

Alberta Chess Association Annual General Meeting Minutes
October 9th, 2005
Edmonton, Alberta

17 people were in attendance including President Ford Wong, Vice President Micah Hughey, Treasurer Ron Hinds, Secretary Danny McIntosh, outgoing Directors John Quiring, Alex Kazakevich, and Director Richard Kaminski.

The meeting was called to order at 3:16 pm. The executive was introduced by President Ford Wong. The president informed the membership that director Roy Yearwood had tendered his resignation.

The 2004 Alberta Chess Association Annual General Meeting Minutes were presented to the membership. Micah Hughey moved, seconded by Tom Asquith to accept the 2004 Annual General Meeting Minutes as presented. Carried unanimously.

President Ford Wong presented the Alberta Chess Association Annual General Meeting agenda. The President informed the membership that there was no other business as no motions had been received prior to the meeting.

President Ford Wong presented the president's address which can be viewed in Appendix A.

Treasurer Ronald Hinds presented the treasurer's report as is seen in Appendix B. Discussion was held regarding various issues with the Treasurer's report. John Quiring questioned why prizes weren't seen as expenses on the report. John Quiring pointed out that this was inconsistent with prior year's reports. Ford Wong responded that 100% of tournament fees were paid out as prizes. Ronald Hinds pointed out that the calculations are in the planning document but next year prizes should be included as expenses in the treasurer's report. John Quiring moved, seconded by Jim Daniluk that the 2005 treasurer's report be accepted. The motion was carried unanimously.

President Ford Wong presented the 2005 Alberta Chess Association Planning Report. The president explained that the report lists projects, tournaments and the money that will be made and spent on them. This report is a requirement to receive the ASRPWF grant that helps fund the operating account of the Alberta Chess Association. In 2005 the planning report showed a calculated loss of \$119,000 which is broken down into a number of areas: \$58,000 for the Canadian Open, \$3,000 for bringing GM Yermolinsky, \$2,000 for the Public Library Initiative, \$2,200 to maintain websites, and approximately \$2,000 for advertising. For a complete list refer to the 2005 ACA Planning Report.

Ford Wong stated that there were no proposed amendments to the association's bylaws.

Elections

President

Vlad Rekhson, seconded by Micah Hughey, nominated Ford Wong as President. Ford Wong accepted the nomination. Ford Wong is elected by acclimation.

Treasurer

Micah Hughey, seconded by Jim Daniluk, nominated Ronald Hinds as Treasurer. Ronald Hinds accepted the nomination. Ronald Hinds was elected by acclimation.

Directors (2 years)

Ronald Hinds nominated Jim Daniluk. Jim Daniluk accepts.
Micah Hughey nominated Vlad Rekhson. Vlad Rekhson accepts.
Alex Kazakevich nominated Richard Pua. Richard Pua accepts.
Micah Hughey nominated John Baser. John Baser accepts.

Director (1 yr term)

Ronald Hinds nominated Richard Canal. Richard Canal accepts.
Ford Wong, seconded by Micah Hughey motions to close nominations. The motion was unanimously carried. All Directors were elected by acclimation.

The new ACA Board is:

President: Ford Wong
Vice President: Micah Hughey
Treasurer: Ron Hinds
Secretary: Danny McIntosh

Directors with 1 year left:

Carolyn McMaster
Richard Kaminski
Paul Viminitz
Richard Canal

Directors with 2 years left:

Jim Daniluk
Vlad Rekhson
Richard Pua
John Baser

Ford Wong motioned to close the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting closed at 4:04 pm.

Appendix A – Presidents Address

President Message – Ford Wong Alberta Chess Association Annual General Meeting – October 9th, 2005

2005 was a typical business as usual year with all our core projects getting completed. All the planned tournaments were completed. This past year there were several highlights:

1. Yes the ACA is still alive and doing things! The two major highlights for 2005 were the ACA Casino and hosting of the 2005 Canadian Open in Edmonton.
2. The ACA hosted a Casino in Edmonton. A great big thank you to all our members who volunteered including Paul Viminitz who drove all the way from Lethbridge, Ron Hinds from Calgary to help. The Casino brought in \$78,000.00. The ACA's next Casino has already been set for Spring 2007.
3. The ACA sponsored the very successful 2005 Canadian Open in Edmonton July 9th to 17th. A special thanks go to the organizers; Ford Wong, John Quiring, Peter Alderton, Adrien Regimbald, Bruce Thomas, Micah Hughey and Vlad Rekhson. The ACA contributed \$58,000 of Casino funds toward the event which brought in three of the worlds top 20 players: Ivanchuk, Shirov, and Bologan, most of Canada's elite players: Bluvshstein, Charbonneau, Tyomkin, Roussel-Roozmon and several other featured players Nataf, Krush, Shabalov, and Moissienko. As an added bonus the event attracted 10 players from India's Olympic team which included 3 GMs Ganguly, Sandipan and Kunte. The Canadian Open featured simuls by Ivanchuk, Bologan, Shabalov, and Kursh and a lecture by Shirov. Other side events included Chessbase Secret Move, Charles Graves Tie day, Speed chess, and bughouse. The event provided a tremendous amount of publicity throughout the chess world and in the news. It got front page Edmonton Journal coverage as well as television spots. The Canadian Open 2005 was also co-sponsored by the Edmonton Chess Club for approx. \$13,000.
4. The ACA brought back Grandmaster Alex Yermolinsky to play in the June Edmonton Sectional.
5. The Alberta Closed Rules, rewritten in 2004, appeared to be successful as all the participants appeared to be happy with the new six player format. Because of the ACA Casino falling on the Easter long weekend, all ACA qualifying events such as Northern Alberta Open and Alberta Closed had to be moved ahead.
6. Paul Viminitz hosted the first ACA sponsored tournament in Lethbridge, Alberta.
7. Tim Pradinski appears to be getting chess rolling again in Grande Prairie. The ACA is sponsoring their club meeting nights.
8. The ACA underwent a complete audit by the AGLC this year and everything was found to be in order.

