



**Minutes of the
VCF Annual Membership Meeting
September 1, 2018
Hilton Garden Inn, Glen Allen, VA**

Call to Order:

The annual VCF Membership Meeting was called to order at 9:12 am by President Chrisney.

Board Members present

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Adam Chrisney President | Ernest Schlich, Executive Secretary |
| Michael Callaham, Vice President | Akshay Indusekar, Member-at-Large |
| Andrew Rey, Member-at-Large | |

Quorum Call (*VCF ByLaws, Article 3, Section 5*)

The Executive Secretary informed the Board that the Membership Secretary had calculated that a quorum of 10 members was required to constitute a quorum for the 2018 Annual Membership Meeting. Twelve (12) members were present, thus satisfying the quorum requirement. See Enclosure 1.

Annual Business

The draft copy of the 2017 minutes was approved unanimously.

Elections (*VCF ByLaws, Article 4*)

VCF President: Adam Chrisney and Andrew Rea were nominated. Adam Chrisney was re-elected President by receiving 8 votes. Andy received 2 votes.

VCF Board: The 2-year term of office expired this year for board members Ernest Schlich and Mike Callaham. The President opened the floor for nominations and four (4) members were nominated: Mike Hoffpauir, Anand Dommalapati, Mike Callaham, and Ernest Schlich. Mike H and Anand were elected, each receiving 7 votes. Ernie received 5 and Mike C received 2 votes. IAW Article 4, Section 1 of the ByLaws, the terms for elected officers are for 2 years. Next year the 2-year terms of Akshay Indusekar and Andrew Rey will expire.

Board Reports

- a. President's Report (see Enclosure 2)
- b. Treasurer's Report. (see Enclosure 3)
- c. Membership Secretary's Report & Quorum Report. (see Enclosure 4)
- d. Editor's Report. VCF Editor, FM Macon Shibut, provided his report verbally. Macon's primary point was the number of copies of the Newsletter to print. He noted that we have been printing 350 (check this) for the past year or so. Macon was unsure how many "active" members VCF really has, so he was equally unsure whether the current number of copies accurately represents the requirement. Mike Hoffpauir had a

copy of the member DB handy on his computer and thought there were about 400 active members. Ernie questioned that figure, thinking it was less ... Macon agreed. Macon's point was that two of the primary ways to control the costs of the Newsletter were by regulating the length of the Newsletter (e.g. reducing the number of pages), or by reducing the number of printed versions. Another point discussed was a request from a member to have back-issues placed on the VCF website as PDF files. Ernie Schlich said he would work with Macon to get them on line.

Old Business

- e. **Review Status of VCF Tournaments.** Treasurer Mike Hoffpaur gave a summary of the VCF event finances. The report is found in the Treasurer's report. There was a discussion about continuing the Emporia Open and possible relocation of the VA Closed. No vote was taken but it was decided to have the Board make a last attempt to have a successful 2018 Emporia Open before cancelling or moving it. Several other tournament sites were mentioned as "possible future locations" such as, Fredericksburg, Roanoke, and more events in the Richmond area. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- f. **Review of VCF Cup.** A discussion of the value of the cup was held. Adam Chrisney pointed out that very few members seem to know what it is ... they don't mind "getting the paycheck", but most of them don't know why they received it. Mike Hoffpaur noted that the board should consider changes to the prize structure. The President appointed Mike Hoffpaur and Andy Rea to review the matter. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- g. **Review VCF E-Device Policy.** Mike Hoffpaur said that he has reviewed the current policy and believes it needed updating. He added that he already has prepared an updated version and provided a copy to the President. Adam asked Mike to provide a copy to Akshay and Andy for their review and that The Board would discuss it again at the next Quarterly VCF Board Meeting. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- h. **Board Conflicts of Interest (COI) Policy.** The President gave each board member a copy of the COI disclosure form for board members to sign and return to the President. Everyone did so. There was a short discussion about how The Board would handle the matter if a board member refused to sign the form. Adam was not concerned, as he felt that our current ByLaws were sufficient to cover such a scenario. Mike H added that when the US Chess Executive Board meets, the President usually begins by asking all board members whether they have any new COI issues that need to be disclosed before the Board continues its meeting. Adam committed to the VCF instituting this practice. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- i. **Update on VCF Document Retention and Storage.** Adam and Ernie Schlich reported that VCF has started using Google drive to store our documents. Ernie said he has uploaded his collection of documents dating back to 2002. Further decisions about where to place the documents on the website will be made this year. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- j. No additional old business was raised.

