

# CHICAGO INDUSTRIAL CHESS LEAGUE

Spring Business Meeting of April 19, 2017

At: Fermi in Batavia

## Attendees:

Greg Bungo (DGCC)

Irwin Gaines (Ratings Chair, Co-games Editor, Webmaster, Fermi)

Hiro Higuchi

Dave Lee (Excaliburs)

Aaron Maney (Treasurer, DGCC)     Jerry Thomas (Secretary, Dragons)

Jim Thomson (President)

Bill Whited (Publicity Chair, Playoff Chair, Burr Ridge)

Jeff Wiewel (West Division Chair, STCCC)

## MINUTES

Secretary, Jerry Thomas subbing for President Jim Thomson began the meeting 7:05 P.M. Jim arrived later and took over covering the agenda.

### **A. Elected Officer Reports:**

#### **1. President – Jim Thomson**

He said he had his least active year being focused on his new job. Right now he is taking a step back from CICL chess. The league ran on auto pilot and the Division chairs, officers, and captains made it a smooth season.

#### **2. Secretary – Jerry Thomas**

Jerry said there were no changes to the fall business meeting minutes published in the bulletin and posted on our web site. The minutes were unanimously approved.

#### **3. Treasurer – Aaron Maney**

Aaron Maney distributed the CICL Spring Report and Budget 2016-17 Proposal (see Web site for Spring Report). He said the donation amount was from Northwestern and St. Charles B since they paid dues even though they had a dues credit. Aaron asked if 2000 Scoresheets and 500 Match Sheets would be enough for 2 years. He got a quote from Federal Express of \$325 minus 20% discount. Jerry Thomas said to contact Wayne Ellice who handled our last Scoresheet order for the vendor we used and the size of the order. Irwin Gaines said that 2400 Scoresheets should be enough. Aaron agreed to contact Wayne and place the order with the best vendor. After some discussion, the attendees agreed that we do not need Match Sheets with carbons. Instead we will make copies of a blank Match Sheet.

#### **4. Playoff Chair – Bill Whited**

**Playoff Site** - Bill Whited said he talked to the Burr Ridge park district, but a fee was probably involved. Irwin said that Fermi was available. Bill said that probably Fermi should be this year's site and try for another site for next year.

**Playoff TD** - Post meeting: Bill emailed - I have an experienced TD for the playoffs complete with pairing program, computer and printer. He and his wife are brand new members of my club but they have directed over 50 tournaments. They belong to another club as well that is a potential B team for the West next season.

**Individual Tournament** - The attendees decided that the other event would be an Individual Tournament with multiple sections with the same eligibility rules as previously. The announcement email would strongly discourage accepting late entries

and try for advance registration.

### **5. East Division Chair-Tony Jasaitis (via email)**

The season started with six teams, but 2015-16 league champion University of Chicago had trouble getting its strong roster out this season, and withdrew after 5 rounds. They will reassess their member commitments before next season.

As in some other seasons, the schedule consisted of a round-robin followed by two split sections, with the top 4 teams, as the most likely playoff qualifiers, having their own 3-round round robin to settle playoff qualification. The bottom two teams were deemed as finishing no higher than 5<sup>th</sup> regardless of the match record during their two-team "round-robin", due to the much easier pairings in this section.

While at first sight it may seem that two full round-robins should fit into the calendar, with the universities having three large blocks of time off from school during our season, the remaining available time would have been too tight for 10 rounds.

The East Division playoff qualifiers turned out to be:

1. Northwestern University (on tiebreaks over #2)
2. Rogue Squadron
3. DRW Trading (wild card, declined)

### **6. West Division Chair -Jeff Wiewel (via email and in person)**

West A had a 7-team round robin followed by three additional rounds. The team in fifth after seven rounds made up a one match deficit and a tie-break deficit to finish as the West-A wild card candidate, taking the wild card when DRW opted out.

- 1st Fermi (undefeated - but not perfect due to having tied matches)
- 2nd Wombats
- 3rd Downers Grove
- 4th Dragons

West B had a 4-team triple-round robin with the top two teams making the play-offs.

