

AIA ACCA Meeting Minutes (Revised) Catalina Foothills HS 2008.1122:

Attendance:

REGION I		
1. Alchesay-I	Johann C. Ngo	O
2. Ash Fork-I	Abudlia Mayoral	X
3. Blue Ridge-I	Jeff Robinson	X
4. Holbrook-I	Eldon Ferguson	X
5. Hopi-I	Owen Poleystewa	X
6. Kingman-I	Jack Burden	O
7. Tuba City-I	Michael Belinte	X
8. Winslow-I	Javier Linarte	O
	TOTAL:	4
REGION II		
1. Alhambra-II	Barry Wilder	O
2. Apollo-II	Jennifer J Rice	O
3. Barry Goldwater-II	Dave Small	X
	Joe Stempniewski	O
	Magdalen Pettigrew	X
4. Borgade-II	Sam Steuter	O
5. Carl Hayden-II	Chip Sikorsky	O
6. Central-II	Brian Tindell	O
7. Glendale-II	Dominick A Grosso	O
8. Independence-II	Jeff Breier	O
	Mike Siwek	O
9. Kofa-II	Dean Cain	O
10. Maryvale-II	Adam Moukad	O
	Dennis Pinon	O
11. Moon Valley-II	Thomas Taylor	O
12. North Point Prep-II	Nick Leonardi	O
13. San Luis-II	Matthew Osborn	X
14. Trevor Browne-II	Johnette Ramsey	X
15. Washington-II	David Domotor	O
	Jon Miller	O
16. Yuma-II	John Pacho	X
	TOTAL:	5
REGION III		
1. Camelback-III	Dave Dickman	O
2. Coolidge-III	Celeste Edwards	O
3. Corona del Sol III	Leigh Trudgen	X

4. Desert Ridge-III	Jamie Valocchi	O
5. Desert Vista-III	Wayne Brimley	O
6. Gilbert-III	John Thiele	X
	Michael Fitch Michael	X
	Reading	O
7. Gilbert Classical Academy-III	Cynthia Huettner	O
8. Highland-III	Chris Tallent	O
9. Highley-III	Paul Mathis	O
10. McClintock	Mojo Krup	X
11. Mesquite-III	Jason Hernandez	O
	Jill Scott	O
12. Mountain Pointe-III	Dan Ray	X
13. North-III	James Minnick	O
14. Nortre Dame Preparatory-III	Carmene Carbone	X
15. Tempe-III	Doug Taysom	O
16. Williams Field-III	Craig Pearson	X
	TOTAL:	7
REGION IV		
1. Amphi-IV	Misha Shevelev	O
2. Buena-IV	Robert Walton	O
3. Canyon Del Oro-IV	Brian Hagan	O
4. Catalina Foothills-IV	Robby Adamson	X
	Roger Brownell	O
5. Desert View-IV	Steve Sudderth	O
6. Flowing Wells-IV	Robert Becker	X
7. Nogales-IV	Vladimir Vladimirov	X
8. Patagonia-IV	Gilbert Melanson	O
9. Rincon/University-IV	John Shadonix	O
10. Rio Rico-IV	Rene Ramirez	X
11. Sahuarita-IV	Tracy Murtadza	O
12. Salpointe-IV	Jonathan Cox	X
13. Santa Cruz-IV	Jim Shapiro	O
14. St. Gregory's	Ken Larson	O
15. Sunnyside-IV	Gene Hendricks	X
16. University-IV	Ken Larson	O
17. Vail/Cieniga-IV	Ed Kessler	O
	TOTAL:	6

Meeting was called to order by Leigh Trudgen at 0840 hours.

In addition to the 22 coaches listed above, Cynthia McMannon, CMAA Activities Coordinator Non-Athletic Activities, 7007 North 18th Street, Phoenix, Arizona, 85020-

5552, 602.385.3810 (o), 602.385.3779 (fax), 602.686.4893 (m),
cmcmannon@aiaonline.org of the Arizona Interscholastic Association –
www.aiaonline.org was present.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Previous meeting minutes approved:

The ACCA San Luis meeting minutes of 2008.1108 were approved with membership changes and submitted for the record.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Next year's tournament dates:

Leigh Trudgen furnished next year's tournament dates:

- Sep 11-12 ~~Team~~ Invitational hosted by Region II
- Sep 25-26 ~~Individual~~ Invitational hosted by Region I
- Nov 6-7 State Team Championships hosted by Region IV
- Nov 20-21 State Individual Championships hosted by Region III

Mike Belinte stated Region I should host the Team Invitational versus the Individual Invitational to give traveling teams less strain.

The issue was voted upon and unanimously approved.

2009 AIA Chess Schedule will be:

- Sep 11-12 Individual Invitational (five rounds) hosted by Region II at Barry Goldwater HS
- Sep 25-26 Team Invitational (four rounds) hosted by Region I at Blue Ridge HS
- Nov 6-7 State Team Championships (four rounds) hosted by Region IV at Catalina Foothills HS
- Nov 20-21 State Individual Championships (six rounds) hosted by Region III at Corona del Sol HS

Leigh requested that Region Directors submit their region schedules to him no later than Jan 1, 2009.

