

Report of the USCF College Chess Committee

May 16, 2002

The following points summarize the activities and actions of the College Chess Committee (CCC).

1. The CCC met at the 2001 *Pan-American Intercollegiate Team Chess Championship (Pan-Am)* in Providence. Among the issues discussed were eligibility rules for the Pan-Am. The Committee agreed to continue discussion and vote by email.
2. The CCC approved each of the following three resolutions, as voted by email in May. At the meeting in Providence, the CCC also endorsed each of these resolutions in an informal straw vote.

- I. For the first-round of the Pan-Am only, players may arrive up to 120mins late without forfeit. Late players would not have extra time added to their clocks.

[Approved by vote of Yea-5, Nea-2, Abstain-0. Relaxes current rule of 60mins to accommodate travel delays.]

- II. To be eligible for the Pan-Am in a semester, a player must earn at least six credit hours at grade of C or higher towards his or her degree in the semester of eligibility (or equivalent for schools not on semester system).

[Approved by vote of Yea-6, Nea-0, Abstain-1. Tightens current rule of one credit at grade of D or higher. Matches current requirements for Pell grants (student loans).]

- III. Modify the first tie-breaking rule at Pan-Am to: sum over rounds of individual points per round times opponent's final team score.

[Approved by vote of Yea-6, Nea-0, Abstain-1. Michael Aigner's suggestion to change current rule of total individual points.]

3. April 5-7, *The President's Cup* was held for the second time, this year at the World Chess Hall of Fame in Miami. Generous support for this invitational team-round-robin event was provided by the USCF and the world Chess Hall of Fame. The top four schools from the Pan-Am competed. Final standings by individual points and tie-breaks were University of Texas at Dallas (UTD)-9.5, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)-9.5, Stanford-4.5, Harvard-0.5. The event attracted significant media attention, including articles by *USA Today*, *Associated Press*, and *CNN*.
4. The *National Collegiate Chess League (NCCL)* was held this year on the new USCF online site US Chess Live. Thirteen teams from ten universities participated. UTD and Duke tied for first place with 3.5 points out of four.
5. The CCC nominates Rhode Island College (RIC) for *Chess College of the Year*. RIC hosted the 2001 Pan-Am, raised \$10,000 in support for this event, offered chess scholarships, and hired GM Larry Christiansen as chess coach. Special recognition is given to Chess Club President Seneca Nowland for his leadership role.

Dr. Alan T. Sherman
Chair, 2002 College Chess Committee
sherman@umbc.edu
tele: 410-455-2666, fax: 410-455-3969