

## WECC Meeting May 24, 2017

Attending: David Merrill (P), David Criswell (T), Doug Herigstad (S),  
Guests: Edith Lau, Carrie Hallquist, Viviana Gervasio, Beatrice, Erin, Rick Jorgensen  
(by phone)

Meeting started at 7:05 pm  
Welcome guests!

### 1. Battle of the Queens discussion

- A. Beatrice introduces herself and Erin, and describes the purpose and intent behind planning their tournament—to achieve their Silver Award in Girl Scouts
  - i. chess helped her make friends when she was learning to speak English, when she could play a game without much talking
  - ii. to encourage girls to play chess who otherwise might not feel welcome
  - iii. to be part of a group
  - iv. why in Pasco?
    - a. handed out sheets with statistics to explain
    - b. going over first page, detailed the breakdown of registrants for each local tournament
      - i. table indicates that more girls play in Pasco tournaments
- B. Erin went on to explain how they selected the West Pasco Branch of Mid-Columbia Libraries as the location for the tournament
  - i. the library is centrally located for all participants
  - ii. coincides with existing chess program—Friday Knights
  - iii. library has been very enthusiastic and accommodating
- C. Questions?
  - i. Dave M. first asked about the number of players allowed/expected
    - a. he suggested looking at the numbers of registered vs. attended
- D. they decided to charge \$10.00 for registration
  - i. to cover the cost of trophies primarily
  - ii. Dave M. mentioned incidental costs, included Paypal charges
  - iii. Carrie clarified that it's not a fundraiser, the goal is to break even
  - iv. registration fees will also pay for slice of pizza, soda for all participants, including volunteers.
  - v. would really like to provide a t-shirt as well
    - a. this would require additional information
    - b. they are considering mail-in registration instead of online
    - c. possibly print registration form from chesschampions.org and mail it in
    - d. one drawback to this would be entering all information for pairings manually
    - e. Rick offered input on 3<sup>rd</sup> party registration
      - 1. Ben's process is better if a little more expensive
    - vi. also considered giving everyone a water bottle, something that wouldn't need a size

- a. featuring a special logo for tournament
  - vii. will also consider having the same cost range as other tournaments (12/15/20)
  - viii. will the typical discount be offered to PSD students? \$10.00 early bird
    - a. Edith can ask, or cover her players with existing funds
    - b. coordinate with other Pasco coaches to include more players
- E. second graph included the breakdown of tournament participants by grade
  - i. indicated to them that a make-up of section by rating would be better
  - ii. Dave M. elaborated on ideal number of players 2 to the fifth power=32
- F. where will you get your trophies?
  - i. same as Orchard tournament—Buddy Meagley
  - ii. usually pretty flexible about changing the exact number of trophies, provided you give an estimate to begin with
- G. estimated total income of tournament = \$300
  - i. cost of trophies would be half that, may not allow much
  - ii. Beatrice and Erin referenced a sheet they worked out earlier with the potential numbers of trophies and the cost involved
- H. what about pizza?
  - i. Beatrice and Erin referenced another page that detailed the estimates for pizza
  - ii. everyone gets one free slice of pizza; if they want more, they can pay for it
    - a. would charge just \$1 per slice since they are not trying to make money
    - b. considered different options for food and drink offered
- I. Viviana mentioned that they considered closing the registration early to provide more time to prepare
  - i. usually close it the Thursday before the day of the tournament
  - ii. Edith pointed out that clubs are just getting started at the beginning of the school year
  - iii. the early bird rate is meant to encourage players to register early, and the increase in cost is intended to cover the incidental charges that accrue as a result of later registration
  - iv. timing of the tournament is the most concerning thing to Edith
    - a. school clubs don't really get started until end of September, early October
  - v. Dave M. suggested trying to get earlier registration by advertising in other ways, possibly swinging by radio station
  - vi. Rick also suggested going by after school programs, i.e. Boys and Girls Club
- J. the topic of all female volunteers for tournament, including judges, pairings person, tournament director, etc. came up
  - i. running down the tournament schedule looking for possible candidates
  - ii. Beatrice says maybe having more girls involved would allow the players to worry less

- iii. would also provide an example for the players, to stay involved
    - iii. Dave M., Dave C. and Doug will attend at any rate
  - K. tournament would follow Scholastic rules, so we could be more relaxed
    - i. not USCF rules
    - ii. smaller tournament and space involved would make it more manageable
  - L. expectation that this tournament would be a qualifier for State
    - i. criteria that each section include players from 3 different schools
      - a. may want to have fewer sections to meet this criteria
    - ii. must have U800 section, not U700 or U600
    - iii. also have to send tournament results in to state
    - iv. add note to flyer to indicate that it may not qualify for state if criteria not met
  - M. follow up with Doug with decisions and additional details
    - i. welcome to attend our next meeting if desired
- 2. Dave C. moved to approve minutes, Dave M. seconded, all said “Aye”
- 3. Review finances
 

A. Paypal	\$500.00
B. HAPO Credit Union	
i. Checking	\$1,063.58
ii. Savings	\$4,756.69
C. 18 Month CD C5	\$7,628.28
D. Subtotal	\$13,948.55
E. Minus Outstanding checks	\$0.00
F. Total	\$13,948.55

