

**Scarborough Chess Club
Annual General Meeting
Thursday, September 4, 2008
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
The Jack Goodlad Community Centre
929 Kennedy Road
Scarborough, Ontario, Canada**

Minutes

Present: Gabriel Azmitia
Ken Kurkowski
Bryan Lamb
Martin Maister
Jim Paterson
Andrew Philip
Hassan Pishdad
Alex Rapoport
Maurice Smith
Ted Termeer

Guest: Marcus Wilker

Regrets: Rick Garel
Steve Karpik

1) Welcome

Scarborough Chess Club (SCC) President Bryan Lamb welcomed everyone to the 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM).

2) Minutes of 2006 AGM

The 2007 AGM minutes were approved as presented.

3) President's Report

Bryan Lamb reported on highlights of the 2007-2008 club activities. Bryan circulated the President's Report. Highlights of the report included:

- Membership is at a healthy level;
- The club is doing well financially; and
- Rent has increased but not terribly.

Maurice Smith congratulated Bryan on his excellent terms as club president. With his management the club has done extremely well while many other clubs have not. He has shown excellent management and we should all thank Bryan.

4) Vice President's Report

Maurice Smith presented the Vice President's Report. He noted that dealing with the city is not always easy. The club needed more tables. The city acknowledges that they were ordered but the tables have not yet arrived.

Andrew Philip thanked Maurice for all his work as Vice President over the past several years. Andrew also mentioned that our web site looks very professional and we should be proud of it.

5) Treasurer's Report

Andrew Philip submitted a financial report for 2007-2008 (see Appendix A). He said there has been big improvement in the club's financial situation. Membership is strong. Revenue is only slightly less than last year. He also mentioned that the Chess Federation of Canada (CFC) may change their rating fees. The club should have a contingency plan in preparation should this happen. Discounts have brought in new members.

Bryan Lamb congratulated Andrew Philip on an excellent Treasurer's Report. Maurice maintained that his financial report was among the best that the club has ever seen.

The financial report was accepted as presented.

6) Secretary's Report

In Steve Karpik's absence, a written Secretary's Report was presented on his behalf (see Appendix B).

7) Other Business from the Past Year

There was no other business considered from the past year.

8) Elections of Executive Committee Members

a) Election of President

Jim Paterson nominated Maurice Smith for President. Maurice accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for President. Maurice Smith was acclaimed as President for 2008-2009.

b) Election of Vice President

Jim Paterson nominated Bryan Lamb for Vice President. Bryan accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Vice President. Bryan Lamb was acclaimed as Vice President for 2008-2009.

c) Election of Treasurer

Bryan Lamb nominated Andrew Philip for Treasurer. Andrew accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Treasurer. Andrew Philip was acclaimed as Treasurer for 2008-2009.

d) Election of Secretary

Alex Rapoport nominated Steve Karpik for Secretary. Steve had indicated in his written Secretary's report that he was willing to stand for election again. There were no other nominations for Secretary. Steve Karpik was acclaimed as Secretary for 2008-2009.

e) Election of Officer-at-Large

Bryan Lamb nominated Martin Maister for Officer-at-Large. Martin accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Officer-at-Large. Martin Maister was acclaimed as Officer-at-Large for 2008-2009.

9) New Business

a) Absent Players

The issue of how to deal with the inconvenience of players who are absent without notification was discussed. The following protocol was approved:

- By 8.00 p.m. players whose opponents are absent without notification will be paired if possible. If someone is left without an opponent his opponent will be charged with a rated forfeited game. Anyone who is absent without notification will not initially be paired for the next round. If he or she comes in for the next round he or she will only be paired if there is an odd number of players.

It was noted that club members must be made aware of the new rule. Maurice said that he would make an announcement about the new protocol. Also, club members will be provided with a business card with the phone numbers of the new Executive Committee members as well as an email address (regrets@scarboroughchessclub.ca) at the start of the new season.

