ICCA BOARD NOMINATIONS

Tony Marsland[1]

ICCA President

At the 1992 ICCA elections, a new Board took over the management of our association. In the past, ICCA members have provided stability to our organization by supporting the incumbent board members whenever these board members have been willing to stand for re-election. The main benefit of this arrangement is that the experience gained is retained and applied with advantage, making the planning and organizing of World Computer Chess Championships and other activities that much easier. One disadvantage is that the influx of new blood is delayed and that the board may lose touch with its members. To guard against the latter problem, your board worked hard in recent years to present information items on a regular basis not only through the Journal, but also by arranging for some board members to attend major international computer-chess events, and electronically through email and bulletin-board postings. We hope our efforts have met success.

In preparation for the next ICCA General Meeting, to be held in Hong Kong during the 8th ICCA World Computer Chess Championship (May 25th-30th), I am pleased to let you know that our newly appointed Secretary/Treasurer, Don Beal, has agreed to stand for re-election. Don works quietly and effectively, collecting membership dues, updating mailing lists, corresponding with members and keeping the books balanced. We are indeed most fortunate to continue our tradition of outstandingly conscientious treasurers. Similarly, our Vice-President has agreed to stand for another term, and to continue his important rôle as co-ordinator of computer-chess events and spokesperson in the President's absence. It is primarily through David Levy's energy and dedication that the ICCA remains solvent, despite stagnant ICCA membership income and increased mailing and production costs of the Journal. This is possible through the modest surpluses that we sometimes generate from our computer-chess events. David's experience in fund-raising has helped in guiding us through the protracted negotiations that our colleague Monty Newborn undertook in securing the initial support of the IBM Corporation as a major sponsor of the upcoming event in Hong Kong. Since there are now several grandmaster-calibre programs in the offing, the competition for our premier prize, the Shannon Trophy, promises to be keener and stronger than at any time in our twenty-year history of world computer-chess championships.

At the upcoming ICCA General Meeting, I too will be available for re-election. The past two years have been most exciting. Not only was the previous Championship in Madrid funded and warmly received by the Madrid Polytechnic University, but also the annual meeting saw the initiation of two new awards: an annual certificate and prize for the best paper published in the ICCA Journal by a first-time author, and a best-annotation award. The initial recipient of the first award was Peter Jansen. As to the annotation award, our panel of judges has just selected the 1994 winner of the annotations award. Finally, the board is continuing its efforts to find a new sponsor for our long-standing award, the "Mephisto Prize", given to the person or group whom the ICCA Board's panel judge to have made the best contribution to computer chess during the past year. I am confident that a new sponsor will be found within a few months.

To sum up, the following persons are nominated for the positions indicated and if elected agree to serve for the specified 3-year term:

President: T.A. Marsland

Vice-President: D.N.L. Levy

Secretary/Treasurer: D. Beal

These nominations have been duly received, bearing the signatures of the three nominees and those of enough ICCA members in good standing.

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