

Utah Chess Association  
Minutes of Meeting of  
Board of Directors  
January 29, 2015

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Utah Chess Association (hereinafter, the "UCA" or the "Association") convened in the first floor conference room (Room 146) of the Abraham Markosian Library on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus of Salt Lake Community College, 4600 South Redwood Road, Salt Lake City, Utah 84123 at approximately 6:45 p.m. on January 29, 2015. The following Board members, constituting a quorum for holding the meeting and for the regular conduct of business, were in attendance:

David Day, President  
Gina Mason, Vice President (participating via Skype)  
Steve Hoisington, Secretary  
Kari Roach, Treasurer  
Allen Bolen  
John Coffey  
Bryan Leaña

**1. Approval of Minutes**

The previously distributed draft minutes for the Board meeting held January 10, 2015, were discussed and, upon motion duly made, approved, 7-0.

**2. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, Kari Roach, reported that the balance in the Association's general account as of the meeting date was \$6,121.88, with \$1,507.04 of such total held in the Association's checking account at Zions Bank, and a balance of \$4,614.84 held in the Association's PayPal account. She noted that the reported balances reflect entry fees from advance registrations for the Speed Championship (held January 24, 2015) and the Igor Ivanov Memorial tournament (to be held January 31, 2015), but do not reflect currently outstanding expenses associated with running those events.

She further reported that online banking has been established for the Zions account and that she and David Day have access to view account activity online.

(Text continues on next page.)

### **3. Scholastic Report**

The Treasurer, Kari Roach, reported that the aggregate balance in the Association's scholastic accounts as of the meeting date was \$15,980.30, which is unchanged from the amount reported at the prior meeting. By subaccount, the balances are: \$2,429.48 allocated to the high school account, \$2,993.02 allocated to the Junior High School account, and \$10,557.80 allocated to the K through 6th (K-6) account.

### **4. Recent Tournaments**

The Speed Championship held January 24, 2015, was won jointly by Bryan Leño and Eric Hon on scores of 12.0/14, with Bryan Leño being awarded the title and trophy on tiebreaks. Matthew Boren won the U-1800 prize, Gatlin Black won the U-1600 prize, and Logan Call won the U-1400 prize.

A profit and loss statement for the Speed Championship has not yet been prepared. When available, it will be attached as Appendix A to these minutes.

### **5. Schedule of Upcoming Tournaments**

There was a discussion of the tournament schedule for early 2015, as follows:

| <u>Date</u>     | <u>Event (Venue)</u>   | <u>Organizer</u>                      |
|-----------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| January 31      | Igor Ivanov Memorial<br>(Warnock Engineering Building ["WEB"]) | Steve Hoisington                      |
| February 21     | Senior Championship (WEB)                                      | Bryan Leño                            |
| February 21     | Nifty Under Fifty Tournament (WEB)                             | Bryan Leño                            |
| February 21     | Barber Open (K-8) Pre-Qualifier<br>(AISU)(*)                   | David Day                             |
| February 21(**) | High School Championship (AISU) (*)                            | H. S. Committee                       |
| March 21        | Salt Lake Open (WEB)   | Gina Mason                            |
| April (***)     | All Girls' Tournament (**)                                     | Stephanie Pitcher                     |
| April 25        | Class Championship (WEB)                                       | David Day<br>Gina Mason<br>Kari Roach |
| April/May TBD   | Final Barber Qualifier (round robin)<br>(TBD)                  | Gina Mason                            |
| May – Sept.     | See note (****) below.   |                                       |

Notes:

(\*) – “AISU” refers to the American International School of Utah, 4998 South 360 West, Murray, Utah 84123.

Notes (continued):

(\*\*) – Organization of the High School Championship has traditionally been delegated to the High School Committee, and that is the case again in 2015. Its financial results impact the UCA’s Scholastic Account (high school sub-account). As more fully explained in the main text of this section of the minutes, the High School Championship will be a Grand Prix Event in 2015.

(\*\*\*) – Specific date and venue are TBD. The All Girls’ Tournament is not a UCA event, but it has traditionally been used to determine the official representatives for the State of Utah to the Susan Polgar Girls’ Invitational tournament and USCF National Girls Invitational tournament.

