but the Executive's ban on our tournament announcements seeks to bully organizers into adopting a business model which we have rejected. As a consequence, only the richest or the most foolhardy organizers will be entitled to use En Passant, and the rest of us are shut out.

The Executive apparently decided this matter was "urgent and pressing" if they bypassed the Governors and acted without consulting us. It seems to me that their criteria in making that assessment are far too lax. It may be inconvenient to consult us, but it should be done, nevertheless.

En Passant should be used to promote chess. It is not a tool for Skinnerian experiments in modifying chess organizers behavior.

Lyle Craver: The Executive motion requiring prize fund info in EP is something which ought to have been decided by the Governors rather than the Executive. Can anyone seriously consider this an emergency matter where there was no time to discuss the issue in the GL?

Maurice Smith: The Executive motion concerning organizers indicating a percentage of entry fees being returned as prizes was initiated to ensure that players would at least have an idea of what to expect. Also, players would not be subjected to the possibility of organizers choosing whatever amount they felt like to give out as prizes AFTER all entry fees had been received. It makes organizers have a sense of accountability and still gives them the

flexibility to state whatever percentage of entry fees is most appropriate to be given out as prizes for their tournament. Governor Barnes suggests that there should have been more consulting before the motion was drafted. However, players and organizers alike have said that the present system of "Prizes \$\$BEN" means absolutely nothing and something should be done about it. Likewise, a system of "Prizes = Entry fees minus expenses" is too vague. Anything can be thrown into expenses. A miscellaneous expense section could become quite expansive. The system in the Executive Motion gives us the best of both worlds, accountability for organizers, and protection for players.

The other point raised by Governors Barnes and Craver was that this was not an "emergency" situation and that control of the C.F.C. was being shifted from the Governors to the Executive. Well, first of all, it is ridiculous to think that the Executive can only act in an "emergency" situation. The Executive manages the affairs of the C.F.C. The Handbook itself states that. The Executive has to decide if decisions to be made will benefit either the C.F.C., organizers and/or players during the possible eight month period before a vote can be taken from the Governors. If the answer is yes, the Executive have to go ahead promptly and efficiently with their decisions. This is the way business is handled today. It is both practical and realistic. The Governors still have full control. Every issue of the G.L. usually contains one or two motions from Governors to be discussed and voted on. Any Executive motion can be overturned. The Governors can turn the Constitution upside down, inside out, and make whatever changes they wish, with the required majority of course. In the meantime, the Executive have to run the organization to the best of their ability, and contrary to what Governors Barnes and Craver might believe, a lot of thought goes into each decision.

Motion 00-7 (Jaeger-Langen) "that in Motion 00-5 the proposed 1203 a) be replaced by the following "a) The National Team shall be composed of 5 or 6 players. Three shall be the top finishers at the most recent Canadian Closed and zonal (with tiebreakers for third place as used to break ties for first place in the Closed) , one player shall be chosen by a Selection Committee from among players under 25 as of the first day of the Olympiad and the remaining players shall be chosen from the selection rating list as outlined in 1204. If a player declines *after* selection, the replacement. player shall be filled first from any loser(s) in tiebreaks for third place in the Closed and then from the selection rating list".

See discussion of Motion 00-5.

Motion 00-8 (Bunning/Palsson) "that the CFC refuse to rate and further advertise the Toronto International scheduled to be held in August 2000"

Please send your vote to the Business Office by midnight, Friday March 10th. Governors on line can respond by e-mail. Governors not on line may respond by regular mail. No phone in votes. See message from Maurice Smith below.

Les Bunning: For the past 6 Years an International Tournament has been held in North Bay in August. Every year it has grown in stature and has provided our players with the opportunity to obtain a FIDE rating and International title norms. It is becoming more renowned and has recently received extensive publicity in the USA. Despite the obvious success of the Tournament it has only been a break even proposition financially and the organizers have put a lot of time and effort into running it.. Along with the Canadian Open it is our most successful event in terms of size and International stature. Last year over 70 players from Toronto played in it out of 280 players in total.

This year Toronto organizer Mark Dutton has advertised that he is running his own International Tournament in Toronto shortly after North Bay finishes. The likely result will be that perhaps as many as 40 players or so will play in the Toronto Tournament rather than North Bay event. This will not make the North Bay event financially viable and consequently the organizers have announced its cancellation. I am advised that if the Toronto International is canceled instead then North Bay will be reinstated. Dutton was approached to see if he would be willing to change the dates of his event but has indicated that he cannot. Given the limited prize fund and the expense of staying in Toronto in August it will probably be a mediocre event. Dutton's monthly Toronto tournaments usually attract about 80 participants. I believe that is in the best interest of chess in Canada that the North Bay tournament be preserved. Although the CFC cannot stop Dutton holding the tournament if we refused to rate it and refused to submit it for FIDE rating then it would almost certainly be canceled because few players would participate. The Executive voted on a similar motion but the result was a 3-3 tie. As the result was a tie the motion did not pass.

One of the comments from a dissenting member was to the effect that all Canadian tournaments should be rated to preserve the integrity of the rating system. However, many players play in Quebec or U.S. events which are not CFC rated.

