

**Draft Minutes of the Alberta Chess Association Board Meeting  
held November 29, 2003 at the G.H. Dawe Center in Red Deer, Alberta**

In attendance: President: Ford Wong, Secretary: Tom McKay, Directors: Alex Kazakevich, John Quiring, Dr. Bill Taylor and Greg Beebe, Guest: Bruce Thomas

1 & 2: Ford called the meeting to order at 13:13, after brief opening remarks everyone in the room gave a brief introduction of themselves.

3a: Alex moved we accept the Minutes of the September 6, 2003 Board Meeting. John seconded and the motion passed.

3b: Treasurers Report: Dr. Ron Hinds absent, a financial statement was included with the Agenda. Net Worth of ACA: \$183,216.56

Casino: \$85,881.07

Operating: \$18,385.25

GIC's (total): \$78,534.01

AYCC: \$416.23

3c: Canadian Junior and Pan Am Qualifier status report by Bruce Thomas. 2 handouts were provided, there was a small problem finding a venue once the go ahead was given by the CFC. He had difficulties negotiating with the Quality Hotel so a new venue had to be found. Calgary Tourism assisted in finding the venue. John advised he was opposed to giving special prizes only to Alberta players, Bruce will remove this.

John moved: The ACA increase support of the upcoming Pan Am and Canadian Junior tournaments for Casino Approved Expenditures to a maximum of \$5,000.00 plus the \$1,400.00 grant from the ASRPW. Bill seconded and the motion passed with 6 in favor and none opposed.

The ACA Board approves of Bruce Thomas running a raffle to raise funds for the Pan Am and Canadian Junior tournaments.

3d: \$1,400.00 additional ASRPW funding for the Pan Am and Canadian Junior tournaments has been approved and a cheque is expected soon.

4a: There was much discussion concerning the budget limit for 2004. In 2003 the budget limit was \$27,000.00.

Bill moved the ACA budget for 2004 be \$50,000.00, Alex seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Bill reminded us that all 2004 funding requests must be received by December 31, 2003. A reminder is to be included in the next ACR, to be mailed shortly.

4b: 2004 Time Table

DATE	NAME	LOCATION	ORGANIZER
January 2-6	Canadian Junior	Calgary	JCCC
January 10 & 11	Trumpeter Classic	Grande Prairie	Phil Lefkowitz
January 17	Board Meeting	Red Deer	Ford Wong
January 24 & 25	January Open	Calgary	Dr. Ron Hinds
February 21 & 22	Northern Alberta Open	Edmonton	Adrien Regimbald
March 21 & 21	March of Kings	Calgary	Dr. Ron Hinds
April 9-11	Alberta Closed	Edmonton	John Quiring
April 10 & 11	Alberta Reserves	Edmonton	John Quiring
April 10 & 11	Alberta Women's	Edmonton	John Quiring
April 17	Alberta Chess Challenge Finals	Red Deer	JCCC
May 8 & 9	U of A	Edmonton	Micah Hughey
May 22-24	Chess Challenge Finals	Canada	N/A
May 29	Board Meeting	Red Deer	Ford Wong
June 5 & 6	Alberta Youth Chess Challenge	Red Deer	JCCC
June 19	Alberta Active	Red Deer	Greg Beebe
July 3 & 4	Canada Day Open	Calgary	Dr. Ron Hinds
July 7-9	Canadian Youth Chess Championship	Kapuskasing	N/A
July 10-18	Canadian Open	Kapuskasing	N/A
July 10-18	Western Canadian Open	Vancouver	BCCF
August 21	Battle of Alberta	Red Deer	Dr. Ron Hinds & Micah Hughey
August 28	Board Meeting	Red Deer	Ford Wong
September 4 & 5	Over / Under 1800	Edmonton	Greg Beebe
September 11 & 12	Medicine Hat Open	Medicine Hat	Dr. Bill Taylor
October 9-11	Alberta Open	Calgary	Dr. Ron Hinds
September 25 & 26	Northern Alberta Junior	Edmonton	JCCC
October 2 & 3	Southern Alberta Junior	Calgary	JCCC
November 20 & 21	Southern Alberta Open	Calgary	Dr. Ron Hinds
November 27 & 28	Alberta Junior	Red Deer	JCCC
December 4	Board Meeting	Red Deer	Ford Wong
December 18 & 19	Before Christmas Open	Edmonton	Ford Wong

This schedule was decided upon.

