



## **Northwest Chess 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2021 Board Meeting Sunday, September 26, 2021, via Zoom (online meeting)**

In attendance: Ralph Dubisch (director-at-large), Eric Holcomb (Business Manager), Duane Polich (Publisher), Jeff Roland and Alex Machin (directors-at-large), Josh Sinanan and Aniruddha Barua (WCF) and Wilson Gibbins (OCF). Absent: none. Time: The meeting was called to order by Josh at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes – The June (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2021) meeting minutes were approved [Ralph/Duane].

Washington Annual Nonprofit Corporation Report – We are late, and this is still not done! Duane to do ASAP. A late fee may apply.

Budget/Finances – The finances are still in good shape, with over \$8,000 available after current magazine expenses, and the latest WCF advance.

Membership – Eric will update the membership report at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters. The recent Oregon Open was successful with 144 players and lots of OCF memberships. WCF is also doing well.

Bylaws/Nonprofit Status – The NWC Bylaws revision, to provide for an OCF representative on the board, was reported previously, and has been posted on the website. A filing for IRS 501c3 nonprofit status is still planned. At the last meeting, it was suggested that Neil Bonrud, who assisted the Seattle Chess Club in this regard, could be consulted. (Still not done.)

Magazine Committee – The Google Drive platform for new online editions is working, although periodic review (audit) of the email list is recommended, for example because some people use different emails than recorded in the official subscription database. This audit is scheduled for the end of the year. NWC was pleased to once again have won the “Best State Magazine/Newsletter” awards (both print and online), and “Best Photography” and “Best Cartoon” awards. Awards noted in the September magazine.

NWC “Premium” (formerly “Prime”) Discussion – This activity is still on hold.

Grand Prix – Naming of the 2021 GP in honor of Russell Miller was previously approved, and the 2021 competition is in progress. Murlin Varner is the statistician again this year but has indicated a desire to retire after the 2022 competition. No further action needed at this time but start thinking about a 2022 name and who might become the new statistician.

Website/Technology Committee – Should we switch to Dr. Sisira’s membership and registration system (<https://onlineregistration.cc/>), which is used by some other states including Michigan? The details need to be worked out, including monthly and per-player rates, initial setup fee, sub-headings for our three states, etc. WCF is probably in favor of the new system. Eric will prepare a specific requirements

document, which should include the need to handle NWSRS as well as US Chess ratings. Wilson will review the requirements to ensure they meet OCF needs, and other board members will have the opportunity to review as well. Dr. Sisira is expected to respond to the requirements with a setup cost estimate, after which the board can decide. (Not completed. This will now happen after Eric retires as Business Manager at the end of 2021.)

Hall of Fame – The NWC Hall of Fame committee met multiple times and made specific recommendations which were accepted in a special Zoom meeting. This “inaugural class” will be announced in a future issue of the magazine, and on the website.

Business Manager Retirement – Eric has announced his retirement from the NWC Business Manager (BM) position at the end of 2021, after 19 years of service. He will continue as webmaster for 2022. It will be hard to obtain a new person for the BM position. For now, Duane will perform accounting using new software, Josh will receive and handle extra magazine copies, and Eric will continue processing memberships until a new automated system is implemented. (See Website/Technology Committee.)

Next Board Meeting – The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2021 board meeting has not yet been scheduled but should take place either in late December or early January. (Currently scheduled for Jan. 2.) Details of the Business Manager transition will be discussed at this meeting.

New Business –

The OCF membership meeting at the Oregon Open was disappointing because only the board showed up. OCF balances were down a bit, but OK. There is a new OCF website built with WordPress. There were no important decisions, other than concerning the Oregon Class Championships, which has a target of 80 entries. A different organizer is holding a scholastic tournament at Lloyd Center in Portland.

ICA got a few “Premium” memberships (with NWC subscription) from the Idaho Closed, but otherwise hasn’t done too well this year. Jeff reported that ICA supports the magazine, but “things are complicated.”

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. [motion Wilson/Duane; agreed by all].

Recorded and transcribed by Eric Holcomb.