This issue is not without precedent as The CFC took similar action in the past when requested to do so by the Ontario Chess Association. Dutton has complained that he has already advertised his event in the CFC magazine. This was an unfortunate oversight by the Business Office who should have brought the event to the President's attention before advertising it. I believe that this is an important enough matter that the CFC governors should be given an opportunity to vote on it. In view of the time that motions usually take I have requested the President to send this matter out for an immediate vote with discussion for both sides of the issue as well as from Dutton if he wishes.

Halldor Palsson: I advised Maurice Smith about the problem the North Bay organizers were having about the 2000 edition of their tournament in early January. Basically, Mr. Mark Dutton has a 6-round Simco Day Open a week before North Bay and a same format 9-round International the week after running in Toronto. If there is entry splitting with Toronto, North Bay goes bust in the format it has been in the last 6 years. North Bay runs at 250-300 players at about \$100+ each with a prize fund of \$25K and expenses of \$5K in TD fees, advertising and conditions for GMs and some Canadian IMs. The North Bay organizers do not want to lower the prize fund or seriously cut into invitations to strong players.

The Governors should cut a stalemate on an important issue like this. The main reason I want Governors to see this issue is that I believe the CFC should be able to offer date protection to an established tournament like North Bay. I would also like to offer chess organizers more than try harder and lower the prize fund if you are worried about the turnout.

Maurice Smith asked me to approach Mark Dutton to move his International on a voluntary basis in the interest of chess, failing that we would have to look at other options. Mark Dutton was unwilling to move his International under any circumstances. Maurice Smith then met with Mark Dutton in a last ditch effort to solve this and got the same result. At this point North Bay 2000 is canceled because of the new International in Toronto in August of 2000.

In addition, a Category 9 (average 2450-60 FIDE) closed round robin tournament is scheduled for Montreal August 10-25. The top 10-11 FIDE rated Canadians on the January 2000 list will be invited. This will probably not help the new Toronto International in August of 2000.

Peter Stockhausen: This is a serious dilemma and Bunning and Palsson detail the chronological sequence of events in the comments. All of us at the Executive are completely baffled by the total lack of cooperation by Mr. Dutton. It leaves me to believe that this was set up on purpose.

For the future I think it is necessary that we equip the Office/Executive/Governors with vetting powers to prevent such overlaps of International Events in close geographical proximity. This seems to be one of the few times that "free market" does not benefit overall.

Mark Dutton: Mark and Christine Dutton began Dutton Chess less than one year ago. We registered with Chess Federation of Canada and acquired our affiliate number (CFC Affiliate No. 100942) and began running monthly chess tournaments in Toronto. Our first event was the 1999 Toronto Class Championship. We quickly grew to become the Chess Federation's LARGEST affiliate both in memberships sold and rating fees submitted. We secured corporate sponsorship (The Bay & Givenchy Fragrances) and did a big province-wide promotion last October for the "PI Active". On one side of the flyer was the Bay tournament and on the other side of the flyer, we listed Dutton Chess tournaments up to and including the 2000 Toronto Summer International Open. So last October we announced an International Tournament - sent it out to all Ontario CFC members, and then posted it on our website and sent it to the CFC website - where it was listed for November, December and part of January 2000 until Les Bunning ordered it removed on January 16th, 2000. The tournament notice appeared in the "Coming Events" Section of both the December 1999 Annual issue and the February 2000 issue under the Dutton Chess grey box listing. Three weeks later Maurice Smith advised us as follows:

Please return Mark Dutton's ad for the Toronto Summer International event to the web. This issue is now over.

And, the result was that the listing had been returned and the matter was now "resolved" and the following information returned to the CFC website:

2000 TORONTO SUMMER INTERNATIONAL OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP
Date: 16, 17, 18, 19 & 20 AUGUST 2000 Location: BEST WESTERN "PRIMROSE" HOTEL111

Carlton Street, (at Jarvis Street), Downtown Toronto Style: 9 Rd Swiss System in six sections; FIDE and C.F.C. Rated OPEN (Minimum 2100 Rating), Under 2200, Under 2000, Under 1800, Under 1600, Under 1400 with Unrated; TC: 40 Moves in 2 hours, then 1 hour S/D Rds: 7:00 P.M. Wednesday and 10:00 A.M. & 4:30 P.M. Each Day Registration: Enter in ADVANCE by MAIL or in person at the Dutton Chess Club or by E-MAIL OR BY TELEPHONE with Mark S. Dutton. Make cheque payable to "MARK S. DUTTON" and send to Suite 3910, Leaside Towers, 95 Thorncliffe Park Drive, Toronto, Ontario CANADA M4H 1L7. E-mail: DutChess@idirect.ca ENTRY FEE: \$100. in advance BEFORE June 1, 2000. \$125. From June 1 to August 1, 2000. \$150. After August 1, 2000 FREE ENTRY FOR G.M.'S BYES: Maximum of 4 - 1/2 point byes in rounds 1-8 IF REQUESTED in ADVANCE. PRIZES: *** \$ 15,000. *** Guaranteed This Tournament is brought to you by Dutton Chess in association with the Primrose Hotel Please bring your own CHESS SETS AND CLOCKS! Paper BOARDS only will be supplied. Special "Chess" Room Rates! PRIMROSE HOTEL ROOM RESERVATION: Call Toll Free 1-800-268-8082

And now this latest action.