2. New ACCA Directors and Executive Secretary:

Leigh thanked out-going Directors and Executive Secretary for their services and announced that next year:

- Mike Belinte will continue as Region I Director
- Barry Wilder will start as new Region II Director
- Jill Scott will start as new Region III Director
- Gene Hendricks will continue as Region IV Director
- Doug Taysom will start as new Executive Secretary of the ACCA.

3. Improve AIA Chess Events:

Mike Belinte stated the ACCA should make AIA Chess Events more special and specifically requested that the “United States National Anthem” and the “Pledge of Allegiance” should occur before the start of each event. Further, our events would benefit from a “guest speaker.”

Vadimir suggested that we should have media involvement. Cynthia suggested that chess scores could be made available to the media, but that the AIA cannot force the media to print anything. Cynthia stated that she has spoken to a chess coach who called her about this. To post chess scores or other information on AIA’s website, she believes there is a need for the ACCA to assign media responsibilities to an individual(s). Craig Pearson commented that all high schools currently have a media contact and that when a high school hosts a tournament, the media contact should be used to disseminate tournament results to the media.

Cynthia stated that the ACCA currently has the ability to post results of AIA chess tournaments on the state AIA website. Go to AIA website – Activities Section/Chess/Content. Cynthia state she would work with whoever the ACCA designates to handle these tasks. In addition to tournament results, schedules, ACCA coaches’ lists and other data could be posted on the state AIA website, but Cynthia emphasized that the AIA will only accept organizational approved documents.

Leigh pointed out that the State Newsletter Editor of the ACCA is currently vacant (See Article 33.1.4). There were no takers, but Dave stated that David Domotor of Washington HS may be interested.

4. Proposed Amendment Changes to Article 33

John stated the below listed “Proposed Amendments” have been submitted to the Executive Board of AIA for approval and inclusion in the 2009 AIA rules.

Cynthia stated the Executive Board of the AIA will generally approve all changes submitted by the ACCA as the AIA Executive Board views the ACCA as the “experts” and that any change submitted by the ACCA would be viewed as necessary for the betterment of AIA Chess. She added that, when voting on these changes, Legislative Council members would take into consideration loss of school time and expenses incurred by the school.

#1 Proposed Amendment: AIA Bylaw: 33.13.1

~~CURRENT: The individual player Thomas Rating System is a “closed” point system based on “400” for the “new.”~~

CHANGE:

AIA chess ratings are based on the Thomas Rating System. Non-USCF new players to AIA chess start with a rating of 400.

~~CURRENT: The Tournament Director may establish a more equitable rating if a new player has a USCF Rating.~~

CHANGE:

The Coach and Region Director may establish a more equitable AIA rating if the AIA player has a “Current Published USCF Rating.” The Coach may change any new AIA player’s rating one time, to more clearly reflect that player’s “Current Published USCF Rating.” Prior to the start of each AIA season, the Coach may petition the Region Director for an adjustment to the AIA rating of any returning player based on that player’s “Current Published USCF Rating.” To make a rating change of a returning player, the Coach must submit USCF rating verification to the Region Director.

~~CURRENT: The formula should be: the student’s “Current Published USCF Rating” minus 200 divided by two.~~

CHANGE:

The conversion formula is: The Student’s Current AIA Rating =’s “Current Published USCF Rating” multiplied by 0.4 plus 125.

#2 Proposed Amendment: AIA Bylaw: 33.14.3.4.4:

CURRENT:

~~Individual Tournament Tie Breaks:~~

- ~~● Cumulative~~
- ~~● Weighted Solkoff. Disregard opponents with lowest score.~~
- ~~● Average of the opponents’ progressive ratings~~
- ~~● Solkoff~~

CHANGE:

“Individual” Tournament Tie-Breaks:

In Individual AIA Tournaments, Modified Median will be used to resolve ties. If Modified Median does not resolve the tie, then the following tie breaks will be used in the following prioritized order:

Second: Solkoff

Third: Cumulative

Fourth: Cumulative of Opposition

#3 Proposed Amendment: AIA Bylaw: 33.13.3

CURRENT:

~~September/October ————— 75~~

~~November/December ————— 50~~

CHANGE:

August/September 75

October/November/December 50

#4 Dave proposed the ACCA submit a rule change to establish a “Floor AIA Chess Rating of 300.” This “Floor Rating” would prohibit any player’s rating from going below 300 points regardless of how many games are lost. The proposal was unanimously passed.

NEW:

No AIA player rating shall fall below 300 points which is established as the “Floor Rating” for all AIA Players.

RATIONALE:

Players with minimal chess skills who enjoy AIA chess play should not be overly penalized for their inabilities.

5. Discussion re changing from Thomas Rating System to USCF Rating System

Dave stated that based on the ACCA discussions of Sep 13, 2008, at Blue Ridge HS, Dave has contacted Bill Hall, Executive Director of the USCF, regarding the feasibility of hiring the USCF to rate all AIA tournament chess games .

Bill advised he was willing to work with the ACCA to make this happen, but that the USCF would be required to charge a fee. Bill suggested that this fee could be an annual fee per player or could be calculated from each game submitted. Bill stated he would need to know the approximate number of AIA chess players and the number of AIA chess games to be rated on an annual basis.

