

VA Chess Federation

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Membership

Date/Time: Saturday, September 2, 2023, Glen Allen, VA at 9 AM to 10:20 AM

Location: At the Hilton Garden Inn-Innsbrook, site of the 2023 Virginia Closed, with authorized members attending via Zoom

AGENDA

Call to Order: President Anand Dommalapati called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. There were 17 attendees (see Enclosure 1), with 6 members attending via Zoom and 11 members attending in person.

Establish Quorum: At least 13 members were required to attend in person or online and who are at least 16 years old. A Quorum was established by the Executive Secretary, Mike Hoffpauir. See Enclosure 1 for a list of the attending VCF members.

Approval of the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting: There were no minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting because a Quorum was not established.

Old Business:

1. ***President's Report*** (Anand Dommalapati). VCF President Dommalapati delivered a verbal report summarizing the tournament year.
2. ***Treasurer's Report*** (Mike Hoffpauir). VCF Treasurer Mike Hoffpauir gave a verbal report, noting that the Wells Fargo checking account is in good health with about \$32,000 in it as of Sept. 2, 2023, and another \$12,000 being transferred to the account from our PayPal tournament entry account. Mike also noted that the "rainy day" fund, seeded by Mrs. Zofchak through a donation in memory of her husband, has about \$1,700 in it (it is a savings account that earns about 2 or 3 cents a month). Mike mentioned possibly turning this into a few higher interest 6-month or 1-year interest CDs. Mike said that he's heard about some changes coming from the IRS for Tax Year 2023 that will affected our 501c(3) non-profit organization. Mike didn't have details other than he'd heard that the \$50,000 threshold for filing a 990-N Postcard was being lowered substantially. This is the first year VCF has not filed a 990-N, having now met the criteria to file the longer 990-EZ form with a couple of additional IRS "schedule" forms.
3. ***Membership Report*** (Georgina Chin / Mike Hoffpauir). Georgina and Mike noted that the VCF membership is healthy and that there have not been any issues keeping the membership database and the website list of members updated.
4. ***Tournament Reports*** (Mike Hoffpauir, Anand Dommalapati). Mike, Anand, and Tina Schweiss provided overviews of the past year's tournaments, to include:
 - Fredericksburg (October 2022): Large turnout, the venue was filled. Mike Hoffpauir said he'd looked for an alternative site for 2023, but there were none willing to work with us because they had too many demands.
 - VA Scholastic & College Chess Championships (VSCCC, Norfolk, March 2023): Turnout was a little smaller than hoped for, but it was a very nice venue. The 2024 US Open will be held across the street from where the 2023 VSCCC was held. The tournament did not

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do as well financially as hoped for either, but VCF was able to fund each of the players attending the national-level invitationals for state HS, MS, Elementary, and Girls champions with a \$500 stipend. Mike noted that the 2024 VSCCC will be in Roanoke, VA. Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick, who is reliable and has provided the venue several times for this tournament, is again working the site for 2024. The event will occur either the first or second weekend of March 2024 (March 2-3 or 9-10) at a high school.

- Zofchak: Tina Schweiss felt the November 2022 Zofchak was scheduled too close to the Fredericksburg tournament (1 week away), so attendance was down. She said the 2023 Zofchak should have better chances for attendance because it is not so close to another major tournament as it was in 2023.
- Charlottesville Open: Mike noted that the 2023 event was cancelled when a fire destroyed a substantial portion of the hotel about two weeks before the tournament. The property remains closed. The Sales Manager informed Mike that they “might” reopen in December or January.

New Business:

1. ***Proposed Changes to VCF Bylaws:*** Mike briefed the draft of the revised VCF Bylaws, noting that the major change is to allow the Annual Meeting of the Members to be held 100% online and within 60 days before the start date of the VA Closed. After a short discussion **President Dommalapati moved that the Bylaws be approved.** The motion was seconded, and **the Bylaws were unanimously approved.**
2. ***VA Closed Entry Fees.*** Mike Hoffpauir introduced this topic by noting that a parent had complained about entry fees for the VA Closed, that they were too high, especially for families with 2 or 3 kids. There was discussion about lowering the entry costs substantially and reducing the prize fund. The discussion was about 70-30 in favor of NOT reducing the prize fund. No actions were taken or are required.
3. ***Tournament Schedule for 2023-24.*** The following tournaments are already scheduled for the 2023-24 season:
 - Zofchak Memorial: Norfolk, Sep 22-24, 2023.
 - Fredericksburg Open: Fredericksburg, Oct 27-29, 2023.
 - Northern Virginia Open: Nov 17-19, 2023, Dulles Airport Marriott
 - Virginia Open: Dulles Airport Marriott, Jan 5-7, 2024.
 - VA Scholastic & College Chess Championships: March 2-3 or 9-10, 2024, in Roanoke, VA. Cheryl Havens noted that the 9-10 dates are astride the Daylight Savings Time change.
 - Charlottesville Open: Probably mid-July 2024. Final date TBD based on hotel repairs following their major fire in early July 2023.
 - VA Closed: Glen Allen, VA, Aug 30-Sept 2, 2024.
 - Other VCF-Cup Affiliated Events with dates TBD: There are two known events—the Colonial Open (run by Capitol Area Chess in the winter) and the Coastal VA Open (run by Hampton Roads Chess, also in the winter).
4. ***Election of Officers:*** The members elected a President and 4 members-at-large. ***Adam Chrisney was unanimously elected as President by voice vote;*** his nomination was uncontested. Adam has served as President before. The following 4 members were ***unanimously elected by voice vote*** as members-at-large: Mike Callaham, Mike Hoffpauir, Robby Jackson, and Todd Hammer. NOTE:

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- The VCF Bylaws call for the President to be elected annually, while the 4 members-at-large (MALs) serve two-year terms with 2 MALs elected one year and 2 elected the following year.
 - COVID and the lack of a Quorum at the 2022 Annual Meeting disrupted this sequencing, hence all 4 MALs were elected this year. At next year's meeting there will need to be a motion to either re-align the sequencing, or to keep it so that all 4 are elected annually or every other year.
5. **Other New Business:** Macon Shibut noted that he has been in conversation with Paul Swaney about "archiving" the very old versions of the VCF Newsletter. These exist only in hard copy. Paul will investigate the potential of "digitizing" the older versions. Whether the contents of each version will "searchable" (like a PDF document) is unknown.

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at about (time) by (name) and was seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Post-Membership Meeting of the Board of Directors (BOD).

1. President Chrisney convened the meeting at about 10:30. Mike Callaham was voted as Vice President by the BOD, and Mike Hoffpaur was voted as Executive Secretary. The BOD voted and approved the following appointed positions:
 - Mike Hoffpaur: Treasurer and Webmaster
 - Christina Schweiss: Women's Coordinator
 - Paul Swaney: Scholastic Coordinator and Archivist
 - FM Macon Shibut: Newsletter
 - Georgina Chin: Membership Secretary
2. President Chrisney mentioned digital archiving project described under Other New Business above. After the meeting ended Mike Hoffpaur met with both Paul Swaney and Macon Shibut who are going to collaborate to investigate the options.
3. The BOD voted to adjourn the meeting at about 10:45.

Mike Hoffpaur
VCF Executive Secretary

Enclosure: List of 2023 Attendees (picture of sign-in sheet provided by the Executive Secretary)

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Enclosure: List of 2023 Attendees.

Attendance Sheet – VA Chess Federation Annual Membership Meeting

| | Name | Email |
|----|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Paul Sweeney | paulcs74@gmail.com |
| 2 | MIKE Hoffpauir | mhoffpauir@aol.com |
| 3 | ROBERT JACKSON | RRJackson6@gmail.com |
| 4 | DUSTIN | |
| 5 | Anand Dommalapati | |
| 6 | Andy Samuelson | andy.samuelson82@gmail.com |
| 7 | DAN MILLER | |
| 8 | TIM SCHWEISS | |
| 9 | KARL HECK | |
| 10 | Everett Kalafatis | etatis kalafatis@gmail.com |
| 11 | Cheryl Havens | dancewhite@gmail.com |
| 12 | SAM ALLEN | samuel.allen@gmail.com |
| 13 | SRIVALLI DAITA | SRIVALLI.DAITA@GMAIL.COM |
| 14 | Georgina Chin | |
| 15 | MACON SHIBUT | |
| 16 | MIKE CALLAHAM | |
| 17 | Adam Chrisney | |

The names of the VCF members on this sheet are:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Paul Sweeney – in person | 15. Macon Shibut – in person |
| 2. Mike Hoffpauir – in person | 16. Mike Callaham – in person |
| 3. Robert Jackson – in person | 17. Adam Chrisney – via Zoom |
| 4. David Dustin – via Zoom | |
| 5. Anand Dommalapati – via Zoom | |
| 6. Andrew Samuelson – in person | |
| 7. Daniel Miller – in person | |
| 8. Christina (Tina) Schweiss – via Zoom | |
| 9. Karl Heck – via Zoom | |
| 10. Everett Kalafatis – in person | |
| 11. Cheryl Havens – in person | |
| 12. Sam Allen – in person | |
| 13. Srivalli Daita – in person (parent of Tanush Dokka, an under 16-year-old player) | |
| 14. Georgina Chin – via Zoom | |

Note: The Executive Secretary verified the currency of all attendee's VCF memberships.