Please consider the following facts:

1. A signed contract with the Primrose Hotel for these dates for all banquet rooms as well as a block of bedrooms.
2. Signed agreements with at least 3 Grand Masters to appear.
3. Advance entries from Toronto chess players.
4. Website advertising on ICC, Tournament World, USCF, CFC, and, of course, the Dutton Chess website.
5. Our relationship with the Chess Federation of Canada. Until now we had an exemplary relationship with the CFC (Please see the series of e-mails below) and the Executive Director Troy Vail and the business office and David Miriguay.
6. We have done NOTHING WRONG. Our whole family has contributed to making "chess" our primary focus and the promotion of chess is a daily activity with Dutton Chess.

Please VOTE against this MOTION. It is against the CFC mandate to promote chess and is absolutely ridiculous if not completely illegal! The following is a history of e-mails that show our excellent relationship with the CFC and chess players in Canada. Please read on and see that things are going extremely well and we do not need any "government interference".

Do the right thing and allow chess to continue to flourish in Canada's largest market into the new millennium and well beyond. Thanks very much.

Mark S. Dutton - Tournament Director

Christine Dutton - Assistant

Dutton Chess - DutChess@idirect.ca

<http://www.play.at/duttonchess>

----- Original Message ----- From: Chess Federation of Canada <info@chess.ca> To: Mark Dutton (E-mail) <mdutton@idirect.com> Sent: March 31, 1999 9:22 AM Subject: Affiliate

This is to inform you that Dutton Chess is an affiliate of the Chess Federation of Canada until 2000/03/01. The affiliate number to include on all memberships submitted is 100942. To receive a 10% rebate on all full memberships submitted (CFC portion only), they must be submitted within 2 weeks of being collected. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me.

Troy Vail Executive Director Chess Federation of Canada <http://www.chess.ca/>

----- Original Message ----- From: Chess Federation of Canada To: Dutton Chess Sent: April 5, 1999 10:46 AM Subject: Re: 99 TORONTO OPEN TO BE RATED + NEW CFC MEMBERSHIPS + FIDE RATED

CONGRATULATIONS!! I was very surprised to see so many memberships. Also about an extra 30 participants over last year. I hope this is a sign of a rejuvenated Toronto chess scene.

Troy Vail Executive Director Chess Federation of Canada <http://www.chess.ca/>

Chess Federation of Canada – Governors' Letter #4 1999-2000

----- Original Message ----- From: Chess Federation of Canada <info@chess.ca> To: <DutChess@idirect.ca> Sent: October 6, 1999 9:49 AM Subject: Posting on ChessTalk

Nice posting. I am surprised it has taken this long for someone to make this observation. I wonder when others will learn, as you have, that constructive criticism is fine but "Complain, bitch, gripe and argue" hurts all of chess and those who organize it.

On a related note, as the CFC's most active organizer, do you, or will you have a set of guidelines for running a successful club and/or tournament? If so, I would appreciate it if you could send them to me. We could put them on our web site for others to learn from.

Keep up the good work.

Troy Vail Executive Director Chess Federation of Canada <http://www.chess.ca/>

I would like to thank all of you for your help and good suggestions with the new web site. I have implemented a lot of them and I am sure they will be appreciated by the site users. The change over from <http://168.144.62.75/> to www.chess.ca should take place over the next 48 hours. Again thanks for your help and suggestions.

Troy Vail Executive Director Chess Federation of Canada <http://www.chess.ca/>

----- Original Message ----- From: Chess Federation of Canada <info@chess.ca> To: Dutton Chess <DutChess@idirect.ca> Sent: January 16, 2000 8:31 PM Subject: Toronto Summer International

I have been told by the CFC Executive to remove your ad for the Toronto Summer International from En Passant and from the web site while the issue is being discussed. After the issue has been resolved, we will again advertise the event if that is what is decided upon.

Troy Vail Executive Director Chess Federation of Canada <http://www.chess.ca/>

----- Original Message ----- From: <m-smith@home.com> To: Mark Dutton <DutChess@idirect.ca> Cc: Les Bunning <lesbunning@travel-net.com>; Philip Haley <102762.1117@compuserve.com>; Peter Stockhausen <pstockh@ibm.net>; Halldor Palsson <palsson@sonetis.com>; Joshua Keshet <joshua_keshet@telus.net> Sent: February 16, 2000 7:37 PM Subject: Motion 00-8

Dear Mark,

This is a follow up to our conversation this afternoon when I advised you that there would be a motion in the upcoming Governors Letter concerning the Toronto Summer International Tournament.

The Motion will read: Bunning/Palsson "that the CFC refuse to rate and further advertise the Toronto International scheduled to be held in August 2000."

