

# *The Chicago Chess Player*

The Official Bulletin of the Chicago Industrial Chess League



"Chocolate Chess"; Photo Courtesy South Suburban Chess Club

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**Upcoming Tournaments**  
**Alternate Time Control Debate**  
**Fall CICL Business Meeting Minutes**

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Happy 2014!

**We're always looking for submissions!** As always, feel free to submit stories, games, chess news, and information about local chess events to the bulletin. We especially would like to hear from you about this month's dialogue regarding alternate time controls.

Please email submissions to [Bulletin@ChicagoChessLeague.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChicagoChessLeague.org).

Best to all,

Patrice Connelly  
CICL Bulletin Editor



# CHICAGO INDUSTRIAL CHESS LEAGUE

Fall Business Meeting of August 29, 2013

At: Fermi in Batavia

## Attendees:

Greg Bungo (DGCC)

Bill Feldman (ANCC/Molex)

Irwin Gaines (President, Fermi)

Andy Mosley (Treasurer, AonRen)

Brian Smith (DGCC)

Leonard Spiegel (Fermi)

Jerry Thomas (Secretary, ALU Dragons)

Jim Thomson (Motorola Kings)

Jeff Wiewel (STCC)

## MINUTES

President Irwin Gaines called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

### **1. OFFICERS REPORTS:**

#### **A. President – Irwin Gaines**

Irwin said that we have no new teams and one large discussion item on the agenda regarding playoff qualification rules.

#### **B. Secretary – Jerry Thomas**

Jerry said there were no changes to the spring business meeting minutes. The minutes were published in the bulletin. Attendees approved the minutes unanimously.

#### **C. Treasurer – Andy Mosley**

Andy Mosley presented the treasurer's report. The 2012-13 actual budget shows a slight deficit due to an expected loss on the banquet. Attendees asked for the following updates to the treasurer's report:

- add last year's position.
- include all team tickets that were part of their dues in the banquet loss justification.
- include in the Awards amounts where teams took a due credit instead of a trophy.
- add footnotes for multiple year expenses of scoresheets, hosting web fee and domain web fees.
- add Prepaid Postage for game submission of \$50 in the 2013-14 budget (see Games Editor item for details).

The proposed 2013-14 Fall Budget is based on 23 teams, no change in dues, no scoresheet order, and Publicity instead of Special. There will be a deficit of about \$300 due to the 3 year web hosting and 6 year web domain fees offset by no scoresheet fee. Irwin explained that slight deficits are budgeted to reduce our cash position which was built up to pay for a new computer which we no longer need.

After the meeting, Andy updated the treasurer's report and the updated CICL 2013-14 Fall Budget was approved unanimously via email. The CICL 2013-14 Fall Budget and the approved dues form are on the CICL web site.

**Team captains should submit their team dues payment to:**

Andy Mosley  
1415 Downing Place  
Apt 9P  
Mundelein, IL 60060

**D. Division Chairmen:**

**North-Jim Thompson, Chairman**

Jim said that there will be again 4 teams in the North this year. There are no new teams. All of the teams from last year are returning. Jim will schedule a round robin like last year.

**East-Tony Jasaitis, Chairman (via email)**

Most of the East teams are returning intact. Initial rosters have been provided to the Ratings Chair and distributed to the division. The only question mark is Loyola, most of whose prior members have graduated, leaving them with only one current member, so they have a big challenge ahead of them. I have suggested to our Treasurer to not include them in the current budget proposal, although of course I hope they will pull through.

The Hedgehogs, previously associated with my employer Tradelink (+alumni), despite a large initial roster last season, have experienced considerable attrition and reduced participation, to the point we barely fielded 6 players toward the end of the season, and it the outlook looks even worse for this season. If you add up the membership level of the remaining players below of the old team, and optimistically count the part-time players as half of a player, it only adds up to five.

Considering that I am the only team member still employed at Tradelink, and only one former employee still plays, with no new prospects, the company association would be better represented by renewing our old association with the former Getco, now KCG Holdings, still located downtown, with six employees from there (two current CICL members, four new ones, should this be approved.

The team structure would be company + alumni. The roster of the team is below. We would meet all league criteria for playing site and equipment, as usual.

