

The PCA Annual Meeting was held in the Lone Pine Town Hall on Saturday afternoon, April 4 1981. Few PCA members and only one PCA officer (VP Arthur Bisguier) attended. I presided.

Those present unanimously approved a resolution commending Max Burkett for his work on the PCA Newsletter and urging him to continue issuing the magazine for as long as funds are available.

Most of the discussion at the meeting concerning the method of selecting US players for invitational events such as the US Championship, US Junior Championship, Chess Olympics, etc. After considerable debate, we decided to take an informal vote on each of the specific USCF Policy Board regulations approved at the meeting of February 1981 (as published in Policy Board Newsletter #3 of 1980-81). In this straw vote both PCA members and interested non-members participated. Of the two dozen or so people present 14 voted on some or all of the motions. The results appear below with the numbers referring to the original Policy Board motion number.

- #31: "Selection to invitational events shall be based solely on statistical criteria uniformly applied with no subjective factors." Endorsed - 13 Opposed - 0
- #32: "Selection to invitational events shall be based on published information available four months prior to the event." Endorsed - 11 Opposed - 0
- #33: "Criteria shall be applied uniformly for selection to all national or international events for which the USCF offers invitations." Endorsed - 12 Opposed - 1
- #34: "The order of selection implies board order for international team events, but that board order can be changed (prior to entering the team) by unanimous agreement of those players involved in any proposed rearrangement." Endorsed - 10 Opposed - 1
- #35(a): "Invitations must be tendered based upon a ranking of players in which each player's rank shall be determined by the arithmetic mean of the player's peak published USCF rating (as currently defined) and his or her most recent published USCF rating at the time of selection." Endorsed - 10 Opposed - 1
- #35(b): "Ties shall be broken on the basis of number of rated games played in the USA during the 12 months prior to selection." Before endorsement the PCA meeting added the proviso: "assuming rating inflation is halted." Endorsed - 7 Opposed - 3
- #36: "Invitations shall be tendered only to players who have played at least ten games spanning at least two domestic USCF rated events in the calendar year preceding the selection date." Endorsed - 3 Opposed - 10

37: "The US Open winner shall be seeded into the next available US Championship."

Endorsed - 6 Opposed - 7

37, with added proviso: "if all grandmasters receive free entry and room at US Opens."

Endorsed - 6 Opposed - 6

38: The Grand Prix winner shall be seeded into the next available US Championship."

Endorsed - 11 Opposed - 3

39: The winner of the US Junior Invitational Championship shall be seeded into the next available US Championship."

Endorsed - 5 Opposed - 4

The topic of whether FIDE ratings should be used for determining invitations was raised, but no one favored it, and no motion was made. Also discussed was the problem of USCF rating of international tournaments. Some suggested that the USCF adjust FIDE ratings when calculating an American's USCF rating due to the difference in the two rating systems. No vote was taken. There was no discussion of nominations for the current PCA election.

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