

## **BOARD MEETING 7 MARCH 2014**

Minutes for the Board meeting of 7 March 2014 are being prepared. Once produced, these will replace this brief report. For the context of new information, see my note regarding the minutes from 19 January 2014. Highlights from 7 March:

1. An hour-long discussion with a potential Commercial Director included the need for anyone in that role to be empowered to ensure that needs of a future headline sponsor would be met. A requirement to upgrade the ECF website was identified as an immediate commercial priority.
2. Preparations for the Finance Council are on track; however, the Board has not decided all tradeoffs among professional players, youth international, women, seniors, admin and the reserves. Some of these allocations also require a spending plan. I expect that decisions will be made in good time for the Finance Council and that significant budgetary changes will be linked to a strategic plan.
3. Carl Portman was appointed as Manager of Chess in Prisons. Natasha Regan was appointed to the Selection Committee.
4. The Board agreed to amicably settle an internal matter with an agreement with Andrew Paulson. The vote was:

FOR: DE, DT, AH, LC, SH, JC, AP

AGAINST: none

ABSTAIN: DO

Not Voting due to chairing the meeting: PE. I support the agreement.

5. The Board declared its intention to instruct the FIDE Delegate to cast the ECF's vote for Garry Kasparov in the FIDE Presidential Election. The Board will review the matter after nominations close. The Chief Executive will proceed with the invitation already extended to the incumbent FIDE President and the incumbent ECU President to campaign in England. Subsequent to the meeting, I accepted an invitation from the Irish Chess Union to participate in one of Garry Kasparov's campaign events at the end of March. It is also an opportunity to discuss matters with other local federations in advance of a BICC meeting being organised in May.

Phil Ehr  
Chief Executive  
11 March 2014