5a: ACA Website – A new administrator is needed. Tim Dean may be interested, or Adrien Regimbald. One person should have control, but we need someone willing to do it. Bruce Thomas would take it with assistance from Tim or Adrien.

5b: Alberta Chess Report – Bruce Thomas is willing to continue producing same and would like to be officially appointed as Editor. It is a big job. The ACA is now paying for 12 pages for \$320.00 plus mailing fees, approximately \$140.00. 1000 copies are now distributed for the same cost as before with 350 copies.

John moves we appoint Bruce Thomas as ACA Editor, Tom seconds and the motion passed with all in favor.

5c: Participation Points for Alberta Closed – John advised to play in the Alberta Closed someone must currently have 2 –1/2 participation points. Normally only Open tournaments qualify for participation points. A sectional tournament was run that John feels should qualify for participation points. Also some people are not aware of the rules regarding qualifying for the Alberta Closed. Strong players should be made aware of the rules. Master level players should be informed if they are short. Jeff Reeve could not qualify last year and he may not have been aware of the rules.

John moves the sectional tournament from 2003 and sectional for 2004 be worth ½ participation points for qualifying for the Alberta Closed, Bill seconds and the motion passed with all in favor.

5d: Active Policies – John wants copies of ACA Board policies. Ford and Tom will make copies of what they have and give them to John to create a new and standardized binder to be given to all Board members, these are to be kept up to date and given to all new board members.

5e: TD Certification – Ford advised the CFC wants to certify Tournament Directors. Ford to supply a list of who he feels is certified, or qualified.

5f: ACA Equipment Supply – Ford advised the ACA used to keep supplies in someone's basement for sale or for use at tournaments. Ford feels we should get a new supply. FIDE clocks should be stocked and used for weekend tournaments. To be brought up at the budget meeting in January. Bruce will bring quotes for pairing cards and score sheets and score books.

5g: The Richard Kaminski complaint – There was much discussion and it is the Boards opinion that Kim made a mistake, he learned from it, he is inexperienced and should not be punished. We need to encourage volunteers not discourage them and we support Kim. No action to be taken. (See appendix A)

5h: Richard Kaminski request for funding for Victor and Thomas for the Canadian Junior and Pan Am. This was thoroughly discussed and it was decided it would set a dangerous precedent if funding was provided. No action to be taken. (See appendix B)

6: New Business: Bill gave a detailed report on the Medicine Hat Chess Project. He is continuing to write to Principals and Administrators of the Schools in Medicine Hat and surrounding areas offering chess equipment to the Schools. A lot of times no reply is received. If he receives more equipment offer acceptances he will need additional equipment from the ACA.

John advises the World's greatest TD is running the weekend before Christmas tournament in Edmonton with digital clocks with additional time per move added for the first time in ACA history. Actual time controls to be decided later.

Bruce enquired who controls the ACA membership list. There is no official membership chairperson at this time. John advised it is a very big job and we used to give a \$200.00 honorarium for this. He suggests we get a membership secretary. Bruce to bring something on this to the next Board meeting.

Bruce strongly feels the ACA needs a Business Plan, a comprehensive plan with long term goals and objectives. It must be workable and tangible. Bruce to work with Carolyn McMaster and possibly others on this. A business plan with Action plan to boost membership.

Ford still hopes to get approval for Casino funding for the 2005 Canadian Open.

Ron Hinds supplied high end chess sets to the High River Junior Chess Club.

Greg enquired what is the official ACA position concerning the Southern Alberta Chess Association. ACA supports chess in Alberta and we will wait and see what the Southern Alberta Chess Association does.

Tom McKay returned 4 defective chess clocks from the Calgary Chess Club to John Quiring.

John has thousands of paper chess boards available to whoever wants them for whatever purpose.

Bill moved the meeting adjourn, John seconds and the motion passed, and the meeting closed at 16:38.

Next ACA Board Meeting January 17, 2004.

Tom McKay, Bruce Thomas, John Quiring and Bill Taylor all drove to the meeting and will need to be reimbursed for their travel expenses at a later date as Treasurer Ron Hinds was not at the meeting.

