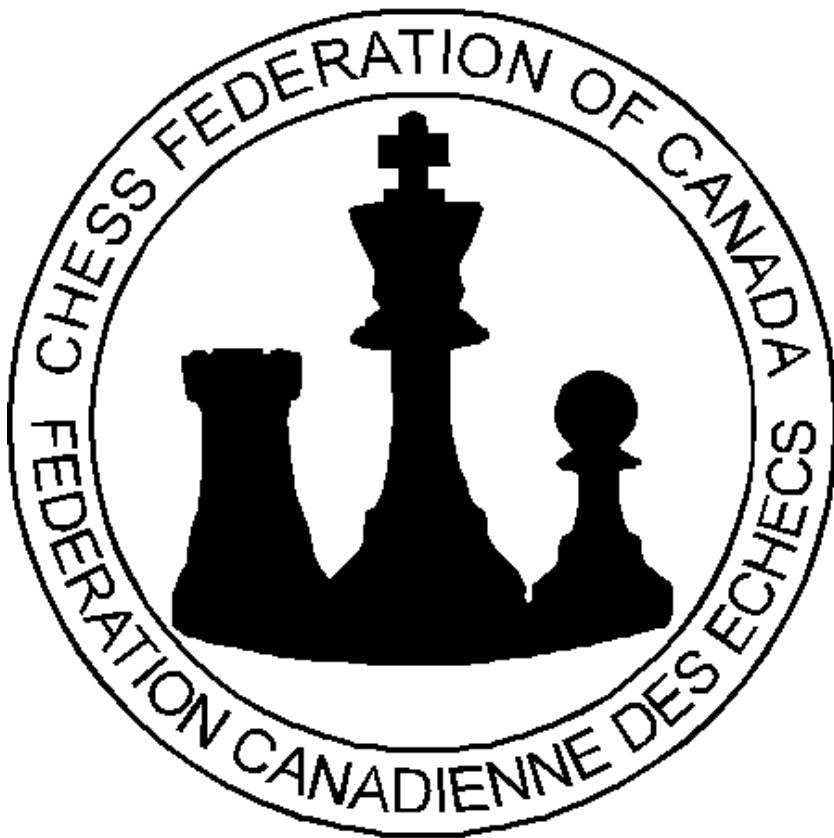


# CHESS FEDERATION OF CANADA

## GOVERNORS' LETTER SIX

### 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](mailto:info@chess.ca)

**ATTENTION ALL GOVERNORS:** Anyone with an E-Mail address can have their Governors' Letter sent to them via E-Mail and save the CFC paper and postage costs.  
Please E-Mail [info@chess.ca](mailto:info@chess.ca) if interested.

Deadline for next Governors' Letter is June 30, 2000

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A new membership drive is underway and members can check out the details in the June En Passant. Increasing our membership is extremely important in order to maintain financial stability and provide support for our national programs. Therefore I ask everyone to do their part and try to encourage chess players to become part of the C.F.C. family.

Congratulations to Pascal Charbonneau for winning the Canadian Junior Championship recently held in Montreal. The young chess talent on display during that event was outstanding and our chess future looks very good indeed in the hands of these fine Juniors. Pascal, and Danny Goldenberg who tied for first place but lost on tie break lead the next wave of Canadians headed for international stardom.

The next major Junior event is the Canadian Youth Chess Championships in Edmonton next month. The awards for the CYCC will be presented just before the start of the Canadian Open. Therefore, players arriving in Edmonton early will be able to see stars of the future in action.

The following is an explanation of the Motions for vote on the last page of this G.L. This time the procedure is somewhat complicated. That is because Motion 00-7 is actually an amendment of Motion 00-5 and as such according to correct procedure, 00-7 must be voted on first. Therefore the way to proceed is as follows:

- a} Record your vote on 00-7.
- b} After recording your vote on 00-7, then you must vote on whether you favour 00-5 as amended by 00-7. {An adoption of an amendment does not adopt the original motion thereby amended} - Roberts Rules Of Order.
- c} Record your vote on 00-5

Summarizing, it is possible that a person might not favour either 00-7 or 00-5, however it would be against logic to favour both.

A final note: Those Governors planning to attend the Annual Meeting please note that it will start at 9.00 a.m. sharp {and I do mean sharp} on Monday July 10th at the site of the Canadian Open. I hope to see many of you there.

Maurice Smith  
President  
Chess Federation Of Canada

## KEEPING GOVERNORS INFORMED

By a majority vote the Executive decided to adhere to the C.F.C. residency rule concerning the CYCC national finals. This meant that at least one and possibly other players would not qualify as their stay in Canada did not meet eligibility requirements.