Name	CICL		
	rating	status	comment
Alex Strunk	2091*	alumnus	was full-time, now just a few matches expected
Michael Rauchman	2076	alumnus	just a few matches
Eric Lindauer	USCF 1962	KCG	new to league, part time
Mack Smith	1887	alumnus	probably most matches
Tony Jasaitis	1829T	alumnus	hopefully most matches

Jason Smith	1696*	KCG	current CICL member, most matches
Milan Kratka	1601	alumnus	just a few matches
Alejandro Chavez	1477	KCG	current CICL, part time player
Alex Samoylovich	1400est	KCG	new to league, part time player
Andrei Shpakov	1400	KCG	CICL alumni, part time player
			(provisional CICL [1 rated game/3 total I found] from Motorola Kings ca. 2005-6)
Rob Douglas	1000est	KCG	new to league, part time player

There a couple of lower-board part-time players from last season who have not responded to two inquiries, so I am not listing them at this time.

Attendees unanimously approved the change of the Hedgehog's company association from Tradelink to KCG Holdings.

### **West-Jeff Wiewel, Chairman**

Jeff explained that all 10 teams are returning. He will again create a schedule for less travel during the winter bad weather months.

## **2. OTHER REPORTS:**

### **A. Bulletin Editor-Patricie Connelly (no report)**

### **B. Games Editor-Steve Tennant (no report)**

Irwin said we need to increase the game submissions as either scoresheets or PGN files. Last season, he got about 60% and many of those came in at the end of the season. If they come in as scoresheets, the task to create PGN files from them then needs to be split among at least 3 people. Jerry Thomas mentioned a web site free PGN file create tool was described in a prior CICL meeting minutes. Jerry will email Irwin URL's for URL's for web sites with free PGN file create tools. Attendees agreed that providing captains with stamped envelopes pre-addressed to the games editor or Irwin would get more scoresheets. Irwin offered to create those envelopes and get them to the team captains. Attendees unanimously agreed to keep the individual gamescore incentive prize and drop the team gamescore incentive prize.

Andy Mosley will update the budget to include \$50 to cover the cost of stamps and remove the \$50 for the gamescore incentive team prize.

Note: Players may be submitted games via email to [bulletin@chicagochessleague.org](mailto:bulletin@chicagochessleague.org)).

### **C. Webmaster-(vacant)**

### **D. Rating Chair-Jeff Balicki (via email)**

#### **RATINGS - OLD BUSINESS**

#### **1. 2013 Season Rating Reports**

- The CICL will continue to submit match results via the online match entry tool and use this output as the primary means of input to the ratings program. CICL reports will continue to be distributed via the CICL website.
- Division web pages should be kept up-to-date to validate submitted results.
- No Summer Tournament was requested this season.

2. Thank you to the three division chairmen, Tony Jasaitis, Jeff Wiewel, and Jim Thomson for their attention to detail last season to ensure initial rosters were submitted, new player information provided, and web sites kept up-to-date.

Most matches were played on or before the scheduled due date and, for those that weren't, a match date was often communicated in advance.

3. Thank you to the team captains who submitted initial rosters, new player information, and match results via the online match entry tool in a timely manner, sometimes on the night of the match.

#### RATINGS - NEW BUSINESS

1. The first draft of initial rosters and list of teams per division, based upon the teams and players as of the end of last season, was sent out to division chairmen last week.
2. The Division Top Ten Report has been modified for this season to include only players on a roster who have played in the current or prior season and have been credited with a minimum number of CICL rated games.

#### **E. Publicity Chairman-Matt Vail (no report)**

Irwin will contact Matt and make sure he agrees to continue.

Attendees reviewed the publicity web pages and Bill Feldman agreed to talk to Matt about updating these web pages. Bill said the new rules allowing combined teams should be highlighted so that 2 new company teams each with less than 6 players might combine to form a team.

#### **F. Banquet Chairman-Katherine Zak (no report)**

Irwin said Katherine agreed to continue. He asked if the banquet should go back to the first Friday in June and remain at Alpine.

After some discussion, attendees agreed that the banquet date will return to the first Friday in June and should remain at Alpine unless a cheaper alternative was available.