The movers have asked for an immediate vote. I agree with this as both you and the North Bay organizers cannot wait until June to know the result. However, we do need to see both sides of this issue, therefore I am officially requesting you to e-mail me your response to this motion. Please do so within the next two days and I will ensure that it is included in the G.L. which should be out sometime next week.

Maurice Smith President Chess Federation Of Canada

COMMENTS FROM PLAYERS:

Name: Robert Webb Country: Canada Date: Fri Dec 10 22:02:25 1999 Comment: Thanx for the e-mails about your events. Am hoping that 2000 will bring me opportunity to play in one at the Primrose :-)

Name: Bryan Lamb Country: Canada Date: Fri Dec 10 12:10:52 1999 Comment: Hi Mark. Thanks for adding the 1999 Pan-Am Championships to your webpage. We are looking forward to a successful event! Bryan Lamb Co-organizer (with Chris Chu) of 1999 Pan-Ams

Name: Bernard Johnson Country: USA Date: Thu Dec 9 17:53:15 1999 Comment: HI MARK, JUST WANT TO LET YOU KNOW THAT I MISS YOUR TOURNAMENTS ALOT..PROBABLY BECAUSE I MOVED TO DALLAS, TEXAS. BUT I WILL MAKE SURE THAT EDDIE MARK, BARRY DAVIS, VANCE WILLIAMS AND ME WILL GET AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY AGAIN..P.S. YOU REALLY NEED TO COME TO BUFFALO AND RUN A TOURNAMENT HERE OR NIAGARA FALLS..I KNOW IT WILL BE BIG!!!

Name: Don Coleman Country: Canada Date: Thu Oct 21 03:59:03 1999 Comment: Great tournaments , Cool Club Awesome Website ! Dutton Chess is Number One . See you at the next event !

Name: jdutton Country: Canada Date: Tue Oct 5 19:56:36 1999 Comment: Great Homepage Dad!

Name: Dale Kirton Country: Canada, Winnipe Date: Tue Sep 21 08:41:24 1999 Comment: Super job as usual from those Ontario guys! Send me everything ya got!!

Name: Warrick Rolfe Country: Canada Date: Sat Sep 18 19:07:02 1999 Comment: Hey, this site was so good, i just keep coming back:)Keep it up!:) PS: by the way, any strong players reading this, or anyone that knows me, drop by icc or chessnet and have a chat and a game, on icc my handle is youngShort and on chessnet i am shuttlecock. i prefer to know u before we chat, so tell me who u are first. thanks...see ya:)

Name: Jason Country: Canada Date: Mon Sep 13 03:40:55 1999 Comment: Hi Mark, Both your tournaments and this web site is great! Keep the great job up.

Name: Michael Sharpe Country: Canada Date: Sun Sep 12 18:35:48 1999 Comment: Great site and please add me to your e-mail list for notice of future tournaments.

Name: Raymond Stone Country: Canada Date: Sun Sep 12 18:04:10 1999 Comment: Best of luck with the club and other chess activities. I will be sure to drop by for a visit the next time I'm in Toronto. Hooray for the Duttons!!

Name: brett Country: Canada Date: Thu Sep 9 17:03:29 1999 Comment: great web site ,see you at the tournament on monday!!

Name: Brian Douthwaite Country: MEXICO Date: Sun Sep 5 05:08:35 1999 Comment: Hi Mark, Bill Oaker told me of your efforts to encourage chess in Toronto in such a professional manner, and I commend your efforts. For a lasting legacy, no doubt you will be paying particular attention to introducing young players to our noble game. Best regards, Brian Douthwaite.

Name: Warrick Rolfe Country: Canada Date: Tue Aug 24 00:48:21 1999 Comment: hello...i am 15, and i live in Niagara Falls, Canada..personally, I think that the CFC is the most pathetic organization in chess....and i think that DUTTONCHESS brings hope!!!!:) GO DUTTONCHESS!!!!:):)

Name: Daniel Macdonald Country: Canada Date: Tue Aug 10 16:22:12 1999 Comment: Very nice!

Name: Peel Chess Club c/o J. Brown Country: Canada Date: Sat Jul 31 03:43:57 1999 Comment: Mark glad to see you are opening a chess club. You've definitely covered all bases. Keep up the great work.

Name: Paul Hopkins Country: Canada Date: Tue Jul 27 01:18:02 1999 Comment: :) Hi Guys grreat web site

Name: Jeff Harrison Country: Canada Date: Tue Jul 20 00:04:01 1999 Comment: Hey Mark ! Awesome website. I am so glad the premier TD in the Country is back doing tournaments and more importantly operating a chess club. Can't wait to play in your tourneys and club events. See ya August 9. Jeff Harrison.

Name: Hugh Brodie Country: Canada Date: Mon Jul 19 02:18:51 1999 Comment: Good luck with the new chess club!

Name: Chris Field Country: Canada Date: Mon Jul 19 02:00:50 1999 Comment: I like the continuing additions to your site.