### MOTIONS

**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.

**Votes:** YES (11)      NO ( 1 )      Abstain (1 )

| Allan              | Keshet | Cabanas |
|--------------------|--------|---------|
| <b>Hartman</b>     |        |         |
| <b>Brown</b>       |        |         |
| <b>Haley</b>       |        |         |
| <b>Barnes</b>      |        |         |
| <b>Mayo</b>        |        |         |
| <b>Van Sarac</b>   |        |         |
| <b>Craver</b>      |        |         |
| <b>Stockhausen</b> |        |         |
| <b>Jaeger</b>      |        |         |
| <b>Mendrinos</b>   |        |         |

### Motion Passes

**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' 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."

**Motion 00-6 has been withdrawn by Mark Barnes.** The President has withdrawn the Executive Motion that preceded it. Mark Barnes, Francisco Cabanas and the President will endeavour to revise Section 1650 to include percentage of prize fund advertising as well as guaranteed prize funds. The revision will include protection for players and organizers and will be introduced to the Governors for their approval upon completion.

Maurice Smith  
President  
Chess Federation Of Canada

**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".

**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.

**Halldor Palsson:** The rationale for Motion 00-7 was in the *discussion of Motion 00-5* in GL #4 and was not repeated in GL #5 because each GL only has new comments on motions in the discussion section. I

apologize to Jaeger and Langen for leaving out their rationale for motion 00-7 in GL #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"

| VOTES YES (4)                              | NO (30)                  |
|--|--------------------------|
| Bunning                                    | Keshet                   |
| Palsson                                    | Haley                    |
| Stockhausen                                | Webb                     |
| Carr                                       | Hartman, Brodie,         |
| O'Donnell, Ottosen, Rosner, Boross-Harmer, |                          |
| Brown, Stringer,                           | Lamb, Wong, Deline,      |
|  | Craver, Obradovich,      |
|  | Mills, Ficzere, Quiring, |
|  | Kneven, Weis, Taylor,    |
|  | Gulati, Smith, Langen,   |
|  | Mendrinos, Charlton,     |
|  | Allen, Jaeger and        |
|  | Cabañas                  |

#### MOTION FAILS.

**Motion 00-9** (Smith/Stockhausen) "Amend 340a in the Handbook to read: All comments by Governors for submission to the Governors' Letters will be published except for the following:

- 1 Obscene material.
- 2 Libelous material
- 3 Personal attacks on an individual.
- 4 Items that exceed a reasonable length"

340a presently reads: Comments by Governors on motions under consideration are not censored. All comments are published in the Governors' Letters provided that they do not exceed a reasonable length.

**Maurice Smith:** The Governors' Letters are for a serious exchange of facts and opinions between Governors to develop and maintain policies and procedures that benefit the C.F.C. Obscene, libelous and personal attack comments add nothing to the above and only lower the standard and class of the G.L. Also, many people find these kind of remarks extremely offensive. This motion allows for all comments, both critical and complimentary of C.F.C. policies to be retained, while eliminating the unnecessary low class material that drags the C.F.C. down and creates a bad impression of our organization and its Governors.

**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."

| VOTES YES (3) | NO (3)       | Abstain |
|---------------|--------------|---------|
| (1)           |              |         |
| Jaeger        | Hartman Weis |         |

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| Bunning   | Webb      |
| Charleton | Mendrinos |

#### 00-2 STRAW VOTE TOPIC (Halldor Palsson)

"That the rules for the Canadian Closed be amended to:

- (1) Lower the rating limit to 2200;

| Votes: YES (10) | NO (2) | Abst: |
|-----------------|--------|-------|
| Palsson         | Mayo   |       |
| Barnes          | Jaeger |       |
| Weis            |        |       |
| Gulati          |        |       |
| Van Sarac       |        |       |
| Craver          |        |       |
| Stockhausen     |        |       |
| Brown           |        |       |
| Mendrinos       |        |       |
| Keshet          |        |       |

- (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;

| Votes: YES (5) | NO (6)    | Abst: |
|----------------|-----------|-------|
| Palsson        | Mayo      |       |
| Brown          |           |       |
| Barnes         | Gulati    |       |
| Weis           | Van Sarac |       |
| Craver         | Jaeger    |       |
| Stockhausen    | Mendrinos |       |
|                | Keshet    |       |

- (3) Set a CFC contribution to the prize fund at a minimum of \$2000;

| Votes: YES (8) | NO (4)    | Abst: |
|----------------|-----------|-------|
| Palsson        | Brown     |       |
| Barnes         | Van Sarac |       |
| Weis           | Jaeger    |       |
| Craver         | Keshet    |       |
| Mayo           |           |       |
| Gulati         |           |       |
| Stockhausen    |           |       |
| Mendrinos      |           |       |