#### **F. Trophy Chairman-Chuck Dobrovolny (via email)**

- Trophy costs remained the same (per trophy) as the previous year
- Trophy outlay in 2013 was \$185.00 compared to 2012 which was 466.00 as more teams opted for dues credit as their prize.
- All trophies handed out at the banquet or handed off to attendees who would then route the prize to the recipient.
- No outstanding trophy issues as of 8/21/2013.

#### **3. ELECTIONS and APPOINTMENTS**

**Appointments – Bulletin Editor, Ratings Chair, Webmaster, Games Editor, Trophy Chair, Banquet Chair** - all agreed to continue.

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A. New teams/new status**

**East** - Hedgehog's company association changed to KCG Holdings.

**North, West** – no new teams.

**B. Adjournments** – tabled for now. Irwin will survey team captains about using different time controls. Currently, teams can ask players to agree to different time controls, but both players must agree to use non-standard time controls.

### **C. Constitution changes from Spring Meeting:**

#### **Middle of Season Team Dropouts:**

From the spring meeting, the decision was: If a team doesn't complete half its matches, it doesn't count. Jim Thomson described the rewording required in the league championship/playoffs team eligibility methods part of the CICL Constitution (section D in Section VI) to remove teams that dropout before they have completed half their matches. Attendees asked that forfeit wins be included in determining if a team has completed half their matches. Attendees unanimously approved the rewording. Jim will provide the exact rewording to Jerry Thomas for the CICL Constitution update.

Irwin handed out wording for a new section E in Section IV concerning the issue of individual match forfeits. Attendees discussed how this applied under the various division schedules. The proposal was: If a team has not completed half of the scheduled cycle, all of its matches for that cycle will be made forfeit losses. Games played will count for individual awards, ratings, etc. If a team has completed at least half of the scheduled cycle, just the remaining matches in the cycle will be made forfeit losses and played matches will not be changed. Attendees unanimously approved this proposal. Irwin will provide the exact rewording to Jerry Thomas for the CICL Constitution update.

Irwin described the need to replace a team that dropped out after playing the 1<sup>st</sup> round of playoffs. Attendees discussed this and agreed that contacting the next highest raw PR rated non-playoff team was the best way to obtain a replacement team in the limited time available. A half point bye would be awarded to the replacement team. Irwin will provide the exact rewording to Jerry Thomas for this CICL Constitution update

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Discussion of playoff qualification rules (see document on web site)**

Irwin explained that these rules had 2 aims:

- to distribute fairly among the Divisions based on number of teams.
- an overall fairness issue where a team has the same chance of getting into the playoffs no matter which division they are in.

Brian Smith said his document suggested several alternative methods to select the playoff teams and was intended to spark discussion and a later proposal of changes.

Attendees discussed at length various changes to the rules and whether they would make the rules fairer. No conclusion was reached.

**Irwin asked that league members review Brian's document on the main CICL web page and provide thoughts and comments on it to Irwin.**

### **B. Distribute:**

- **Score sheets** Irwin Gaines distributed score sheets to the teams that needed them.
- **Match result sheets** Irwin Gaines distributed match sheets to the teams that needed them.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 P.M.

Jerry Thomas, Secretary September 9, 2013



## Your Thoughts: Alternate Time Controls in CICL Matches

**Greg Bungo of DGCC gets us started with his thoughts and experience with alternate time controls this year:**

Hi everyone,

Now that the CICL season is half over, I'm curious about people's experiences with alternate time controls in league matches. I hope most of you have had the opportunity to try a different time control, such as { 45 moves / 90 minutes, Sudden Death (SD) / 60 minutes, 5 second delay }.

My team, Downers Grove Chess Club, has played 5 matches, and in 4 of those matches, every game was played with an alternate time control. In one game in one match, the players did not have a digital clock, so they couldn't use the 5 second delay, but they still played 45/90, SD/60, since adjournments are annoying, and are fertile ground for cheating in the computer age. We won, lost, and twice drew matches with the alternate time control.

In a fifth match (not in the 5th round), only two of our opponents agreed to use the alternate { 45/90, SD/60, 5 sec. delay } time control. We won that match.