  - G. \$280 check from Richland Rook Roundup 7-12 section, already deposited
  - H. will likely need to purchase a number of things coming up
    - i. need to purchase 500 boards, 500 sets of pieces
    - ii. Dave M. suggested we do 2-color boards
    - iii. enough to anticipate 1400 players at 2018 State
    - iv. will also need clocks
      - a. 50 clocks worked well enough for 2017 State
      - b. encouraging middle school players to bring their own clocks
      - c. WECC brought 35 clocks
      - d. 20 other clocks donated
    - v. Dave M. suggested we purchase 20 more clocks to have plenty for all other tournaments as well
    - vi. buy new stuff before start of school year to be able to use them?
      - a. Dave C. says it will be nice to have shiny, new sets for State
    - vii. \$400 to \$500 for new clocks
    - viii. \$2000 for new boards
    - ix. \$2500 for new sets plus shipping and handling
    - x. total of \$5000 for all upcoming materials expenses
    - xi. Rick was able to defer most payments as long as possible to maintain cash flow
      - a. most expenses weren't due until 30 days before tournament

### 3. Summer Chess Nights

#### A. Flyer mostly ready to go

- i. Doug needs to make changes as suggested by Lisa Adams at Richland Public Library
- ii. he will send the completed flyer to Dave M. and Edith

#### B. the new STEAM space not divisible

- i. may pose issues with advanced players who do not require instruction
- ii. Stan will present videos/lessons to beginning players
- iii. gallery up front also not divisible any longer
- iv. Doug will try to arrange another room for advanced players
  - a. not too far from STEAM space

#### C. what kind of advertising do we want to do for this?

- i. get the flyer to Richland schools
  - a. Cathy has done this for us before
- ii. send the flyer to her as well, ask her to help us get it circulated
- iii. contact Diana Lam and Britt Han to try to get it in Kennewick schools
  - a. called and left message with Britt to help with this

### 4. Lessons from 2017 WSECC

#### A. typically about 30 players don't show

- i. first round went pretty smoothly

#### B. full two hours between first and second round

- i. anticipate 45 minutes between end of one round and beginning of next
- ii. more time is required for first two rounds due to parent anxiety
- iii. allow 15 minutes at most to allow for slop
- iv. pairings announcement went out 10 minutes before start of first round
- v. 2 hours was exact right amount of time
  - a. maybe shed 5 minutes off
  - b. took a long time to get parents out of room
    - i. certain personality type for this role
- vi. follow this example at 2018 State
- vii. feedback from parents indicates it's nice to have room to breathe, much more relaxing for parents to have extra time
- viii. can really only shave time off the very last round
- ix. 1 hour 45 minutes from start of round to start of next round

#### C. Trophies

- i. large trophies for 4, 4.5 and 5.0 points, with no place on label
- ii. moderate sized trophies for 3.0
- iii. ire feedback concerning trophies given at previous Tri-Cities State tournaments directed at Rick because they thought he organized the event
- iv. important to give some token (need not be trophies) to all players
- v. Dave M. expects trophy estimate to be \$5000 to \$6000
  - a. Rick imagines Buddy would defer full payment until tournament
- vi. anticipate \$5000 for chess sets and clocks, as well as \$5000 or more for trophies
- vii. middle school players in U1100 section had 64

- viii. could expect that many middle school players from Pasco alone at 2018 State
  - ix. U1100 to U1500 had 47 players (quite large)
  - x. provide same level of trophy for all middle school players
  - xi. “Washington State Chess Championship” printed on trophy
  - xii. only distinction was for Kindergarten players
    - a. first, second, third place and trophies through 10<sup>th</sup> place
      - i. all other players got participation trophy
  - xiii. trophies the most challenging thing to predict/project
    - b. to balance player expectation and actual number used
    - c. Buddy has been pretty good about taking back unused trophies
      - i. within 10% of original order
    - c. be sure to have enough right-sized trophies
  - xiv. no one will yell at you for a larger trophy
  - xv. about 60 players registered in the last week before tournament
  - xvi. only designation on trophy “Washington State Chess Championship 5.0 Award”
    - a. some parents indicated they wanted the place on the trophy
    - b. Rick decided not to do that
  - xvi. Rick would be happy to provide projection algorithm for trophy need based on last 10 years results
  - D. Used accelerated pairing for all sections first two rounds except Kindergarten
  - E. what’s the schedule for U1100 – U1500?
    - i. four rounds
      - a. done same day as rest of tournament
    - ii. only section that goes into Sunday is the Open section
  - F. Results from t-shirt vendor
    - i. formal apology for not having enough people working
    - ii. need at least 5 printing machines available
      - a. they are aware of the shortcomings at 2017 State
5. Hotel details for 2018 State
- A. Dave M. disappointed that hotel link NOT direct to room booking
  - B. need to make sure other hotels have links to Visit Tri-Cities
6. Rick says the folded brochures on tables did not have an impact
- A. Dave M. certain that it had an impact on some
    - i. handing a brochure to someone will definitely have an impact
7. Dave M. spoke to Ben R. about a preliminary pairing Wednesday night to receive feedback about players maybe not making it
- A. Rick suggests it’s critical to resolve issues a week before tournament, or they show up the day of
    - i. you can expect about 100 people with individual problems
    - ii. crucial to handle those 100 problems prior to the tournament
    - iii. Rick says he was constantly available to respond to these
      - a. answering many, many emails that week before
      - b. a quick response ensures that these get resolved quickly

- B. send out communications a month before, a week before and a day or two before tournament to keep parents informed and aware
  - C. Rick asked what else he could do to help, even if it means staying out of the way
8. Assign tasks to follow up
- A. Doug will send flyer to Dave M. and copy Edith, Cathy and Britt (Word document so Edith can translate it)
  - B. flyer from Beatrice, Dave M. will post it to website
  - C. Doug will follow up with Britt Han about KSD involvement
  - D. give Dave C. a day's notice to transfer funds to Checking acct for upcoming purchases
9. Next meeting June 14, 2017 at Dave Merrill's house: 513 Wagon Ct / Richland, WA
10. Doug moved to adjourn meeting, Dave M. seconded, all said "Aye"

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Herigstad