- (4) Make the event annual (taken from Phil Haley & Lyle Craver).

| Votes: YES (6) | NO (3 ) | Abstain (1 ) |
|----------------|---------|--------------|
| Palsson        | Weis    |              |
| Brown          |         |              |
| Barnes         | Craver  |              |
| Gulati         | Jaeger  |              |
| Van Sarac      |         |              |
| Stockhausen    |         |              |
| Mendrinos      |         |              |
| Keshet         |         |              |

**STRAW VOTE TOPIC 00-2(1)-(3)-(4) Passes**  
**STRAW VOTE TOPIC 00-2(2) Fails**

## MOTIONS UNDER DISCUSSION

### Motion 00-1

**Martin Jaeger:** Re: 01 I thank the governors for passing this motion and suggest that provincial associations gear up to make use of the space that will become available. For starters I suggest that they plan to publish lists of the provincial executive, the site of general meetings and major decisions taken by the provincial authority.

### Motion 00-3

**Alvah Mayo:** I vote YES for 00-3; it seems patently obvious to me that such a procedure should have been in place from the very beginning.

**Francisco Cabañas:** Vote: Abstain. I do agree with what this motion is trying to accomplish. However I cannot support a motion that does not identify the sections of the handbook it is trying to amend. And secondly does not identify the proposed time controls but rather refers to the FIDE handbook which is not readily available at all.

**Denis Allan:** John Berry has pointed out to me that there is a difference between playing at regular time control at the WYCC, which is one game a day, and at the CYCC, which is two games a day. His experience is that two games a day at normal time control is too much for the younger kids. I had not thought of that. But the parents I have spoken to say their kids are used to two games a day at regular time control, and that is what they want. They may not represent the majority, but they probably do represent a majority of parents whose kids will represent us in Spain, and I want the fairest qualification for them, so will continue to support this motion.

### Motion 00-5

**Lyle Craver:** Vote YES - I agree strongly with Mr. Spraggett. The present system too strongly favours inactive players while not offering sufficient opportunities to the more active 'up and comers'. I don't have much to add that Kevin hasn't better than I could.

**Mark Barnes:** I will support this.

**Grant A. Brown:** I vote YES.

**Francisco Cabañas:** I am in favor. This motion provides an excellent balance for qualification to the Olympic Team.

**Denis Allan:** I have already commented in favour of this motion, but agree that it should not specify any selectors by name. That should be left to the

executive. But do not let the motion fail on that account. For this year let it stand as it is (with Brian Hartman named) and the fine tuning can be done later. In deciding your vote, consider the source of the motion. Kevin Spraggett, since he first played in the Olympiad in 1986, has played every Olympiad for us on first board. He has done so completely unselfishly, never making financial demands he knows the CFC cannot meet, and has also acted twice as captain. I regard him, along with Abe Yanofsky and Lawrence Day, as our greatest Olympians. His views reflect his experience and are worthy of respect.

**Martin Jaeger:** Comments re: Re 05/07 are listed under Motion 00-7.

### Motion 00-6

**Motion 00-6 has been withdrawn by Mark Barnes.**

**Alvah Mayo:** I agree wholeheartedly with Mr Barnes' comments in GL #5. It is simply unrealistic for the CFC to expect an organizer to be able to calculate the amount of prize money as a percentage of entry fees especially when expenses are generally fixed while the number of players (and entry fees) is variable. Did no one in the Executive think about this at all? Before the Executive stuck its nose in and fixed what wasn't broken the old system of tournament advertisement in En Passant worked perfectly well here in Atlantic Canada.

**Francisco Cabañas:** In favor. I must say that I am very sympathetic to what the executive was trying to accomplish but the executive motion has some very serious shortcomings. Particularly in that it targets small local events while ignoring large heavily promoted events. It also does not address the issue of fixed costs. It also ignores existing regulations on the subject. The proper way to deal with this is to amend section 1650 of the handbook.

Now here is my question: How many members of the executive were aware of section 1650 when the passed the executive motion?

**Lyle Craver:** Vote YES - re the President's comments - he himself acknowledges the Governors have the right to overturn Executive decisions. I personally thought the original decision was a solution in search of a problem and not really anything remotely resembling an emergency. I still feel that.