Name: peter Country: canada Date: Sat Jul 17 01:50:11 1999 Comment:

Name: Tom O'Donnell Country: CANADA Date: Wed Jul 14 18:51:07 1999 Comment: Nice website. Good to hear that you are cooperating with Chess'n Math to provide better services to players in the Toronto area. With two such fine organizations, you will be an unbeatable combination!

Name: Vasik Rajlich Country: USA Date: Mon Jul 12 22:43:03 1999 Comment: Good job, keep it up!

Name: Hal Bond Country: Date: Mon Jul 12 20:30:18 1999 Comment: Looks great Mark and Christine!

Name: Marian Predescu Country: Canada Date: Mon Jul 12 18:53:36 1999 Comment: We like your tournaments, your WEB page(especially if you guys are going to have a full catalog on-line) and your e-mail results! Good luck!

Name: dan thomas Country: canada Date: Thu Jul 8 20:43:07 1999 Comment: just started playing chess again after a 20 year hiatis. glad to see some of my old friends still playing... mr. phil haley, deen hergott, michael sharpe.

Name: brian bilbey Country: canada Date: Thu Jul 1 04:20:57 1999 Comment: great web site

Name: Don (Homepage) Country: Canada Date: Thu Jul 1 02:13:06 1999 Comment: All of my experiences with Dutton Chess were second to none . The tournaments are well organized and I would like to thank Dutton Chess for the wonderful experiences that I've had at their events . See you at the next tournament !

Name: Richard Ruiz Country: Canada Date: Wed Jun 30 17:33:52 1999 Comment: Hi Mark, Step into my Office at your services! Nice Web Page Enhancements!!

Name: John R. Brown Country: Canada Date: Wed Jun 30 12:36:12 1999 Comment: Excellent idea Mark! I know I'll be playing in some of your tournaments. I'm glad we have a great T.D. back in the Toronto Chess Community. Keep up the great work.

Name: Stephen Dawson Country: Canada Date: Tue Jun 29 03:06:45 1999 Comment: Very well thought out and designed site. Best wishes.

Name: James Morrison Country: Canada Date: Mon Jun 28 17:18:15 1999 Comment: Hi there... love the site... especially the simplicity of the design...congratulations, Matthias. You have successfully resisted the Webmaster's Curse... to load down your site with so much memory-hogging goo (Java and the like) that it becomes a chore to download... Keep up the good work. James Morrison, Toronto, ON

Name: David Lawless Country: Canada Date: Mon Jun 28 01:28:43 1999 Comment: Mark, good luck with your new ventures! I look forward to playing in your tournaments. Dave

Name: Ken Kurkowski Country: Canada Date: Sun Jun 27 19:38:34 1999 Comment: Looking forward to visiting your new chess club in August!

Name: Robert Webb Country: Canada Date: Sun Jun 27 19:31:22 1999 Comment: Looks good Mark! Also liked your "results e-mail" after the Fathers Day Op - great idea!!

Name: Rick Garel Country: Canada Date: Sat Jun 19 02:08:50 1999 Comment: I hope you are aware of how much your efforts are appreciated. If not, then accept my thanks, for whatever that's worth. ;-)

Name: David Muller Country: Canada Date: Fri Jun 18 21:22:08 1999 Comment: Good Site easy to use and now you just got to get a lot of hits. It would be nice if you also sold chess sets and other chess accessories But it's a pretty impressive site. Good luck David

Name: Michel Meijer Country: Canada Date: Fri Jun 18 17:46:18 1999 Comment: Congratulations. Very well done web page. Finally someone that want to bring Chess in Canada to a professional level!!

HAPPY Y2K FROM DCC

Dutton Chess is now Canada's largest CFC affiliate. We are proud to have renewed and sold more CFC memberships and recruited more new members last year than anyone else in the country. We look forward to increased player participation and a large increase in the number of chess events for Y2K. We invite you to take a look at our updated list of coming events at the Best Western "Primrose" Hotel and Dutton Chess Club on Bayview.

"A REVIEW OF 1999" ...THE "FINAL" CHAMPIONS OF THE CENTURY

Dutton Chess in Toronto is now at the end of 1999 scheduled events at the Primrose Hotel in Toronto and we would like to review with you the exciting and diverse winners of our events:

1. Yan Teplitsky, I.M. - March 5, 6 & 7, 1999 - Toronto Class Championship - 118 Players - \$500. First Prize
2. Michael Schleifer of Montreal & Goran Milicevic - April 2, 3 & 4, 1999 - The Toronto Open - 186 Players - \$700. First Prize Each
3. Tom O'Donnell, I.M. - June 18, 19 & 20, 1999 - Father's Day Open - 114 Players - \$500. First Prize
4. Kevin Spraggett, G.M. - August 20, 21 & 22, 1999 - "Summer" Open - 88 Players- \$500. First Prize
5. Kevin Spraggett, G.M. - September 10, 11 & 12, 1999 - September Open - 61 Players - \$400. First Prize
6. Ron Livshits, I.M. - October 15, 16 & 17, 1999 - October "Fall" Open - 80 Players - \$500. First Prize
7. Ron Livshits, I.M. - November 12, 13 & 14, 1999 - Remembrance Day Open - GTCL Sanctioned Event - 96 Players - \$500. First Prize

