



## ACA Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2015

Black Knight Inn, Red Deer

Meeting called to order at 11:17 AM by the ACA President Vlad Rekhson (VR). In attendance: Vice-President Micah Hughey, Treasurer Ali Razzaq, Secretary Giridhar Koneru, Executive Director Vladimir Pechenkin (VP), General Directors Terry Seehagen, Jim Daniluk, Robert Brazeau, Dustin Koperski, Dale Haessel and Tristan Tran-Ly.

VR opens the meeting and invites all attendees to introduce themselves to the others.

Micah makes a motion to accept May 17 ACA Board meeting minutes, Jim seconds. Unanimous.

Jina Burn joins the meeting over Skype.

**Committees.** VR states that he'd like most of the committees be small: no more than 3 people. If the President himself is an active part of a certain committee, then a fourth person may be added.

**Planning Committee:** VR, Jim, Ali and Terry.

**Coaching Committee:** Jina (chair), Giri, Tristan and VR.

**Junior Chess Committee:** VR (chair), Jina, Tristan + a parent from Edmonton (TBD).

**Audit Committee:** Dale and Robert. The committee will review ACA ledger, bank statements and cancelled cheques on a quarterly basis beginning in January, 2016.

**Bylaws Amendment Committee:** Dale and Robert. Two more policies must be developed to comply with Alberta Culture and Tourism requirements. The committee is asked to review the bylaws and report back to the Board by December 20th.

**Technical Committee:** VR (chair), Dustin and Terry.

**Appeals Committee:** VR, Micah and Ali. Jim and Dustin are designated as alternates.

**Conduct Committee:** VR, Micah, Robert, Jim + one more person to be selected later.

VR presents budgetary projections for the next few years. Micah makes a motion to set the maximum budget in 2016 to \$65,000 plus \$50,000 for the Executive Director. Jim seconds and the motion passes unanimously. VR points out that the ACA can spend more than that over the course of the following few years. Dustin moves that the Board will discuss how to spend up to \$50,000 extra at the Budget meeting. Jim seconds, unanimous.

The **2016 ACA Calendar** is the next item on the agenda.

**Schleinich Memorial Sectional** will be held on January 8-10.

**Alberta Youth Chess Championship** (AYCC) and the **University Battle of Alberta** (UBOA) will be held on the same weekend of February 20-21, as requested by the organizers. The Board agrees that there will be very little conflict between the two events.

**Northern AB Open** is moved to February 27-28 to avoid conflicts with the Valentine's day (February 14) as well as the Super Bowl (February 7). Leah Hughey will be the organizer.

**March of Kings** (March 12-13) and **Alberta Closed and Reserves** (March 26-28) are scheduled on their traditional dates. The meeting is then adjourned for lunch at 12:57 pm.

The meeting is called back to order at 1:30 pm. AYCC will be held at a hotel that must be budgeted for. Micah moves that the ACA budgets a maximum of \$1,200 for the venue, Giri seconds. Unanimous.

**Lethbridge Open** is scheduled for April 2-3. **Red Deer Open** is moved to April 16-17.

**Edmonton International Qualifier** remains on the last weekend of April: April 30 - May 1.

**Alberta Women's Championship** will be combined with the **Fort McMurray Open**.

**Alberta Seniors Championship** - April 23-24 in Calgary. Terry moves that the AB Seniors Championship be held in both Calgary and Edmonton, the winners playing a two-game match for the title. Jim seconds. After some discussion Terry withdraws his motion.

Terry then moves that a Regional Seniors Championship be held in Edmonton, the winner receiving a travel grant from the ACA to participate in the AB Seniors Championship. Jim seconds, and the motion passes with 6 in favor and 2 against. Terry will organize the Regional tournament in Edmonton in either January or February, the exact date to be decided by mid-December.

The **33rd Trumpeter Classic** (May 21-22), **AB Schools Championship** (May 28) and **Calgary International Qualifier** (June 4-5) are scheduled as proposed.

**Alberta Active Championship** is moved to February 6. Micah moves that the ACA budgets \$400 for the venue rental costs, Jim seconds. Unanimous.

**11th Edmonton International and Reserves** is traditionally scheduled on June 18-26, Micah will be the organizer.

The **Fort McMurray Open** (combined with the **AB Women's Championship**) will be held during the long weekend of July 1-3. The first round is tentatively scheduled for the evening of July 1 although it will be up to the organizer (Jina) to finalize the tournament schedule.

**9th Calgary International** will be held on July 27 - August 1, VR will be the organizer.

The date for the **Over/Under 1800** is discussed. The Board actually decides to vote whether it should be moved from its traditional Labour Day weekend to August 27-28. The motion passes 6-1 with 3 abstentions. Micah will organize the event.

**Battle of Alberta** (September 10), **22nd Medicine Hat Open** (September 24-25), **Edmonton Jr. Regional** (October 1-2) and **Alberta Open** (October 8-10) are all scheduled as proposed. **Calgary Jr. Regional** is moved to September 17-18.

The **2016 Banff Open** proposal is discussed. The Board decides to make it a premium three-day event scheduled for the long weekend of November 11-13. The **Edmonton Fall Sectional** is thus moved to October 28-30.

The dates for the remaining events (**AB Jr., Southern AB Open and WBX Tournament**) are accepted as proposed. The full 2016 ACA calendar is appended. Robert makes a motion to approve the calendar, Micah seconds. Unanimous.