(\*\*\*\*) -- For the months of May – Sept. 2015, the Board discussed (in addition to the Final Barber Qualifier, to be held in April or May) a variety of possible tournaments (e.g., Game-in-Sixty [G/60] Championship, Quick Championship [G/15], Blitz Championship, Farewell Bobby Fischer, and Long Days of Summer [a long time-control event]). Final decisions on scheduling for these events were tabled until the next meeting.

[End of notes to tournament schedule]

As reported at the previous Board meeting, the date of the State High School Championship (originally scheduled for February 27-28) has been changed to February 20-21. After considering various scheduling possibilities for the Barber Open Pre-Qualifier, it was determined that the best available possibility was to hold that tournament on the same weekend and at the same venue, the American International School of Utah (the “AISU”), 4998 South 360 West, Murray, Utah 84123. The Barber Open will be a one-day event on Saturday, February 21, 2015. The Senior Championship and the Nifty Under Fifty Tournament will also be held on that date in the Warnock Engineering Building (the “WEB”) at the University of Utah.

The Secretary noted that although each of the tournaments being held on February 21, 2015, was restricted by age or academic grade, among the four events there was at least one tournament in which any given player (regardless of age and/or academic status) would be eligible to play. Pursuant to Section 2.E. of the applicable Regulations, this makes all such tournaments eligible to be Grand Prix Events. Upon motion duly made, the Board voted unanimously, 7-0, to ratify the Secretary’s interpretation that all four tournaments (the High School Championship, the Barber Open Pre-Qualifier, the Senior Championship and the Nifty Under Fifty Tournament) being held on February 21, 2015, would be Grand Prix Events.

The Class Championships will be held on April 25th in the Warnock Engineering Building (“WEB”). The tournament had been planned for April 11th, but (as discussed at the previous meeting) due to other events scheduled for the remainder of the building on that date that will involve considerable noise and other distractions, it was determined it would not be a suitable venue on the original date.

The Barber Final Qualifier (round robin) will be held on May 2-3, 2015. David Day advised that he would determine the four highest-rated players in the state in grades

K-8 based on ratings in the February 2015 Supplement and would advise them that they would be seeded into the final qualifier and would not need to seek qualification at the Pre-Qualifier tournament on February 21, 2015.

Finally, there was discussion of the possibility of holding a satellite event for the “Millionaire Chess - II” tournament to be held in Las Vegas during October 8-12, 2015. The concept would involve charging a substantial entry fee with the net proceeds to be used to sponsor the winner of the satellite tournament to play in the “Millionaire” tournament. There would be no other prizes paid. In the course of this discussion, a consensus emerged that it seemed unlikely that a suitable format could be designed to attract sufficient participation to justify organizing such a satellite event, and the concept was abandoned for 2015.

## **6. Grand Prix Competition**

The Secretary, Steve Hoisington, reported Grand Prix results for the Utah Speed Championship held January 24, 2015, and presented year-to-date standings for the Grand Prix competition. The Speed Championship was the first Grand Prix event of 2015, so the current standings are identical to the GP results from that tournament. Copies of those results and standings are attached as Appendices B-1 and B-2, below. After those tournaments, the leaders in the cumulative Grand Prix standings (Premier Competition) were: (1-2) Eric Hon 18; Bryan Leaño 18; (3-4) Matthew Boren 11; Steve Gordon 11; (5-6) Ben Balter 7; and Nadew Haile 7.

The Secretary noted that the Speed Championship was held in one section, *i.e.*, there was no Reserve Section. Accordingly, only Premier GP Points have been awarded so far in this year’s GP competition. The Igor Ivanov Memorial tournament to be held on January 31, 2015, will be the inaugural event for the new Reserve Grand Prix Competition.

As previously described in Section 5, above, all four (4) tournaments to be held on February 21, 2015, will be Grand Prix Events.

## **7. Miscellaneous Topics**

There were discussions of several additional topics, as summarized below.

### **A. Website Committee**

Allen Bolen chair of the website committee reported that in a recent conversation Bill Clark confirmed that he remained interested in undertaking the redesign effort, but that he would not have adequate time available to work on the project until Summer 2015

(after the regular academic year had dismissed). It was the consensus of the Board that although the delay was undesirable, this remained the best available option.

### **B. Mission Statement/Vision Statement**

Allen Bolen took an action item to compile ideas previously submitted by Board members for discussion at the next meeting.