- 1st Downers Grove (went 1-1-1 vs Saint Charles)
- 2nd Saint Charles (also had tied matches with other teams)

In West-A every match in the final two rounds had play-off contenders, with the last spot decided by the last match. In West-B every match but one in the final three rounds had play-off contenders with the division champion determined by the last match. Both divisions had teams playing nine rounds. Tie-breaks were not needed for any of the West places since no two teams in any west division had the same number of match points. The last match of the season in each division was more than a week before the official end of the season, ending one day before the scheduled end of the last West round. That final week was the cushion in case there were any delayed matches.

Both MVPs were decided in final round matches between the two teams that had the top

MVP candidates.

West-A MVP Steve Tennant (7-2) - Steve's teammate held Dimitri Sergatskov (6.5-2.5) to a draw in the final round match between the two teams and that clinched the MVP for Steve. West-B MVP Matthew Cimbalista (7-1) - in the final match of the division Matthew's win over Eric Swanson (finished 5.5-1.5) secured the MVP.

West-B's Saint Charles had the largest B-team upset  
The West currently has the league's seven largest individual upsets  
The West has the league's leading Most Improved Player candidates

The West has a new quadruple centurion (Lenny Spiegel of Fermi), a new triple centurion (Robert Hill of the Rooks), and two new centurions (Rudy Padilla of Saint Charles and Todd Freitag of the Wombats) .

## **7. Central Division Chair-Art Olsen (via email)**

The Central Division played a double round robin schedule with Burr Ridge winning the division.

The Central Division playoff qualifiers are:

1. Burr Ridge
2. Renaissance Knights

Motorola has been contacted about being available as an alternate team for the playoffs but has not yet responded at the time this email was written. Motorola later declined.

Both the UOP and Excaliburs had difficulty fielding a full team for a number of matches this season. Motorola has the same issue to a lesser degree. Burr Ridge and Renaissance Knights have a larger pool of players to draw on and are not having issues fielding a full team. An exhibition match was played with Clover Technologies who may join the CICL next season. Clover technologies will likely start out as a B team if they aren't able to add more players to their team. Burr Ridge has indicated that they will move back to the West division next season. Renaissance Knights and Excaliburs have both recently found home playing sites but Motorola has indicated that there is a possibility of losing their home site next season.

A discussion needs to be held over the summer to determine the status of the Central division. The Excaliburs, UOP and Motorola teams are becoming smaller due to attrition and are unable to add new players as quickly as they are lost. There are two ways that this issue can be addressed.

- 1) Broaden the player eligibility rules to expand the ability of company, merged and alumni teams to add new players to their teams.
- 2) Convert the Central division to a B team division. (I view this as a short term work around because it doesn't solve the player attrition problem that the Excaliburs, UOP and Motorola teams have).

I recommend that a committee be formed to review the above issues over the summer and to make a proposal to address these issues at the Fall business meeting.

## **B. Appointed Officer Reports:**

### **9. Publicity Chair – Bill Whited (first part via email)**

We are starting to make some progress this year on adding new teams to the CICL. We will have a new B team in the league from a company called Clover Technology and they are based in Hoffman Estates. I am in the very preliminary stages of working with a new chess club in Des Plaines. They have a meeting site with the appropriate hours, 6-11pm. I will know more about them in the next couple weeks. I am also working on two potential B teams, one from Glenwood, IL and the other from Worth, IL. These are both very preliminary and would also be B teams. All of these leads have come from social media. Because there was no budget for publicity, I wasn't able to support this medium as aggressively as I would have liked. It has worked well for my club in terms of recruitment and it is very inexpensive.

Bill, at the meeting, said he needed a budget for publicity. He commented that Facebook was an excellent tool and inexpensive. He described Clover Technology in Hoffman Estates which would be a B team in the Central Division. He mentioned Burr Ridge has additional players possibly for a B team. He talked to the ICA Newsletter editor who agreed to include CICL info there. He also said that ads at chess tournaments usually only got players. Instead the key was to get a captain. He explained the difficulty of finding the right person and/or contact points at corporations. He will talk to someone at Burr Ridge as a candidate for Publicity Chair.

### **10. Bulletin Editor – Bill Whited (via email)**

Unfortunately this was a lean season for the bulletin, with only one bulletin published, and hopefully one more will be as an end of season recap. The league had approved bulletin awards again, and I only received one submission for the season (in the annotated games category), and it would be great to provide that submitter with a small gift certificate prize (and hopefully we'll have one or two more by season's end!