While I appreciate the intent of the original Executive move I agree with Mark that organizers should not be expected to risk making profits or losses as a condition of advertising in En Passant. Surely I do not have to explain basic economics concerning fixed vs. variable costs. This year's

Vancouver Keres Memorial is a shining example of why this motion needs our support: our now past-president on the basis of the Executive motion guessed on an acceptable percentage payout and advertised a very, very unwise percentage payout. Due to this and other factors involving mismanagement, the BCCF is now technically bankrupt. (E.g. we have cash in the bank to satisfy all creditors but the BCCF members' equity is now negative)

I would support a compromise resolution concerning EP advertising: let the CFC specify which expenses are allowable to include in a \$\$BEN advertisement and which are not. Perhaps require that X % of the "based

on" be required as a guarantee. Exempt club tournaments or events expected to attract under (for instance) 30 players. I can see all kinds of potential formulae that might reasonably be adopted. I understand and support the original idea but it goes too far so I must support Mr. Barnes until something more workable can be devised.

**Denis Allan:** I support this motion. No doubt the executive action was based on complaints from some members, but I do not see how it is helpful. If it is intended to force organizers to commit to a prize fund, or specific formula, it will fail. People will not do what they cannot do. Certainly the expression that prizes are "BEN" is not very informative, but it alerts prospective players that if they are in it for the money, they might want to go elsewhere. It is not misleading in any way. I believe that most players are more interested in finding events with a convenient time, location, and format. En Passant is the best point of reference for many, and should be available. All exclusion will do is hurt some events, and thereby the chess community as a whole, without any corresponding benefit.

**Grant A. Brown:** I vote YES. The Executive-mandated condition that this motion is aimed at eliminating is far too onerous on organizers of smaller events in particular. I suggest we adopt the principle of "caveat emptor" in the first instance, and if an organizer were ever to abuse the freedom to structure the prize fund according to entries, then take action against that particular organizer at that time (e.g. by imposing an advertising ban against him, if necessary).

Secondary comment: Perhaps the CFC Constitution does not explicitly state that the Executive may only invent operating policy unilaterally in emergency situations. Yet, contra President Smith, I think that that would nevertheless be a very good principle to follow. Indeed, given the earlier comments of other long-serving Governors, it would not be a stretch to suppose that this principle is probably the commonly understood guide which previous Executives have

seen fit to follow; it is the traditional rule. In this particular case, I see absolutely no justification for ignoring it, and poor judgment in defending it.

**Martin Jaeger:** I am opposed to 06. The movers of this motion seem to be under the mistaken impression that prior publication of the basis for the prize fund requires a guarantee that could occasion losses. It does not. For example, "Entry fee minus (out of pocket expenses plus \$2/player for organization/direction)" provides a clear explanation of how the prize fund will be determined without occasioning the possibility of losses.

As is now well understood that governors do no favor last minute protection of a tournament as was contemplated in 08. The desire for protection is understandable. Attraction of top players involves expenditure as does a guaranteed prize fund. If such guarantees are in place a rival tournament can use the travel fund of another tournament as a means of obtaining strong player participation in their own tournament which in turn weakens the incentive for ordinary players to participate in the tournament that provided the travel fund/guaranteed prizes. This said, I believe it unwise for the CFC to act to provide guaranteed space unless the provincial affiliate involved has made such a request.

#### **Motion 00-7**

**Martin Jaeger:** Re 05/07 I am opposed to 2 members of the Olympiad team ever being chosen by selection and for this reason I will not withdraw the amendment. However, I will make a counter proposal to that of withdrawal. It is this that 05/07 not have effect till Jan. 1, 2001. If this suggestion is accepted than everyone would start the new team cycle knowing what the rules are.

Mr. Spraggett has suggested that 07 is illegitimate because it runs contrary to his 05. Nothing could be further from the truth. Mr. Spraggett is proposing a new method of choosing the team. 07 provides an alternative suggestion. It is perfectly legitimate and proper that alternates be considered simultaneously.

05 does not take into account the difficulties and controversy that will arise if one third of the team is selected. We know from the past that selection leads to controversy and dissatisfaction when even one member is selected. Two will heighten the likelihood and severity of the problems created. Hell will break loose if and when the selectors choose 2 members who have weaker track records than others bypassed.

The likelihood of controversy has been concealed by the failure of 05 to include draft terms of reference to the selection committee. It is good marketing to try to sell a pig-in-a-poke but that strategy heightens the likelihood of future controversy.

Inevitably selections as compared to a trial favours players resident in areas of much high level chess. Such players can easily a large portfolio of games available for study by the selectors. Players resident in the boonies have less opportunity. But use of a trial (the Canadian Closed) puts everyone on an equal footing. It should be the preferred option.

I was amazed to read Mr. Spraggett's comment that the Canadian Closed should stand on its own two feet. It is the responsibility of the CFC to make the whole package work and there is nothing illegitimate in providing for linkage. The use of the Closed as a trial would provide for open access to the team, and would promote a stronger Closed. Sounds good doesn't it.

