



ACA Budget Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2015

Black Knight Inn, Red Deer

Meeting called to order at 11:17 AM by the ACA President David Miller. In attendance: Treasurer Patrick Porter, Secretary Vlad Rekhson (VR), Executive Director Vladimir Pechenkin (VP), General Directors Paul Gagne, Micah Hughey, Terry Seehagen, Leah Hughey, Jim Daniluk, Giridhar Koneru. Jina Burn attends over Skype.

David opens the meeting by describing recent events that include Rick Pedersen's resignation and an ongoing AGLC audit.

Paul makes a motion to amend the minutes of the Strategic Planning Meeting by appending "Paul Gagne sends his regrets" to the first paragraph. Terry seconds. 5 in favor, 4 abstain.

Paul moves to accept the Strategic Planning Meeting minutes, VR seconds. Unanimous.

After Rick Pedersen's resignation as the ACA President David assumed his responsibilities. The position of the Vice President is therefore vacant. The Board discusses the situation. VR suggests that a Special General Meeting be called during the Northern Alberta Open in February. A new President may then be elected at the meeting. Micah points out that General Meetings with a quorum are difficult to organize. Moreover, the sheer purpose of having a Vice President is to make sure that he assumes presidential responsibilities if the President is unable to fulfill his duties for whatever reason. The Board is in agreement. David will remain the ACA President until the next Annual General Meeting in October 2015.

The Board would like to fill the vacant position of the Vice President as soon as possible. Micah indicates interest and gives a speech. He emphasizes that under the circumstances the Vice President must be elected out of the Board members. Otherwise, an unelected person may become the President if David happens to be unable to fulfill the presidential duties. VR nominates Micah as the Vice President, Pat seconds. 7 in favor, 2 abstain. Micah becomes the new ACA Vice President.

As a result, a General Director position has become vacant. David, Jim and Micah mention three individuals who previously expressed their interest in filling such a vacancy. Jim suggests that the decision be postponed until all three candidates are contacted and their intentions to run are reaffirmed. The Board is in agreement. VR moves that the vacant Director position be filled by an email vote by February 14th. Jim seconds. Unanimous.

Committees' recommendations. Since the ACA is currently being audited by AGLC, it makes sense to postpone some of the decisions until the audit is finished. In particular, the TD honorarium structure will remain unchanged for the time being.

Jina presents recommendations made by the Junior Chess Committee. The most important recommendation concerns the upcoming Regional Youth Championships. It is proposed that local organizers collect entry fees but pay for trophies. The ACA gets a \$3 associate membership per paid entry. The Board postpones the approval of the proposals until the 2015 budget considerations.

David presents a report on Aaron Sequillion Conduct Committee. The decision of the committee is published online on the ACA website.

The Board discusses the ACA Tournament Prize Structure. Micah makes the following motion.

All tournaments on the official ACA schedule must adhere to a prize structure approved by the ACA Board. The current prize structure is 100% Entry Fees minus ACA dues returned as cash. Exceptions must be approved by the ACA Board.

Paul seconds, and the motion passes unanimously.

Leah moves that the prize structure of the Edmonton and Calgary International Qualifiers as well as that of all Junior events be approved. Unanimous. The Board emphasizes that prizes must be clearly advertised before the tournament so that players would know exactly what to expect.

Relationship with the CFC. Micah proposes that 5 new CFC Governors be appointed before June as CFC has its AGM in July. The Board agrees that it must be done either at the next meeting or over email. The governors may then contact the CFC with requests regarding memberships and rating fee invoices.

Lunch break at 1 PM.

Meeting called back to order at 1:42 PM.

VP presents the overview of the 2015 budget. The Board discusses and makes adjustments.

Discussion on rural clubs. Proposal to have the rating fees for rural clubs paid up for CFC. David suggests putting a new rural program for clubs that are outside Edmonton and Calgary with a higher than \$200 amount. The board suggests taking it out completely with any requests from rural clubs going to President's discretionary account.

Trophies: The Board suggests cutting the amount down to \$150 from \$300.

The Board proposes to do two more TD workshops. The Calgary workshop would cost \$75.

Jim proposes that Section B of the 2015 John Schleinich Memorial be FIDE rated, due to the private sponsor's special request.

Leah suggests renaming the Geoff Newton Memorial back to the Edmonton Fall Sectional.

Pat makes a motion to increase the AB Open prize fund by \$1,000 to be distributed at the organizer's discretion. VR seconds. All in favour with one abstention.

The Board agrees to buy 30 clocks and 20 sets at \$12 apiece.

Micah makes a motion concerning AB Seniors. The AB Seniors will be held in one section for players aged 50 and above, the ACA will award \$1,000 travel grant to the Canadian or World Seniors Championship. Jim seconds. All in favour with one abstention.

Edmonton/Calgary International Proposal: *the ACA Board approves \$8,000 towards the support of the 8th Calgary International and the 10th Edmonton International events. The funds will be split equally between the two tournaments and will be used towards supporting travel and accommodation for titled players.*

Micah moves, VR seconds. Both present their reasoning. Leah amends the motion making the total support \$4,000 to be split equally between the two events. Paul seconds.

Pat leaves the meeting at 5:11 PM.

The Board votes on the amended motion. 2 for, 5 against, 1 abstention. The motion is defeated.

Paul amends the motion proposing \$6,000 to be split equally between the two events. Leah seconds. 8 Board members cast their votes resulting in a 4-4 tie. David casts a tie-breaking vote defeating the motion.

The Board then votes on the original motion, which passes 5-3.

Proposal by Terry Seehagen. Terry explains the situation that has recently arisen at the Edmonton Chess Club (ECC). The clothing store situated directly below has done some renovations. As a result, music and loud talking can be heard in the tournament room making the space unsuitable for chess playing during the store's business hours. It's unclear what the best solution is but the ECC might have to spend some money to restore suitable playing conditions.

Motion by Terry: *I would like the ACA to agree to pay 50% of whatever cost the Edmonton Chess Club would have to bear in the finding of the best solution to this situation, up to a maximum of \$1,000 cost to the ACA. In other words, I would like the ACA to set aside up to \$1,000, which would be available if needed. In the event that we thought the money was needed, I would bring forth a new, detailed proposal, which would have to be passed by the ACA Board to be approved.*

Micah seconds, and the motion passes 7-1.

"Chess in the Libraries" Proposal by Frank Kluytmans: a donation of 10 chess sets to 6 Calgary libraries (i.e., a total of 60 sets) is requested.

The Board discusses the optimum number of sets to be provided. VR moves that the ACA donates 30 sets to the Calgary Junior Chess Club to be used in schools, tournaments and libraries. Paul seconds, and the motion passes unanimously.

GM Eric Hansen's Spring Break Chess Camp. VR moves that the ACA backs the camp in Calgary up to a maximum of \$900, to cover any shortfalls. In case of a profit, 50% of it will go to the ACA. Jina seconds. Unanimous with VR abstaining.

Coaching. Leah moves that \$4,000 goes to the Junior Committee. All in favor, VR abstains.

President's Small Purchase Fund: The President can spend \$100 at a time without the approval of the Board, up to a maximum of \$1,000. Unanimous.

ACA Contingency Fund: Leah moves to set aside \$3,000, Paul seconds. Unanimous.

VR moves to approve the 2015 budget, and the motion passes unanimously.

The Board agrees to hold the next meeting during the Red Deer Open, on May 17th.

The budget meeting is adjourned at 6:40 PM.