### **C. Tournament Administration Ground Rules**

Discussion of this topic (establishing guidelines for running tournaments sponsored by the UCA) was tabled for consideration at the next meeting.

### **D. Annual Meeting Schedule**

The President, David Day, said that following up on a conversation he had had in October 2014, with the UCA Secretary, Steve Hoisington, on the date of last year's Annual General Membership Meeting, he would like to consider changing the time for such annual meeting in future years since it has been difficult to complete the meeting's business in an orderly manner prior to the start of tournament play on Saturday during the Utah Open Championship. He asked other Board members to consider this matter with a view to finding an alternative schedule for the meeting time, as well as for the Saturday rounds in the various sections of the Open, that would be consistent with the goal of promoting meaningful attendance at the meeting.

### **E. TD Fees for Board Members**

There was a discussion of two resolutions previously adopted by the Board, respectively, on May 9, 2013, and May 29, 2014. In the first such resolution, the Board voted 7-0 that entry fees would be waived for any particular tournament for players who are immediate family members of those serving as chief tournament director or assistant tournament director for the event. (See last paragraph of Section 5 of minutes for the meeting of May 9, 2013.) In the second such resolution, the Board voted 6-1 to approve the payment of fees to Board members serving as TDs for future UCA tournaments in an amount not-to-exceed \$80 for the chief TD and \$40 for any assistant TD, *provided* that such fees would be paid only to the extent that the bottom-line financial result of the tournament would be at least break-even *after* payment of the TD fee(s). (See Section 7.C. of minutes for the meeting of May 29, 2014).

It was noted that the Board had not previously indicated clearly how these two provisions were intended to interrelate. Upon motion duly made, the Board voted 7-0 that Board members serving as Chief or Assistant TDs for UCA-sponsored events would be entitled to a waiver of the entry fee for any immediate family member(s) playing in such tournament pursuant to the resolution approved May 9, 2013, and would also be

entitled to receive a TD fee in accordance with the resolution approved May 29, 2014, *provided*, that the value of any free entry or entries for family members (valued at the amount of the advance EF) would be offset against the TD fee to be paid.

## **F. Regional Liaisons**

Discussion of this topic (establishing regional liaisons around the state to facilitate communication and coordination with the Board of tournaments being organized in counties other than Salt Lake County) was tabled for consideration at the next meeting.

## **8. Next Board Meeting**

The next meeting of the Board was scheduled to be held on Thursday, February 19, 2015, to convene at approximately 7:00 p.m. in the first floor conference room (Room 146) of the Abraham Markosian Library on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus of Salt Lake Community College, 4600 South Redwood Road, Salt Lake City, Utah 84123.

Respectfully submitted,

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Steve Hoisington  
Secretary

Appendix A

**Speed Championship**

**Saturday, January 24, 2015**

Salt Lake Community College  
Markosian Library

**Profit and Loss Statement**

[Pending]



# **Utah Chess Grand Prix Report**

Sponsored by **AMP Security and UCA Scholastic Account**

## **Points Earned at Speed Championship**

January 24, 2015

### **Premier Competition(\*)**

|     |               |    |
|-----|---------------|----|
| 1-2 | Eric HON      | 18 |
|     | Bryan LEAÑO   | 18 |
| 3-4 | Matthew BOREN | 11 |
|     | Steve GORDON  | 11 |
| 5-6 | Ben BALTER    | 7  |
|     | Nadew HAILE   | 7  |

### **Notes**

(\*) Note: This tournament was held in one section, *i.e.*, there was no Reserve Section. Accordingly, only Premier GP Points were awarded for this event.

# **Utah Chess Grand Prix Standings**

Sponsored by **AMP Security** and **UCA Scholastic Account**

## **Standings through Speed Championship**

January 24, 2015

### **Premier Competition(\*)**

|     |               |    |
|-----|---------------|----|
| 1-2 | Eric HON      | 18 |
|     | Bryan LEAÑO   | 18 |
| 3-4 | Matthew BOREN | 11 |
|     | Steve GORDON  | 11 |
| 5-6 | Ben BALTER    | 7  |
|     | Nadew HAILE   | 7  |

### **Notes**

(\*) Note: The only tournament completed to date was held in one section, *i.e.*, there was no Reserve Section. Accordingly, only Premier GP Points have been awarded so far in this year's GP competition.