

PROPOSAL BY PETER MC KONE

In order to alleviate the ongoing problem of obtaining trophies, and to simplify the awards system, the Club shall replace the trophy awards system with vouchers redeemable for free or discounted entry fees in future tournaments. This shall be done in such a way as to neither increase or decrease costs to the Club.

HISTORY AND COMMENTS

For several years now, we have encountered problems with trophy vendors not delivering trophies, sending inferior and broken items, using teaser pricing and increasing prices after orders have been placed, going out of business, and a host of other problems. Besides the amount of time which must be spent ordering, unpacking and preparing trophies for presentation, transporting to the Club, re-packing and transporting those which can't be immediately distributed, storing unclaimed trophies, sorting thru stored trophies to locate single items which players later request, and transporting them a second time for distribution, many trophies go unclaimed and become a nuisance to recycle.

Several Club Members have suggested giving out cash awards instead of trophies. However, the founders of the Club made it clear that the Club should not engage in cash prizes because doing so would diminish the principle of conducting Club tournaments at an "amateur" level. Further, implementing cash awards of any significance would require a drastic increase in entry fees, which would likely deter "amateur" players from joining the Club.

Free and reduced future entry vouchers would not violated the fundamental principle of remaining an amateur club and would eliminate current problems with obtaining and distributing awards. Further, many Club Members have voiced their feeling that a majority of the Club's Members participate in tournaments primarily for the pleasure of playing and competing as opposed to the materialistic value of trophies (if any).

IMPLEMENTATION

The Club will continue to award approximately 25% to 30% of the players with prizes in different rating classes using the same criteria as in the past. However, vouchers for discounts on future tournament entry fees will be awarded instead of trophies. The discount vouchers will be approximately equivalent in overall value to the costs which would be incurred if trophies were purchased. Specifically, first thru third place trophies will be replaced with vouchers good for \$15, \$10 and \$5 discounts for regular tournaments. For quad tournaments, a \$15 voucher will be awarded to an outright winner; \$10 vouchers each for a two way tie; and \$5 each for a three or four way tie. The Director will make an appropriate adjustment in voucher value for the Club Championship or other tournament not following the usual entry fee structure. To facilitate this transition and eliminate multiple one dollar transactions, current entry fee discounts to juniors will be eliminated; discounts for annual Club Membership will remain in effect. Further, the Director shall make other policy changes as he considers necessary for a smooth and continuing changeover.

Due to the current backlog of trophies, the Director shall implement the new system retroactively; substituting vouchers for trophies to the extent he deems it advisable.

APPROVAL AND EFFECTIVE DATE

This proposal has been approved by Bob Blatt and Richard Koepcke, and shall become effective June 1, 2009 unless there is considerable objection from the Membership. Please voice or email any suggestions, comments or objections to Bob Blatt.