**Alvah Mayo:** I agree with this motion. Of particular praise here is the emphasis on placement in the Canadian Closed which should limit incidences of players snubbing the Closed and still taking up spots on the Olympic team.

**Francisco Cabañas:** As an amendment and as a motion I am opposed.

**Denis Allan:** I agree with Kevin that this is not an amendment. It is a completely different motion. As I said before, I support in principle the idea of some qualification from the Closed, but this motion was not presented within the time requirements of the rules and I believe the President must rule it out of order, or if it is presented for vote, at least rule that it cannot be effective for the 2000 Olympics.

**Grant A. Brown:** I vote NO.

#### **Motion 00-8**

**Francisco Cabañas:** With respect to motion 00-8 I wish to remind the assembly that I voted NO and on time and my vote was not recorded. I am curious how many other votes were "lost"?

**Halldor Palsson:** Francisco, I am sorry about not recording your vote, this was an oversight on my part which is now corrected.

**Lyle Craver:** I'm glad to have seen this motion massively defeated. I strongly dislike retroactive legislation. Given three months lapsed between the first advertisement of Mr. Dutton's tournament in EP and the Governors' Letter I do not believe the debate period should have been telescoped. If it were truly an emergency GL#3 (about two weeks later) could justifiably have called for emergency handling but NOT GL#4 2-3 months later.

#### **Motion 00-9**

**Alvah Mayo:** I find myself in complete disagreement with the President where his Motion 00-9 is concerned. If the Governor's Letter is to continue to be a forum for frank and unfettered discussion amongst Governors of motions and relevant issues then the last thing we need is censorship. In my opinion that is exactly what Motion 00-9 is designed to do; censor unpopular or inconvenient opinions.

The President has attempted to set up a straw man by classifying those who would oppose 00-9 as supporters of "obscene, libelous or personal attacks". I have yet to see obscenities in the GL. As far as libelous or personal attacks you can dress up just about anything to fit those definitions, even statements which are 100% true!

On top of all this 00-9 doesn't even specify who gets to decide for us exactly which comments will be deemed worthy of censorship. I can't see myself supporting such a distasteful motion as 00-9 when it comes time for a vote.

**Lyle Craver:** I support the general idea of this motion but would prefer the President be more specific in what types of behaviour the President deems a personal attack. It seems EXTRAORDINARILY ironic that in the very Governors' Letter where he speaks of the need for a higher tone of debate that the President himself suggests that Mark Barnes and I think the CFC Executive make decisions without much thought! If that's not a personal attack I surely am confused on the very concept of what a personal attack is! I would argue that this type of gratuitous suggestion only lowers the standard and class of the GL. I also say that I find this kind of remark extremely offensive.

[On a completely serious note, I do find Mr O'Donnell's comments about Troy Vail to have "crossed over the line" and wonder why they were published at length. I also found the e-mail from Mr. Dutton in the last GL far beyond the length I would have expected to see]

Nevertheless I VOTE YES to 00-9.

**Halldor Palsson:** In the last year I have twice asked individual Governors if they would withdraw material from the GL. Both elected to exercise their right to publish their comments as submitted.

**Denis Allan:** This motion has three facets. The first, obscenity, is irrelevant. It has not been a problem and there is no reason to believe it will be in the future. The second, slander, is a complex issue. Usually whether or not something constitutes slander often depends on its truth. There are also legal issues. I would expect that some sort of qualified privilege

extends to the inter-communication between governors, but am not sure of that, or whether it is affected by the publication of the Governors' Letters on the website. I do not think the President, or even the executive as a whole, would be able to determine what is slander. For example, Peter apparently regarded the comments of Mr. Brown as slander. He was wrong. Mr. Brown used strong language, but was entitled to point out the apparent conflict Peter might have in taking part in executive discussions or votes on the Canadian Open bids. Conversely, I recall some comments of Brad Thomson directed at Mr. Cabanas that were almost certainly slanderous, if untrue, and to which Mr. Cabanas may have felt unable to reply without violating confidentiality regarding Mr. Thomson's employment, or termination. Personal attacks are the real issue. Mr. Brown's comments were intemperate, no doubt fueled by his sense of indignation at what he and others perceived as differential treatment between bids. I recall an exchange between Peter and Jon Berry some years ago, which I found distressing, as I regard both as friends. I appreciate the intent of the motion, but civility cannot be legislated. Comments intended for publication in the Governors' Letter are usually with some thought - they are not knee-jerk reactions, as one might post on Chesstalk, or send in a personal e-mail. They represent what the Governor wants to say. And if he or she has second thoughts, there is always time before publication to request retraction. And each Governor is a potential Officer of the C.F.C. What he or she commits to writing is often the best indication we have of the person. I want to know what the other governors have to say, and how they express themselves. In any event, any attempt at censorship is doomed to failure. A governor whose comments are excluded, would likely either send them to the other governors by mail or e-mail, or post them on Chesstalk with a heading like "this is what the President doesn't want you to hear." I would want to hear much better reasons before considering supporting this motion. Perhaps some specific examples of what the movers have found objectionable in the past, and what changes they would have made.