Bill further stated there are several approaches that could be used (see USCF proposal outline below).

Leigh and the Region Directors advised that AIA Chess consists of the following:

- 460 number of players
 - 70 - Region I
 - 130 - Region II
 - 130 - Region III
 - 130 - Region IV
- 4500 number of AIA rated games played per year
 - 450 - Region I
 - 1100 - Region II
 - 750 - Region III
 - 900 - Region IV

GENERAL OUTLINE OF USCF RATING PROPOSAL:

1. Each AIA player would have a USCF ID #.
2. All AIA tournament games would be USCF rated.
3. All AIA tournament games would be submitted to the USCF for rating.
 - Electronic submission by Win TD or Swiss Sys is most time efficient.
4. AIA players cannot use their USCF ID# to play USCF tournament without becoming a USCF member.
5. AIA players with current USCF memberships would experience no change.
6. Region Directors (or their designee) would have to ensure all AIA rated games are submitted to the USCF.
7. The USCF would charge either by player or by game with fees yet to be determined. (Bill Hall, Executive Director of USCF has stated that he will work with ACCA to make this happen.)

8. Ensure compliance with AIA general guidelines.

USCF Rating System

PROS

CONS

World Class Rating System	USCF rating fee based on number of players or number of games
Accurate current ratings available on website (24 x 7)	Region Directors (or designee) would have to join USCF
All AIA players would have ID number versus coaches who don't even know the names of their players	Region Directors (or designee) would have to develop proficiency in Swiss Sys or Win TD software
Tournament pairing and rating calculation errors would be eliminated	
Submission of tournaments would be accurately complied regardless of date of submission	
Takes ambiguity out of chess rating and matches ratings to rest of players in the United States	
Greatly reduced time and effort to calculate/submit rating data	
Gateway for student participation in USCF	

Thomas Rating System:

PROS

CONS

Gives a player a rating number	Rating calculation errors
	Almost impossible to calculate when coaches fail to submit results of tournaments on a timely basis
	Takes too much time and effort to calculate
	Rating is not comparable to the chess ratings of the rest of the United States.
	Difficult to know which list gives player's most current rating, especially when players skip tournaments
	Skews player's performance rating by giving players' rating performance points for just showing up to the play.

A lively debate ensued with some comments captured below:

Carmene stated he sees no problem turning the number crunching over to some else. Mike stated the USCF rating has much high integrity and he does not like the Thomas Rating system because it has participation rating points. The USCF would greatly

increase the quality of the pairings in all AIA tournaments and would increase the integrity of the AIA rating. The USCF would fix a lot of AIA problems.

Matt stated he is concerned that if we hired the USCF to rate AIA games, they may not continue with the effort in the years to come.

John Cox expressed concerns of how so many unrated players would be given a USCF rating at the onset of the program.

Johnny expressed concerns about increase playing fees noting that many schools are already financially stretched to the limit.

Dave took the action to follow up the Bill Hall to determine exactly how much the USCF would charge and to learn more about implementation processes.

6. Questions to Cynthia re AIA

John Thiele addressed Cynthia with can the AIA force schools to pay for AIA chess expenses. Cynthia responded that individual school and district budgets are left up to the administration of those entities. The AIA can only make recommendations, but has no enforcement. Cynthia commented on the "Play for Pay Program" where many districts charge the student to participate in an AIA sport. If a school or district needs to do so, Schools and or Districts could charge students to pay to participate in AIA chess.

Dave addressed Cynthia with can an AIA player win a USCF scholarship and remain an AIA player if the scholarship is not to be paid out until after the student graduates. Cynthia stated she would research the AIA's Amateur Standing Rule and will advise.

Robby addressed Cynthia with enforcement of re-imbusement of expenses. Cynthia advised that the AIA is an honor based organization. Lack of integrity allegations can only be investigated by the AIA if an AIA member school requests that the AIA investigate an allegation that an AIA bylaw has not been followed. Typically, the AIA will only investigate concerns raised by a school who is an AIA member school.

7. Playing members from the same school in the same tournament.

Robby stated several coaches have stated their needs to be consideration given to students playing against their team members in an AIA tournament. Robby stated the rules prohibit this, noting that in Swiss Sys pairings team restrictions are not considered. If coaches want to tinker with the pairings, then there needs to be a rule change. Craig commented manipulating the rules is a big issue.

8. AIA Funds

Cynthia stated that effective January, 2008, the IRS set forth new rules regarding non-profit organizations. She presumes that Schools will no longer permit use of book store accounts for AIA state tournament revenue and expense monies. Unless these funds go through the ACCA account or an account set up by ACCA using ACCA's Tax I.D. number, All AIA state tournament monies must be deposited in the AIA account which

uses the AIA Tax Identification Number. If state chess tournament funds no longer go through the ACCA account but instead are accounted for by the AIA, The AIA has not yet finalized the process that will be used, but it should be forthcoming soon.

Meeting was concluded at 10:15am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Small
State Recording Secretary
Arizona Chess Coaches Association.