There are multiple benefits to the alternate control, and I no longer think that avoiding adjournments is the primary benefit, although it is important. The 5 second delay helps to prevent time pressure from becoming purely an act of manual dexterity. With the standard CICL time control, if a player is very short of time a few moves prior to a time control (usually shortly before move 45), he is in great danger of losing on time, unless he is a highly skilled blitz player. I don't know about the rest of you, but I make a lot of mistakes in blitz play, and the extra 5 seconds per move is enormously reassuring.

I would love to read the impressions of people who have played with an alternate sudden death time control in a CICL league match.

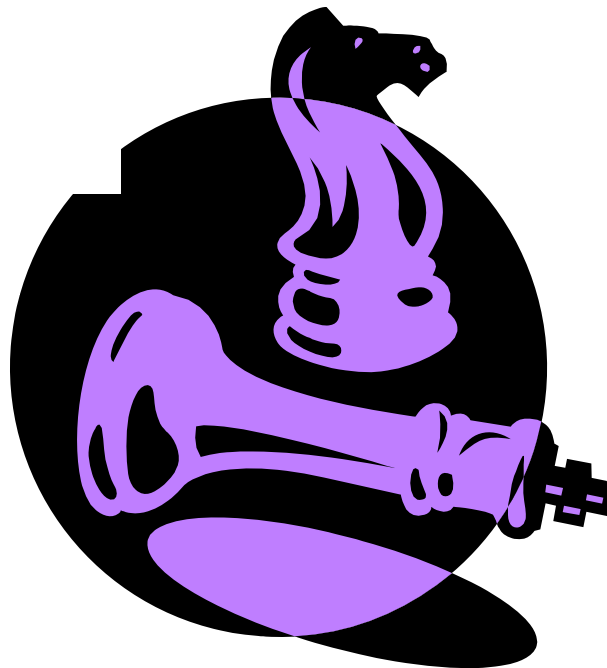
**Tony Jasaitis of Hedgehogs:**

As far as I know, the East Division is 100% on a de facto standard of 45/90, then SD/60, 5 sec delay (if digital clock; for mechanical clocks some people might add a few minutes to the clock). I believe we're all happy with that. Some individual boards agree to faster, like G/90.

**What are your thoughts and your/your team's experience with alternate time controls this year so far? Please send an email to [Bulletin@ChicagoChessLeague.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChicagoChessLeague.org) and we'll include your responses in next month's bulletin!**

**97<sup>th</sup> Knights Quest**  
**January 19, 2014**  
**Crowne Plaza Hotel Northbrook, Northbrook, IL**

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2875 Milwaukee Ave, Northbrook, IL (free Wi-Fi) **USCF Rated Sections: Open** (K-12 & Adults), **U1400** (K-12 & Adults), **U1000** (K-8) & **U600** (K-8). **Awards:** Top 6 U600, U1000 & U1400 Sections, \$50 – 40 - 30 Open Sections (based on 8 players). Players in U600 receive participation award. **Time Control:** Game 30 (G/25,d5) 4 Rounds U600 & U1000 Sections Game 45 (G/40,d5) 4 Rounds U1400 & Open Sections. **Reg:** 11:00-11:30 am. **Rds:** 1 at 12:00 pm, rest ASAP. **EF:** \$30 early, \$35 after Monday before, \$40 after Friday before. \$5 discount to siblings and team members when registering together. **Online Registration:** [www.rknights.org](http://www.rknights.org) **Mail-in Reg:** Renaissance Knights, PO Box 1074, Northbrook, IL 60065. **Info:** [www.rknights.org](http://www.rknights.org), 773-844-0701



# Bradley Winter Open: January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Bradley University, Robert Michel Student Center, 915 N Elmwood, Peoria, IL 61606.

## 4 Round Swiss System, Game 80 + 5 Second Delay. A Tournament in Two Sections, Open & Reserve

Prize Fund (\$1000 Guaranteed Prizes):

### Open

1st \$200, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$50,  
Expert (2000-2199) \$50 & \$25,  
Class A (1800-1999) \$50 & \$25,  
Class B (1600-1799) \$50 & \$25,  
Class C (Below 1600) \$50 & \$25,  
Upset \$50 (Unrated Players Not Eligible).

### Reserve (under 1400)

1st \$75, 2nd \$50  
Class D (1000-1199) \$50 & \$25,  
Class E (Below 1000) \$50 & \$25,  
Upset \$25 (Unrated Players Not Eligible).

