

**Minutes of the Alberta Chess Association
Red Deer, Alberta
November 24, 2001**

In Attendance: President Ron Hinds,
 Vice President Roy Yearwood,
 Treasurer Dave Gomboc,
 Past President Dave Ottosen

 Directors Ford Wong,
 Tom McKay,
 Mark Cole,
 Arthur Odachowski,
 Alexander Kazakevich.

Alberta Chess Report Editor Juraj Pivovarov

Ron Hinds called the meeting to order at 13:30, he started the meeting by outlining how the meeting would be conducted.

Dave Ottosen spoke about ACA budgeting for the benefit of the new board members present. The ACA has 2 sources of funds and types of funds, casino money and other money (which includes Government Grants, memberships, tournament entry fees, equipment sales, etc.). The ACA is restricted on how we spend casino money, all expenses utilizing casino funds must be approved in advance by the Alberta Gaming Commission. The other money, often referred to as operating money can be used as determined by the ACA Board. Generally we spend about \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 of casino money every year and the rest of our budget consumes operating funds.

Ford Wong furthered that to qualify for Alberta Government Funding we must have a minimum membership of 500 Albertans who receive a direct benefit from the ACA. We must also demonstrate to the government that we spend money at least equal to the grant of \$9,000.00 we receive from them and that we take in revenue at least equal to the grant. The ACA board must also regularly communicate with the members so the ACR is very important. We also have to submit a detailed plan to the government every year outlining our projects and planned activities for the year. The ACA has 3 bank accounts, an operating funds bank account in Edmonton plus a casino funds account in Edmonton and a casino funds account in Calgary. It is critical that every penny of casino money be properly handled and any use be fully documented and accounted for and only spent according to what we have received approval for from the Gaming Commission. Any misuse of casino funds can result in criminal charges and jail time for the offender(s).

Ford Wong advised the casino held in August 2001 in Calgary made \$41,063.63 from the casino and \$22,827.16 from the slots for a total of \$63,890.79. The next casino has already been applied for and approved and it will be held in Calgary some time between April and June 2003. The reason Calgary was chosen is the casinos there make about twice as much money as casinos held in Edmonton. We will start soliciting for volunteers about 6 months before the casino.

The next item of business was the membership report. There was discussion about getting lists from Arthur Odachowski of the students that he teaches chess to at the schools so that we can sent them a copy of the ACR and include them in our membership list, Arthur will look into this and try to get permission from the parents and schools. Juraj Pivovarov agreed to take over the responsibility of maintaining the membership list from Peter Alderton. Dave Gomboc commented on the decline in ACA adult memberships over the past few years and there was discussion on

how to keep people playing chess and how to attract new members. It was agreed we would print 100 extra copies of the next ACR and make 50 available at both the Calgary and Edmonton Chess Clubs for distribution to other chess players.

The next business item was CFC communications. Ron Hinds requested ideas for improvement. Dave Ottosen feels that most of the recent problems were caused by the ACA and not the CFC. Ron Hinds suggested if a problem is found with the rating of a tournament for example, we should first be nice and solicit their help rather than being confrontational, he said how we communicate with them is very important. Roy Yearwood advised he recently directed the Southern Alberta Open, he then gave the cross-table to Juraj for him to e-mail it to the CFC for rating purposes. Ron Hinds advised he would like copies of all tournament reports. Juraj Pivovarov suggested the honorarium for the tournament director be split into 2 parts, $\frac{1}{2}$ for directing the tournament and $\frac{1}{2}$ for submitting the results. Ron Hinds vetoed that idea and Ford Wong clarified what an honorarium is. It is not payment, and the President should be responsible for ensuring the volunteers are doing a good job. Ron Hinds will send a memo to all the Alberta Chess Clubs requesting he be e-mailed all their tournament results.

The Zonal Tournament will be held in Vancouver in March 2002, Arthur Odachowski recommended the ACA run a qualifying tournament with the winner getting funding to attend the zonal. Ford Wong enquired what happens to the Alberta Closed winner concerning funding. Do we want to fund the Alberta Champion to go to the zonal? Ron Hinds advised he will request more advance notification of zonal tournaments and will try to get a schedule of them. Dave Gomboc suggested we hold the Alberta Closed before the Canadian Closed and scramble the proposed 2002 ACA tournament schedule.

Ford Wong makes the motion: The ACA declares Dale Haessel the Alberta Provincial Champion for purposes of qualifying for the zonal tournament, without ACA funding. Dave Ottosen seconds and Ron Hinds rules the motion is out of order so it is withdrawn.

Ford Wong makes the motion: The ACA host a Canadian Zonal Qualifying tournament whose winner will receive funding and entry support from the ACA. Roy Yearwood seconds and the motion is passed. (At the time the motion was made the proposed 2002 tournament schedule had the Alberta Closed at the same time as the Canadian Zonal and the intention of the motion was to determine an Alberta Champion to send to the Zonal tournament. Since the schedule was changed later in the board meeting to have the Alberta Closed prior to the Zonal the motion had the following added.) And that meeting will be the Alberta Closed.