## Appendix A

Richard Kaminski  
3312 Caribou Dr NW  
Calgary, Alberta T2L 0S5

November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Board of Directors  
Alberta Chess Association  
Edmonton, Alberta

Dear Sirs,

This letter is an official complain against Kim Nguyen who officiated the Alberta Junior Championship tournament in Red Deer, November 22-23, 2003.

Before the tournament started he was not able to set up the electronic clocks and wanted to change the official time control 35/90' game/30' to 30/90' and game/30'. Finally my son Victor set up the clocks properly for the official time. Everything happened in the presence of all players and their parents. The room was cleared and the 1<sup>st</sup> round proceeded. Two and half-hour later an important situation happened. Victor who was playing White on board one against Anastasia Kazakevich called TD and claimed a win on time over her. Her first time control just expired and she was about to make 31<sup>st</sup> move. Anastasia started to complain that she was not aware about the time control and Kim Nguyen was ready to give her one extra minute to complete the five moves. Victor protested and called parents, Alex Kazakevich and myself. Of course, Alex was right away backing Anastasia and supporting Kim for the obvious reason but my reasoning was different. Firstly, why five players in the room were aware about the time control but not Anastasia, secondly because she was playing Black and she was starting the clock at the beginning of the game the clock was showing the first time control on the left side and the required amount of moves on the right (1:30/35). I told Kim that the game is over, Kazakevich protested. I've said to Kim that "you are the TD and it is your responsibility to make the right decision" and I walked away from the room. Nguyen awarded Anastasia with one extra minute (just for Anastasia!) and asked Victor to continue the game. Victor felt forced to continue the game which ended as a draw. Than he was very upset, he knew that injustice has been applied to him and that according to chess laws the game was illegal because of the difference in the allotted time and the game should not even be rated. He was deeply shaken throughout the whole tournament and his performance was greatly affected. The same day during the 3<sup>rd</sup> round another accident happened. Andrew Boik just finished his game and he was hanging in the playing room talking and laughing with Kim Nguyen, when angry players looked at them they walked away laughing and slamming the door behind leaving the four playing juniors in shock! Than I saw Kim with

Andrew lying on couches in the cafeteria, both were laughing. It was well after 9:00PM and I knew that the two other games should be completed any minute. I walked toward Kim and asked him if he is the TD and he answer “yes” and on the question why he is not in the plying room he answered bluntly “I don’t have to” and when I said that the two other games are about to get finished and he should watch the games Kim said, “I need to relax” and continued to laugh with Boik! It was the top-level ignorance. On September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003 I was warning Bruce Thomas in an email not to use Kim Nguyen as the TD for AJC but my opinion was somehow ignored (the copy is forwarded to your attention too). I think I have made myself mistakes too, first one when I let my two sons to participate in the Red Deer tournament and second mistake that we did not quit the tournament at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> round when Kim Nguyen made the wrong call.

We are members of ACA in a good standing and my sons are good chess players. We will recover from the shock and my sons will continue to play chess on high level however they will never compete in such environment as was in Red Deer and never again with a bad TD. I am asking ACA to disallow Kim Nguyen to run any chess tournaments in Alberta. I hope your decision would be right and swift.

Thank you for your attention.

Your truly,

Richard Kaminski

## Appendix B

Richard Kaminski  
3312 Caribou Dr NW  
Calgary, Alberta T2L 0S5

November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Board of Directors,  
Alberta Chess Association  
Edmonton, Alberta

Dear Sirs,

My sons Victor and Thomas Kaminski have been active chess players and members of ACA since the spring of 2001. They have been progressing in this game quite rapidly showing a good amount of talent and interest. The need for a higher level of competition for them is rising too. Thanks to generosity of some people I was able to go with my sons to Montreal and to ACA tournaments in Medicine Hat and Edmonton. Now they have an opportunity to compete right in Calgary with the best Canadian junior players during the Pan-American qualifier but we are facing a huge entry fee of \$150 per player.

We are a low-income family in Alberta and because of that status my sons have 100% free medical services and their school fees are waived. It is impossible for them to enter the Pan-American tournament without your support therefore, I would like to ask ACA to cover the cost of entry fees for Victor and Thomas so they could compete.

If you require any additional statements or documentation, I will deliver copies to your attention. The deadline for registration to Pan-American qualifier is approaching, I hope you would be able to discuss that issue. Please let me know about your decision as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Richard Kaminski