**Grant A. Brown:** I vote NO. Contra President Smith, there are good reasons to vote against this censorious motion other than having a "wish to see either obscene, libelous or personal attacks in the G.L. [sic]" Here are a few questions to ponder:

(1) Who will be appointed to play the role of censor? I don't think it falls within the job description of the business manager. And if this role is to fall upon the CFC Secretary, does any future CFC Secretary even WANT to assume it? Can the CFC Secretary be held responsible for errors -- either editing something that shouldn't have been, or not editing something that

should have been? If so, what penalties might he be subject to?...

(2) What definitions of the terms 'obscene' and 'personal attack' is the CFC Secretary supposed to apply?

(i) With respect to 'obscene', do we follow the Ontario Censor Board's guidelines, or President Smith's? (Has this ever been a problem in the past, or is it yet another solution in search of a problem?)

(ii) With respect to 'personal attacks', what counts as such? When President Smith says in the present G.L., "...contrary to what Governors Barnes and Craver might believe, a lot of thought goes into each decision." -- is that a personal attack, inasmuch as it imputes a silly and discreditable motive to these Governors? What about when Treasurer Stockhausen recently threatened to sue a Governor for defamation and published this threat in the G.L. -- is that a 'personal attack'? I remember a conflagration some time ago when (if memory serves) both of the movers of this motion stated or implied that anyone who would have anything to do with Chess 'n' Math is a traitor and should resign as Governor of the CFC. Many Governors took this as a 'personal attack', but presumably the movers of this motion didn't think so. So maybe everything depends on which side of the comment you are on -- giving or receiving.

(3) At least with the term 'libelous' there is a legal standard than can be applied, although I doubt that any given CFC Secretary would necessarily have the competence to apply it. The main problem for the motion on this score is that the Governor's Letter arguably falls within the doctrine of qualified privilege, which exempts as libelous everything but comments which are clearly gratuitous or irrelevant to the governance of the organization. Not much actually passes this test in law, frankly -- probably not even accusations of "treason," although probably accusations of defamation are caught by it (see 2(ii) above). Besides, the CFC already has a general legal obligation not to promote libel, so including this item is both redundant and ineffective.

## 00-1 STRAW VOTE TOPIC

**Martin Jaeger:** I regret that straw vote 1 did not get more support. Given that it is 800 miles from Toronto to Thunder Bay- about the same distance as Winnipeg/Calgary I think that it reasonable to allow Thunder Bay an entry where such an entry does not reduce any other area's access to an entry. I regret further that no member of the OCA executive participated in an open debate on the question. I would like to have it be the OCA policy to support such an initiative and any OCA directors who feel the same way can further the objective by giving me their proxy for the upcoming OCA annual meeting.

**Halldor Palsson:** I congratulate Mr. Jaeger on his election as the VP of the OCA. I hope that the new

OCA Executive will revisit the issue of qualification from Thunder Bay for the CYCC in 2001.

## 00-2 STRAW VOTE TOPIC

**Alvah Mayo:** 00-2 (1): I vote NO. The Canadian Closed has already been drastically weakened with the new non round robin format and I see no need to weaken it further.

**Alvah Mayo:** 00-2 (2): I vote NO. This would unfairly punish those players who do not have the luxury of hailing from rating inflated regions like Ontario. I think it is fair to say that the only way you are going to see many of the stronger masters return to the Canadian Closed is if we return to the round robin format.

**Alvah Mayo:** 00-2 (3): I vote YES. The Canadian Closed is the crown jewel of the CFC and as such should be backed with some of our financial muscle.

**Grant A. Brown:** 00-2(3): I'm not sure the CFC should commit money to a prize fund when we don't know if we can afford it, year-to-year. This is especially a concern if the Closed is to become an annual event. The prize fund can be seen as a way of attracting the best players to a Zonal event, and to help defray the costs of playing in the next stage of the FIDE cycle every other year; but it cannot be justified otherwise.

**Alvah Mayo:** 00-2 (4): I ABSTAIN from this motion. I agree that the Canadian Closed should be held every year but in non zonal years (if such a thing exists anymore) I don't see why the CFC should be paying \$2000 for it.

