

## **Minutes of Oceania Chess Confederation meeting, Tromso, Norway, 14/08/2015**

**Venue:** Rica Hotel, Tromso

**Time:** 8pm

**Present:** Paul Spiller (Chair), Gary Bekker (Aus), Jan Berglund (Palau), Roberto Hernandez (Palau), Virgilio de Asa (Fiji), Joselito Marcos (PNG), Leonid Sandler (Aus),

**Apologies:** Brian Jones , Jamie Kenmure, Hilton Bennett, Bob Gibbons, Kerry Stead, Gary Wastell, Kevin Bonham, Leon Ryan & Shaun Press

Paul Spiller opened the meeting and thanked those present. Due to the length of the sessions at the FIDE General Assembly a lot of delegates were unable to be present. Also Bob Gibbons and Kerry Stead arrived for the meeting but had to leave early because of the departure of the arbiters buses.

The meeting was of an informal nature with no pre-determined agenda other than to appoint the Oceania Zone 3.6 president for the next 4 years after the decision of Brian Jones to stand down from this position as from the Tromso Olympiad.

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes from the previous meeting in Ballarat, Australia on March 10th, 2014 were read and approved as a true and correct record. [Virgilio/Gary]

### **Matters arising**

Regional Development: Gary Bekker has tried in the past to initiate chess interest in Vanuatu, Tonga and Nauru with very limited success. Leon Ryan is prepared to visit Saipan with a view to develop chess in that country.

2015 Zonal: Paul Glissen of the *Norths* Chess Club in North Sydney has undertaken to organize this event. The timing will be in early July, 2015. Paul Spiller will continue to communicate with him on this and let Oceania federations know details as soon as possible.

### **Election of Oceania Zone 3.6 President**

It was moved by Gary Bekker that Paul Spiller (NZ) be formally appointed as the president of Oceania Zone 3.6 . Seconded by Dr. Virgilio de Asa (Fiji) and Roberto Hernandez (Palau). All in favour.

Since Dr De Asa is standing down from the position of president of the FCF at the next AGM (January 2015), he recommended that either Leon Ryan (Guam) or Joselito Marcos (PNG) replace him on the executive board at that time. [The next meeting of the Oceania Chess Confederation will be held in January, 2015 in Auckland and until that time it is recommended that the executive remain the same with Brian Jones as deputy president, Hilton Bennett as secretary, Shaun Press as treasurer with executive members Dr. De Asa and Gary Bekker]

### **General Business**

It was recommended that a proposal be put to FIDE asking that the awarding of an automatic CM [Candidate Master] title be given to the winner of any future tournament to decide an Oceania Junior Champion.

Paul Spiller announced the likelihood of a FIDE training seminar being held in Auckland in January after the NZ Open Championship. Dr De Asa reported that many Fiji players had gained titles after recent seminars held both in Fiji and The Solomons. In May a total of 19 players received qualifications including 3 FIDE Instructors, 3 National Instructors and 13 Development Instructors. In particular Calvin Prasad received the FI and FA qualification and Gloria Sukhu the FA and NI qualification. It was reported that Fijian representative player Kieran Lyons also completed an FA training course in Tromso.

Roberto also reported that several players from Palau had received FI, NI, and DI qualifications and he along with Geoff Barbacosa had taken part in the FA course held in Tromso.

Eric Whipps from Palau had also completed an FA course in the UAE during the World Youth Chess Championship.

### **Future Plans**

Paul Spiller requested that federations forward to him their developmental plans for the next 4 years. Fiji have a 2015-18 Development Plan in place as do Guam.

Roberto Hernandez would like to have assistance with coaching eg a visit by a GM for three months in preparation for the next Olympiad.

**Meeting closed at 9.00pm**

**Next meeting: Devonport, Auckland, January 9th, 2015**