

Morgantown Chess Club

Board Meeting, First Christian Church

Thursday, August 31, 2006

Agenda

1. Meeting Minutes
2. President's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Annual General Meeting in October (preparations)
5. WVU club promotion
6. Support for local scholastic chess
7. Preliminary tournament Calendar 2007
8. Other Business

Present: Martin Harper, Jens Madsen, Shih-Houng Young.

Jim Eakins took part from item 5

Absent: Terry Wassell

(1) Minutes of the previous meeting (March 30, 2006 at First Christian Church) were approved. Martin Harper took minutes in the absence of our Secretary Terry Wassell.

(2) President's Report

- Currently we have 18 members (an increase of 3 from March)!
- Attendance statistics – stagnant but stable over past 5 months (8-12 members).
- Tournament activities
 - Morgantown May Day (27 entries).
 - Almost Summer (8 entries – Dave Iorio won).
 - Summer Grand Prix (Jason Young won).
 - BOPARC was uncooperative so no Chess in the Park.
 - MCC Club Championship (ongoing, 12 players).
 - Official MCC Blitz Championship (7 players, Jens Madsen won).
- Pipeline
 - Bid to organize WV State Championship in 2007 (was successful). Format is always 6 rounds over Labor day weekend – might be able to use Church if Sunday starts after 12 PM, otherwise need to find alternative venue, e.g. WVU.
 - 8th Mountaineer Open – Saturday, October 21 2006.
 - Team signed up for Pittsburgh Chess League (9-player roster, 7 from club).
 - Web domain and hosting solution (end of September).

(3) Treasurer's Report

- We purchased a copy (April) of the pairing software WinTD for \$90.
- We currently have a positive balance of \$151.
- Jens was authorized to spend \$50-60 on a new host for our website.
- Club will help with PCL team escrow fee (\$50).
- Renewal of USCF affiliate membership - \$40 due in November.
- Expected income from Mountaineer Open (\$60-70 in previous weekend tmts).
- Two banks have been approached regarding possible support. "Winner" to get the privilege of holding Club Bank Account.

(4) Annual General Meeting (preparations)

- Scheduled for October 19th.
- Invitations needs to be distributed to membership by Oct. 4 (two weeks notice).
 - i. Agenda
 0. Minutes of Founding meeting
 1. *President's Report*
 2. *Treasurer's Report*
 3. Motions (what should this item be called?)
 4. *Election of Club Officers*
 5. *Determination of next year's Membership fee*
 6. Other Business
- Officer elections
 - i. President – Board discussed and elected to recommend Jens Madsen for re-election.
 - ii. Secretary – Board discussed and elected to recommend Terry Wassell.
 - iii. Member-at-large – replacement for Jason Young – Board discussed and elected to recommend Jim Eakins, however Jim will not meet age qualification until December. No big deal, since there will probably not be another Board meeting until December, but it led to a larger discussion on age requirements. It was decided to put forward a motion at the AGM recommending lowering the age requirement for member-at-large, since we do want to use this position as a way to get younger voices on the Board, but maintaining the age requirement for other Board members because of their financial responsibilities (see below).
- Invitation should include
 - i. List Board nominations for open positions.
 - ii. Call for nominations and/or motions.
- Motion to change Club Constitution
 - i. Requires two-third majority.
 - ii. 6.2. " ADD: *The Board member-at-large must be aged 16 or older.*"

- Determination of membership fee for 2007 – Board discussed and elected to recommend no change.

(5) WVU Club Promotion

- WVU Club formation - Progress report from Jim Eakins. 5 or 6 potential recruits want to come to a regular club before deciding to form a University club. Jim was tasked with trying to get them to come next week. Martin promised coffee and cookies as an incentive. University constitution requires all University club officers to be full-time students.
- General ways of promotion for college students
 - Flyer distribution “throughout campus”.
 - Flyers in Mountainlair game room (where boards can be borrowed). Jens was tasked with getting fliers to Jim for placement.
 - Daily Athenaeum (weekly notice).
 - Targeting ethnic societies (such as Russian Club). Jim was tasked to get lists.

(6) Scholastic Chess

- It was discussed how big a role Morgantown CC should take on in the local Scholastic Chess Scene. We certainly want to sponsor another end of December scholastic tournament, and possibly one more tournament in the spring.
- Cheat Lake MS has 20 students that need a chess instructor. Jim to provide contact information for Mrs. Kingsbury to Martin.

(7) Tournament Calendar 2007

- We should start scheduling weekend tournaments now for multiple reasons:
 - i. Avoid conflicts with other regional organizers.
 - ii. Planning of WVCA Grand Prix cycle (more later).
- Three weekend tournaments in 2006
 - i. Spring Open, May Day, and Mountaineer Open.
 - ii. Board considered it was an appropriate number.
 - iii. We might be organizing the 2007 State Championship (We are!).
 - iv. Discussion on diversifying formats to keep interest (e.g. Mountaineer Open as two-day event).
- WVCA Grand Prix cycle
 - i. One or two of our tournaments could become part of the GP cycle, but in a GP-event, all in-state players must be WVCA members (\$10). Board discussed but decided against. (*Note: there is no strict requirement for WVCA memberships to play in a GP tournament, only to score GP-points*)
- Tournament Directors
 - i. Ideally we should have 2-3 members with TD credentials.
 - ii. Jim Eakins agreed to learn how to do this.

- iii. Mike Baker has agreed to be an assistant TD if we organize State Championship tournament next year.

(8) Other Business

- Chess locker at First Christian Church (we should bring this up again).
- The Board authorized Jens to buy a big lot of score sheets with duplicate sheets to use in weekend tournaments so that we can publish games. Have not researched prices, but should be cheap.
- A brief orientation on upcoming WVCA Business meeting was given by Jens who will be attending.
- Club Logo – initial contact with professional local artist Justin Michael Jenkins, who is also an eager chess player. Among other things he has designed a new logo for the Susan Polgar Foundation.

Motion to adjourn at 10:23 PM.