

Minutes for the CalChess Annual Meeting held Saturday, August 30, 2008 at 3:00pm at the Holiday Inn on Van Ness Ave in San Francisco (Site of the State Championship).

Attending (Board): Tom Langland, Salman Azhar, Roger Poehlmann, Alan Kirshner, John McCumiskey.
Absent: Michael Aigner, Jason Gurtovoy, Kurt Garbe. About 15 members in attendance.

Meeting called to order at 3:10pm

Treasurer's Report (by Langland): About 22K current balance in accounts, down from \$21K last year, mainly due to loss from State Scholastic Championships. Kurt Garbe has resigned as Treasurer, citing that he is too busy now as CEO of a startup company. Board had approved stipends for the Polgar and Denker representatives but one check had not yet been disbursed.

President's Report: Looking to the future, the President hopes to transfer control of the CalChess website to CalChess and have it updated; find a new Clearinghouse since Michael Aigner is no longer in that role (Langland is doing it temporarily); and work with legal professionals regarding our 501(3)c status (estimated \$1000-\$2000 cost). Acknowledgments to those directors and organizers who have run and are running tournaments in Northern California: Alan Renson, Michael Aigner, Don Tiffin, Mike Goodall, Roy Orwig, David Pruess, Salman Azhar, Richard Koepcke, Bill Goichberg, Ken Zowal, Albert Rich, John Donaldson, John McCumiskey, and others.

Old/New Business

1. Vote on Bylaws Change (Poehlmann)

Motion 080830.1 (Poehlmann/Langland): That CalChess amend Article IV, Section 10 of the Bylaws from: "The board can make and approve motions via email. A two-thirds vote of the Standing Board is required to pass a motion when acted on through this medium." and change it to: "The Board can make and approve motions via email. For such a motion to pass, it must receive a two-thirds vote of the Standing Board members who do not explicitly abstain." Motion which had previously been approved by the Board passes 15-0 (requires $\frac{3}{4}$ supermajority to be ratified) and so the bylaws change is enacted.

2. Election

Salman Azhar, Paul Steiner, Leo Lo, and Tom Langland were on the printed ballot. When the consensus was that Kurt Garbe was resigning from the Board (as well as from the Treasurer position), this meant that there would be five open Board seats, four for full two-year terms and one for the remaining year of Garbe's two-year term.

JP Donovan was nominated and his name was hand-written onto each ballot prior to their being given to the voters. Each candidate was given time to make a brief statement and then ballots were distributed to those in attendance, with membership verification taking place when the ballot was being turned in. Those entered in the tournament were considered to be eligible to vote, and several in the audience paid their \$5 membership on the spot to be eligible to vote.

Although the printed instructions were "Please do not vote for more than FOUR candidates" it was verbally explained that voters could vote for up to five, and that the four who received the most votes would receive the two-year terms.

Alan Kirshner and Roger Poehlmann oversaw the counting of ballots.

The three candidates who received the most votes were (in no particular order) Paul Steiner, Tom Languard, and Leo Lo. Salman Azhar and JP Donovan both received the same number of votes; in lieu of a runoff, Azhar agreed to accept the one-year term, Garbe's vacated seat. Steiner, Languard, Lo, and Donovan were elected to two-year terms.

The new Board then met in Executive Session to determine its officers after first amending and approving the minutes of the previous meeting.

Future minutes to be disseminated to the Board members in a more timely fashion after the meetings, but not approved so that interim business via email can be included.

CalChess Officers nominated and chosen:

President—Tom Languard
Secretary—Roger Poehlmann
Treasurer—Paul Steiner
Vice-President—Alan Kirshner

3. Other Business (Open Session)

Attending (Board): Alan Kirshner, Leo Lo, John McCumiskey, Tom Languard, Roger Poehlmann, Salman Azhar, JP Donovan. Visitors: Stephanie Blatt.

Discussion about CalChess Girls' Scholastic Championship: need to clarify what the divisions are with regards to teams and trophies so they are consistent each year; some tiebreak and computer issues last year. "CalChess" should be the name on the flyer; would like to see the flyer by October 15.

Motion 080830.2 (Languard/Azhar): To approve Roy Orwig to organize the 2009 CalChess State Girls' Championship. Passes 8-0, unanimously.

Alan Kirshner nominated and appointed to the role of CyberChair.

Potential candidates for Scholastic Representatives discussed; they should be encouraged to write a short essay and submit it to the Board for consideration.

Board would like to renew the tradition of having the Secretary send out cards and condolences to those in the Northern California Chess community as appropriate.

Next meeting set for Sunday December 7, 2008 at 2pm at the CalChess Grade Level Championship in Stockton.

Other meetings tentatively scheduled for February 28, 2009 and May 24, 2009.

Meeting Adjourned 4:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Poehlmann
CalChess Secretary