



Northwest Chess 3rd Quarter 2020 Board Meeting Thursday, October 8, 2020 via Zoom (online meeting)

In attendance: Chouchanik Airapetian (WCF), Ralph Dubisch (director-at-large), Eric Holcomb (Business Manager), Duane Polich (Publisher), Jeff Roland (director-at-large) and Josh Sinanan (WCF); Wilson Gibbins and Mike Morris (representing OCF). Absent: Alex Machin (director-at-large). Time: The meeting was called to order by Josh at 7:07 p.m.

Minutes – The June (2nd Quarter) meeting minutes were approved [Ralph/Duane].

Budget/Finances – With the latest WCF advance of \$5,000, we have \$10,000-plus available, which should be enough for at least the remainder of 2020 and January 2021.

Bylaws – Although the Board previously approved the revised Bylaws and submitting the “short form” IRS nonprofit application, this needs to be revisited again due to OCF rejoining NWC, which could possibly result in adding an OCF position to the Board. There were several comments.

Oregon Chess Federation (OCF) – There was a proposal that OCF rejoin NWC and require magazine subscriptions with OCF memberships again, however, the subscriptions could be online (“basic” membership) rather than in paper form (“premium” membership). The proposed “basic” rates, for the remainder of 2020 and 2021, would be \$17.50 for adults (with \$12.50 to NWC) and \$10.00 for juniors (with \$7.50 to NWC). The “premium” rates would be the same as WCF members currently pay, e.g., \$30.00 for adults and \$24.00 for juniors. Multi-year “basic” rates would not initially be available. Ralph offered to maintain the email list for online magazine distribution. Motion to accept this proposal [Duane/Ralph] passed unanimously. Additional discussion: Content submission (reporting on Oregon events) should be encouraged. The online registration system will need to be modified. (This is complete and was successfully used for the Oregon Class Championships in November.) Wilson volunteered to be a member-at-large on the Board, pending approval of another Bylaws change.

Advertising – Should the TA page in the magazine be eliminated? This was tabled for now. It was agreed that OCF (and the Portland CC) can pay the same ad rates as the WCF, e.g., \$100 for a full page.

NWC “Premium” (formerly “Prime”) Discussion – Ralph prepared a draft letter to organizers about this idea to offer additional content and benefits as part of a “premium” membership. This letter has not yet been sent. He is planning individual personal contacts.

Website – Changes will be needed for members-only content. What platform should we use – Squarespace (being used on a trial basis by WCF), WordPress (used by Eric for another regional website) or TBD? The issue was raised of having links to individual games. (Currently there are links to the monthly games files.) Wilson made some comments and offered to serve on a technology committee. Josh agreed to call a meeting of this committee.

Grand Prix –A decision should be made in the 4th Quarter about naming and procedures for 2021. We have subsequently been informed by Mike that OCF does not wish to participate in 2021, however, this could be subject to change.

Oregon Open Experience – This year's tournament, held online in cooperation with the WCF, went well, according to Mike and Jeff.

Next Board Meeting – Sunday Dec. 20 was tentatively suggested; however, this has been pushed into early January (Sunday Jan. 3).

Magazine Committee – There was not a discussion, other than of the online edition, as reported under OCF.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. [motion Duane/Chouchan; agreed by all].
Recorded and transcribed by Eric Holcomb.