"ACTIVE" CHESS Tournaments 1. Lawrence Day, I.M. - July 1, 1999 - Canada Day "HOLIDAY ACTIVE" - 64 Players - \$200. First Prize

2. Sami Ademi - August 2, 1999 - Simcoe Day "HOLIDAY ACTIVE" - 78 Players - \$250. First Prize
3. Michael G. Stroud - August 14, 1999 - "First Saturday" Active #1 - 35 Players - \$150. First Prize
4. Jura Ochkoos, F.M. - September 25, 1999 - Saturday Active Series #2 - 22 Players - \$140. First Prize
5. Dusan Miletic - October 23, 1999 - Saturday Active Series #3 - 30 Players - \$150. First Prize
6. Giorgi Khomeriki - November 25, 26 & 27, 1999 - "PI" Active at the Bay - 32 Players - \$220. First Prize

In summary, a total of 743 Players participated in 7 Weekend Tournaments at the Primrose Hotel. In "ACTIVE" Chess, 261 players participated in 6 one-day ACTIVE tournaments in 1999.

Dutton Chess - DutChess@idirect.ca

<http://www.play.at/duttonchess>

Maurice Smith: I would very much like to see the North Bay tournament continue to be held. It is one of the most unique and popular events that we have. However, I am not in favour of the motion. The main reason being that we accepted the ad for Mr. Dutton's event and now more than three months have passed during which time there have been numerous entries and commitments made to the Toronto event. These entries are based on the ad that we accepted. Therefore it is unreasonable at this stage to make sanctions that would result in this event being canceled. Another point is that the C.F.C. has offered help to the North Bay organizers in various ways, but it is my understanding that they still will not run the event unless the sanctions mentioned in the motion are put into effect. I believe that the North Bay organizers can make some adjustments in the structure of their event in order to meet what they consider to be competition to their tournament. The idea of not rating or advertising an event is a radical approach that is debatable as to whether it should be used at all. In this case, where it is many months since the first ad appeared, I do not consider it appropriate. Also, what would happen if the motion passes and the North Bay

organizers for whatever reason decide not to run their tournament. Then we are probably left with no tournaments at all.

Because of the nature of this issue, I am calling for an immediate vote. Obviously, organizers of both events cannot wait until June or beyond to see this matter resolved. Therefore for this motion only, please send your vote to the Business Office by midnight, Friday March 10th. Governors on line can respond by e-mail. Governors not on line may respond by regular mail. No phone in votes.

Maurice Smith
President
Chess Federation Of Canada

00-1 STRAW VOTE TOPIC (Martin Jaeger) "That for Closed [CYCC National] Events with no upper bound on entry numbers, Northwestern Ontario be allowed to name an entry."

00-2 STRAW VOTE TOPIC (Halldor Palsson) "That the rules for the Canadian Closed be amended to:

- (1) Lower the rating limit to 2200;
- (2) Allow GMs free entry and then three classes of entry fees for 2200-2299 at \$300, 2300-2399 at \$200 and 2400+ at \$100;
- (3) Set a CFC contribution to the prize fund at a minimum of \$2000;
- (4) Make the event annual (taken from Phil Haley & Lyle Craver).

Halldor Palsson: I ask that items (1) - (4) be voted on separately. I view these changes as relatively minor amendments to the existing rules for the Canadian Closed. I propose (1) for housekeeping purposes. With (1) all masters are allowed to participate. The current limit of 2250 is arbitrary. If (1) is accepted it expands the pool of eligible players from 120-130 to just under 200. I would like to see close to 50 participants in this tournament.

With (2) I am trying to give stronger players an incentive to participate in the tournament. The proposed fee structure will also give stronger players a reason to encourage lower ranked masters into the field. This year some of our finest players did not participate and encouraged others who were eligible to do likewise.

I note that (3) is still in the handbook but was probably abolished at the AGM in Ottawa in 1998. The Canadian Closed is a tournament that the membership is interested in and this justifies spending some CFC funds on the event.

The rationale for (4) is to make the tournament annual. Now the rules say follow the FIDE cycle, which may lapse to once every 2 years. I think there are good Canadian chess development reasons for holding the tournament each year. We should offer our masters a good tournament each year.

MOTIONS UNDER DISCUSSION

Motion 00-1

Lyle Craver: I see nothing in 00-1 that answers the objections I raised about 99-7 - as BCCF Secretary/Treasurer I have NEVER had difficulty persuading Knut or Troy about publishing anything I feel of generally provincial interest. 00-1 just like 99-7 seems to me to be a solution in search of a problem.

I reject Mr Jaeger's response to the above view which I've expressed numerous times - if the OCA has a problem dealing with Mr. Bevand's organization that does not justify a national policy of the kind 00-1 envisions. Again: I'm an Executive member of the BC Chess Federation and in my several year's experience I have NEVER had difficulty getting our info to our members in EP. If I seriously thought there was such a problem I'd be calling for the head of the Executive Director. Talk to Troy Mr. Jaeger - he's really a much more reasonable man than you seem to think.

