

## CalChess State Scholastic-UPDATE

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<http://www.CalChessScholastics.org>

By Alan Kirshner PHD

I presented the following report to the CalChess Board of Directors on January 14, 2006. I have done a bit of editing for the benefit of the general public:

Richard Koepcke, as CalChess President, has signed the San Jose Convention Center Contract for 2006. He has also signed the San Jose Hilton agreement that includes a commitment for 65 room nights at a rental cost of \$99—up to two adults and two children. Last year I had 98 room nights used & had committed to 97. The Hilton contract also includes 3 Team Rooms to add to the 3 at the Convention Center + a room for bughouse on Friday night (6-11PM, San Carlos) and one for the Coaches Meeting on Sunday Morning (10-Noon, Plaza Room). All the Team Rooms are now taken: CC F1 & F2 (Heather); CC H (Marin County Chess); SJH Pacific (Fox); SJH San Carlos (Weibel); SJH University (Mission San Jose ES).

There is an outside possibility I might be able to get one or two more rooms at the San Jose Hilton if they are still available. However, I would likely have to charge a bit more for these rooms as the cost for these rooms would likely be higher than the ones I have booked as they would not be tied to a room night guarantee.

I have submitted the tournament announcement to Chess Life and it will appear in two issues-April May. I have received the mailing labels from the USCF for Clubs and individual players. I will do a full printing sometime this week. I usually send out the applications around January 1, but since the Tournament is 6 weeks later I think February 1 - 15 or there about is what I will shoot for. My envelope stuffing licking staff is in place. I have distributed 1000 applications from the first printing that lack full info—they have gone to people attending tournaments in December and to coaches at the Stockton CalNorth Grade Level. **What is missing that will be on the big printing (4000 forms) is the hotel information, Bughouse, the change in the Coaches meeting to Sunday, a short lecture and simul by NM Eric Schiller (Saturday night from 8 to 11) and that Jay Blem from National Chess will have the main concession.**

Think Like a King software will likely be there to sell, but did not want to provide sponsorship with software for the winners as they felt it would cut into sales. They will provide the 10% of sales. Salman feels fairly certain that we will have towels and baseball caps for our winners & a BMX bike to give away as I did last year. Vladimir Naroditsky is working on sponsorships to cover trophy costs or to add to Boards. I will include paid ads on the T-shirts and in

the program. The cost will soon be published from the <http://www.CalChessScholastics.org> page. Meanwhile, anyone interest can contact me at [alan.kirshner@comcast.net](mailto:alan.kirshner@comcast.net).

Those that want a non-profit donation will have to contribute to the CalNorth Scholarship fund & the fund will write the check to CalChess. CalChess does not have 501 3c status. CalNorth Scholarship Fund will also provide financial aid to any student on the school lunch programs until the funds are exhausted. Of course, discounts to players who are not on school lunch programs but can verify financial need or teams from inner city schools will receive discounted entries.

Bob Blatt and I worked on the trophy, pin and medal order before I left for Tahoe. We are working with Doris Bros. Bob has worked with them before and they are much cheaper than either Crown Trophies or Alpine Awards. The only problem could be breakage during mailing on the very large trophies. Our first place in the Championship divisions will be 42 inches. I have two possibilities here. I will get them early and repair, but that does create a problem of where to work on them and where to store 560 trophies. The second option is the one I hope I can get. The company does a lot of Karate tournaments. They deliver the awards to the tournaments for no extra cost and they will even set up an engraving machine to place the winners names on the trophy plates for \$3 a plate. I will know more after I finish the spread sheet with all the engraving and colors and send it to our company representative. I have done all the sizes and numbers. While I was in Tahoe, Bob mailed the company representative a copy of the pins and medals I made up last year. I must also send them the artwork for the pins and the medals. I plan on doing all this tomorrow. When this is submitted I will get a contract and I will see if it is within the awards budget of \$8000.

The application has been up online for over a month.

(<http://www.CalChessScholastics.org>) I did do one revision online with the hotel information. I will update the online site and the paper application shortly. The online site will contain links to various pieces of information and updates about the tournament.

By the way, you can see the entry way from the Hilton into the Convention Center at: <http://www.emarketing360.com/Hilton/CA/HTSJf/java/hs21.html>

You can see the hotel & convention center floor plan at: <http://www.emarketing360.com/Hilton/CA/HTSJf/hsfloorplan.html>

While I have not seen the agenda for today's meeting, I do have two requests from the Board that I hope can be discussed and acted on:

- 1) I think it would be prudent, financially wise and ease my work, if I were to volunteer to do this task next year, to book the San Jose Convention Center for 2007 when the treasurer is secure that we have enough funds to cover the 25% deposit on the \$11,000 cost—I think that was the requested deposit. The cost is accurate.
- 2) Since it does look like the Coaches meeting will have a fair number of topics to discuss and vote on in the 2 hour allotted time, I believe, that Eric Hicks, one of the three members on the Board's Scholastic Committee who spent a load of time recently studying Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, would be the best person to run the meeting efficiently and effectively. I know that Eric and I have had some strong public clashes on the forum a while back, and I might note even more recently in private e-mail, but I think that aids his credentials to chair the meeting fairly and as a scholastic coach.

Chess is Forever,  
Alan

Alan M. Kirshner,  
Organizer of the 2006 CalChess State Scholastic Championships