



Alberta Chess Association  
PO Box 11839 Main  
Edmonton  
Alberta  
T5J 3K9

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## Minutes of Annual General Meeting

October 10, 2020 via Zoom @ 2:00 pm

### (1) Call to Order and introduction of Officers – President

Board members in Attendance:

Rafael Arruebarrena (President)  
Ian Findlay (Secretary)  
David Ludwig (Treasurer)  
Jim Daniluk (Vice-President)  
Angelo Tolentino (Past President)  
Magda Marais  
Frank Kluytmans  
Guoliang Wu  
Michael Ludwig  
Terry Seehagen  
Richard Pua

Assembly

10 general members present

Rafael called the meeting to order and introduced the Board members. Rafael outlined the features we would be using on Zoom to conduct the meeting.

### (2) Minutes of the last AGM

Many people asked if the phishing incident had been reported to the police. Rafael said that it had been reported. Also, David Ludwig and Rafael Arruebarrena had met with the bank so that e-transfers are no longer possible on our accounts. Dale Haessel thought we should follow up with the police. Rafael said that there was zero chance of them catching them or getting the money back. Rafael will follow up with the police to see what the status is. It was moved by Ian Findlay, seconded by Frank Kluytmans, that the minutes be accepted. Passed 13 yes 4 abstentions.

### (3) President's Address – President

Rafael noted the difficult past year (2020) with COVID 19. He mentioned that some online tournaments had been held and that he encouraged people to put forth proposals for the upcoming Planning Meeting in November.

### (4) Bylaw Changes – Change in Voter age eligibility at the Annual Meeting

There was much discussion that an age restriction should be imposed for voting at the Annual Meeting. Dale Haessel noted that chess players can be a grandmaster at the age of 12 and hence would have the mental capacity to vote. Guoliang Wu indicated the juniors have the right to take part in the ACA decisions as they represent a numerous group within the organization. Gordon Campbell felt that so long as juniors paid full adult membership fees they should be allowed to vote. This suggestion couldn't be considered as the proposed bylaw changes as notified with 21 days in advance only dealt with the age eligibility. Ian Findlay brought up the point that the Board has a fiduciary duty and hence cannot make potentially harmful decisions for which they could be legally responsible, and these decisions could in effect be made by underage minors.

The first poll taken had 4 choices to vote at AGM.

Age 14 – 28%  
Age 16 – 0 %  
Age 18 – 61 %  
No Min – 11 %

Since this did not meet the 75% majority to change the bylaw, a new poll was taken

Age 14 50%  
Age 18 50%

A third poll was taken

Age 16 – 69%  
No min – 31%

Since 75% was not met, there were no changes to the bylaws.

Jim Daniluk proposed he would review the Societies Act to bring up an acceptable eligibility proposal which takes into consideration the obligations of the ACA and also the need for junior representation in the Association.

### (5) Financial Report and Statement – President/Treasurer

The statements were done by David Ludwig and were sent out as an attachment. David reported that due to COVID, much of our spending in 2020 had been curtailed. It was also pointed out by Jim Daniluk that our Casino money has been delayed going forward by one or two quarters, and that the proceeds of the Casino may be only roughly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a 'normal' Casino.

## (6) Election of Officers and Directors

Vice President – Jim Daniluk by acclamation

Secretary – Ian Findlay by acclamation

Directors (2020-2022) Vlad Rekhson, Richard Pua and Magda Marais by acclamation.

Since there are 4 director positions, one will be nominated at or before the next meeting by the new Board.

## (7) New Business – President

Gordon Campbell brought up the fact that due to COVID, many of the chess clubs in Alberta are feeling the financial strain and he feels the ACA should try to give them money to ease this temporary hardship. Ian Findlay thought this was prudent, but would prefer if the clubs could hold online tournaments that the ACA could give them financial support or other endeavors whereby the ACA could give money, rather than a straight donation. It was believed that the ACA could give money up to \$5000 to another AGLC charity in a fiscal year. Gordon Campbell was invited to make a proposal for the upcoming Planning Meeting of the ACA Board on this regard.

Magda Marais mentioned that Fort McMurray had received a donation from the Red Cross to hold a tournament, where they could buy equipment to meet Covid 19 requirements. This tournament will be held November 21 in Fort McMurray. Dale Haessel mentioned that other tournaments may take place with similar equipment and restrictions such as plexiglass panels used in tournaments in other countries.

Hafiz Karmali brought up a concern that his complaint sent to the ACA had not been passed on to the Directors and felt it had not gotten enough attention. Ian Findlay reported that his complaint was taken seriously and had been discussed by the Executive. A reply had been sent to Mr. Karmali, which indicated he had many valid points, but that the Executive were not taking any further action, other than to monitor the situation. The other members of the Executive also acknowledged reading and discussing the complaint. Rafael supported Ian Findlay's explanation, as the complaint was considered and discussed at length but did not contain actionable items. Gordon Campbell brought up a point of order, which unless a motion was put forth this matter should be finished.

Yao Wang mentioned it was not clear whether the Alberta Juniors competition was going to take place. Rafael invited him to make a proposal to the board for holding this competition or a substitute online.

## (8) Next Board Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Saturday, November 28, 2020, via Zoom at 2 pm.

## (9) Adjournment

Ian Findlay moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Gordon Campbell.  
Motion passed unanimously.