

Minutes MSCA Board Meeting, 10 April 2024, 7:30-8:30 via zoom

Attendees: Board Members Jenny Bourne, Tim Radermacher, Scott Carpenter, Nels Truelson, Ed Bourgeois, Sean Nagle, Mike Benson; Member Joe Longen



Tim started us off with our usual strong financial report. We talked briefly about the offer from Brian Ribnick and Rachel Schechter to share concession revenue with MSCA but deferred a decision until we gather more information. We voted to adopt a new policy about dropping out of major events – we will post this on our website and give appropriate notice.

We are still seeking potential delegates to the annual USCF meeting in August. Jenny will attend the virtual emergency meeting in June. We are also soliciting ideas for venues for the Class Championship and the MN Open; various board members will pursue options.

Tim and Mike are working on the building plan; Mike suggested that the market might be softening over the next several months and will keep an eye on opportunities. Tim and Sean are discussing the plan to become a 501(c)(3) and noted that we will probably need to consult a law or CPA firm with expertise in this area due to the increased size and complexity of MSCA operations.

We talked about various suggestions from members and determined that our Chess Challengers fulfill the need for offering events to new players. We also deferred the contemplation of broadcasting games until our plans for a building firm up. Ed reported back on the status of girls and women playing chess in MN. The lack of older girls and women playing chess is a nationwide issue; we will continue to seek ways to welcome these players.

Joe Longen opened the discussion of who qualifies for the MN Closed and noted that the MSCA has departed from the simple method used in the 1960s. The board noted that qualification via the Grand Prix is something we talked about at length when we set up this event. We will continue this discussion at future meetings.

Next board meeting: May 8, 7:30, via zoom