

Northwest Chess Board Meeting, September 1, 2013 at Oregon Open in Portland, OR

In attendance: David Yoshinaga, Duane Polich, Jeff Roland, Eric Holcomb and Grisha Alpernas.

The meeting was called to order by David Yoshinaga at 2:35 p.m.

NWC Grand Prix – There was once again a discussion about limiting GP points earned in Blitz or Quick events, and whether or not the Spokane G/10 event this fall should count as a GP event. After some discussion, the board reaffirmed the April 2013 decision that NWC GP events cannot be faster than G/30 for now, until a committee studies the issue and makes a recommendation. The committee consists of Josh (chair), Jeff and Grisha, and will consult with GP administrator Murlin Varner. Dave will contact the committee to request prompt consideration of this matter.

Northwest Chess Board Representatives – As discussed in the April 2013 minutes, “The intention is that Idaho will eventually have a second voting rep, which was previously approved, once that person is appointed.” The ICA has now made the appointment, and the second Idaho rep is Cameron Leslie.

Financial Report – Eric reported prior to the board meeting that the NWC “available balance” had dropped to almost zero. Although we are temporarily OK again thanks to the Oregon Open, we are still operating on a month-to-month basis. Donations are welcome, however it is likely not practical at this time to apply for IRS 501c3 status, which would allow for tax-deductible donations.

Membership – The current (end of July) membership/subscription total is 772, including all U.S. states, Canada, and one other foreign subscription. This is way up from 701 at the previous board meeting in April; however we could still use more members and subscribers.

Magazine – A desire was expressed to maintain a balance among coverage of the three states, and also a balance between games of lower and higher rated players. The editor will take this into consideration. We also need Washington and Oregon news editors to assist Jeff as the main editor. Scholastic coverage is also desired; an article from the Oregon Open scholastic event may be forthcoming.

Seattle PO Box – The WCF is expected to follow through with closing this box, which is getting expensive and is no longer needed. [The WCF has subsequently received approval from the Orlov Chess Academy to use its office address in Redmond, Washington. NWC will use this address for magazine returns.]

Business Planning – Duane expressed a desire to proceed with long-delayed plans to establish a “Northwest Chess Foundation” with appropriate bylaws, a business plan, etc. Duane will chair a committee to accomplish this. He will consult with WCF officer and NWC board member Marty Campbell, who has previous non-profit experience, and also with Mike Morris of the Portland Chess Club. We do, however, want to avoid too much “red tape.”

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Recorded and transcribed by Eric Holcomb.