

President's Report

Chess Nova Scotia AGM, March 28, 2021

*Look at them working in the hot sun
The pilloried saints and the fallen ones
Working and waiting for the night to come
And waiting for a miracle*

Bruce Cockburn, Waiting for a Miracle

While the miracle we've all been waiting for has finally happened, most of us in Nova Scotia are still waiting to receive it in flesh and blood. As medical authorities promise that the majority of Nova Scotians will be vaccinated for COVID-19 by the end of June, many people are still feeling that that date cannot come soon enough. The entire province is looking forward to getting back to some kind of normal life by summer or fall, the kind we haven't experienced in over a year, the kind we've almost forgotten how to live.

So, too, with chess. Before we compete in tournaments again and enjoy attending chess clubs, we await the vaccine and the easing of restrictions as we finally start to beat back this horrible pandemic.

At this point I can only guess when it will be safe to run tournaments again. However, I hope to start doing so by October or November of this year. Time will tell. I will follow the direction of the health authorities and do what I think is in everyone's best interest. I can hardly wait to start the chess clocks again, but in planning to do so I will err on the side of caution.

On the bright side, the scholastic association ran 19 rapid tournaments online since the beginning of the pandemic, led by Jerjis Kapra. Also, the Chess at the Library lecture series will start again in spring 2021 and the library will be publishing on their website a chess blog that I have written.

For now, all we can do is try to stay safe and keep doing what we've been doing for the last year: playing chess online and waiting for a miracle.

Ken Cashin, president,
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