



# Illinois Chess Association

## Illinois Chess Association Board of Directors Meeting Agenda: Telephonic "Regular Meeting" August 5th, 2020 7:30 PM

**Meeting Facilitator:** Stephen Plotnick, President

**Invitees:** Stephen Plotnick, Eric Ortega, Rachel Schechter, Patrice Connelly, Eva Harrison, Megan Chen, Patrick Cohen, Rose Grandy, Ren Escalera, Garret Scott

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:33 PM
- II. **Roll Call:** Stephen Plotnick, Eric Ortega, Patrice Connelly, Eva Harrison, Patrick Cohen, Rose Grandy, Megan Chen, Darren Erickson, Garret Scott
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved Unanimously
- IV. **Discussion of minutes from prior meetings:** Approved Unanimously
- V. **Discuss Treasurer Position candidate Darren Erickson**
  - Recommended by Board Member
  - Applicable skills from relevant work experience
  - Capable of completing 990 form
  - **MOTION:** Appoint Darren Erickson as Treasurer.  
**MOTION passes unanimously.**
- VI. **Reports**
  - A. **Officer Reports**
    - a. **President (Steve)**
      - **No new items** (other than open business items below).
    - b. **Metro VP (Eric):**
      - **Alternate Chess playing venues:** Eric continues organizing outdoor casual playing locations following recommended safety guidelines.

**c. Downstate VP (Rachel):**

- **Affiliate Spotlight:** Rachel has been reaching out to potential person for Affiliate spotlight but has not received response yet.
- **Article:** Rachel drafted an article for the ICA website about a recent youth chess meet-up in the park; needs assistance with posting to website after editing.
- **Online Tournaments:** Rachel inquired if ICA is offering any online tournaments for the fall; we are not at this time.

**d. Treasurer (Darren):**

- Darren introduced himself to the board regarding his experience with chess, work, and interests.
- Darren has reviewed our current 990 Form and Requirements with Steve and anticipates no problems.
- Steve will email Darren and copy Patrick to provide Darren with current ICA account information, QuickBooks, etc.

**B. Committee Reports**

**a. WJP/RS (Rose):**

- **Succession Planning:** No volunteers yet; may look for a volunteer just for training sessions.
- **Banquet:** No Fall Banquet; potentially a Spring Banquet.
- **Plaques:** Rose will reach out to vendor to inquire about cost for individual plaques being shipped directly to players.
- **2020-2021 Program Year:** Online training can continue for fall, but no otb tournaments/training sessions.

**b. Youth (Steve): No Report**

**c. Veterans (Open): No Report**

**d. Membership (Eva): No updates**

## VII. Open Issues

- a. **Corporate Tax Returns:** Steve will work with Darren to complete.
- b. **Broughton Award:** Bill Brock, Hector Hernandez, and Garret Scott will serve as Broughton committee and review candidates. Eva will forward nominations received to Bill Brock.
- c. **Education Stipend:** Eva has confirmed all submissions received are current ICA members. Steve will use an online random number generator to “draw” the winning submission for Education Stipend in the next few days; Darren will connect with him online as additional witness.
- d. **Liability Insurance:** Steve discussed liability insurance quotes with Patrick, and the ICA will renew its current policy. Patrick will renew the current policy online.
- e. **Bank Account/card switch-over:** Steve has again requested the bank send a signature card to Eva for signing.
- f. **Bid for All-Grade/Illinois Class:** Steve will reach out to organizer again and venue regarding any concerns.

## VIII. New Business

- a. **COVID discussion:** COVID is impacting all facets of life. Steve has been contacted about concerns with physical distancing in regard to otb chess. He opened a floor for discussion about what the ICA can do to encourage safety in chess playing. The board discussed Illinois’ current guidelines; potential suggestion to include state guidelines on ICA website and highlight digital alternatives (such as USCF online tournaments, online rated tournaments etc.). Board members will draft an article.

## IX. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM

**Next meeting Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**