**Lyle Craver:** Vote NO - Mr. Palsson seems to be confused in thinking I support an annual Canadian Championship. What I support is that we follow the FIDE cycle which admittedly is in quite dodgy form in the last two or three years. I support Mr. Haley's policy of trying to get the FIDE world championship cycle back on a more understandable footing - I do not like the present system which to me is simply silly. Still if "Zonal" means anything at all in 2000, we should send the Canadian champion. I definitely favour a round-robin in zonal years but in non-zonal years most any format is OK by me - including a knockout or the present hybrid in use by our southern neighbours.

**Halldor Palsson:** The FIDE cycle is suppose to be annual. In straw vote 00-2 I asked for an annual tournament because we will probably be able to claim an annual zonal on that basis.

## GENERAL REMARKS ON CFC BUSINESS

**Lyle Craver:** Having talked to Troy Vail many times and finally met him in person at last year's Canadian Open I want to take this opportunity to offer him my thanks and good wishes in his new endeavor.

**Martin Jaeger:** There is a nasty rumor afloat that Mr. Bunning will not be a candidate for office for the upcoming year. Mr. Bunning has been the major shaper of the CFC/Executive worker over the past 25 years. He will be missed and I hope his absence is au revoir rather than adieu.

**Martin Jaeger:** I regret that Mr. Rutherford has ceased to be a governor. He has been a very active promoter of chess in the Ontario north-west.

**Francisco Cabañas:** With respect to Mr. Rutherford's comments I wish to remind him and other CFC governors that Junior Chess in BC is doing very well without the presence of the AEM/CMA. BC scholastic events are CFC rated. To put things into perspective. The CFC is a very active organization in QUEBEC when compared to the AEM/CMA activity in BC. In the elementary grades 1-7 of the Chess Challenge British Columbia came FIRST in Canada ahead of Both Ontario and Quebec. Overall BC came second behind Ontario and ahead of Quebec. The BC - Quebec match is particularly telling with BC winning overall and scoring 6-0 in grades 1-6. The very age level that the AEM/CMA claims to specialize in! And Quebec is of course a much larger Province than BC. We must keep in mind that Quebec is the home of the AEM/CMA. Need I say more. I will finish with one of my recommendations to the AEM/CMA on how to prepare the Quebec team at the elementary school level team to face a BC team in the future. The formula is actually very simple. Participation in CFC rated tournaments involving adults. It worked for the BC team.

**Lyle Craver:** Given my comments in the last GL about too many governors not voting regularly that Motions 00-1 and 00-8 had 12 and 33 votes cast respectively. This is still far to low a percentage. I also note that 6 of the votes on 00-1 were from BC, split on both sides of the issue. I continue to hope for a better turnout "at the polls"

## GL by Canada Post

**Von Sarac:** RE: Mr. Smith's comments about mailing, I received the last Governors' Letter 2 days late and did not respond. I don't blame anyone but simply state that the mail cannot be completely relied upon.

**Lyle Craver:** As for the President's comments concerning Canada Post's mailing standards, he is either being naive or disingenuous (I prefer the

former) concerning Canada Post's 2 day service pledge. As someone in the mail order business who does several hundred thousand a year through Canada Post, I have to say I'd be delighted if Canada Post actually delivered the mail from BC to anywhere in Canada in 2 days as they claim. Mr. Smith is usually pretty up to speed on most issues but on this specific point he's definitely a 'babe in the woods'. I definitely think he would find a chat with our company's Canada Post Service Rep an eye-opener.

Accordingly I raise a point of information for the President? How many Governors currently receive their GL by E-mail and how many by "snail mail"? I think this is highly relevant given the abortive "debate" on 00-8. Presumably this is an easy question for David.

**David Miriguay:** The last time the GL went out, 29 individuals received the Governors letter by mail, and 37 by e-mail (including 6 executive). Of the 29 individuals who received the paper copies of the Governors letter, only 10 of them do not have e-mail address that the office is aware of.

## **FIDE Costs**

**Martin Jaeger:** I thank Mr. Stockhausen for providing information on our FIDE costs. According to the business office one CHF is approximately \$1 Canadian. This means that each additional Canadian FIDE rating means an annual additional cost of \$5 to the CFC until that rating is eliminated. I do not believe that the general membership should shoulder this expense. I request that the annual meeting consider a policy on this question. Elements of this policy could include steps to eliminate inactive rating and an additional membership charge to those who have FIDE ratings.