9. The ACA sponsored the Alberta Chess Challenge Team to Ottawa, Ontario. Andrew Boik was sponsored to the Canadian Junior in Brantford, Ontario. Our CYCC representatives consisting of Anastasia Kazakevich, Cornelia Dinca, Victor Kaminski, Dhruvad Shah and Thomas Kaminski to Victoria, BC. This year there was no Canadian Closed and it looks like Jeff Reeve will not be attending any tournaments as Alberta Champion.

The ACA currently has a very strong cash position (having filled our coffers from another Casino this year) and as such, I expect the ACA to loosen its purse strings again with possibly more equipment to new clubs, full travel support and more books donated to libraries and possibly more funding for junior training. The ACA is in the position where it may have to spend all its Casino funds made in prior years to satisfy an AGLC mandate barring a request to the AGLC asking for an extension (a valid reason must be given.)

Publication of the ACR remains a problem. Finding someone with the time and willing to do the work has been difficult. To date no one has been found or has stepped forward. The ACA is looking at outsourcing it to a commercial business. Another problem is soliciting for new articles. Right now the ACA website and several of the Alberta Yahoo Talk groups remain the ACA's only source of communication with our membership. Many reports are posted on the ACA website. This is totally unfair to our members who do not have internet access. Hopefully this problem will be resolved in the near future and that at least one issue will be produced this year.

The ACA is still currently faced with finding volunteers (and reliable) to help organize chess in Calgary. TDs have been hard to find. Like in 2004, the ACA had to bring in TDs to tournaments, covering their travel, food, and accommodation expenses. Finding tournament directors have been difficult. The ACA continues to fully support the Calgary Chess club and things are looking up for the CCC as they expect to be hosting their first Casino in third quarter 2005 which will be the start of getting financial stability. Lack of junior participation at ACA junior events in Calgary remains a problem.

Right now only a handful of people are keeping the ACA running. Micah and Vlad in Edmonton in particular, Tim Pradzinski in Grande Prairie. It seems like more energetic and enthusiastic volunteers are needed to inject a bit more life into the Association and to share the workload. With the ACA's strong cash position, it seems that there are many ways to spend money but very few people stepping forth to help do the work to get these things done where the money is to be spent.

As president, these past two years have been demanding and very tiresome. The amount of paperwork involved seems to grow. It seems like a long two years. Ron Hinds has done a tremendous job as Treasurer keeping the books in line. His is a thankless job. He has helped quite a bit. If anyone with a strong sense of fiscal responsibility and desire to get chess things done is willing to step forward to become President then I will gladly take a backseat (I will still be on the board as Past President). It would be nice to get a break from it all and maybe go back to playing chess...

Anyone who has a strong interested in helping organize chess in Alberta, I encourage you to get on the ACA Board of Directors (the board meets four times a year).

Ford Wong

Appendix B – Treasurer’s Report

**ALBERTA CHESS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 11839 Main RPO
Edmonton, Alberta
T6J 3K9**

BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2004

Beginning of Year 167,385.88
Plus Net Income (-22,811.17)

End of Year 144,574.71

Beginning Balances 2004
Operating: \$ 15,918.75
Casino: \$ 73,323.00
AYCC: \$ 406.23

GIC Monthly \$ 6,620.90
OP-1 \$ 3,000.00
CAS-1 \$ 15,000.00
CAS-2 \$ 11,000.00
CAS-3 \$ 42,117.00

Net Worth (as of Dec 31, 2003)
\$ 167,385.88

End of year balances 2004
Operating: \$ 23,356.82
Casino: \$ 43,077.06
AYCC: \$ 346.23

GIC Monthly: \$ 6,677.60
OP-1 \$ 3,000.00
CAS-1 \$ 15,000.00
CAS-2 \$ 11,000.00
CAS-3 \$ 42,117.00

Net Worth (as of Dec 31, 2004)
\$ 144,574.71

Net PROFIT/LOSS \$(-22,811.17)