

## TACOMA CHESS CLUB'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

January 26, 2001

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The meeting was convened at 8:30 PM at the club's Mocha Mountain location on 743 St. Helens Avenue in downtown Tacoma, WA. Twelve members attended; six were officers. After a reading of last year's annual meeting minutes by Gary Dorfner, reports were given by each of the officers, as follows, with Paul Bartron, President, presiding:

### Financial Report

Robert Allen, Treasurer, provided a written copy of the club's fiscal report as of December 31, 2000. Total revenue less donations was \$6,829.72. Total expenses were \$7,961.11 for a net loss of **-\$1,131.39**. However, the club received a donation of \$5,000.00, technically giving the club a profit of \$3,868.61 for the year. Since the club suffered a net loss of approximately \$1,100.00 in 1999, this 2000 financial report is of concern because the club continues to lose money.

To cut the club's losses, the club has terminated bottled water (\$177.63, for 2000), and Steve Buck said bank fees (\$51.00) should no longer be a factor. Supplies (\$377.76) should decrease significantly since the club will not need to buy tables again. Of a disconcerting note were the phone expenses of \$644.06! Since the club has a business line and the line was moved several times, the expense was this high. Mike MacGregor volunteered to investigate a possible and more cost-saving alternative. The other expenses were Miscellaneous (\$195.51), Rent (\$2,000.00), and Tournament Expenses (\$4,515.15).

To increase revenue, most of the club's assets (\$10,656.98) will be placed in a higher, interest-yielding financial account. Last year the club earned \$157.72 in interest. Membership Dues (\$2,060.00) were unanimously approved for an increase of \$10.00 per year for both adults and juniors, and \$5.00 each for a half year. Tournament Income (\$4,612.00) remains subject to review for financial efficiency.

In summary, the club will continue to lose money (excluding donations) without significant increases in revenue and more judicious expenditures. This summary bears repeating and warrants the focus of the Directors and any members with cost-saving ideas.

### Bylaws

Mike MacGregor, Secretary, submitted the following alterations and amendments (italicized) to the bylaws, per the Directors' Board Meeting of January 19, 2001, for review and approval of the membership present:

- *Unless otherwise assigned, (the Vice President) shall be a co-signor on the club's checking account (IV.2.3)*

- (The Treasurer) shall collect dues and deposit them in an authorized bank account *with dual signature control* (IV.4.1)
- (The Tournament Director) shall implement the types of tournaments *approved by the Directors* (IV.5.2)
- Shall appoint assistants as deemed necessary *by the Directors* (IV.5.3)
- *Shall resolve tournament disputes with the corroboration of an assistant (when there is an assistant)* (IV.5.4)
- (The Publicity Director shall) *obtain approval from the Directors for all expenditures* (IV.6.2)
- (The Sergeant of Arms shall) *issue a copy of the bylaws to all new members* (IV.7.7)
- *Ensure club behavior is in accordance with the bylaws* (IV.7.8)
- The Board of Directors shall meet *quarterly; sooner if deemed necessary.* (V)
- *The use of tobacco may be used only outside of the building* (V)
- *The Board of Directors approve exclusively any agreements, contracts, obligations, exchange of goods, cash or policy, or any action, on behalf of the Tacoma Chess Club, that will significantly affect or alter the services, facilities, or equipment offered by the Tacoma Chess Club* (V)

#### **Article VI—Dues**

<b>Membership Dues</b>	<b>One Year</b>	<b>Half Year</b>	<b>Quarter Year</b>
Adults	\$60.00	\$35.00	\$20.00
Juniors	\$30.00	\$20.00	\$10.00

<b>Guest Fees</b>	<b>First Visit</b>	<b>Second Visit</b>	<b>Third Visit</b>	<b>Subsequent Visits</b>
Adults	Free	Free	Free	\$3.00
Juniors	Free	Free	Free	\$1.00

- Club members shall be notified *30 days* in advance of any meeting to amend or alter the bylaws

The above amendments and alterations to the bylaws were approved by the membership present, according to Article VII.

#### Publicity

Vivi Bartron, Sergeant of Arms, provided a draft of the club flyer for future reference, editing, approval, and implementation. This flyer is in addition to the two fliers made by Gary Dorfner. The club welcomes innovative ideas to improve the flyer's marketing capability.

Lee Natael was voted as the new Publicity Director, and replaces Dana Sidoran. Since Lee will be attending NYU Law School in the fall, his acceptance is understood to be for the interim.

## Tournaments

Gary Dorfner, Tournament Director, reported losing more than \$100.00 for the Challenger's Cup, and sundry other expenses relating to costly advertising fees associated with either or both Northwest Chess and the USCF. He asked for ideas on how to improve tournament profit, and added he would also try and find some improvements on his own. Since tournament revenue and expenses comprise a major part of the club's financial budget, it remains a priority for the Directors and club members to increase tournament profit.

## Rent

Steve Buck, Vice-President, reported expenses associated with finding our current locale, and noted that our plans to remain at Mocha Mountain depend on a lease renewal in or near August 2001. Rental costs are sure to increase due to the increased costs of electricity. To decrease our own use of electricity (by sharing it) and improve club attendance, it was unanimously decided to move Monday nights to Wednesday nights, effective immediately.

## The Board of Directors (Voting)

With unanimous approval, the members present voted for the following officers:

President—Paul Bartron  
Vice-President—Steve Buck  
Secretary—Mike MacGregor  
Treasurer —Robert Allen  
Tournament Director—Gary Dorfner  
Publicity Director—Lee Natael  
Sergeant of Arms—Vivi Bartron

With the exception of the Publicity Director, all the officers were approved for consecutive terms.<sup>i</sup>

## Other Business

Mike MacGregor was assigned to contact Yahoo regarding an incorrect phone number and mailing address for the chess club. Bill Rogers suggested that there be some tournaments for \$5.00 to \$10.00 entry fees, and no prize money so that the club could make the profit. It was noted that this type of tournament was tried without good attendance.

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<sup>i</sup> Written by Mike MacGregor, January 28, 2001