

# **OCEANIA CHESS CONFEDERATION (OCC)**

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN SYDNEY AUSTRALIA ON SATURDAY 12 JANUARY 2013**

### 1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

- 1.1 In attendance were: Brian Jones (Zone President), Paul Spiller (Delegate - New Zealand), Dr Virgilio De Asa (Delegate - Fiji), Shaun Press (Delegate - PNG), Hilton Bennett (Executive), Gary Bekker (Executive), Jamie Kenmure (Observer - Australia), Gary Wastell (Observer - Australia), Kevin Bonham (Observer - Australia), Paul Glissan (Observer – Australia).
- 1.2 Apologies were received from Roberto Hernandez (Palau), Anthony Maelasi (Solomon Islands), Leon Ryan (Guam), Joselito Marcos (PNG).
- 1.3 Proxies were received from Guam (Brian Jones) and Palau (Jamie Kenmure).

### 2. PREVIOUS MEETING

- 2.1 The Minutes of the OCC Meeting held in Queenstown New Zealand on 21 January 2012 were confirmed. Proposed by Paul Spiller. Seconded by Virgilio De Asa. Carried unanimously.
- 2.2 Brian Jones reported that the OCC request in Istanbul for FIDE to award Oceania junior titles was not initially successful. However FIDE plan to introduce new Title Regulations in 2013.

### 3. PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS

- 3.1 The President's Report for 2012 was tabled. It was noted that the 2012 Asian Seniors Championships and 2012 Asian Amateur Championships had been hosted successfully in Australia (Parramatta) and two FIDE Arbiters Seminars had been organised during the year (Queenstown and Parramatta). Also, the inaugural Yulgilbar-Think Big Oceania Grand Prix had paid out substantial cash prizes and offered travel grants for Oceania players to compete in the 2013 Malaysia Open. The President was thanked for another successful year. Proposed by Hilton Bennett. Seconded by Virgilio De Asa. Carried unanimously.

### 4. POLICY BOARD MATTERS

- 4.1 The Roll Call was recorded as follows:
  - (a) three delegates (Fiji, New Zealand, PNG) and two proxies (Palau, Guam).
  - (b) Australia and Solomon Islands were currently not financial members.
- 4.2 No changes were made to the OCC Statutes. However, Australia indicated that they might join the OCC in the future if changes were made to the OCC Statutes. Paul Spiller was tasked with meeting with Gary Wastell and Kevin Bonham to discuss the Australian proposals, with a view to making changes at the next OCC meeting in Fiji in May 2013. Shaun Press to discuss with FIDE the possible benefits of OCC incorporation.
- 4.3 It was confirmed that all OCC Meeting Minutes, Reports, Statutes, Regulations and other documents should continue to be made publically available on the Oceania website at [www.oceaniachess.com](http://www.oceaniachess.com)

## 5. EXECUTIVE BOARD MATTERS

5.1 The President confirmed the OCC Executive Board for 2013 as:

President:	Brian Jones (Australia)
Deputy President:	Paul Spiller (New Zealand)
Secretary:	Hilton Bennett (New Zealand)
Treasurer:	Shaun Press (PNG)
Member	Dr Virgilio De Asa (Fiji)
Member	Gary Bekker (Australia)

5.2 Shaun Press presented the Treasurer's report for 2012. The OCC Balance Sheet, as at 31/12/2012, showed net assets of A\$4,813 after a small profit from the Asian Continental Championships and after providing for the \$3,000 development support monies earmarked for the Solomon Islands. Shaun noted that the Australia and Solomon Islands unpaid fees and loans of \$1,254 may need to be written off in future years. It was agreed that the OCC membership fees for 2012 would remain unchanged. The Treasurer's Report and unaudited accounts for 2012 were accepted. Proposed by Virgilio De Asa. Seconded by Paul Spiller. Carried unanimously.

5.3.1 The 2013 Open and Women's Zone Championships were confirmed for the Sonaisali Island Resort in Nadi Fiji from 4-10 May 2013.

5.3.2 The 2013 Oceania Seniors Championships were confirmed for the Canterbury Chess Club in Christchurch New Zealand 25-28 April 2013 as part of the 2013 New Zealand Seniors Championships.

5.3.3 As there were no obvious tournament from which to award the 2014 Oceania Open Championship titles, it was agreed to approach the organisers of the 2014 Doeberl Cup and Sydney International events.

5.3.4 It was confirmed that the Norths Chess Club in Sydney Australia would organise the 2014 Oceania Seniors Championships. Paul Glissan agreed to determine the format and dates by the end of March 2013.

5.3.5 The 2015 Zone Championships were also awarded to the Norths Chess Club in Sydney Australia. Paul Glissan agreed to determine the format and dates by the end of June 2013.

5.3.6 There were no bids for the Oceania Junior Championships.

5.3.7 There were no bids for the Oceania Teams Championships.

5.4 The inaugural 2012 Oceania Grand Prix, sponsored by Dato' Tan Chin Nam and Baillieu Myer, was won by Australian IM Max Illingworth. New events in the 2013 Oceania Grand Prix include the Guam International Open, the Ballarat Begonia Open, the NZ Trusts Open and the New Caledonia Open. Gary Bekker presented a proposal to hold a 2013 Polynesian International in Tahiti in October (subject to finance).

5.5 Virgilio de Asa reported that there are no new prospective FIDE member Federations in Oceania at the present time. (East Timor has joined South East Asia.) OCC was unable to meet the deadline for the introduction of chess to the Pacific Games in Port Moresby in 2015. The next Pacific Games is scheduled for Vanuatu in 2019 and the deadline for applications is August 2013. (Six countries, not including Australia and New Zealand who are ineligible, are required to sign up for chess to be included in the Pacific Games). It was noted that the Pacific Games committee was reducing the number of games activities so there was little prospect for chess in the near future.

5.6 It was agreed that no further FIDE Arbiter Seminars would be organised in the short term. Members were advised to attend the various online seminars now available in the USA and elsewhere.

5.7 It was noted that there was some interest in organising FIDE Trainer Seminars in Australia and New Zealand. However, these Seminars should not require OCC assistance.

5.8 Brian Jones recommended that the Federations of both Fiji and Solomon Islands should formally request to join the FIDE Chess-in-School Project.

## 6. NEXT MEETING

6.1 It was agreed to hold the next meeting in Fiji in May 2013 (probably on 8 May 2013).