Dave Ottosen advised that Dale Haessel is our Provincial Champion until the 2002 Alberta Closed and we owe him no funding to attend the zonal as we already provided funding for him to attend the 2001 Canadian Closed Tournament.

Dave Gomboc advised we should have a change in schedule to have the Alberta Closed prior to the zonal because the winner of the 2002 Alberta Closed would not qualify for anything because the Canadian Closed is also the Zonal.

Dave Gomboc made the motion: We move the Alberta Closed to prior to the Zonal. Mark Cole seconds and the motion is passed.

Arthur Odachowski made the motion: We hold the January Open on January 12 and 13, we hold the Northern Alberta Open January 26 and 27 and we hold the Alberta Closed February 23 through 25 and the Alberta Reserves and Alberta Women's Championship tournaments February 23 and 24, 2002. Roy Yearwood seconds and the motion is passed.

Dave Ottosen advised John Quiring is the keeper of ACA materials, chess sets, boards, clocks, score sheets, etc. in his basement and he wants to get this stuff out of his house. Roy Yearwood volunteered to store the materials in his house.

Dave Ottosen advised we require signatures from 2 of 3 people, currently Ford Wong, John Quiring and Dave Ottosen. The signing authority should be changed as we have a new President and a new Treasurer. This will be put as an agenda item for the next ACA board meeting.

Arthur Odachowski has concerns about ratings and participation points concerning the Alberta Closed. Due to the short time period between the Calgary and Edmonton Closed tournaments and the Alberta Closed rules will have to be changed. We may not know who will be in the Alberta Closed until the day before the Alberta Closed. Arthur will send out an e-mail for discussion.

Ford Wong advised since the Alberta Closed has been changed the Zonal Qualifier is mute and should be removed.

Arthur Odachowski wants the format of the January Open changed to Over / Under 2000.

Dave Ottosen made the motion: The second through fourth place finishers of the Alberta Closed be three nominees from the ACA to the Zonal tournament with no funding. Roy Yearwood seconded and the motion passed.

Ron Hinds advised he has been talking to people about successful and unsuccessful chess clubs. Successful ones have elected boards. Ron wants qualifications for people who approach the ACA for funding, they should have an elected board and be organized and registered as a society. Dave Gomboc stated we should not be so restrictive. The more credible the organization the more risk we are willing to take and the more support they will receive. Tom McKay enquired if there had been a problem with someone receiving ACA support and then disappearing with our equipment and Ron advised there had not been such a problem.

Dave Gomboc moved we accept the following tournament schedule for 2002, Tom McKay seconded and it passed.

Dates:	Tournament Name:	Location:	Person(s) Responsible:
January 12 & 13	January Open	Calgary	Roy Yearwood & Juraj Pivovarov
January 19 & 20	Trumpeter Classic	Grande Prairie	Phil Lefkowitz
January 26 & 27	Northern Alberta Open	Edmonton	Adam Tassone
February 23 – 25	Alberta Closed	Edmonton	John Quiring
February 23 & 24	Alberta Reserves	Edmonton	John Quiring
February 23 & 24	Alberta Women's Championship	Edmonton	John Quiring
March 9 & 10	March of Kings	Calgary	Juraj Pivovarov
April 27 & 28	April Open	Edmonton	Dave Gomboc
June 8	Alberta Youth	Red Deer	Arthur Odachowski
June 29 & 30	Canada Day Open	Calgary	Mark Cole
August 10	Battle of Alberta	Red Deer	Ron Hinds
Aug 31 & Sept 1	Over / Under 1800	Edmonton	Adam Tassone
September 14 & 15	Medicine Hat Open	Medicine Hat	Bill Taylor
October 12-14	Alberta Open	Calgary	Rod Weis
November 9 & 10	Alberta Junior	Red Deer	Dave Ottosen
November 16 & 17	Southern AB Open	Calgary	Roy Yearwood
December 14 & 15	2 Weekends Before Christmas	Edmonton	Ford Wong

Dave Ottosen made the motion the 2002 ACA budget ceiling be \$25,000.00, Arthur Odachowski seconded and the motion passed. Any requests for funding must be in writing. The Calgary Chess Club is still waiting for \$2,000.00 from 2000.

The current issue of the Alberta Chess Report is in the mail.

Dave Ottosen advised Phil Lefkowitz has run the Trumpeter Classic and Grande Prairie Chess Clubs for many years. Dave made the motion: The ACA spend up to \$100.00 to buy him a plaque thanking him for his contributions to Chess in Alberta. Roy Yearwood seconded and the motion passed.

Tom McKay moved the meeting be adjourned, Dave Ottosen seconded and the motion passed. The meeting closed at 17:27.

In the absence of the secretary the minutes were taken by Tom McKay