**Time Control:** Game 80 with 5 seconds delay.

**Schedule:** Check in from 8 to 8:45am. If you are late we can give first round ½ point bye and you play in rest of tournament. Rounds will start at 9am, Noon, 2:45pm, 5:30pm.

### Entry Fee:

\$25 at the door; Payable at site, check or cash OK.

USCF membership can also be purchased or renewed at the site.

Discounts: FREE for Masters (2200+), \$2 Discount for ICA & GPCF members.

How to Enter: by postal mail or e-mail. email entries will be confirmed by email. Entries are also accepted at the door.

### Other Information:

Half-point Byes are available in rounds 1-3. Tournament Director must be notified 1 round in advance.

Visit the GPCF web page at GPCF dot NET for more information.

This is a Chess Magnet School, JGP event

## 2014 US Amateur Team North Championship February 21-23, 2014

The 2014 U.S. Amateur Team Championship North will take place February 21-23, 2014 at the Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, 1800 E. Golf Rd., Schaumburg, Illinois.

**Event Information:** 5 round Swiss, open to 4 player teams with one optional alternate. Teams' average rating (January 2014 rating list) must be under 2200.

**Time Controls:** Game/90 +30s increment from move 1. Rounds 1 and 2 in the 2-day schedule play Game/60, d5.

**Entry Fees:** \$160 per team if received USPS or online by 6pm on February 5th, \$180 if received USPS or online by 6pm on February 15th, \$200 online until 6pm on February 17th and onsite.

Individuals wishing to play, send \$40 and request to be put on team by USPS and online by 6pm on February 5th, \$45 until February 15th, or \$50 on site.

Team changes onsite or after 6pm on February 21st, \$20.

**Prizes:** Awards to top two teams, top teams with average rating Under 1900, Under 1600 and Under 1300. Award for Best Team Name, Best Costume or theme. Winning team qualifies for national play-offs. Prizes to best team composed of juniors (high school and younger), college team, best HS team. Prizes to top score on each board. Prizes are players choice of a selected clock or equivalent book store credit. Special raffle with prizes for players staying at the Hyatt!

**Schedule:** 3-day, onsite registration/check-in February 21, 5:30pm-6:30pm. Round 1; February 21, 7pm, Round 2; February 22, 10am, Round 3; February 22, 4pm, Round 4; February 23, 10am and Round 5; February 23, 3:30pm.

2-day, onsite registration/check-in February 22, 8am-9:30am. Round 1; February 22, 10am, Round 2; February 22, 1pm then merge with 3-day schedule in Round 3.

**Illinois Blitz Championship:** 5 round Swiss, Saturday night, February 22. Entry fee \$25 if received USPS or online by February 18th, \$30 at site. Round 1; 8pm, 2 games with each opponent.

**Hotel:** Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, 1800 E. Golf Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60173. Telephone 847-605-1234. \$89.00 chess rate single-double-triple-quad until 2/5/13, Free WiFi included with Room! Please reserve early.

**To Enter:** Make checks payable to and send to: Chess Weekend, 21694 Doud Ct., Frankfort, IL 60423. Please include Team's name and roster (plus ID#), captain's email and phone number, and desired schedule. Info: 815-955-4793 before 8pm.

North American Chess Association will provide Sets-Boards-Clock

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**Chicago Public Library**

**Edgewater's new chess club:**



# **CHESS on the EDGE**

**Begins Tuesday, January 21, 5:30—8:00 PM**

**We will meet on the first and third Tuesday evenings of every month for open play and other chess-related activities. We aim to provide a friendly and encouraging environment where players can teach and learn skills or simply play matches in whatever style they prefer. An experienced player will be present to explain the basics and rules of chess. Boards will be provided, but feel free to bring your own board and/or clock. A demonstration board will be available to aid game analysis and discussions of strategy. We will meet in the second floor community room of the Edgewater Branch Library.**

**Meetings are free and open to all players, from beginners to masters. Adults, teens, and children ages eight and up may attend. Newcomers are welcome!**



City of Chicago  
Mayor Rahm Emanuel

**Chicago  
Public  
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[chicagopubliclibrary.org](http://chicagopubliclibrary.org)



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