**MOTIONS FOR VOTE**

00-7                    YES (  )                    NO (  )                    Abstain (  )

00-5 as amended by 00-7    YES (  )                    NO (  )                    Abstain (  )

00-5                    YES (  )                    NO (  )                    Abstain (  )

00-6                    Withdrawn

**MOTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

00-9

# **2000 Annual Meeting of the CFC**

**July 10<sup>th</sup> to July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1999**

**Edmonton, AB**

## **AGENDA FOR OUTGOING ASSEMBLY OF GOVERNORS**

1. Registration of Proxies
2. Introduction and Opening Comments from the Chair
3. Minutes of the 1999 Annual Meeting
4. Reports:
  - A. President
  - B. Vice-President
  - C. Past President
  - D. Secretary
  - E. FIDE Representative
  - F. Treasurer
  - G. Rating Auditor
  - H. Junior Coordinator
  - I. Women's Coordinator
  - J. Masters' Representative
  - K. Auditor's Report
  - L. Executive Director
  - M. Office Manager
  - N. Chess Foundation
  - O. Kalev Pugi Fund
  - P. National Appeals Committee
  - Q. Canadian Correspondence Chess Association
  - R. Canadian Youth Chess Championship
  - S. Other Formal Reports
5. Motions and straw vote topics for discussion and vote

Motion 00-9

6. Bids for 2000 Events

2000 Canadian Closed and Zonal  
2000 Canadian Women's Closed

7. Any Other Business

Approval of Chess PEI as an Interim Provincial Authority.

8. Decision of the Assembly as to a Donation to the Chess Foundation of Canada

# **2000 Annual Meeting of the CFC**

**July 10<sup>th</sup> to July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1999**

**Edmonton, AB**

## **AGENDA FOR INCOMING ASSEMBLY OF GOVERNORS**

1. Registration of Proxies
2. Election of Governors from Provinces (Territories) without an Affiliated Provincial (Territorial) Association
  - A. North West Territories (1)
  - B. Nunavut Territory (0)
  - C. Quebec (3)
  - D. Yukon Territory (1)
3. Re-Registration of Proxies
4. Introduction and Opening Comments from the Chair
5. Election of Officers
  - i) Board of Directors
    - A. President
    - B. Vice-President
    - C. Secretary
    - D. Treasurer
    - E. FIDE Representative
    - F. Junior Coordinator
  - ii) Officers not on the Board of Directors
    - A. Masters' Representative
    - B. Women's Coordinator
    - C. Rating Auditor
    - D. Other Officers pursuant to section 18(f) Bylaw #2 of the Constitution
6. Appointment of Auditors
7. Appointment of Chess Foundation of Canada Trustee
8. Appointment of Committee Members
  - A. Kalev Pugi Fund
  - B. National Appeals Committee
9. Bids for 2001 and later Events
  - A. 2002 Canadian Open
  - B. 2001 Canadian Closed and Zonal
  - C. 2000 Canadian Woman's Closed
  - D. 2001 Canadian U20 (Junior)
  - E. 2002 Canadian Youth (U10, U12, U14, U16, U18)
10. Any Other Business
13. Location and time of 2001 AGM
14. Adjournment

**Proxy Form**  
**Annual Meeting of the C.F.C. Edmonton 2000**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_,  
a member of the **Outgoing Assembly** of Governors of the Chess Federation of Canada, hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_,  
" \_\_\_\_\_  
as my proxy to vote for me and on my behalf in the same manner as I could if personally present at the Annual Meeting to be held in  
Edmonton on the 10th to 12th of July, 2000, or at any adjournment thereof.

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2000.

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Governor \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions to Proxy:**

**Motion 00-9** (Smith/Stockhausen) "Amend 340a in the Handbook to read: All comments by Governors for submission to the Governors' Letters will be published except for the following:

- 1 Obscene material.
- 2 Libelous material
- 3 Personal attacks on an individual.
- 4 Items that exceed a reasonable length".

340a presently reads: Comments by Governors on motions under consideration are not censored. All comments are published in the Governors' Letters provided that they do not exceed a reasonable length.

**For**       **Against**       **Abstain**

## General Comments on Motions

## Proxy Form Annual Meeting of the C.F.C. Edmonton 2000

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_,  
a member of the **Incoming Assembly** of Governors of the Chess Federation of Canada, hereby appoint  
" \_\_\_\_\_  
as my proxy to vote for me and on my behalf in the same manner as I could if personally present at the Annual  
Meeting to be held in Edmonton on the 10th to 12th of July, 2000, or at any adjournment thereof.

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2000.

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Governor \_\_\_\_\_

### **Instructions to Proxy**

Nominate For: President \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-President \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

FIDE Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Rating Auditor \_\_\_\_\_

Women's Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Vote For: President \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-President \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

FIDE Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Rating Auditor \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Women's Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

### **Instructions to Proxy:**