Motion 00-2

Lyle Craver: When the tournament "membership" was proposed last year it was suggested that a two year trial period was needed. At that time detailed statistics were promised concerning membership trends. Given the lack of these, I can't say that a true trial has been held.

[Reading the comments by myself and Mr. Jaeger on this and other motions, I have to say I'm going to keep raising the same questions until I either get the information I'm seeking or someone on the executive tells me why my request for information is unreasonable. The fact that frequently requested information is not forthcoming is one of the reasons Governors Letter deliberations take so long!]

Motion 00-3

Lyle Craver: Vote Yes. I'm uncomfortable with this one particularly for the younger kids. But overall I agree with the intent.

Von Sarac: in favour, but there are pros and cons.

Motion 00-4

Lyle Craver: Vote Yes. In this context I'd add that organizers who are sending in memberships for juniors and women need to be diligent about notifying the Business Office. As such I'd recommend adding a box to indicate gender on the official membership report form.

Von Sarac: in favour.

Motion 00-5

Martin Jaeger: Recently there has been a bout of initiatives with respect to the composition of the Canadian Closed and the team. the last such bout. occurred in the 70s. It involved the invention of selection ratings and regional entries. The notion of using the Closed as a qualifier to the team surfaced but it was rejected because, because of limitation on size, many players with a legitimate candidacy for the team would not earn a place in the closed.

This objection has now been overcome and the notion merits reconsideration. I suggest that top player to top player combat in a Closed provides the best way of choosing the team.

This is not provided for in motion 00-5. Motion 00-5 in reality provides for 4 players from the selection rating list and 2 from selection. This is true because, in fact, it is unimaginable that the Canadian Champion would not figure high on the selection rating list. In view of the financial inducement, provided by the World Championships all the truly strong players will show up at the Closed, the qualifier to the world championship.

We have just experienced a Canadian Closed in which 3 of the 6 players initially chosen for the last Olympiad team did not participate in the ensuing Closed. In my view it is clear that an added incentive to participate in the Closed is needed. Using the closed for team choosing purposes would provide this.

Parenthetically might I observe that. the mover and seconder of 00-5 are not on the same wavelength. Spraggett. writes, "What I would like to see is a selection committee that, ,concentrates exclusively on our younger players?" Stockhausen writes "Going ONLY by rating does not provide the best possible team. Motivation, attitude, team spirit and a host of other "non chess" factors contribute to this." Peter does not have in mind necessarily selecting 2 young players.

Personally I favour the notion of having one apprentice on the team, but only one. But the motion itself does not, provide for selection of an apprentice. I favour having one apprentice and the *rest*. chosen from the Closed. The amending motion does not provide for this. I think that it will be useful to initially choose three team members from the Closed and see how it works so that strong players and governors have a demonstration of the usefulness of the idea

With this as background, the following amendment (Jaeger-Langen) to 00-5 is understandable. The amendment touches on only the National team, I would like to get some feedback before proposing anything for the Women's team.

Moved (Jaeger-Langen) "that in 00-5 the proposed 1203 a) be replaced by the following "a) The National Team shall be composed of 5 or 6 players. Three shall be the top finishers at the most recent Canadian Closed and zonal (with tiebreakers for third place as used to break ties for first place in the Closed) , one player shall be chosen by a Selection Committee from among players under 25 as of the first day of the Olympiad and the remaining players shall be chosen from the selection rating list as outlined in 1204. If a player declines *after* selection, the replacement.

player shall be filled first from any loser(s) in tiebreaks for third place in the Closed and then from the selection rating list".

Lyle Craver: Vote No. I like the idea but think the motion should be redrafted in its final form without Mr. Allan's name. It should not require amending the Handbook to replace Mr. Allan once he decides to retire. I also think we need more than 2 people on the Selection Committee. (I have no objection to the two named - I just think a 2 person committee is inadequate)

Von Sarac: in favour, Mr.Spraggett has some good points.

Peter Stockhausen: Mr. Dennis Allen has declined (for this time) but Mr. Brian Hartman has accepted to serve on the committee if the motion passes. So has Mr. Alexandre Lesiege.

Actually Spraggett and Stockhausen are "on the same page" on this issue even if our comments are not identical. I would strongly suggest that if we have strong and committed juniors (i.e. within 75 to 100 rating points), then at least one of them should be given a chance. To award several places on the outcome of one tournament rather than performance over a year or two, strikes me as very risky.

00-1 STRAW VOTE TOPIC

Lyle Craver: Vote NO - I'd be voting yes if I knew the OCA approved.

Martin Jaeger: Re Straw vote 00-01. This was put forward in response to a request. for **such** treatment from Mr. Rutherford of Thunder Bay. I mentioned this in my original submission but somehow this comment. was truncated out in the Governors' letter. I am enclosing a copy of Mr. Rutherford's letter.

Von Sarac: [I am] in favour

Peter Stockhausen: This was, in my opinion, a reasonable request from an organizer in Northwestern Ontario. He even cited the precedent in Curling where such an arrangement exists. The CFC Executive proposed this solution to the OCA since technically speaking; this is a provincial matter. Unfortunately the OCA Executive voted this proposal down. So we are in a bit of a dilemma. It seems to me if the Ontario Governors agree with this idea, than could they persuade the OCA Executive to revisit this issue?