### **Terry Seehagen's proposals and topics for discussion**

1. More clarity concerning whether the ACA or the hosting club (CCC, ECC, or other) is responsible for the various aspects of the tournaments on the ACA schedule. Particularly with some of the Junior tournaments, it is sometimes unclear who is responsible for organizing, directing, buying trophies, or other prizes.

The Junior Chess Committee will discuss the topic.

2. There have been requests, particularly from out-of-town players, to have an option for tournament payments other than cash or cheque. It has been suggested that PayPal or other automated payment system be set up on the ACA internet site.

The PayPal payment option is viable only for junior tournaments, since the entry fees are not returned as prizes. VR and VP will investigate this possibility.

### **3. Tournament Director Honorariums**

The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission has ruled that ACA Board members are allowed to be paid a Tournament Director fee out of the operating account. However, those Board members must abstain from voting when deciding the size of the honorarium. It turns out that Dale is the only Board member who is not an active Tournament Director. Therefore, the Board decides to postpone motions concerning TD fees until a General meeting.

### **5-6. Alberta Seniors Championship structure**

The discussion is postponed until the Budget meeting.

## Miscellaneous Proposals for Junior Tournaments

Guoliang Wu proposes that the ACA returns \$3-\$4 per player to the organizers of provincial junior tournaments (AYCC, AB Schools, AB Jr.)

Peter Davis-Imhof proposes internet chess website subscriptions as prizes at junior events.

Both proposals will be discussed by the Junior Chess Committee.

Micah moves that *Agnieszka Matras-Clement can postpone her AB Women's Champion travel grant to play in the V Open Internacional LLucmajor in Spain*. Dustin seconds, and the motion passes unanimously.

**CJCC chess school proposal by Guoliang Wu:** We have started this program since August, has been proved running very well. I would like to expand this program to hire two junior instructors to teach in this program. This program runs once per month with 1.5 hour chess lessons and a practice tournament. For hiring two junior instructors will cost \$90 per month, so for Nov and Dec, the total cost will be \$180. I guess the funds also OK with Jan, so total can be \$270.

Jim moves to support Guoliang Wu's proposal, Jina seconds. 8 in favor with 2 abstentions.

Micah moves to *reject Branimir Brebrich's proposals*, Dustin seconds. 6 in favor, 2 opposed with 2 abstentions so Micah's motion passes.

The meeting is adjourned at 3 pm.

## ACA Tournaments 2016

Event	Location	Date	Type	Organizer
Schleinich Memorial Sectional	Calgary	January 8-10	Open	Frank Kluytmans
Lethbridge Youth Regional	Lethbridge	January 23	Junior	Peter Davis-Imhof
Regional Youth Championships	Multiple	January	Junior	
AB Active	Red Deer	February 6	Open	Alexey Taranik
AB Youth Championship	Calgary	February 20-21	Junior	Guoliang Wu
University Battle of AB	Edmonton	February 20-21	Open	U of A Chess Club
Northern AB Open	Edmonton	February 27-28	Open	Leah Hughey
March of Kings	Calgary	March 12-13	Open	Jim Daniluk
AB Closed/Reserves	Edmonton	March 26-28	Open	Micah Hughey
Lethbridge Open	Lethbridge	April 2-3	Open	Jerry Mikusek
Regional School Championships	Multiple	March-April	Junior	
Red Deer Open	Red Deer	April 16-17	Open	Alexey Taranik
AB Seniors	Calgary	April 23-24	Senior	Frank Kluytmans
Edmonton International Qualifer	Edmonton	April 30-May 1	Open	Micah Hughey
33rd Trumpeter Classic	Grande Prairie	May 21-22	Open	Wade Caughlin
AB Schools Championship	Edmonton	May 28	Junior	TBD
Calgary International Qualifier	Calgary	June 4-5	Open	Vlad Rekhson
11th Edmonton International	Edmonton	June 18-26	Invitation	Micah Hughey
11th Edmonton Intl. Reserves	Edmonton	June 24-26	Open	Micah Hughey
Fort McMurray Open	Ft. McMurray	July 1-3	Open	Jina Burn
AB Women's	Ft. McMurray	July 1-3	Women	Jina Burn
9th Calgary International	Calgary	July 27-August 1	Invitation	Vlad Rekhson
Over/Under 1800	Edmonton	August 27-28	Open	Micah Hughey
Battle of AB	Red Deer	September 10	Invitation	Micah Hughey Daniel Kazmaier Alexey Taranik
Calgary Junior Regional	Calgary	September 17-18	Junior	Guoliang Wu
22nd Medicine Hat Open	Medicine Hat	September 24-25	Open	Dr. Bill Taylor
Edmonton Junior Regional	Edmonton	October 1-2	Junior	TBD
AB Open	Calgary	October 8-10	Open	Jim Daniluk
Edmonton Fall Sectional	Edmonton	October 28-30	Open	Micah Hughey
Banff Open	Banff	November 11-13	Open	Ian Findlay
AB Junior	Edmonton	November 19-20	Junior	TBD
Southern AB Open	Calgary	November 26-27	Open	Frank Kluytmans
WBX Team Tournament	Edmonton	December 10-11	Open	Terry Seehagen

### Legend



New event

Change of dates