With the changes to my schedule I won't be able to continue as bulletin editor for next season (as evidenced by the low turnout this season!). I would be happy to help a new editor with any questions and provide him with word document templates, editing/diagram advice, etc. It's been a pleasure editing the bulletin for the past six seasons, and have appreciated the help from fellow officers and players through the years.

At the meeting, Bill mentioned several candidates at his Burr Ridge chess club that had the knowledge to create bulletins. He would talk to them about becoming our Bulletin Editor.

### **11. Rating Chair- Irwin Gaines**

Ratings are working and are pretty solid. Irwin said he needs to get with Jim Thomson on some changes. Jim agreed to help with rating program changes. The Web site needs to show how Team PR is determined. Jerry Thomas will find the final Team PR proposal and forward it to Irwin.

## **12. Webmaster – Irwin Gaines**

Irwin said the Web stuff is pretty update to date. There is room for more, but he does not have the time. He said the captain tool is not saving time. Irwin would like a link from the Match Results to individual games. Bill Whited has a possible person who might be able to help here.

## **13. Games Editor – Irwin Gaines and Steve Tennant**

Irwin said 212 games are online. The East and West 'B' are the best in responding. The Central Division is only missing 2 of 20 matches. The West Division is mostly good. Irwin expects to have 300 games online by playoff time.

## **14. Trophy Chairman- Chuck Dobrovolny (no report)**

## **15. Banquet Chairman- Larry Cohen (no report)**

Where: Post meeting: Bill Whited arranged for the Trio restaurant on 75<sup>th</sup> street in Downers Grove

When: Friday June 9, 2017

Time: To Be Determined.

Bill Whited will discuss plans with the banquet chair and will explore arranging for a chess expert presentation.

## **B. OFFICER ELECTIONS and APPOINTMENTS**

### **1A. President**

Bill Whited volunteered to serve as president. Bill was unanimously elected.

### **B. Secretary**

Jerry Thomas agreed to continue. There were no other nominees. Jerry was unanimously elected.

### **C. Treasurer**

Aaron Maney agreed to continue. There were no other nominees. Aaron was unanimously elected.

### **D. Appointments**

#### **- Publicity Chair**

Bill Whited will talk to someone at Burr Ridge to be our Publicity Chair.

#### **- Playoff Tournament Director**

See Playoff Chair section 4 on page 1.

## **C. PLAYOFF PAIRINGS**

Here are the final playoff pairings as determined by PR and coin flip. All of the teams listed have agreed to play in all 3 rounds of the playoffs:

(1)Fermi (H) (W) - Burr Ridge (B) flip

(2)Wombats (H) (B) - Ren KT (W) flip for home

(3)Rogue (W) - Pawns (b) Rogue home

(4)DGCC (B) - Dragons (W) DGCC home (one same division paring is unavoidable when here are 5 teams from one division)

#### **D. OLD BUSINESS**

Update Rating Reports to show player W-L-D separately for A- and B- Results – this will need a program update. See Ratings Chair section for this discussion.

Update MIP to include all games on counting boards (add for other A/B class teammates). This was already voted in and the Constitution should have been revised for this. Jerry Thomas will review the Constitution to see if changes are needed in it. See Ratings Chair section for more on this as a rating program change is also required.

Post meeting: Jerry Thomas reviewed the Constitution and found that Rating System requirements are very general only saying “Compute a player's new rating based on CICL games played.”

#### **E. NEW BUSINESS**

Divisional ReAlignment involving Central Division. Burr Ridge has indicated that they will move back to the West division next season. Motorola, UOP, and Excaliburs appear to become B teams due to lack of players. Bill Whited said we need to focus on those 6 man teams that are struggling there. To be discussed at Fall Business Meeting.

Sliding rating cap proposal – the uncapped team would choose the cap either higher or lower. Attendees discussed with no agreement reached.

#### **F. Events Calendar**

Dates:

- |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| - Playoffs final rounds    | Saturday, May 13     |
| - Banquet, Trio Restaurant | Friday, June 9       |
| - Fall Meeting             | Wednesday, August 30 |

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 P.M.

Jerry Thomas, CICL Secretary April 23, 2017