00-2 STRAW VOTE TOPIC

Lyle Craver: (1) Vote Yes, (2) Vote Yes, (3) Vote No, (4) Vote Abstain Comments: I agree with both (1) and (2) though I'd prefer to give a free entry to the Canadian Junior Champion, (3) I've seen no clear rationale for this particular dollar amount, (4) Abstain since I am not convinced that we need to have the Championship run the same way in zonal and non-zonal years.

Von Sarac: I [am] not in favour. I strongly disagree with [the] variable fee structure, if anything it should be the other way around.

Peter Stockhausen : 1, Yes 2, Yes 3, Yes 4, Yes

If this becomes a full motion, I would encourage the following amendments:

A, The entry fee for GMs would be \$100 and would be paid by the CFC to the Organizers.

B, The CFC contribution should be set at \$40 per participant, with a minimum contribution of \$2,000 and an upper limit of \$4,000.

Martin Jaeger: I am opposed to 00-2(2). The prospect of a significant payoff at the world championship counterbalances the fee paid by grandmasters. The weaker players have no such prospect and I do not think should be required to pay a higher fee.

Halldor Palsson: We have one player, say a GM, going to the world championship. I am extending an invitation to all Canadian GMs to participate because the CFC membership likes to see them in action. The payoffs received to date by Canadian Champions participating in the world championship have been so modest that "the prospect of a significant payoff" cannot be offered as a serious comment. My rationale for asking players under 2300 to pay steeply is simply that they have a shot at 9 lessons at a bargain. However, since all participants get an IM title if they make a 6/9 I also want the prize fund to attract many over 2400 players to make it a tough test.

Martin Jaeger: I am opposed to 00-2(3) . The CFC should contribute to the Closed but should do so only in matching contributions made by the provinces/territories.

Halldor Palsson: The provincial chess associations run their championships and in many cases pay toward the participation of their champions at the closed. The Canadian Closed is a CFC responsibility and a modest contribution of \$2000 should not be an issue.

Martin Jaeger: Re 00-2(4) An annual event would be nice but only if it does not entail additional CFC expenditure. There is inherently nothing wrong in having the winner of a Closed go to two world championships should FIDE succeed in holding the event every year.

Halldor Palsson: I do not see an annual event as a frill. Our best players create excitement and keep the CFC membership interested in the game. Most CFC members follow the exploits of local IMs or strong masters. We want to give our best players an opportunity to compete for the Canadian Championship and a trip to the world championship for the benefits that they bring to chess.

GENERAL REMARKS ON CFC BUSINESS

Lyle Craver: I agree with the President that there is a pressing need to streamline how we Governors do business. We part company on how we approach this. This year the "solution" has been to move business matters deemed "urgent" from the Governors in favour of the Executive. To me this "solution" begs the question of what the proper role of the Governors is - based on this year's example I don't see much role at all and this I think is dead wrong. In general I agree with nearly everything Gordon Taylor has written on this subject. I also agree with him concerning the ruling by the Ratings Auditor.

I agree we need to ensure the non-Internet connected Governors are not excluded from decision making but at the same time something clearly needs to be done. Certainly in my local public library public terminals connected to the Internet are available - perhaps making use of these might be part of a solution?

One area clubs could use help on is publicity. There are numerous free opportunities for local community groups to advertise in local community papers and cable public announcement TV channels. From personal conversations I know many of the junior organizers could teach club organizers a lot in this department.

Mr Allan has given a fairly insightful analysis of Chesstalk. I agree with him that the CFC could/should do something similar.

Re Stockhausen/Brown: I see Peter has presented the statistics that I have been asking for in the Governors' Letter for years. This is EXACTLY what I'd like except that I'd like these statistics quarterly and by membership type by province. Mr. Stockhausen's statistics prove that my request is both reasonable and do-able.

Martin Jaeger: Would the treasurer and FIDE rep arrange to have the cost- to the CFC of the publication of FIDE ratings be published. If there is a cost I believe that it should be borne by the tournaments that generate FIDE ratings, in particular low FIDE ratings. I would like to put forward a motion on this but cannot do this without information of the cost to the CFC of rating publication.

Phil Haley: FIDE fees amount to 190 Swiss francs per 1000 members with a minimum of 570 Swiss francs and a maximum of 4,000 Swiss francs

190 per 1000 for less than or equal to 3000 members
180 per 1,000 from 3,000 to 10,000
170 per 1000 from 10,000 to 20,000
160 per 1000 from greater than 20,000

The minimum fee for a federation constituting a Zone amounts to 1237 Swiss francs.

MOTIONS FOR VOTE

00-8 YES{ } NO { } ABSTAIN { } – DEADLINE MARCH 10, 2000

MOTIONS FOR STRAW VOTE

00-1 YES { } NO { } ABSTAIN { }

MOTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

00-3
00-4
00-5
00-6
00-7