New Business

- k. **Highlights from US Chess Annual Meeting.** Mike Hoffpaur and Ernie Schlich provided a summary of their written joint report (which is posted on the VCF Website with a link on the Home Page). They noted that the US Chess Executive Board presented a motion to reduce the frequency of rules changes from 1 to 2 years, unless overridden by a “super majority” of 85% or more. The matter was referred to the US Chess ByLaws Committee. There were no other significant actions taken at the US Chess annual meeting. The single rules change that might impact our players was discussed. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- l. **VCF Delegates for the 2019 US Chess Annual Meeting.** Ernie raised the question about who would be our delegates for 2019. Mike reminded Adam that the nominations were due by November 1st, according to the US Chess ByLaws. Adam, Ernie, Anand, Andy and Tina Schweiss all expressed interest. Virginia is authorized four primary and four alternate delegates. Mike H noted that he would already be in attendance as a US Chess Executive Board member. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- m. **Review VCF Player Stipend Policy.** Adam started a discussion about our “stipends” given to people. He noted that he’d recently been asked by a couple of parents to accept donations from a specific company so that the company’s money could then be used to support their children’s attendance at an upcoming international chess event. Adam reported that he had consulted with Mike H on this issue and Mike advised against it because it would be a “targeted donation” and would violate IRS policy on tax deductible donations. Mike noted that Virginia’s representatives to the Arnold Denker Tournament of High School Champions, the Barber K-8 championship, the National Girls Tournament of Champions and the new Senior Tournament of Champions all receive stipends from the VCF. Adam said that he felt the VCF needs to translate these un-documented procedures on stipends into written policies. Mike Hoffpaur agreed to develop a draft for Adam to consider in time for the next Quarterly Meeting of the VCF Board. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- n. **Construct of VA Closed Tournament.** Mike Hoffpaur initiated a discussion about the structure of the VA Closed, noting that registration numbers were about 20 less than the average of 90. Possible alternative locations around Virginia were discussed, e.g. rotating the event around the state, or holding it periodically in northern VA. There was consensus that the current central location was good but perhaps an occasional move to Charlottesville or Fredricksburg was discussed. (Note: The actual attendance ended up at 89 after a flurry of walk-in entries on Saturday, with 85 being paid competitors.) No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- o. **Consider VCF Women's Championship.** Mike Callaham noted that there should be a VA Women’s Championship. He said that his opinion is that prizes for Men and Women are not equivalent, and that Virginia needs a tournament that gives top prizes to and features our women players. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic. Someone noted that Carla Naylor might be a good person to work with Tina Schweiss on such an initiative. Tina was not in the room. Adam said he would follow-up with Tina.

- p. **Regional Clearinghouse Management.** Adam noted that Mike Atkins had written an email plea for someone to take over the regional clearinghouse of chess tournaments. Ernie Schlich said he would be willing to do it for at least three years. Mike said that the VCF website could easily host this. Adam said he would follow-up with Mike Atkins. No motions were made or votes taken on this topic.
- q. There were no additional items of New Business.

Prepared by Mike Hoffpauir, VCF Executive Secretary

Enclosures:

1. List of Attendees at the Annual Meeting
2. President's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Membership Secretary's Report & Quorum Report

Enclosure 1: List of Attendees at the 2018 VCF Annual Membership Meeting

| 2018 Annual Meeting Attendance Sheet | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | Name | Email |
| 1 | Ernest Schlich | ernest.schlich@gmail |
| 2 | Akshay Indusekar | |
| 3 | Paul Swarney | paulrs74@gmail.com |
| 4 | Macen Shibut | |
| 5 | Andrew Rea | |
| 6 | Mike Hefner | |
| 7 | Anand Dommalapati | adommalapati@yahoo.com |
| 8 | Christina Schweiss | cschweiss2@gmail.com |
| 9 | Justin Paul | |
| 10 | Adam Christney | |
| 11 | Mike Chittam | wsterman2010kin@aol.com |
| 12 | Todd Harne | |
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Enclosure 2: President's Report



Enclosure 3: Treasurer's Report



Enclosure 4: Membership Secretary's Report & Quorum