Should this new protocol fail to reduce the number of no shows, it was suggested that the next step might be to levy fines against those members who do not notify the club of their absence.

b) Canadian Chess Federation (CFC) Fees

It was decided that any players whose CFC dues expire during the tournament must pay either the regular fee or the CFC tournament fee to be allowed to continue.

c) Tournament Membership Fees

It was decided that the Club tournament fee will only be offered once to new players. After that they have to take at least a minimum six-month membership.

d) Timing of the Club Championship

It was noted that when the Club Championship is held as the third tournament it often gets interrupted by bad weather. It was decided that Maurice will poll the Club members about whether to have the Club Championship as the second tournament out of five or the fourth tournament out of five.

e) Grand Prix Tournament

It was decided to have a Grand Prix Tournament. Bryan Lamb offered to work out the details.

f) New Digital Clocks

Maurice Smith said that he had three digital clocks left over from a tournament to sell to the club, less taxes and shipping. They are still in their boxes. The club agreed to purchase these clocks.

g) Tournament Themes

Maurice Smith suggested adopting tournament themes to differentiate between tournaments. Prizes related to the tournament themes could be awarded. It was agreed that everyone would think about interesting themes.

h) Washroom Odour

It was noted that the washrooms suffer from the smell of urine and that perhaps we could ask the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division of the City of Toronto to add another toilet or extraction fan. Despite the fact that a fan is easy to install, the Executive felt that it was unlikely the City would be helpful in this matter.

10) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. The next AGM is scheduled for the first Thursday following Labour Day in 2009 (Thursday, September 3, 2009).

**Appendix A: Scarborough Chess Club 2007-2008 Treasurer's Report
Submitted by Andrew Philip**

Opening Balance at August 31, 2007: \$4,152.29

Revenues:

Club Memberships	\$5,379.00
CFC Dues Collected	646.00
Coffee & Concession	<u>480.00</u>
Total Revenues	\$6,505.00

Expenses:

Rent	\$2,760.40
CFC Rating Fees	786.00
CFC Dues Remitted	635.00
Website Hosting/Domain Name	132.91
Coffee Supplies	133.74
Trophies	65.09
Chess Equipment	154.97
New Printer	172.00
Miscellaneous Supplies	6.83
Bank Fees	0.16
Total Expenses	\$4,847.10

Net Income: \$1,617.90

Closing Balance at August 31, 2008: \$5,810.19

Treasurer's Opinion

The Club's improved fiscal health which began in earnest in the 2006/2007 season has continued with another strong performance in the 2007/2008 fiscal year. Our net income, while slightly lower than the previous year, still has moved our cash balance to \$5,810.19.

Club Memberships are at a very healthy (near room capacity) level. Fee revenue from Club Memberships remain strong and may be improved slightly with renewed effort on membership fee collection process which fell off a bit in the second half of the season.

The most significant atypical operating expense was the new printer purchase. The Executive plans to introduce some new policies to improve on confirming members CFC dues are not in arrears, and for collection and remittance of CFC dues paid through our Club courtesy program.

For the new season, we will see another modest increase in hall rental costs. No other significant increases in spending are anticipated at this time. However, again I am compelled to note that the Club must not lapse into complacency regarding its financial health. The key to the Club's well-being is a healthy, active membership. The Executive and Club membership should continue to keep a strong focus on maintaining current membership and recruiting new members to replace those that inevitably drop off.

Regards,

Andrew Philip, Treasurer

September 4, 2008

Appendix B: Scarborough Chess Club 2007-2008 Secretary's Report

Submitted by Steve Karpik

The year 2007-2008 was another great year for the Scarborough Chess Club. We continue to attract new members to the club, ranging from novices to players of the highest calibre. The web site (www.scarboroughchessclub.ca) has been an excellent medium for getting the word out to the chess community at large about the club and our activities. We get many enquiries about the club through the web site. The web site has also been very useful in allowing members to double check their results in cross tables for ongoing tournaments. Occasionally there are errors in the results and sharp-eyed members pick them out and let me know so I can correct them. This kind of membership involvement is a great help.

What is new for 2008-2009? We are a volunteer-based club so anything we can do as a club to make things run more smoothly makes things better all the way around. It has been a bit of work keeping on top of CFC expiration dates to ensure that everyone playing in a tournament has a current CFC membership. As SCC web master, my plan is to add functionality to the web site so that Executive Members, in a secure and private manner, can readily see who needs to renew their CFC and/or club memberships and can then remind players to do so. Once implemented, this will make things run better for everyone.

I've enjoyed volunteering as club Secretary over the past couple of years and am interested and willing to stand for election in the position for 2008-2009.